CHARITY LAW BULLETIN NO.29

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DECEMBER 1, 2003

Editor: Terrance S. Carter

SUMMARY OF ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE CCRA WEBSITE: 2002 AND 2003

By Terrance S. Carter, B.A., LL.B. and Suzanne E. White, B.A., LL.B.

A. INTRODUCTION

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This *Charity Law Bulletin* ("Bulletin") is an extract from a paper entitled "*Recent Changes to the Income Tax Act and Policies Affecting Charities and Charitable Gifts*" posted on <u>www.charitylaw.ca.</u> Given the virtual avalanche of materials that has been released by CCRA almost every few months over the last two years, it would be impossible within the confines of this Bulletin to discuss in any detail or even mention all of the additions and changes to the CCRA website which affect charities. Instead, this Bulletin is a synopsis, current to December 1, 2003, of all publications that have been published by CCRA with regards to charities in 2002 and 2003. This summary organizes the material from CCRA in a practical fashion for the practitioner. The reader is advised, though, that this compendium of documents is not an official CCRA publication, and as such the reader should refer to the actual documents on the CCRA website for official identification and texts of the materials. All documents referred to can be accessed from <u>http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/tax/charities/menu-e.html</u>.

B. SUMMARY OF ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE CCRA WEBSITE 2002 AND 2003

1. Legislative Amendments

• Department of Finance Releases Legislative Proposals Relating to Income Tax Affecting Registered Charities – December 20, 2002, -updated December 24, 2002

Ottawa Office / Bureau d'Ottawa 70 Gloucester Street Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2P 0A2 Tel: (613) 235-4774 Fax: (613) 235-9838

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- Federal Government Releases Draft Technical Income Tax Amendments, updated December 20, 2002
- Legislative Proposals and Explanatory Notes Relating to Income Tax December 2002:1, updated December 20, 2002
- Legislative Proposals and Explanatory Notes Relating to Income Tax December 2002:2, updated December 20, 2002
- Legislative Proposals and Explanatory Notes Relating to Income Tax December 2002:3, updated December 20, 2002
- Legislative Proposals and Explanatory Notes Relating to Income Tax December 2002:4, updated December 20, 2002

2. Charities - Interpretation Bulletins

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- IT-288R2 Subject: INCOME TAX ACT, Gifts by individuals of Capital Properties to a Charity and Others; Reference: Subsections 110.1(3) and 118.1(6) (also subsections 13(1), 20 (16). 110.1(1), 118.1(1), 118.1(4) and 118.1(7), paragraphs 69(1)(b) and 70(5)(a) of the Income Tax Act and sections 3501 and 3504 of the Income Tax Regulations), -dated January 16, 2003
- IT-75R4 Subject: INCOME TAX ACT, Scholarships, Fellowships, Bursaries, Prizes, Research Grants and Financial Assistance, dated June 18, 2003
- 3. Information Circulars
 - IC 75-2R6 Subject: Contributions to a Registered Political Party or to a Candidate at a Federal Election, -dated July 18, 2002
- 4. Brochures and Guides
 - CCRA *Tax Advantages of Donating to Charity*, -printed January 21, 2002
- 5. Income Tax Technical News
 - Newsletter No. 26, dated December 24, 2002
- 6. Policy Statements
 - a) Becoming a Registered Charity:
 - Applicants that are Established to Relieve Poverty by Providing Rental Housing for Low-Income Tenants, CPS-020, April 1, 2003
 - Group Insurance Rates for Registered Charities, CPC-022, March 5, 2002
 - Holding of Property for Charities, CPS-009, March 12, 1996 (Revised January 14, 2003)
 - What is a Related Business?, CPS-019, March 31, 2003
 - Registering Charities that Promote Racial Equality, CPS-021, September 2, 2003

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b) Operating Day-to-Day:

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- Donations of Gift Certificates, CPS-018, October 9, 2002
- Management of Investment Portfolio, CPC-023, August 1, 2002
- Political Activities, CPS-022, September 2, 2003
- Third Party Fundraisers, CPC-026, February 26, 2003

