





January 19, 2023

REGISTERED MAIL

James Orbinski
Director
Dignitas International


BN: 860333426RR0001
File number: 3028224
Case number: 

Dear James Orbinski:

**Subject: Notice of intention to revoke
Dignitas International**

We are writing with respect to our letter dated April 20, 2022 (copy enclosed), in which Dignitas International (the Organization) was invited to respond to the findings of the audit conducted by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for the period from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019. Specifically, the Organization was asked to explain why its registration should not be revoked in accordance with subsection 168(1) of the Income Tax Act.

We note that in February 2022, the Organization advised the CRA that it has been inactive and is in the process of closing down. As a result, it was unable to participate in the audit and understood this would lead to revocation of charitable registration, which it does not object to. We nonetheless provided our usual procedural fairness by issuing a letter dated April 20, 2022, outlining our concerns and inviting a response in the event the Organization wished to address our concerns; however, the Organization did not respond.

Conclusion

Absent a reply to our letter of April 20, 2022, and given that the CRA could not complete its audit or verify the Organization's compliance with the requirements of the Act because it did not provide its books and records, we were unable to conclude that the Organization meets the requirements for charitable registration. Specifically, the Organization was unable to demonstrate that it maintained proper books and records, as no such records were provided to the CRA. This constitutes a serious breach of the requirements for registration.

Consequently, for the reasons mentioned in our letter dated April 20, 2022, and pursuant to subsection 168(1) of the Act, we hereby notify you of our intention to revoke the

registration of the Organization. By virtue of subsection 168(2) of the Act, the revocation will be effective on the date of publication of the following notice in the Canada Gazette:

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to paragraph 168(1)(e) and subsection 230(2) of the Income Tax Act, of our intention to revoke the registration of the charity listed below and that by virtue of paragraph 168(2)(b) thereof, the revocation of registration will be effective on the date of publication of this notice in the Canada Gazette.

Business number	Name
860333426RR0001	Dignitas International Toronto ON

In addition, due to the serious nature of the non-compliance found in the audit, the CRA has decided to publish a copy of the notice in the Canada Gazette immediately after the expiration of 30 days from the date of mailing of this notice pursuant to paragraph 168(2)(b) of the Act.

Should the Organization choose to object to this notice of intention to revoke its registration in accordance with subsection 168(4) of the Act, a written notice of objection, with the reasons for objection and all relevant facts, must be filed within 90 days from the day this letter was mailed. The notice of objection should include the BN account number and should be sent to:

Assistant Commissioner
Appeals Intake Centre
Post Office Box 2006, Station Main
Newmarket ON L3Y 0E9

However, please note that even if the Organization files a notice of objection with the CRA, this will not prevent the CRA from publishing the notice of revocation in the Canada Gazette immediately after the expiration of 30 days from the date of mailing of this notice.

The Organization has the option of filing an application with the Federal Court of Appeal (FCA), as indicated in paragraph 168(2)(b) of the Act, to seek an order staying publication of the notice of revocation in the Canada Gazette. The FCA, upon reviewing this application, may extend the 30-day period during which the CRA cannot publish a copy of the notice.

A copy of the relevant provisions of the Act concerning revocation of registration, including appeals from a notice of intention to revoke registration, can be found in Appendix A, attached.

Consequences of revocation

As of the effective date of revocation:

- a) the Organization will no longer be exempt from Part I tax as a registered charity and **will no longer be permitted to issue official donation receipts**. This means that gifts made to the Organization would not be allowable as tax credits to individual donors or as allowable deductions to corporate donors under subsection 118.1(3) and paragraph 110.1(1)(a) of the Act respectively;
- b) by virtue of section 188 of the Act, the Organization will be required to pay a tax within one year from the date of the notice of intention to revoke. This revocation tax is calculated on Form T2046, Tax Return where Registration of a Charity is revoked. Form T2046 must be filed, and the tax paid, on or before the day that is one year from the date of the notice of intention to revoke. The relevant provisions of the Act concerning the tax applicable to revoked charities can also be found in Appendix A. Form T2046 and the related Guide RC4424, Completing the Tax Return where Registration of a Charity is revoked, are available on our website at canada.ca/charities-giving;
- c) the Organization will no longer qualify as a charity for purposes of subsection 123(1) of the Excise Tax Act. As a result, the Organization may be subject to obligations and entitlements under the Excise Tax Act that apply to entities other than charities. If you have any questions about your Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) obligations and entitlements, please call GST/HST Rulings at 1-888-830-7747 (Quebec) or 1-800-959-8287 (rest of Canada).

Finally, we advise that subsection 150(1) of the Act requires that every corporation (other than a corporation that was a registered charity throughout the year) file a return of income with the Minister in the prescribed form, containing prescribed information, for each taxation year. The return of income must be filed without notice or demand.

Yours sincerely,

Sharmila P. Khare


Sharmila Khare
Director General
Charities Directorate

Enclosures

- CRA letter dated April 20, 2022
- Appendix A, Relevant provisions of the Act



April 20, 2022

James Orbinski
Director
Dignitas International


BN: 860333426RR0001
File #: 3028224

Dear James Orbinski:

Subject: Audit of Dignitas International

This letter results from the audit of Dignitas International (the Organization), related to the operations of the Organization for the period from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has identified specific areas of non-compliance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act (the Act) and its Regulations in the following area:

AREA OF NON-COMPLIANCE		
	Issue	Reference
1.	Failed to maintain adequate books and records	168(1)(e), 230(2)

The purpose of this letter is to describe the area of non-compliance identified by the CRA during the course of the audit as it relates to the legislative and common law requirements applicable to registered charities, and to provide the Organization with the opportunity to make additional representations and provide all the necessary books and records including all the supporting documents.

