

## Glossary of Terms

**Aboriginal:** The descendants of the original inhabitants of North America. The Canadian Constitution recognizes three groups of Aboriginal people - Indians, Métis and Inuit. These are three separate peoples with tribal unique heritages, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

**First Nation:** A term that came into common usage in the 1970s to replace the word "Indian," which some people found offensive. Although the term First Nation is widely used, no legal definition of it exists. Among its uses, the term "First Nations peoples" refers to the Indian peoples in Canada, both Status and non-Status. Some Indian peoples have also adopted the term "First Nation" to replace the word "band" in the name of their community.

**Status Indian:** A person who is registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*. The act sets out the requirements for determining who is an Indian for the purposes of the *Indian Act*.

**Non-Status Indian:** An Indian person who is not registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*.

**Métis:** People of mixed First Nation and European ancestry who identify themselves as Métis, as distinct from First Nations people, Inuit or non-Aboriginal people. The Métis have a unique culture that draws on their diverse ancestral origins, such as Scottish, French, Ojibway and Cree.

**Inuit:** An Aboriginal people in Northern Canada, who live in Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Northern Labrador. The word means "people" in the Inuit language — Inuktitut. The singular of Inuit is Inuk.

**Benefit:** An advantage gained from something.

**Charity:** 1. The voluntary giving of help, typically in the form of money, to those in need. 2. An organization set up to provide help and raise money for those in need.

**Community Foundation:** A philanthropic foundation that is specifically committed to the support of institutions in its own community

**Community Service:** Voluntary work intended to help people in a particular area.

**Corporate Foundation:** The philanthropic arm created by a corporation to deal with requests for contributions from whatever agencies - locally, regionally, or nationally.

**Corporate Philanthropy:** Support through gifts, equipment, supplies, or other contributions by business firms to charitable institutions, sometimes through organized programs that may include corporate foundations.

**Ethics:** The moral consideration of the activities of a philanthropic organization. Also, standards of conduct and methods of doing business by organizations of fundraising counsel that provide assurances of professionalism in client responsibilities.

**Fund:** 1. Used by various organizations to denote the vehicle of securing contributions; the goal of the capital campaign; goals of a special program or project; or a philanthropic foundation. 2. (Verb) To give value to a trust, as to fund with securities or cash.

**Grant:** 1. Are non-repayable funds disbursed by one party (grant makers), often a government department, corporation, foundation or trust to a recipient, often (but not always) a nonprofit entity, education institution, business or an individual.

**Need:** 1. A requirement because it is essential or very important. 2. (noun) Circumstances in which something is necessary, or that require some course of action; necessity.

**Philanthropic Foundation:** A corporation or trust that has been created through contributed funds, whether by an individual family, corporation, or community, for support of non-profit organizations and to which such organizations may appeal for grants in support of their programs and projects.

**Philanthropist:** Broadly speaking, anyone who makes a gift, but usually to describe a wealthy individual known for his/her exceptional generosity in support of charitable causes.

**Philanthropy:** As used at the Centre of Philanthropy, voluntary action for the public good, including voluntary service, voluntary association, and voluntary giving.

**Volunteerism:** The willingness of a private citizen to serve voluntarily a great variety of programs and causes, both in fundraising programs and in other capacities.