When I learned about the Giving Pledge, I found the concept inspirational.

I grew up in a philanthropic home, where my parents were generous givers early on, when they didn’t have great means; their donations only escalated as my father’s business activities and wealth grew. From my parents’ example, it was natural for me to continue the family tradition of trying to do some good in the world around me, but I didn’t have a specific plan other than the idea that this would be a generational project, one in which my children (and eventually their children) would work together to improve things around us, in appreciation of our good fortune.

What the Giving Pledge has enabled me to do is quantify my plan. Through the example and leadership of Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett, the Giving Pledge is inspiring successful men and women to engage in what I would call “competitive” philanthropy. Directing the same competitive instincts that these driven people employed to achieve the pinnacle of financial and social success, the Giving Pledge is encouraging us to outdo one another in giving our wealth away. Brilliant!!!

It is an honour and a privilege to join the Giving Pledge, which gives expression to the sharing of my success and good fortune. As Warren Buffett assured me when he welcomed me into the program, I am certain to get my money’s worth.