



Report to Membership on Not for Profit Incorporation

Current Status

- Not incorporated, operating as an informal network
- Established membership last year, a Steering Committee elected at first Annual Membership Meeting
- Members sign up online, no fees charged
- Obtained funding through partnerships with registered charities

Going Forward

Coordinators, in conjunction with partner agencies and Steering Committee, determined that it is desirable to incorporate as a not for profit organization, but not to apply for charitable status.

Changes to TUG membership

What stays the same

- Both individuals and organizations/businesses can be members
- Members do not need to be residents of Toronto or employed here
- We don't want to exclude people from membership or TUG activities on the basis of cost
- You don't have to be a member of TUG to sign up to the Google group, attend networking meetings, access web resources or participate in a working group

What changes

- Members gain a more formal, legal role in decision-making for the organization once TUG attains NFP status
- Clearer guidelines for member rights and responsibilities
- We will be asking members for contributions

By asking for contributions we accomplish two things:

1. Build member commitment
2. Generate revenue/resources for the organization independent of grants

Individuals

\$25 with a Pay What You Can option.

Fees can be waived for students/volunteers but this will not be promoted widely.

Organizations or businesses

Small \$50

Large \$100

Size of the organization/business is self-defined at this point

Contributions of resources (such as meeting space, staff time) can be accepted in lieu of membership fee

Next Steps in the Not for Profit Process

1. Draft bylaws
2. Set up administrative functions
3. Establish a Board of Directors with assistance from members of current Steering Committee
 - a. Small Board of approximately 5-6 members
4. Establish an Advisory Group
 - a. Not a legal entity but a practical one: people we can call upon for specific advice or expertise on an as-needed basis. Advisors can contribute to the organization, gain recognition for it with less formal commitment
 - b. Will help us to increase representativeness of TUG leadership

We anticipate completing this process by the end of 2016.