

Can EHS be a charity and what are the benefits?

- ECA, as a NPO, can maintain its freedom to operate for social welfare, civic improvement, pleasure, sport, recreation, or any other purpose except profit.
- As a charity EHS can issue official tax receipts to donors; receive favourable income tax treatment; and benefit from donors that only fund registered charities.

What are some of EHS' activities?

- Engage in charitable activities (e.g. Food Drive which resulted in 465 lbs of donated food to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society).
- Promote the Ethiopian House project in order to raise funds and gain support (i.e. meetings have been held with all levels of government).
- Create a comprehensive business plan that will be shared with the ECA members once it is ready.
- Write grant applications to access project development funding.
- Enter into contracts, hire and solicit professionals for the planning and development of the Ethiopian House project.

- After the Ethiopian House project comes to completion, the ECA general membership will decide on the future of EHS.

Does EHS have a constitution?

- Yes, EHS' constitution and bylaws are at the draft stage and will be presented at the next AGM.

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Information requests, questions and or suggestion about EHS can be forwarded to

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by visiting the ECA website
www.vancouverethiopia.com



Questions
& Answers

About

EHS

ETHIOPIAN HOUSE SOCIETY

What is the Ethiopian House Society (EHS)?

- EHS is the operating subsidiary of the Ethiopian Community Association of BC (ECA) and was formed for the planning and development of the Ethiopian House project and to act as the charitable arm of ECA.

How was EHS formed?

- EHS was formed by a special resolution on March 12, 2016 at the ECA AGM.
- EHS will have its own logo and letterhead and will communicate with government agencies and other organizations for the purpose of the Ethiopian House project.

What are the goals and objectives of EHS?

- To be the main driving force for the Ethiopian House project, on behalf of ECA.
- To fundraise and solicit major donors for the capital campaign.
- To engage in lobbying activities with all levels of government.
- To establish broad base support for the Ethiopian House project among African Communities
- To acquire property and construct the Ethiopian House.

- To participate in charitable activities and support charity organizations.
- To create partnerships that will ensure sustainability of the Ethiopian House once developed.

How is EHS related to ECA?

- EHS was formed under ECA and the ECA General Membership has supreme authority over EHS.
- The ECA President is a non-voting member of the EHS Board and monitors the activities of EHS and liaises between the ECA and EHS Board.
- The ECA Audit Committee audits the activities of EHS.
- EHS will be responsible for the workload of the Ethiopian House project which will allow the ECA to continue with its current programming as well as expand its services.
- EHS can shield ECA from any potential legal liabilities that may arise due to the Ethiopian House project.

How are EHS Directors elected?

- The founding directors are regular ECA members and volunteers who have been acclaimed by the general membership of ECA on March 12, 2016
- When their term ends, the ECA general membership will elect seven new board members from the ECA

membership.

- The election will be held in compliance with the ECA Bylaws.

Does EHS have members?

- EHS will not have its own members

Where does EHS get funds for the project?

- Currently, the main source of income is from the ECA membership fees
- 100% of the membership contribution is slated for the Ethiopian House project
- However, the membership contribution is not enough for this mega project; therefore, EHS will engage in various fundraising and PR activities for the Ethiopian House project
- EHS will apply for various government grants and to corporate sponsors to generate the funds needed for the Ethiopian House project
- EHS will also explore ways in which the project can be financed with the help of financial institutions and angel investors
- EHS will not have its own bank account; all the funds will be managed through the ECA Treasurer
- It is possible to chart a path for EHS to be a charity; and in doing so EHS can operate exclusively for charitable purposes