Registered charities must comply with the law, failing which the Organization's registered status may be revoked in the manner described in section 168 of the Act. The balance of this letter describes the identified area of non-compliance in further detail.

General legal principles

In order to maintain charitable registration under the Act, Canadian law requires that an organization demonstrate that it is constituted exclusively for charitable purposes (or objects) and that it devotes its resources to charitable activities carried on by the organization itself.¹ To be exclusively charitable, a purpose must fall within one or more of the following four categories (also known as "heads") of charity² and deliver a public benefit:

- relief of poverty (first category);
- advancement of education (second category);
- advancement of religion (third category); or
- certain other purposes beneficial to the community in a way the law regards as charitable (fourth category).

The public benefit requirement involves a two-part test:

The first part of the test requires the delivery of a **benefit** that is recognizable and capable of being proved, and socially useful. To be recognizable and capable of being proved, a benefit must generally be tangible or objectively measurable. Benefits that are not tangible or objectively measurable must be shown to be valuable or approved by the common understanding of enlightened opinion for the time being.³ In most cases, the benefit should be a necessary and reasonably direct result of how the purpose will be achieved and of the activities that will be conducted to further the purpose, and reasonably achievable in the circumstances.⁴ An assumed prospect or possibility of gain that is vague, indescribable or uncertain, or incapable of proof, cannot be said to provide a charitable benefit.⁵

- The second part of the test requires the benefit be directed to the **public** or a sufficient section of the public. This means a registered charity cannot:

¹ See subsection 149.1(1) of the Act, which requires that a charitable organization devote all of its resources to "charitable activities carried on by the organization itself" except to the extent that an activity falls within the specific exemptions of subsections 149.1(6.1) or (6.2) of the Act. *Vancouver Society of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women v MNR*, [1999] 1 SCR 10 at paras 155-159 [Vancouver Society]. A registered charity may also devote resources to activities that, while not charitable in and of themselves, are necessary to accomplish their charitable objectives (such as expenditures on fundraising and administration). However, any resources so devoted must be within acceptable legal parameters and the associated activities must not become ends in and of themselves.

² The Act does not define charity or what is charitable. The exception is subsection 149.1(1) which defines charitable purposes/objects as including "the disbursement of funds to qualified donees". The CRA must therefore rely on the common law definition, which sets out four broad categories of charity. The four broad charitable purpose/object categories, also known as the four heads of charity, were outlined by Lord Macnaghten in *Commissioners for Special Purposes of the Income Tax v Pemsel*, [1891] AC 531 (PC) [Pemsel]. The classification approach was explicitly approved of by the Supreme Court of Canada in *Guaranty Trust Co of Canada v MNR*, [1967] SCR 133, and confirmed in *Vancouver Society*, supra note 4.

³ See generally *Vancouver Society*, supra note 4 at para 41, Gonthier J, dissenting; *Gilmour v Coats et al*, [1949] 1 All ER 848 [Gilmour]; *National Anti-Vivisection Society v IRC*, [1947] 2 All ER 217 at 224 (HL), Wright LJ [National Anti-Vivisection Society].

⁴ See for example *In re Grove-Grady*, [1929] 1 Ch 557 at 573-574; *Plowden v Lawrence*, [1929] 1 Ch 557 at 588, Russell LJ; *National Anti-Vivisection*, supra note 6 at 49, Wright LJ; *IRC v Oldham Training and Enterprise Council*, [1996] BTC 539 [Oldham]; *Pemsel*, supra note 5 at 583.

⁵ See *National Anti-Vivisection Society*, supra note 6 at 49, Wright LJ; *In re Shaw decd*, [1957] 1 WLR 729; *Gilmour*, supra note 6, Simonds LJ at 446-447.

- have an eligible beneficiary group that is negligible in size, or restricted based on criteria that are not justified based on the charitable purpose(s); or
- provide an unacceptable private benefit. Typically, a private benefit is a benefit provided to a person or organization that is not a charitable beneficiary, or to a charitable beneficiary that exceeds the bounds of charity. A private benefit will usually be acceptable if it is incidental, meaning it is necessary, reasonable, and not disproportionate to the resulting public benefit.⁶

As well, a charitable purpose⁷ should not be broad or vague. If the wording is too broad or vague, it will not be clear that a purpose is charitable (falls within a charitable purpose category and provides a public benefit) and defines the scope of the organization's activities. "Broad" means the purpose may allow for both charitable and non-charitable activities and/or the delivery of unacceptable private benefits. "Vague" means the wording may be interpreted in different ways. A purpose that is too broad or vague may not be eligible for registration⁸.

To comply with the requirement that it devote all of its resources to charitable activities carried on by the organization itself; a registered charity may only use its resources (funds, personnel and/or property) in two ways:

- for its own charitable activities - undertaken by the charity itself under its continued supervision, direction and control; and
- for gifting to "qualified donees" as defined in the Act.⁹

A charity's own charitable activities may be carried out by its directors, employees or volunteers, or through intermediaries (a person or non-qualified donee that is separate from the charity, but that the charity works with or through, such as an agent, contractor or partner). If acting through an intermediary, the charity must establish that the activity to be conducted will further its charitable purposes, and that it maintains continued direction and control over the activity and over the use of the resources it provides to the intermediary to carry out the activity on its behalf.¹⁰

Although there is no legal requirement to do so, and the same result might be achieved through other arrangements or means, entering into a written agreement can be an effective way to help meet the own activities test. However, the existence of an agreement is not enough to prove that a charity meets the own activities test. The charity must be able to show that the terms establish a real, ongoing, active relationship with the intermediary,¹¹ and are actually implemented. A charity must record all steps taken to exercise direction and control as part of its books and

⁶ For more information about public benefit, see CRA Policy Statement CPS-024, Guidelines for Registering a Charity: Meeting the Public Benefit Test.