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<i>3</i> . 4.	Accumulation, CSP-A03	October 25, 2002
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5. 6.	Adoption, CSP-A17	September 3, 2003
0. 7.	Advocacy, CSP-A04	October 25, 2002
7. 8.	Aged (senior), CSP-A05	October 25, 2002
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). 10.	Agriculture, CSP-A18	September 3, 2003
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- 9. <u>Newsletters</u>
 - Newsletter No. 12, Spring 2002
 - Newsletter No. 13, Summer 2002
 - Newsletter No. 14, Winter 2003
 - Newsletter No. 15, -updated April 9, 2003

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• Newsletter No. 16, updated October 10, 2003

10. Guidelines

- Fact Sheet Art-donation schemes or "art-flipping," dated November 2002
- Fact Sheet Tax Shelter Donation Arrangements, dated November 2003
- Interim Memorandum D19-14-1 Cross-Border Currency and Monetary Instruments Reporting, dated January 22, 2003

11. Consultation Papers

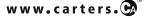
- Consultation on Proposed Policy Registering Charities that Focus on Eliminating Racial Discrimination, updated January 23, 2003
- 2002 Concept Draft Registered Charities Political Activities, updated January 6, 2003
- Consultation on Proposed Policy: Charities Providing Rental Housing for Low-Income Tenants, updated January 23, 2002
- Consultation on Proposed Policy: Guidelines for Registered Charities on Related Business (Message from the Co-Chairs Regulatory Joint Table), -updated May 22, 2002

12. Improving the Regulatory Environment for the Charitable Sector

- Voluntary Sector Initiative/Joint Regulatory Table, *Improving the Regulatory Environment for the Charitable Sector Interim Recommendations*, dated August 2002
- Voluntary Sector Initiative/Joint Regulatory Table, Strengthening Canada's Charitable Sector Regulatory Reform – Final Report, dated March 2003

13. Future Directions

- Future Directions What is Future Directions?, updated October 30, 2002
- Charities The Charities Directorate, -updated December 10, 2002
- Consultations Spring 2002, -updated September 20, 2002
- Future Directions for the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Charities, November 15, 2002
- Charities RC4313, -updated December 12, 2002
- Sussex Circle Inc., *External Consultations on Charities Renewal*, dated January 2002
- Clinton Group Inc., *Final Consultations and Validation of Charities Directorate Action*, dated July 2002
- 14. Press Releases
 - *Canada Customs and Revenue Agency launches new services for charities*, dated December 3, 2002



15. <u>Forms</u>

- T2050 E (01) *Application to Register a Charity under the <u>Income Tax Act</u>, updated March 13, 2002*
- T2140 (96) Part V Tax Return Tax on Non-Qualified Investments of a Registered Charity, January 22, 2002
- T3010 Registered Charity Information Return, February 19, 2002
- T3010A E Registered Charity Information Return, February 28, 2003
- Form T3010A: *Re-designed annual return for charities*, updated November 28, 2002
- T1240 E Registered Charity Adjustment Request, October 21, 2002
- T4033 Completing the Registered Charity Information Return, February 19, 2002
- T4033A Completing the Registered Charity Information Return, February 28, 2003
- T4603 Registering a Charity for Income Tax Purposes, September 26, 2002

C. CONCLUSION

It is hoped that this summary will serve not only as a review of recent initiatives by CCRA and Finance affecting charities, but also as a reference tool for future study of the resource materials that CCRA has now made available on its website. Charities and charity law practitioners alike have for years asked CCRA for more accessible ways in which to determine CCRA's position with regards to how registered charities are registered and how they are required to operate. CCRA has responded with a wealth of resource material that can now be accessed online anywhere and at any time. It is expected that increased transparency and accessibility on the part of CCRA will give existing and future charities a clearer understanding of what responsibilities and benefits will apply to them in obtaining and maintaining their status as registered charities in Canada. Lawyers who are involved in the area of charity law will want to ensure that they become familiar with the quantity and scope of changes in legislation and policy that now affect charities.

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