

Standards Program crosses 200 threshold as 26 more charities accredited

Organizations from all causes, regions and sizes continue to join Program

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 - Imagine Canada, the umbrella for Canada’s charities and nonprofits, today welcomed the most recent group of 26 organizations to join the growing number of charities and nonprofits accredited under its national [Standards Program](#). This brings the total number of organizations earning this accomplishment to 202 since the Program began in 2012.

“It’s no small feat for an organization to earn Standards Program accreditation. It’s a rigorous, peer-reviewed process that is meant to build public trust and confidence in the charitable sector,” says Bruce MacDonald, president and CEO of Imagine Canada. *“The 202 accredited to date reflect a broad spectrum of organizations in size, scope and geography. Each one takes accountability and operational transparency very seriously. We’re glad to have them on board.”*

Newly Accredited Organizations:

Alberta Police Based Victim Services Association (APBVSA)
 ArtHouse
 Calgary Health Trust
 Canadian Mental Health Association - North and West Vancouver Branch
 Canadian Mental Health Association - South Cariboo Branch
 Canadian Mental Health Association - South Okanagan Similkameen Branch
 Canadian Mental Health Association - Vernon and District Branch
 Cariboo Family Enrichment Centre
 Catholic Family Services of Hamilton
 Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society
 Distress Centre North Halton
 Easter Seals Canada

FuseSocial Wood Buffalo
 Lighthouse Program for Grieving Children
 Little Brothers
 Milton Community Resource Centre
 Momentum Community Economic Development Society
 Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada (Quebec Division)
 Muslim Social Services Kitchener Waterloo
 Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation
 St. Boniface Hospital Foundation
 The MATCH International Women’s Fund
 Ve’ahavta
 YMCA of Brandon
 YMCA of Brockville and Area
 YMCA of Greater Toronto

See the [full list](#) of accredited organizations.

Continued...

Standards Program reflects variety of charities and nonprofits

Since the Standards Program began, organizations from all causes, sizes and regions have earned accreditation. We are pleased to see the variety of the sector continually represented, especially with the eight smaller charities in today's announcement including the Alberta Police Based Victim Services Association (APBVSA), ArtHouse, Canadian Mental Health Association - South Cariboo Branch, Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society, Distress Centre North Halton, Muslim Social Services Kitchener Waterloo, The Lighthouse Program for Grieving Children, and The MATCH International Women's Fund.

Commitment to excellence in trying circumstances

We would like to offer special congratulations to FuseSocial Wood Buffalo from the Fort McMurray region. As the wild fires were ravaging their community, they still committed to going through the accreditation process while they were displaced from their home base. As the community continues to rebuild we wish them, and the other charities and nonprofits in region, well.

About the Standards Program

The Standards Program awards accreditation to charities and nonprofits that demonstrate compliance in five fundamental areas: board governance; financial accountability and transparency; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer involvement. The goals of the Program are to increase the transparency of charities and nonprofits in these areas, and to strengthen public confidence in individual organizations and the sector as a whole. Trust is the foundation for what matters to charities and nonprofits, their stakeholders and those who support them. Accredited organizations invest in what matters. They invest in trust.



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Additional information about the Standards Program is available at imaginecanada.ca/standards.

Imagine Canada is a national charitable organization whose cause is Canada's charities. Our three broad goals are to strengthen the sector's collective voice, create opportunities to connect and learn from each other, and build the sector's capacity to succeed.

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For further information:

Marnie Grona
Director, Marketing & Communications
416-597-2293, ext. 244
mgrona@imaginecanada.ca