

## *Alan Klass Memorial Health Equity Program*

**Dr. Alan Klass (1907-2000)** was a member of the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Medicine who lived and practised his lifelong concern for ensuring that everyone had the same opportunity for health and quality of life. He practiced surgery and taught in the Faculty of Medicine. Alan Klass practiced medicine and surgery. He was respected by his colleagues and loved by his patients. He was a rare person - a man of good judgement and humanity, skilled in his work, with a twinkle in his eye, and a listening heart. Dr. Klass was an outspoken advocate for social justice for his patients, students applying to study medicine and throughout the broader community. The Tolkien Trust Foundation has supported the development of the Alan Klass Memorial Program for Health Equity to enable the undergraduate program to fulfill its commitment to understanding and addressing health inequities and our social responsibility.

Funding from by this program supports the following activities.

- Alan Klass Local to Global Service Learning Travel Awards for undergraduate medical students to travel internationally or in Canada to low resource areas and learn about health in the context of where people live
- Bachelor of Science in Medicine proposals addressing health equity
- Student led initiatives such as WISH clinic and Jacob Penner Park □ Biomedical Youth Program
- Awards for students' papers on health equity
- Learnings from and linkages to indigenous communities

These initiatives are planned yearly and support current and new student and faculty activities. Inquiries can be directed to by email: noting Attention Alan Klass Health Equity Program and sent to Director, Dr. Sarah Lesperance at [slesperance@mymts.net](mailto:slesperance@mymts.net)