⁷ For more information about charitable purposes see CRA Guidance CG-019, How to Draft Purposes for Charitable Registration.

⁸ Vancouver Society, supra note 4 per Iacobucci J at para. 158; Travel Just v. Canada Revenue Agency, 2006 FCA 343, [2007] 1 C.T.C. 294.

⁹ A "qualified donee" means a donee described in subsection 149.1(1) of the Act.

¹⁰ For more information, see CRA Guidance CG-002, Canadian Registered Charities Carrying Out Activities Outside Canada and Guidance CG-004, Using an Intermediary to Carry Out Activities Within Canada.

¹¹ See notably Canadian Committee for the Tel Aviv Foundation v Canada, 2002 FCA 72 at para 30, [2002] FCJ no 315 [Canadian Committee for the Tel Aviv Foundation].

records, to allow the CRA to verify that the charity's funds have been spent on its own activities. While the nature and extent of the required direction and control may vary based on the particular activity and circumstances, the absence of appropriate direction and control indicates that an organization is resourcing a non-qualified donee in contravention of the Act.

The CRA must be satisfied that an organization's activities directly further charitable purposes in a manner permitted under the Act. In making a determination, we are obliged to take into account all relevant information. Accordingly, the current audit included an enquiry into all aspects of the Organization's operations.

Background

The Organization was registered as a charitable organization effective January 1, 2005. The Organization's Certificate of Continuance issued under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, dated September 10, 2014, stated the following purposes:

According to Dignitas International, it is dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of children, youth, and families affected by HIV/AIDS and other high priority diseases in resource poor settings by:

- (a) Providing medical treatment, training, coaching and mentoring programmes;
- (b) conducting research to monitor, evaluate and learn lessons from our programmes; and
- (c) Improving health systems and health policy by sharing experiences and research evidence gained through our medical programs with communities, patients, clinicians, researchers and policy makers.¹²

The activities at the time of registration were:

- (a) To work with local and national health institutions to increase access to prevention, treatment, care and support through on-going training, support and direct service provision.
- (b) To provide voluntary counselling and testing, prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (MTCT) information, education and communication, distribution of condoms, the treatment and prevention of opportunistic infections and Sexually Transmitted Infections, palliative and psychosocial care, and treatment with life-extending Antiretroviral therapies.
- (c) To provide counselling, testing, treatment of opportunistic infections and ARV treatment at Continuum of Care Clinics

While we recognize that the Organization's purposes with which it was originally registered are potentially charitable, CRA must be satisfied that an organization's activities directly further charitable purposes in a manner permitted under the Act. In making a determination, we are obliged to take into account all relevant information. Our consideration of both purposes and activities must be based on current legislation, court decisions, and Charities Directorate policies and procedures.

¹² Organization's Certificate of Continuance issued under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, dated September 10, 2014.

The Organization's Form T3010, Registered Charity Information Return, for the fiscal periods 2018 and 2019, indicate that the Organization's current activities are: "HIV health services in Malawi; diabetes health services in Sioux Lookout; conduct research studies in NCD brite consortium; research studies in the interventions for depression in Malawi; research studies in Malawi HIV implementation research scientist training program; and research studies in strengthen access to diabetes and hypertension care through integration funded by world diabetes foundation."

Identified areas of non-compliance

1. Failed to maintain adequate books and records

Pursuant to subsection 230(2) of the Act, every registered charity "shall keep records and books of account [...] at an address in Canada recorded with the Minister or designated by the Minister containing:

- a) information in such form as will enable the Minister to determine whether there are any grounds for revocation of its registration under the Act;
- b) a duplicate of each receipt containing prescribed information for a donation received by it;
- c) other information in such form as will enable the Minister to verify the donations to it for which a deduction or tax credit is available under this Act."

In addition, subsection 230(4) also states "Every person required by this section to keep records and books of account shall retain:

- a) the records and books of account referred to in this section in respect of which a period is prescribed, together with every account and voucher necessary to verify the information contained therein, for such a period as is prescribed;
- b) all other records and books of account referred to in this section, together with every account and voucher necessary to verify the information contained therein, until the expiration of six years from the end of the last taxation year to which the records and books of account relate."

The policy of the CRA relating to the maintenance of books and records, and books of account, is based on several judicial determinations and the law, which have held that:

- i. it is the responsibility of the registered charity to prove that its charitable status should not be revoked;¹³
- ii. a registered charity must maintain, and make available to the CRA at the time of an audit, meaningful books and records, regardless of its size or resources. It is not sufficient to supply the required documentation and records subsequent thereto;¹⁴ and

¹³ See Canadian Committee for the Tel Aviv Foundation, 2002 FCA 72 at paras 26-27, [2002] 2 CTC 93.

¹⁴ Canadian Committee for the Tel Aviv Foundation, 2002 FCA 72 at para 39, [2002] 2 CTC 93. Furthermore, failing to comply with the requirements of section 230 of the Act by refusing to make documents available can lead to a fine and imprisonment, in addition to the penalty otherwise provided. See subsection 238(1) of the Act.

- iii. the failure to maintain proper books, records, and records of account in accordance with the requirements of the Act is itself sufficient reason to revoke an organization's charitable status in the case of material or repeated non-compliance.¹⁵

Audit Findings

The CRA sent a questionnaire, along with a pre-audit list of required documents for the audit, to the Organization on December 7, 2021. The Organization acknowledged receipt of these documents on January 7, 2022. On February 11, 2022, the CRA received correspondence from you indicating that "Dignitas has been entirely inactive for the last two years. During this time Dignitas has had no staff. We are now in the process of closing the corporation. Given our lack of staff, we are unable to participate in the proposed audit. We understand that this will lead to revocation of CRA Charitable status. We have no objection to this, as we are closing entirely. We have a balance of 11,667.48.CAD in funds, which we are using toward legal services for closing the corporation."

