



# The Future of Charity Regulation: Lessons from International Experience

**April 28, 2017**

**8:30 am to 5:30 pm**

**2nd Floor Conference Rooms, Residence Commons  
Carleton University, Ottawa**

Across a wide range of countries, charity policy, law and regulation have undergone more change over the past two decades than during the previous century. What constitutes an effective model for charity regulation in an environment that is increasingly transborder, hybrid, commercialized, professionalized, and shaped by technology? What guidance might international approaches and experiments hold for Canada as the Trudeau government advances its commitment to ‘modernize’ the framework for charity regulation?

This one-day conference is a rare opportunity to hear from international charity regulators – from both established and new regulatory institutions – as well as from leading academics and nonprofit leaders.

Co-hosted by the Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Graduate Program at the School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University, the Muttart Foundation and the Pemsel Case Foundation, the conference examines recent international developments in charity regulation and considers avenues for reform, assessing implications for regulators and for charities.

## Program

**8:00 – 8:30 am CONVERSATIONS OVER COFFEE**

**8:30 – 8:45 am WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

**8:45 – 9:30 am KEYNOTE:  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN CHARITY REGULATION**

An overview of recent trends and emerging issues in policy and regulation for the charitable sector.

- *Myles McGregor-Lowndes*, Professor, Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, School of Business, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

**9:30 – 10:30 am VIEWPOINT:  
DOES CHARITY REGULATION HAVE (OR NEED) A PHILOSOPHY OF REGULATION?**

In some ways, the regulation of charities is akin to regulation in other ‘industries,’ and in other respects, it is unique. This session explores the fundamental philosophy and principles that underpin charity regulation. How are these philosophies changing, and how consistent are they across regulators? Are regulators still ‘fit for purpose’ in meeting the needs of the charitable sector and expectations of public accountability?

- *Oonagh Breen*, Associate Professor, Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin, Ireland
- *Kenneth Dibble*, Legal Director, Charity Commission for England and Wales, UK

**11:00 am – 12:30 pm PANEL:  
THE CHALLENGES OF CHARITY REGULATION**

This session explores the challenges of regulation from the perspective of both the regulator and charities. What are the emerging issues, and how are they being addressed? What kinds of reforms are needed?

- *Judith Turbyne*, Head of Engagement, Scottish Charity Regulator, Scotland
- *Murray Baird*, Assistant Commissioner and General Counsel, Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission, Australia
- *Tony Manconi*, Director General, Charities Director, Canada Revenue Agency, Canada
- *Gordon Floyd*, Co-Editor, *The Philanthropist*; former President and CEO, Children’s Mental Health Ontario, Canada

**1:30 – 3:00 pm PANEL:  
DESIGN OF AN EFFECTIVE REGULATOR**

With a variety of countries creating new charity regulators and reform of established regulators being proposed in many jurisdictions, this panel examines lessons for institutional design and good practices. What have the new regulators taken as ‘good practice’ from existing regulators and what have they had to invent? What works for the sector in an increasingly internationalized context?

- *John Farrelly*, Chief Executive Officer, Charities Regulator, Ireland
- *Laird Hunter QC*, Senior Partner, Richards Hunter Toogood, Canada
- *Andrew Phillips*, Senior Analyst, Department of Internal Affairs, New Zealand
- *Julia Sanchez*, President and CEO, Canadian Council of International Cooperation, Canada

**3:30 – 4:30 pm CONCLUSION:  
WHAT ARE THE LESSONS FOR CANADA?**

A reflection on the implications for charity regulation and reform in Canada: if reform is needed, how do we move it forward?

- *Sandy Houston*, President and CEO, Metcalf Foundation, Canada
- *Susan Phillips*, Professor, Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University, Canada
- *Bob Wyatt*, Executive Director, Muttart Foundation, Canada

**4:30 – 5:30 pm RECEPTION AND LAUNCH OF *REGULATING CHARITIES: THE INSIDE STORY***

Edited by Myles McGregor-Lowndes and Bob Wyatt (published by Routledge), *Regulating Charities: The Inside Story* brings together candid perspectives of charity regulators and sector leaders.