



Multiple Births Canada / Naissance multiples Canada

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*Supporting
Multiple Births
Together*

A New Canadian Charity is Born

Multiple Births Canada becomes a Registered Charity

NEWS RELEASE

November 1st, 2012

MATTAWA, ONTARIO –Multiple Births Canada (MBC) announced that after two and a half years of working with the law firm Wildeboer Dellelce LLP the Canada Revenue Agency has approved Multiple Births Canada as a Registered Charity.

Speaking at the Annual National Retreat at the Canadian Ecology Centre on September 28th, in the Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park, Mattawa, Ontario, the MBC Board of Directors and Acting Executive Director surprised delegates with the announcement. The full room, representing fifteen affiliate organizations from across Canada, was held in suspense as the Acting Executive Director provided an overview of the effort that went into applying for charitable status. After recounting the steps involved over the past 30 months, delegates were asked to open a sealed envelope which contained an announcement card proclaiming the birth of a new Canadian charity.

Multiple Births Canada has operated as a registered non-profit organization since 1978. As a volunteer-driven organization it was facing two challenges: an increase in multiple pregnancies resulting in greater need for MBC's educational resources, and the transition toward two-income families leaving less available time for volunteering. In response to these challenges, MBC contacted Wildeboer Dellelce in May 2010 asking them to lead the process of applying for charitable status. Lawyer Kevin Fritz, and his articling student Nick Grey, reviewed MBC's previous application from 2001, existing articles of incorporation and by-laws, and made recommendations to position MBC for a successful new application to become a registered charity.

MBC will now be able to provide tax receipts for donations and apply for additional grants, thus reducing its reliance on membership fees, and making it possible to offer educational resources and support to all multiple-birth families at a lower cost. With the opportunity to access new funding, MBC will be able to focus on its objectives of promoting the health of twins, triplets and other multiple-birth individuals and their families. MBC will work to develop and distribute educational resources and programs for multiple-birth individuals, their families, health providers and health organizations in Canada, and undertake activities incidental and ancillary to the attainment of the these purposes.

QUOTE

"Receiving charitable status positions MBC to focus on our mission of improving the quality of life for multiple-birth individuals and their families in Canada. –It is our vision that in the future all of our educational resources and programs will be available to all Canadians. With today's announcement that future may not be far away!"

Kimberley Weatherall, Acting Executive Director

QUICK FACTS

- There are over 10,000 multiple-birth infants born annually in Canada (Stats Can)
- Multiple Births Canada is the only national organization focusing on the needs of multiple-birth children, their families, and the professionals who care for them
- MBC is in the process of launching a new website – www.multiplebirthscanada.org

MEDIA CONTACTS

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