On February 23, 2022, the CRA sent another letter to you by registered mail. The letter requested that the Organization provide the CRA with books and records required to conduct the audit.

To date, there has been no response from the Organization relating to our request to conduct the audit nor has the Organization provided the CRA with the books and records required to conduct the audit. As a result, we are unable to verify the information reported by the Organization in its T3010s for the periods under audit. In particular, we are unable to verify the information reported in:

- Section C2 where the Organization described its ongoing programs and activities as HIV health services in Malawi, diabetes health services in Sioux Lookout, research studies in NCD brite consortium, research studies in the interventions for depression in Malawi, research studies in Malawi HIV implementation research scientist training program, and research studies in strengthen access to diabetes and hypertension care through integration funded by world diabetes foundation.
- Section C6 for the periods under audit, the Organization indicated that it conducted fundraising activities by checking off the following:
 - Line 2510 Auctions
 - Line 2560 Fundraising dinners/galas/concerts
 - Line 2575 Internet
 - Line 2580 Mail campaigns
 - Line 2600 Targeted corporate donations/sponsorships
 - Line 2610 Targeted contacts
 - Line 2650 Other – Give a day campaign
- Schedule 2 Line 200 Total expenditures on activities carried on outside Canada reported as \$8,331,749 in 2018 and \$2,225,677 in 2019.

¹⁵ See *Prescient Foundation v MNR*, 2013 FCA 120 at para 51; [2013] FCJ no 512.

- Schedule 2 Line 210 total financial resources spent on programs outside Canada under any kind of an arrangement including a contract, agency agreement, or joint venture to any other individual or organization reported as \$158,083 in 2018 and \$215,426 in 2019.
- Schedule 5, Line 580, tax receipted non-cash gifts of publicly traded securities/commodities/mutual funds reported as \$34,610 in 2018.
- At Schedule 6, Detailed financial information, the amounts reported in the following lines could not be verified:
 - Line 4200, Total assets, or any of the asset lines, \$3,354,615 in 2018 and \$469,971 in 2019.
 - Line 4350, Total liabilities, or any of the liabilities lines, \$1,662,155 in 2018 and \$15,250 in 2019.
 - Line 4500, Total eligible amount of all gifts for which the charity has issued or will issue tax receipts, for \$252,676 in 2018 and \$11,068 in 2019.
 - Line 4510, Total amount received from other registered charities, for \$797,856 in 2018 and \$155,000 in 2019.
 - Line 4530, Total other gifts received for which a tax receipt was not issued by the charity, for \$64,945 in 2019.
 - Line 4540, Total revenue received from federal government, for \$4,350 in 2018.
 - Line 4575, Total non tax-receipted revenue from all sources outside Canada (government and non-government), for \$7,654,858 in 2018 and \$1,001,117 in 2019.
 - Line 4580, Total interest and investment income received or earned, for \$3,195 in 2018 and \$3,204 in 2019.
 - Line 4630, Total non tax-receipted revenue from fundraising, for \$193,652 in 2018 and \$169,867 in 2019.
 - Line 4650, Other revenue, for \$299,549 in 2018 in \$268,340 in 2019.
 - Line 4950, Total expenditures before gifts to qualified donees, of \$9,679,884 in 2018 and \$3,027,400 in 2019.

Under paragraph 168(1)(e) of the Act, the registration of a charity may be revoked if it fails to comply with or contravenes subsection 230(2) of the Act relating to books and records. It is our position that the present case consists of material non-compliance. For this reason, it appears there are grounds for revocation of the charitable status of the Organization under paragraph 168(1)(e) of the Act.

The Organization's options:

a) No response

You may choose to not respond. In that case, the Director General of the Charities Directorate may give notice of its intention to revoke the registration of the Organization by issuing a notice of intention in the manner described in subsection 168(1) of the Act

b) Response

Should you choose to respond, please provide the books and records required to conduct the audit along with your written representations and any additional information regarding the findings outlined above within 30 days from the date of this letter. After considering the representations, submitted by the Organization, the Director General of the Charities Directorate will decide on the appropriate course of action, which may include:

- no compliance action necessary;
- the issuance of an educational letter;
- resolving these issues through the implementation of a Compliance Agreement;
- the application of penalties and/or suspensions provided for in sections 188.1 and/or 188.2 of the Act; or
- giving notice of its intention to revoke the registration of the Organization by issuing a notice of intention to revoke in the manner described in subsection 168(1) of the Act

If you appoint a third party to represent you in this manner, please send us a written authorization naming the individual or organization and explicitly authorizing that individual or organization to discuss your file with us.

If you have any questions or require information or clarification, do not hesitate to contact me at the number below. My team leader, Darsana Idema, may also be reached at (226) 753-6648.

