

## THE ULTIMATE GIFT

When you donate your brain, you are making a tangible and **invaluable** contribution to the advancement of science. For researchers, these donations represent an essential resource in their investigation into the causes of the **different brain illnesses**. Human brain

donations allow scientists to study psychiatric and neurological disorders; tissue samples from donated brain give direct access to the cells, proteins and genes of the brain. Donating your brain will therefore advance **research** and **development** in the prevention and treatment of mental illnesses.

# THE ULTIMATE GIFT

Douglas – Bell Canada Brain Bank

## WANTED: ALL BRAINS!

All types of brains are needed for research, as scientists have to compare samples from people who suffered from a mental or neurological illness with samples of healthy brains. Researchers also use these control samples to compare a number of brain diseases and disorders to verify and validate their findings.

## WHO CAN BE A DONOR?

Any resident of Quebec. No matter what your state of physical or mental health, your donation is important. If potential donors are unable to give consent or are minors, a legal representative (guardian, curator or mandatary) can give consent in their place.

## DOUGLAS – BELL CANADA BRAIN BANK

Located at the Douglas Institute Research Centre, the Douglas – Bell Canada Brain Bank coordinates the brain donation process in addition to preparing and storing brain specimens and distributing samples to qualified researchers throughout the world.

**Its mission:** Provide the scientific community with brain samples that have been preserved under optimal conditions for research that will lead to advances in the treatment, cure and prevention of brain diseases and disorders.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about the Douglas – Bell Canada Brain Bank or to receive the brochure and consent forms on brain donation:

☎ 514-761-6131, ext. 0

(ask for the Brain Bank)

@ brain.bank@douglas.mcgill.ca

www.douglas.qc.ca/brain-bank

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Brain donation is not covered by the organ donation section on the back of your health insurance card. Brain donation for research

purposes is not included if you donate your body to an educational institution. A specific **consent form** is required to donate your brain to research, and the brain must be removed promptly to ensure optimal preservation of the tissues.

Douglas  
INSTITUT  
UNIVERSITAIRE EN  
SANTÉ MENTALE

Bell  
MENTAL HEALTH  
UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTE

