

Brain & Tissue Donation

The Huntington Society of Canada is occasionally approached for information about brain and tissue donation. As an organization, HSC is not involved with the process. The individual, or the family, must make direct contact with one of the laboratories listed below. Each site has a set of rules and procedures which they follow. The decision to donate tissue must be made well in advance of an individual becoming incapacitated and should be included with an individual's "Advance Directive" or "Living Will."

Brain, tissue and DNA donation is important to HD research and this type of donation is an important gift. The process for donation can be complex and advance planning is critical. Making a personal decision about this type of donation requires full information on the process and legal issues.

Individuals and families are encouraged to contact the appropriate 'Bank' to receive current information and forms. Significant lead time is required, so working on this well in advance of the time of donation is strongly recommended in order to facilitate a smooth process.

The Huntington Disease BioBank

University of British Columbia (UBC)
Centre for Huntington Disease, Room S179, 2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6T 2B5
Phone: 604-822-7738 or 604-822-7366
<http://www.cmmt.ubc.ca/outreach/hd-clinic/tissue-bank>

- *2 programs*
- *Blood and DNA donations*
- *Brain and tissue donations*
- *Serves as an invaluable resource for HD research*
- *Samples and clinical information are collected from consenting HD patients and other family members, both affected and unaffected*
- *Accepts tissue from across Canada*

Douglas – Bell Canada Brain Bank

Douglas Institute, 6875 LaSalle Boulevard
Montreal, Quebec H4H1R3
Phone: 514-761-6131, ask for the Brain Bank
brain.bank@douglas.mcgill.ca
<http://www.douglas.qc.ca/page/brain-bank>

- *Resource for research on neurodegenerative and psychiatric diseases*
- *Not able to accept tissue from outside the Province of Quebec*

Maritime Brain Tissue Bank

Dalhousie University, Department of Medical Neuroscience
Faculty of Medicine
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4R2
Phone: 902-494-4130
<http://medical-neuroscience.medicine.dal.ca/brainbank.htm>

- *Resource for researchers working to understand causes of dementia*
- *Currently accepting tissue from persons with Huntington disease*