Yours sincerely,

2022-04-20

X

Winnie Lo

Signed by: LO WINNIE

Winnie Lo, [REDACTED]
 IT Audit I
 GTA East TSO
 200 Town Centre Court
 Toronto Ontario
 M1P 4Y3
 Telephone: (226) 989-2814
 Fax: (416) 973-1196
 Internet: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency

Qualified Donees

149.1 (1) Definitions

charitable foundation means a corporation or trust that is constituted and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, no part of the income of which is payable to, or is otherwise available for, the personal benefit of any proprietor, member, shareholder, trustee or settlor thereof, and that is not a charitable organization

charitable organization, at any particular time, means an organization, whether or not incorporated,

(a) constituted and operated exclusively for charitable purposes,

(a.1) all the resources of which are devoted to charitable activities carried on by the organization itself,

(b) no part of the income of which is payable to, or is otherwise available for, the personal benefit of any proprietor, member, shareholder, trustee or settlor thereof,

(c) more than 50% of the directors, trustees, officers or like officials of which deal at arm's length with each other and with

(i) each of the other directors, trustees, officers and like officials of the organization,

(ii) each person described by subparagraph (d)(i) or (ii), and

(iii) each member of a group of persons (other than Her Majesty in right of Canada or of a province, a municipality, another registered charity that is not a private foundation, and any club, society or association described in paragraph 149(1)(l)) who do not deal with each other at arm's length, if the group would, if it were a person, be a person described by subparagraph (d)(i), and

(d) that is not, at the particular time, and would not at the particular time be, if the organization were a corporation, controlled directly or indirectly in any manner whatever

(i) by a person (other than Her Majesty in right of Canada or of a province, a municipality, another registered charity that is not a private foundation, and any club, society or association described in paragraph 149(1)(l)),

(A) who immediately after the particular time, has contributed to the organization amounts that are, in total, greater than 50% of the capital of the organization immediately after the particular time, and

(B) who immediately after the person's last contribution at or before the particular time, had contributed to the organization amounts that were, in total, greater than 50% of the capital of the organization immediately after the making of that last contribution, or

(ii) by a person, or by a group of persons that do not deal at arm's length with each other, if the person or any member of the group does not deal at arm's length with a person described in subparagraph (i)

qualified donee, at any time, means a person that is

(a) registered by the Minister and that is

(i) a housing corporation resident in Canada and exempt from tax under this Part because of paragraph 149(1)(i) that has applied for registration,

(ii) a municipality in Canada,

(iii) a municipal or public body performing a function of government in Canada that has applied for registration,

(iv) a university outside Canada, the student body of which ordinarily includes students from Canada, that has applied for registration, or

(v) a foreign charity that has applied to the Minister for registration under subsection (26),

(b) a registered charity,

(b.1) a registered journalism organization,

(c) a registered Canadian amateur athletic association, or

(d) Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province, the United Nations or an agency of the United Nations.

149.1 (2) Revocation of registration of charitable organization

The Minister may, in the manner described in section 168, revoke the registration of a charitable organization for any reason described in subsection 168(1) or where the organization

(a) carries on a business that is not a related business of that charity;

(b) fails to expend in any taxation year, on charitable activities carried on by it and by way of gifts made by it to qualified donees, amounts the total of which is at least equal to the organization's disbursement quota for that year; or

(c) makes a disbursement by way of a gift, other than a gift made

(i) in the course of charitable activities carried on by it, or

(ii) to a donee that is a qualified donee at the time of the gift.

149.1 (3) Revocation of registration of public foundation

The Minister may, in the manner described in section 168, revoke the registration of a public foundation for any reason described in subsection 168(1) or where the foundation

(a) carries on a business that is not a related business of that charity;

(b) fails to expend in any taxation year, on charitable activities carried on by it and by way of gifts made by it to qualified donees, amounts the total of which is at least equal to the foundation's disbursement quota for that year;

(b.1) makes a disbursement by way of a gift, other than a gift made

(i) in the course of charitable activities carried on by it, or

(ii) to a donee that is a qualified donee at the time of the gift;

(c) since June 1, 1950, acquired control of any corporation;

(d) since June 1, 1950, incurred debts, other than debts for current operating expenses, debts incurred in connection with the purchase and sale of investments and debts incurred in the course of administering charitable activities; or

(e) at any time within the 24 month period preceding the day on which notice is given to the foundation by the Minister pursuant to subsection 168(1) and at a time when the foundation was a private foundation, took any action or failed to expend amounts such that the Minister was entitled, pursuant to subsection 149.1(4), to revoke its registration as a private foundation.

149.1 (4) Revocation of registration of private foundation

The Minister may, in the manner described in section 168, revoke the registration of a private foundation for any reason described in subsection 168(1) or where the foundation

(a) carries on any business;

(b) fails to expend in any taxation year, on charitable activities carried on by it and by way of gifts made by it to qualified donees, amounts the total of which is at least equal to the foundation's disbursement quota for that year;

(b.1) makes a disbursement by way of a gift, other than a gift made

(i) in the course of charitable activities carried on by it, or

(ii) to a donee that is a qualified donee at the time of the gift;

(c) has, in respect of a class of shares of the capital stock of a corporation, a divestment obligation percentage at the end of any taxation year;

(d) since June 1, 1950, incurred debts, other than debts for current operating expenses, debts incurred in connection with the purchase and sale of investments and debts incurred in the course of administering charitable activities.

149.1 (4.1) Revocation of registration of registered charity

The Minister may, in the manner described in section 168, revoke the registration

(a) of a registered charity, if it has entered into a transaction (including a gift to another registered charity) and it may reasonably be considered that a purpose of the transaction was to avoid or unduly delay the expenditure of amounts on charitable activities;

(b) of a registered charity, if it may reasonably be considered that a purpose of entering into a transaction (including the acceptance of a gift) with another registered charity to which

paragraph (a) applies was to assist the other registered charity in avoiding or unduly delaying the expenditure of amounts on charitable activities;

(c) of a registered charity, if a false statement, within the meaning assigned by subsection 163.2(1), was made in circumstances amounting to culpable conduct, within the meaning assigned by that subsection, in the furnishing of information for the purpose of obtaining registration of the charity;

(d) of a registered charity, if it has in a taxation year received a gift of property (other than a designated gift) from another registered charity with which it does not deal at arm's length and it has expended, before the end of the next taxation year, in addition to its disbursement quota for each of those taxation years, an amount that is less than the fair market value of the property, on charitable activities carried on by it or by way of gifts made to qualified donees with which it deals at arm's length;

(e) of a registered charity, if an ineligible individual is a director, trustee, officer or like official of the charity, or controls or manages the charity, directly or indirectly, in any manner whatever; and

(f) of a registered charity, if it accepts a gift from a foreign state, as defined in section 2 of the State Immunity Act, that is set out on the list referred to in subsection 6.1(2) of that Act.

