

Linda J. Godel

NOT-FOR-PROFIT/CHARITIES GROUP



Practice focus:

Not-for-profit and charitable organizations

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Linda Godel counsels a wide range of not-for-profit organizations and charities (including charitable organizations and private and public foundations). Her clients include professional and industry associations, self-regulated bodies and organizations in such fields as religion, health, education, social services, poverty, childcare, athletics and recreation.

Linda acts as external general counsel to numerous not-for-profit organizations, both charitable and non-charitable. She has advised organizations in the third sector on structuring and restructuring matters, corporate governance, by-law interpretation, directors' and officers' liability, compliance issues, cross-border and international relationships and gifting, endowment and fundraising issues. She also provides general commercial advice to not-for-profits and charities.

Linda is ranked as Repeatedly Recommended in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, which is the most comprehensive guide to legal talent in Canada.

Publications

“The New Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act - questions for directors to ask,” The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, Not-For-Profit Organizations Director Alert, December 2011

“Broader Public Sector Accountability Act, 2010: The Impact of Increasing Financial Accountability,” co-written with Lisa Corrente, Journal of Parliamentary and Political Law, September 2011

“The Landscape is Changing for Charities & Other Not-for-Profit Organizations,” Collins Barrow NPO Alert, December 2010

“An Update on Bill 65, the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act,” (October 2010) 14:1, Charitable Thoughts, Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section

“The New Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act,” Charity Talk, Canadian Bar Association, Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section, January 2010

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“Federal Government Stiffens Penalties to Increase Transparency in Lobbying,” Biofuels Canada Magazine, August/September 2007 issue, p. 19

“The How, Why, and When of Using Multiple Corporate Structures,” (2007), 21 Philanthrop, pp. 18

“Avoiding Hot Water: Simple tips to keep charities out of legal trouble,” Forefront Magazine, July 2005, p.16

Precis of **“Investment Powers for Charities Across Canada,”** presented at 2nd Annual Symposium on Charity Law in Canada, “What’s New and What’s Coming,” April 2004, (2004) 7:4, Charitable Thoughts, Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section

“Completion of T3010A and Related Business Guidelines,” (2004) 7:3, Charitable Thoughts, Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section

“Thinking Critically about the Taxation of Capital Gains on Donated Public Securities (or Looking Paragraph 38(a.1) in the Mouth),” (2003), 7:1, Charitable Thoughts, Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section

Speaking/Teaching Engagements

“Governance Issues: Best Practices and New Legislation,” 3rd Annual Charity Law Seminar for Jewish Communal Organizations, January 17, 2012

“The Practical Impact of the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act 2010 Ontario (ONCA)*,” Osgoode Professional Development, The Intensive Short Course on Legal and Risk Management for Charities and Not-for-Profit Organizations, October 5-6, 2011

“Here Comes the CNCA: Are You Ready to Advise Your Clients?” co-presented with Jane Burke-Robertson, 2011 National Charity Law Symposium, May 2011

Co-Chair of the Canadian Bar Association/Ontario Bar Association National Charity Law Symposium, May 2011, April 2010, May 2009, May 2008 and May 2007

“The Perils and Pitfalls of Board Governance,” Management Advisory Service Governance Forum: Connecting Boards, Staff and Volunteers, February 2011

“Highlights of the *New Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*,” Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section Program, November 2010

“The *New Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*: What will it Mean to your Practice?” Moderator for panel discussion, 2010 National Charity Law Symposium, April 2010

“Strategies to Preserve Wealth & Leave a Legacy: A Case Study,” Investors Group T.A.D. Education Session, April 2010

“Keeping Pace with the Responsibilities of Association Leadership: Governance in a Changing World,” Base Consulting and Management Inc. and RBC Royal Bank Seminar, February 2010

“Strategies to Preserve Wealth and Leave a Legacy,” Charitable Planning, Torkin Manes’ Seminar, October 2009

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“Legal Issues Update for Charitable & Non-Profit Organizations,” Long-Term Care and Retirement Communities Convention and Trade Show, April 2008

“Organizational Issues for Not-for-Profit Corporations,” Ontario Bar Association, Fairs, Festivals and Fundraisers: Planning and Risk Management Issues for Special Event Organizers, October 2007

“Governance Challenges for Non-Profit Boards: Circa 2007,” Long-Term Care and Retirement Communities Convention and Trade Show, April 2007

“Responsibilities and Liabilities of Directors of Not-for-Profit Organizations,” Base Consulting Inc. Seminar, February 2005

“Raising the Bar on Corporate Governance,” Torkin Manes’ Seminar, November 2005

Professional Affiliations

- The Law Society of Upper Canada
- Canadian Bar Association, Executive Member and Member of various working committees, Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section
- Ontario Bar Association:
 - Chair, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section
 - Member, Not-for-Profit Joint Working Group regarding the Modernization of the Legal Framework Governing Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations, Business Law and Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Sections
 - Former Vice-Chair, Continuing Legal Education Liaison and Program Coordinator and Member, Ad Hoc Governance Committee, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section

Community Involvement

- Member of Governance Committee and former Director and Member of Fundraising Committee, Bialik Hebrew Day School
- Former Director and Member of Executive Committee, Executive Search Committee and Finance Committee, Integra Foundation

Education

- Called to the Ontario Bar, 1989
(Awarded the Vera L. Parsons and Joseph Sedgwick, QC prizes for criminal procedure)
- LLB, Osgoode Hall Law School, 1987
- BA (with Distinction), McGill University, 1984