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**Law Commission of Canada
Call for Contributions
Charity and Law in Canada
Part III
March 2025**

The Law Commission of Canada (LCC) is calling for applications from potential contributors to Part III of a multi-authored project focused on charity and law in Canada.

The first Part, entitled "Looking Back: Tracing Charities in Canada and Charity in Canadian Law", presents charities and charity law within Canada's legal traditions. Part II, entitled "Looking Around: Current Challenges and Directions for Charitable Organizations in Canada", explores contemporary issues in the regulation and administration of charitable organizations in Canada.

This call is for the third Part of the Project, entitled "Looking Ahead: The Future of Charities and Charity Law in Canada". Forward looking in purpose and scope, this Part will include discussion and recommendations for governing structures and effective operation of charities and charity law in the future. Applications to contribute to this part are due March 31, 2025.

Contributions will take the form of original papers, written in English or French. Authors will be invited to become Associates of the LCC, and \$10,000 will be provided for each completed paper. It is expected that authors will draw on this financial support for assistance with research, writing and revisions.

Please find below the general description of the project and the specific parameters of this call for contributions.

Project Description

Charity is part of everyday life for people across Canada. Charitable behaviour, charitable giving, charitable interactions: all are understood to reflect human generosity and concern for collective welfare. Charity is central to an extraordinarily wide range of sectors, actions, commitments, and projects.



Law Commission
of Canada

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du Canada

Canada

Charities are the organizations that make this possible. They too are part of everyday life for Canadians. From small to large, local to international, charities exercise significant responsibility in the governance and flourishing of a contemporary and diversified society.

How does law in Canada - in multiple forms and at various levels - facilitate charity as a practice and support the functioning of charities? The Law Commission of Canada proposes to explore a wide range of related questions within a project dedicated to charity in Canadian law and the law of Canadian charities. They reflect preoccupations and priorities shared by individuals, communities, and institutions with whom the Commission has already engaged and to whom the Commission will continue to listen and respond. They illustrate intersecting issues related to legal definitions, co-existing sources of authority and governance, and the effective regulation of an extremely complex and multi-faceted set of activities, needs, and functions.

Part III - Looking Ahead: The Future of Charities and Charity Law in Canada

Building on insights derived from Parts I and II, Part III will look ahead to map potential challenges and new directions. As the capstone of the project, Part III will adopt a broad lens so as to include a variety of perspectives on, or approaches to, the future of charity law and the charitable sector. Tangible structural and operational concerns of charities will be incorporated into the work of Part III in proposing pathways to ensuring a strong, diversified, and well-supported charitable sector for Canada's future.

Papers

The LCC is seeking proposals for papers that will meet the objectives and promise of Part III. To be considered, proposals should be forward-looking as they identify challenges and developments on the horizon connected to structural or foundational elements of charity law. Commissioned papers will include options and suggestions for the future evolution of Canadian law relevant to charity and charities.

Applications for papers should be submitted by March 31, 2025.

Parameters and Process for Papers

Parameters

Papers should be up to 7,000 words in length. \$10,000 will be provided for each paper, to be disbursed in the following increments:

- \$2,500 upon submission of the author's biography and photograph, and an abstract of the proposed paper, all to be used on the LCC's website
- \$2,500 upon submission of a first draft

- \$2,500 upon submission of a revised draft
- \$2,500 upon submission of a final draft

If you are interested in contributing a paper for Part III of the project, please submit your application, consisting of the following elements, for the LCC's consideration by March 31, 2025:

- An indication of topic and tentative title
- A 200-word summary of your proposed paper
- A detailed outline of 1 to 2 pages
- A preliminary bibliography of up to five sources
- References to previous publications you have written (preferably in a related field)

Papers may be co-authored, in which case references to publications by each proposed author should be included.

Applications should be submitted to projects-projets@lcc-cdc.gc.ca.

Process

The LCC will aim to notify applicants of its decision within three weeks of receiving applications. If accepted and invited to contribute, authors should prepare their papers for an initial submission deadline of October 17, 2025. The LCC will aim to review and respond to the papers by November 7, 2025. Questions and comments provided to authors should be considered and incorporated by November 28, 2025, following which papers will be copy-edited and sent for translation. Authors will have approximately two weeks to review translations and any copyediting corrections or suggestions. Final papers should be completed and submitted by January 16, 2026.

Milestones and Deadlines:

- Application due: March 31, 2025
- Initial Paper: October 17, 2025
- LCC questions and comments considered and integrated: November 28, 2025
- Final Paper due: January 16, 2026

All Papers published as a result of this call will be publications of the LCC, and the LCC will hold copyright in all such papers. The LCC may publish any paper or contributions submitted pursuant to this call in whole or in part, and in the language or format it chooses.

Questions may be addressed to: projects-projets@lcc-cdc.gc.ca.