Revocation of Registration of Certain Organizations and Associations

168 (1) Notice of intention to revoke registration

The Minister may, by registered mail, give notice to a person described in any of paragraphs (a) to (c) of the definition "qualified donee" in subsection 149.1(1) that the Minister proposes to revoke its registration if the person

(a) applies to the Minister in writing for revocation of its registration;

(b) ceases to comply with the requirements of this Act for its registration;

(c) in the case of a registered charity or registered Canadian amateur athletic association, fails to file an information return as and when required under this Act or a regulation;

(d) issues a receipt for a gift otherwise than in accordance with this Act and the regulations or that contains false information;

(e) fails to comply with or contravenes any of sections 230 to 231.5; or

(f) in the case of a registered Canadian amateur athletic association, accepts a gift the granting of which was expressly or implicitly conditional on the association making a gift to another person, club, society or association.

168 (2) Revocation of Registration

Where the Minister gives notice under subsection 168(1) to a registered charity or to a registered Canadian amateur athletic association,

(a) if the charity or association has applied to the Minister in writing for the revocation of its registration, the Minister shall, forthwith after the mailing of the notice, publish a copy of the notice in the Canada Gazette, and

(b) in any other case, the Minister may, after the expiration of 30 days from the day of mailing of the notice, or after the expiration of such extended period from the day of mailing of the notice as the Federal Court of Appeal or a judge of that Court, on application made at any time before the determination of any appeal pursuant to subsection 172(3) from the giving of the notice, may fix or allow, publish a copy of the notice in the Canada Gazette,

and on that publication of a copy of the notice, the registration of the charity or association is revoked.

168 (4) Objection to proposal or designation

A person may, on or before the day that is 90 days after the day on which the notice was mailed, serve on the Minister a written notice of objection in the manner authorized by the Minister, setting out the reasons for the objection and all the relevant facts, and the provisions of subsections 165(1), (1.1) and (3) to (7) and sections 166, 166.1 and 166.2 apply, with any modifications that the circumstances require, as if the notice were a notice of assessment made under section 152, if

(a) in the case of a person that is or was registered as a registered charity or is an applicant for such registration, it objects to a notice under any of subsections (1) and 149.1(2) to (4.1), (6.3), (22) and (23);

(b) in the case of a person that is or was registered as a registered Canadian amateur athletic association or is an applicant for such registration, it objects to a notice under any of subsections (1) and 149.1(4.2) and (22); or

(c) in the case of a person described in any of subparagraphs (a)(i) to (v) of the definition "qualified donee" in subsection 149.1(1), that is or was registered by the Minister as a qualified donee or is an applicant for such registration, it objects to a notice under any of subsections (1) and 149.1(4.3) and (22).

172 (3) Appeal from refusal to register, revocation of registration, etc.

Where the Minister

(a) confirms a proposal or decision in respect of which a notice was issued under any of subsections 149.1(4.2) and (22) and 168(1) by the Minister, to a person that is or was registered as a registered Canadian amateur athletic association or is an applicant for registration as a registered Canadian amateur athletic association, or does not confirm or vacate that proposal or decision within 90 days after service of a notice of objection by the person under subsection 168(4) in respect of that proposal or decision,

(a.1) confirms a proposal, decision or designation in respect of which a notice was issued by the Minister to a person that is or was registered as a registered charity, or is an applicant for registration as a registered charity, under any of subsections 149.1(2) to (4.1), (6.3), (22) and (23) and 168(1), or does not confirm or vacate that proposal, decision or designation within 90

days after service of a notice of objection by the person under subsection 168(4) in respect of that proposal, decision or designation,

(a.2) confirms a proposal or decision in respect of which a notice was issued under any of subsections 149.1(4.3), (22) and 168(1) by the Minister, to a person that is a person described in any of subparagraphs (a)(i) to (v) of the definition "qualified donee" in subsection 149.1(1) that is or was registered by the Minister as a qualified donee or is an applicant for such registration, or does not confirm or vacate that proposal or decision within 90 days after service of a notice of objection by the person under subsection 168(4) in respect of that proposal or decision,

(b) refuses to accept for registration for the purposes of this Act any retirement savings plan,

(c) refuses to accept for registration for the purposes of this Act any profit sharing plan or revokes the registration of such a plan,

(d) [Repealed, 2011, c. 24, s. 54]

(e) refuses to accept for registration for the purposes of this Act an education savings plan,

(e.1) sends notice under subsection 146.1(12.1) to a promoter that the Minister proposes to revoke the registration of an education savings plan,

(f) refuses to register for the purposes of this Act any pension plan or gives notice under subsection 147.1(11) to the administrator of a registered pension plan that the Minister proposes to revoke its registration,

(f.1) refuses to accept an amendment to a registered pension plan,

(g) refuses to accept for registration for the purposes of this Act any retirement income fund,

(h) refuses to accept for registration for the purposes of this Act any pooled pension plan or gives notice under subsection 147.5(24) to the administrator of a pooled registered pension plan that the Minister proposes to revoke its registration, or

(i) refuses to accept an amendment to a pooled registered pension plan,

the person described in paragraph (a), (a.1) or (a.2), the applicant in a case described in paragraph (b), (e) or (g), a trustee under the plan or an employer of employees who are beneficiaries under the plan, in a case described in paragraph (c), the promoter in a case described in paragraph (e.1), the administrator of the plan or an employer who participates in the plan, in a case described in paragraph (f) or (f.1), or the administrator of the plan in a case described in paragraph (h) or (i), may appeal from the Minister's decision, or from the giving of the notice by the Minister, to the Federal Court of Appeal.

