

Building the Capacity Of Canadian Charities to File Complete & Accurate T3010a's on Time

FAST FACTS

What is it?

A three year project, funded by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to increase the ability of charities across Canada to file complete and accurate T3010A forms on time.

Why is it Necessary?

Registered charities are granted special privileges to assist them in achieving their mission because their emphasis is contributing to the greater good of Canadian communities. Charities differ from other nonprofits and businesses in that they are:

- exempt from federal income taxes
- able to issue official tax receipts for gifts received thereby reducing the taxable income of the donor.

The Charities Directorate (division of CRA) is responsible for approving registered charities and ensuring their compliance with the Income Tax Act. This requires that each registered charity submit a T3010A package each year. Many organizations have been challenged to perform this task correctly.

How will it be done?

The project, a collaborative venture project of The Canadian Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks and the Centre for Voluntary Sector Research and Development at Carleton University, will:

- facilitate greater access to information, training, and support for local charities to understand and comply with their obligations under the *Income Tax Act* with a focus on the filing of form T3010A.
- enhance local knowledge among leaders, volunteers, practitioners, managers, and allied professionals working in and with the charitable sector, in local communities across Canada, to comply with the current regulatory compliance requirements.
- gain insight into the systemic and root causes of, and possible solutions for, non-compliance.

Who is the Canadian Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks?

The Federation is composed of a number of cross-sectoral networks from across the country that includes:

- Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- Centre for Voluntary Sector Research and Development at Carleton University
- Centre for Collaboration (Saskatchewan)
- Centre for Voluntary Sector Research and Development at Carleton University
- Community Services Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, and www.voluntarygateway.ca
- Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- Fédération des centres d'action bénévole du Québec
- Niagara College Centre for Community Leadership
- Ottawa Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- Pillar NonProfit Network: Voluntary Sector Network
- Policy Link New Brunswick

- Voluntary & Non Profit Sector Organization of Manitoba Inc.
- Voluntary Organizations Consortium of British Columbia

Project Components?

- Customized training strategies led by the thirteen Federation member networks. Three modules for distinct target audiences have been developed:
 - a. those in administrative roles e.g. Executive Directors, Senior Administration and Board of Directors who require an overview in order to ensure the compliance of their organization
 - b. staff/volunteers who are directly involved in Fundraising and Receipting.
 - c. those who will actually be completing the T3010A tax package e.g. bookkeepers, treasurers, accountants
- More than 200 formal training events in communities across the country offered in both official languages and in other minority languages where possible
- Self-help initiatives in local communities
- Two pilot projects testing mentoring models with allied professionals and Chief Financial Officers
- A sound sustainability plan aimed at leaving resident knowledge and well developed networks of charities in local communities across Canada
- User-friendly and accessible materials to support charities with regulatory compliance
- Service and information available spanning the five time zones in the Canada