

Report on registration of a charitable organization to support the activities of the ICA

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the ICA on March 30, 2008

Consultation and Review

- Four members of our community representing professions and regions such as Nepean, Hunt Club and Orleans
- Based on federal and the govt of Ontario documents Thanks for your interest. I just sent a note to Marge for sharing information with you and others on this opportunity.

Objectives of a charitable organization:

- training & education, culture & arts, seniors & home care, immigration & counselling, relief of poverty and immigration
- but not to include political – a major cause of the refusal of the application

Requirements:

- A special general body to approve the constitution, objectives, by-laws, structure (org can not undertake activities excluded from its mandate)
- Board of Directors, minimum 3, regular meeting of the board and keeping of the transparent accounts
- Annual reporting of the activities and financial statements to CRA, and provincial regulatory bodies
- Non-compliance may lead to a fine of \$2,000 to Board members and \$25,000 to the corporation

Application Process:

- A special GB meeting, drafting of the objectives, constitution and by-laws,
- Preparing application to match word-for-word requirements of the organization and government manuals for a speedier approval of the application
- \$255 fee in 2005, higher now; cost of preparing application package of \$2000-3000.

Merits and Demerits of a Charitable Organization

- Merits: ICA will be able to issue charitable tax receipts, ICA mandate could focus more towards charitable activities, apply for grants from govts and community foundations and have more autonomy
- Demerits: ICA can't have its political role, to become more transparency in its activities, minutes & other paper work and financial statements. There could be possible complementary or duplication with the roles existing Indian organizations, depending upon how they are agreed upon.

My Advice: The new Executive of the ICA to assess the need, merits and demerits, conduct an organized community consultation and then report to the membership.

Prepared by Dr. R. K. Sahi for the ICA. Additional information can be obtained by contacting at 613-824-1710, rsahi@rogers.com