180 (1) Appeals to Federal Court of Appeal

An appeal to the Federal Court of Appeal pursuant to subsection 172(3) may be instituted by filing a notice of appeal in the Court within 30 days from

(a) the day on which the Minister notifies a person under subsection 165(3) of the Minister's action in respect of a notice of objection filed under subsection 168(4),

(b) [Repealed, 2011, c. 24, s. 55]

(c) the mailing of notice to the administrator of the registered pension plan under subsection 147.1(11),

(c.1) the sending of a notice to a promoter of a registered education savings plan under subsection 146.1(12.1),

(c.2) the mailing of notice to the administrator of the pooled registered pension plan under subsection 147.5(24), or

(d) the time the decision of the Minister to refuse the application for acceptance of the amendment to the registered pension plan or pooled registered pension plan was mailed, or otherwise communicated in writing, by the Minister to any person,

as the case may be, or within such further time as the Court of Appeal or a judge thereof may, either before or after the expiration of those 30 days, fix or allow.

Tax and Penalties in Respect of Qualified Donees

188 (1) Deemed year-end on notice of revocation

If on a particular day the Minister issues a notice of intention to revoke the registration of a taxpayer as a registered charity under any of subsections 149.1(2) to (4.1) and 168(1) or it is determined, under subsection 7(1) of the Charities Registration (Security Information) Act, that a certificate served in respect of the charity under subsection 5(1) of that Act is reasonable on the basis of information and evidence available,

(a) the taxation year of the charity that would otherwise have included that day is deemed to end at the end of that day;

(b) a new taxation year of the charity is deemed to begin immediately after that day; and

(c) for the purpose of determining the charity's fiscal period after that day, the charity is deemed not to have established a fiscal period before that day.

188 (1.1) Revocation tax

A charity referred to in subsection (1) is liable to a tax, for its taxation year that is deemed to have ended, equal to the amount determined by the formula

$$A - B$$

where

A is the total of all amounts, each of which is

(a) the fair market value of a property of the charity at the end of that taxation year,

(b) the amount of an appropriation (within the meaning assigned by subsection (2)) in respect of a property transferred to another person in the 120-day period that ended at the end of that taxation year, or

(c) the income of the charity for its winding-up period, including gifts received by the charity in that period from any source and any income that would be computed under section 3 as if that period were a taxation year; and

B is the total of all amounts (other than the amount of an expenditure in respect of which a deduction has been made in computing income for the winding-up period under paragraph (c) of the description of A), each of which is

(a) a debt of the charity that is outstanding at the end of that taxation year,

(b) an expenditure made by the charity during the winding-up period on charitable activities carried on by it, or

(c) an amount in respect of a property transferred by the charity during the winding-up period and not later than the latter of one year from the end of the taxation year and the day, if any, referred to in paragraph (1.2)(c), to a person that was at the time of the transfer an eligible donee in respect of the charity, equal to the amount, if any, by which the fair market value of the property, when transferred, exceeds the consideration given by the person for the transfer.

188 (1.2) Winding-up period

In this Part, the winding-up period of a charity is the period that begins immediately after the day on which the Minister issues a notice of intention to revoke the registration of a taxpayer as a registered charity under any of subsections 149.1(2) to (4.1) and 168(1) (or, if earlier, immediately after the day on which it is determined, under subsection 7(1) of the Charities Registration (Security Information) Act, that a certificate served in respect of the charity under subsection 5(1) of that Act is reasonable on the basis of information and evidence available), and that ends on the day that is the latest of

(a) the day, if any, on which the charity files a return under subsection 189(6.1) for the taxation year deemed by subsection (1) to have ended, but not later than the day on which the charity is required to file that return,

(b) the day on which the Minister last issues a notice of assessment of tax payable under subsection (1.1) for that taxation year by the charity, and

(c) if the charity has filed a notice of objection or appeal in respect of that assessment, the day on which the Minister may take a collection action under section 225.1 in respect of that tax payable.

188 (1.3) Eligible donee

In this Part, an eligible donee in respect of a particular charity is

(a) a registered charity

(i) of which more than 50% of the members of the board of directors or trustees of the registered charity deal at arm's length with each member of the board of directors or trustees of the particular charity,

- (ii) that is not the subject of a suspension under subsection 188.2(1),
 - (iii) that has no unpaid liabilities under this Act or under the Excise Tax Act,
 - (iv) that has filed all information returns required by subsection 149.1(14), and
 - (v) that is not the subject of a certificate under subsection 5(1) of the Charities Registration (Security Information) Act or, if it is the subject of such a certificate, the certificate has been determined under subsection 7(1) of that Act not to be reasonable; or
- (b) a municipality in Canada that is approved by the Minister in respect of a transfer of property from the particular charity.

188 (2) Shared liability – revocation tax

A person who, after the time that is 120 days before the end of the taxation year of a charity that is deemed by subsection (1) to have ended, receives property from the charity, is jointly and severally, or solidarily, liable with the charity for the tax payable under subsection (1.1) by the charity for that taxation year for an amount not exceeding the total of all appropriations, each of which is the amount by which the fair market value of such a property at the time it was so received by the person exceeds the consideration given by the person in respect of the property.

