
Tribute to J.J. Barnicke

JOSEPH JOHN BARNICKE, C.M., O.Ont. (1922 – 2015) was a member of the Southdown Board of Directors and a Founding Chairman of The Cardinal's Dinner, a fundraising event initiated for Southdown. During the first eight years, proceeds directed to Southdown from the Dinner totaled over \$400,000. The Dinner has diversified its grants over the years and now benefits 33 Catholic charities. In total, Southdown has received over \$600,000 from the Cardinal's Dinner. Southdown's Annual Benefit Dinner is a continuation of the fundraising efforts supporting our mission in providing services to all Religious and Clergy in need of holistic mental health treatment.

Mr. Barnicke was the founder of J.J. Barnicke Limited, which became Canada's largest independently owned, full-service commercial real estate services company. He was well known for his many philanthropic activities, including the Canadian Cancer Society, St. Joseph's Health Centre and the University of Toronto. He was Director of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and Chairman of St. Joseph's Health Centre Foundation. In recognition of his many contributions, the University of St. Michael's College dedicated the Joseph and Justina Barnicke Catholic Chaplaincy at St. Michael's. He was also one of the lead organizers of Pope John Paul II's 1984 visit to Toronto. For many years, Mr. Barnicke served on the Archdiocese of Toronto Finance Council.

To honour the legacy of J.J. Barnicke for his many years of service to The Southdown Institute, an oak tree will be planted on the Southdown campus. A tree represents wisdom, strength, balance and harmony in nature, a long life, and new life as it adjusts to the seasons of the year. May this tree be a symbol of new life that continues to be experienced by Religious and Clergy ministering in the Church.

"He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

Psalms 1:3