

Changes to CLGW's Letters Patent

Why Update Our Letters Patent?

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- Our Letters Patent, which will be referred to as Articles of Incorporation under the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA), need to be updated to comply with the new rules set out in ONCA
- We have until October 18, 2024 to be fully compliant
- Updating our By-Laws was the first step in this process, updating our Letters Patent is the final step
- The purposes listed in our current Letters Patent are very outdated, using very outdated language and reflecting an outdated way of thinking. We need to ensure that the purposes reflect what we do and think as an organization

Review Process

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- In response to government communication, our Executive Director, Board Chair and Governance Committee Chair started the Letters Patent update process last spring
- Input was sought from PooranLaw as they have extensive experience in updating these documents to ensure they are accepted by CRA and ONCA
- A list of our current activities was provided to PooranLaw who then developed new purposes for us based on those activities

Review Process (Cont'd)

- The suggested updates were reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) at CLGW, with feedback being gathered and provided to PooranLaw
- PooranLaw then attended an SLT meeting to explain the reason behind some of the wording that had been used as they had chosen phrases we would not typically use
- The terms used in our new purposes are phrases that are more universal and are readily understood and accepted by CRA and ONCA

Review Process (Cont'd)

- The proposed new purposes were presented to the Governance Committee, with PooranLaw once again attending the meeting to provide further insight into the updates
- The proposed new purposes were then presented to the full board for review and acceptance
- An education session was held for members on June 21st, during which the new purposes were shared, and members had the opportunity to have any questions addressed

Purposes in Current Letters Patent

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1. To encourage scientific research and study into the reasons for mental retardation with a view to preventing it, and to seek the co-operation of all authorities toward that end;
2. To promote the education, training, development, and welfare of all mentally retarded persons at home, in residences and institutions, in public, separate, and private schools, and all other settings; and to co-operate with public and private agencies, the various departments of Government, and other groups and other organizations having similar purposes;
3. To develop a better public understanding of the difficulties encountered by the mentally retarded;
4. To further the training and education of personnel in the field of mental retardation;

Purposes in Current Letters Patent (Cont'd)

5. To co-operate with other local, provincial, national and international organizations promoting the education and welfare of the mentally retarded;
6. To unite efforts of all parents and friends interested in the mentally retarded;
7. To investigate and pursue sources of funding and to implement appropriate fundraising to accomplish the above purposes;
8. To be continually active in the direct service field; the development of new and varied services and the co-ordination of the delivery of such services to the mentally retarded, until such time as acceptable alternative services are provided;
9. To accept, receive and take by devise, bequest, or gift, and to hold, possess, and enjoy for the objects of the Association donations, gifts, grants, devises, and bequests of real and personal property of all kinds, upon such other terms and conditions and upon such trusts as the donor or donors of any such property may prescribe;

Purposes in Current Letters Patent (Cont'd)

10. To establish, operate, and maintain a workshop or workshops in the City of Guelph and elsewhere in the County of Wellington for the training of such retarded persons and other vocationally handicapped persons as may be admitted to enrollment therein and to provide vocational rehabilitation services;
11. To establish, operate, and maintain day nurseries;
12. To provide residential accommodation for retarded persons, and services and programs in connection there-with;
13. To appoint directors and officers who shall serve without remuneration, and shall not receive, directly or indirectly, any profit from their positions as directors or officers, but may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

New Purposes

New Purposes

New Purposes	Examples of Associated Activities
a. To relieve conditions associated with disability by providing life management counselling and support services to individuals with a developmental disability to work towards more independence in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Participation (Day Services)• Passports• Individual Support Plans• Behaviour Support Plans
b. To relieve conditions associated with disability by providing job training and job placement assistance to individuals with a developmental disability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EmployMEnt Options• 2nd Chance Partnership

New Purposes (Cont'd)

New Purposes	Examples of Associated Activities
c. To relieve conditions associated with disability by providing residential supports to individuals with a developmental disability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supportive Living (group living & supported independent living)
d. To relieve conditions associated with disability by providing individuals with a developmental disability and their family/caregivers support in order to access information on services, programs, and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Engagement Committee• Meetings with Parents/Caregivers• Collaborative Community Partnerships (i.e., DSO, Vulnerable Persons Registry, People4People, etc.)

New Purposes (Cont'd)

New Purposes	Examples of Associated Activities
e. To address and prevent problems faced by individuals with a developmental disability by educating the public and fostering inclusivity through connections to education, training, and development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• University of Guelph Campus Friends• University of Guelph Best Buddies• Community Partnerships (i.e., People4People)

Next Steps

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- Our Articles of Incorporation have been updated to include these new purposes and will be presented to our membership for acceptance at our Annual Members Meeting in September
- Once accepted, Articles of Amendment will be filed through CLGW's Ontario Business Registry account, thereby completing our transition to ONCA
- Once approved, the Articles of Amendment and an associated description of activities will be filed with the Canada Revenue Agency