

## **A Lifetime Legacy to Fight Blindness: Estate of Olga Variolo**

The late Mrs. Olga Variolo is a founding member of FFB's Visionary's Circle. She included FFB in her will because she wanted to leave a meaningful gift to vision research so that others, especially children, wouldn't face losing their sight. Mrs. Variolo asked her lawyer, one of FFB's board of directors, Lawrence Cohen, a lot of questions before making her decision. She learned that FFB has low administration costs, and an efficient record in its use of donations.

Mr. Cohen remarked that, "Mrs. Variolo could not think of a more touching farewell gift than to make a profound difference to the fight against blindness, and she knew that her gift would be transformational to a charity like FFB."

The Estate of Olga Variolo has been designated to fund research conducted by Rod Bremner, PhD, Head, Division of Genetics & Development, Toronto Western Research Institute (TWRI) and Senior Scientist, Division of Genetics & Development, University of Toronto. Dr. Bremner is FFB's highest ranked scientist in the Toronto area. Dr. Bremner's primary research objective is to provide a clearer picture of what is needed to protect photoreceptors from dying off. This new knowledge may suggest critical aspects in developing therapies to protect vision in humans with blinding retinal diseases. His discoveries will help verify the pathway to develop of new therapies to restore vision.

Giving a bequest entitles people to join FFB's Visionary's Circle of planned giving donors.

**Becoming a member of FFB's Visionary's Circle is as simple as calling or notifying us that you have included the Foundation Fighting Blindness in your will. For more information on planned giving, please visit [You Can Help!](#)**