



North Peace Housing Foundation

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To: The Board of Directors

From: Tammy Menssa, Executive Director

Re: Charitable Status Application

Date: May 23, 2024

Although considered for several years, the topic of applying for charitable status and the resulting benefits was discussed at the recent Strategic Planning meeting.

Becoming a registered charity offers several benefits, including financial advantages, credibility, and community support as listed below:

1. Financial Benefits
 - a. Eligibility for Grants - Many government and private grants are only available to registered charities.
 - b. Donations - Charities can issue official donation receipts, allowing donors to claim tax credits on their personal income tax returns, which can incentivize more donations.
2. Credibility and Trust
 - a. Public Trust - Registration enhances the credibility and legitimacy of the organization, making it easier to gain public trust and attract support from donors and volunteers.
 - b. Transparency and Accountability - Being registered requires adherence to certain standards and reporting requirements, which can demonstrate accountability and responsible management to stakeholders.
3. Operational Benefits
 - a. Access to Resources - Registered charities often have access to training, resources, and support from umbrella organizations and networks that assist charities.
 - b. Volunteer Recruitment - It may be easier to attract and retain volunteers due to the formal status and increased trust in the organization.
 - c. Discounted Rates - Charities can benefit from discounts on various services and products, such as advertising rates, software, and rental spaces.
4. Community and Networking
 - a. Community Engagement - Registration can facilitate stronger community connections and partnerships with other organizations, including collaborations and joint initiatives.
 - b. Advocacy - Registered charities have a recognized voice that can be influential in advocacy efforts, allowing them to better represent their cause and influence public policy.
5. Legal and Regulatory Benefits

- a. Legal Protection - The formal structure provides a legal framework that can protect the organization's interests and those of its members.
 - b. Compliance Support - Registration provides guidance on regulatory compliance, helping organizations navigate legal obligations more effectively.
6. Fundraising Advantages
- a. Fundraising Opportunities - Registered charities can engage in a wider range of fundraising activities, such as lotteries and gaming events, under specific regulations.
 - b. Corporate Sponsorships - Businesses are more likely to sponsor or partner with registered charities due to the tax benefits and public relations advantages.

While there are advantages to registering as a charity, there are also obligations that must be considered. The main obligations are to:

1. Devote resources (funds, personnel, and property) to charitable purposes and activities.
2. Maintain direction and control of the use of all resources (funds, personnel, and property).
3. File an annual Form T3010, Registered Charity Information Return, within six months of our fiscal year-end.
4. Meet an annual spending requirement.
5. Keep reliable and complete books and records.
6. Issue complete and accurate official donation receipts.
7. Maintain status as a Canadian legal entity.

Overall, while there are obligations, becoming a registered charity provides numerous benefits that can significantly enhance the Foundation's ability to fulfil its mission and continue to serve the region effectively.

Recommendation:

Direct Administration to apply for Charitable status.

Thank you for your consideration,



Tammy Menssa
Executive Director