188 (2.1) Non-application of revocation tax

Subsections (1) and (1.1) do not apply to a charity in respect of a notice of intention to revoke given under any of subsections 149.1(2) to (4.1) and 168(1) if the Minister abandons the intention and so notifies the charity or if

- (a) within the one-year period that begins immediately after the taxation year of the charity otherwise deemed by subsection (1) to have ended, the Minister has registered the charity as a charitable organization, private foundation or public foundation; and
- (b) the charity has, before the time that the Minister has so registered the charity,
 - (i) paid all amounts, each of which is an amount for which the charity is liable under this Act (other than subsection (1.1)) or the Excise Tax Act in respect of taxes, penalties and interest; and
 - (ii) filed all information returns required by or under this Act to be filed on or before that time.

188 (3) Transfer of property tax

Where, as a result of a transaction or series of transactions, property owned by a registered charity that is a charitable foundation and having a net value greater than 50% of the net asset amount of the charitable foundation immediately before the transaction or series of transactions, as the case may be, is transferred before the end of a taxation year, directly or indirectly, to one or more charitable organizations and it may reasonably be considered that the main purpose of the transfer is to effect a reduction in the disbursement quota of the foundation, the foundation shall pay a tax under this Part for the year equal to the amount by which 25% of the net value of that property determined as of the day of its transfer exceeds the total of all amounts each of

which is its tax payable under this subsection for a preceding taxation year in respect of the transaction or series of transactions.

188 (3.1) Non-application of subsection (3)

Subsection (3) does not apply to a transfer that is a gift to which subsection 188.1(11) or (12) applies.

188 (4) Joint and several, or solidary, liability – tax transfer

If property has been transferred to a charitable organization in circumstances described in subsection (3) and it may reasonably be considered that the organization acted in concert with a charitable foundation for the purpose of reducing the disbursement quota of the foundation, the organization is jointly and severally, or solidarily, liable with the foundation for the tax imposed on the foundation by that subsection in an amount not exceeding the net value of the property.

188 (5) Definitions – In this section,

net asset amount of a charitable foundation at any time means the amount determined by the formula

$$A - B$$

where

A is the fair market value at that time of all the property owned by the foundation at that time, and

B is the total of all amounts each of which is the amount of a debt owing by or any other obligation of the foundation at that time;

net value of property owned by a charitable foundation, as of the day of its transfer, means the amount determined by the formula

$$A - B$$

where

A is the fair market value of the property on that day, and

B is the amount of any consideration given to the foundation for the transfer.

189 (6) Taxpayer to file return and pay tax

Every taxpayer who is liable to pay tax under this Part (except a charity that is liable to pay tax under section 188(1)) for a taxation year shall, on or before the day on or before which the taxpayer is, or would be if tax were payable by the taxpayer under Part I for the year, required to file a return of income or an information return under Part I for the year,

- (a) file with the Minister a return for the year in prescribed form and containing prescribed information, without notice or demand therefor;
- (b) estimate in the return the amount of tax payable by the taxpayer under this Part for the year; and
- (c) pay to the Receiver General the amount of tax payable by the taxpayer under this Part for the year.

189 (6.1) Revoked charity to file returns

Every taxpayer who is liable to pay tax under subsection 188(1.1) for a taxation year shall, on or before the day that is one year from the end of the taxation year, and without notice or demand,

- (a) file with the Minister
 - (i) a return for the taxation year, in prescribed form and containing prescribed information, and
 - (ii) both an information return and a public information return for the taxation year, each in the form prescribed for the purpose of subsection 149.1(14); and
- (b) estimate in the return referred to in subparagraph (a)(i) the amount of tax payable by the taxpayer under subsection 188(1.1) for the taxation year; and
- (c) pay to the Receiver General the amount of tax payable by the taxpayer under subsection 188(1.1) for the taxation year.

189 (6.2) Reduction of revocation tax liability

If the Minister has, during the one-year period beginning immediately after the end of a taxation year of a person, assessed the person in respect of the person's liability for tax under subsection 188(1.1) for that taxation year, has not after that period reassessed the tax liability of the person, and that liability exceeds \$1,000, that liability is, at any particular time, reduced by the total of

- (a) the amount, if any, by which
 - (i) the total of all amounts, each of which is an expenditure made by the charity, on charitable activities carried on by it, before the particular time and during the period (referred to in this subsection as the "post-assessment period") that begins immediately after a notice of the latest such assessment was sent and ends at the end of the one-year period

exceeds

 - (ii) the income of the charity for the post-assessment period, including gifts received by the charity in that period from any source and any income that would be computed under section 3 if that period were a taxation year, and
- (b) all amounts, each of which is an amount, in respect of a property transferred by the charity before the particular time and during the post-assessment period to a person that was at the time of the transfer an eligible donee in respect of the charity, equal to the amount, if any, by which

the fair market value of the property, when transferred, exceeds the consideration given by the person for the transfer.

189 (6.3) Reduction of liability for penalties

If the Minister has assessed a particular person in respect of the particular person's liability for penalties under section 188.1 for a taxation year, and that liability exceeds \$1,000, that liability is, at any particular time, reduced by the total of all amounts, each of which is an amount, in respect of a property transferred by the particular person after the day on which the Minister first assessed that liability and before the particular time to another person that was at the time of the transfer an eligible donee described in paragraph 188(1.3)(a) in respect of the particular person, equal to the amount, if any, by which the fair market value of the property, when transferred, exceeds the total of

- (a) the consideration given by the other person for the transfer, and
- (b) the part of the amount in respect of the transfer that has resulted in a reduction of an amount otherwise payable under subsection 188(1.1).

189 (7) Minister may assess

Without limiting the authority of the Minister to revoke the registration of a registered charity or registered Canadian amateur athletic association, the Minister may also at any time assess a taxpayer in respect of any amount that a taxpayer is liable to pay under this Part.