

Toronto Camera Club Commercial Activities Policy

Non-Profit Corporation

The Toronto Camera Club is a non-profit corporation. The essence of a non-profit organization (whether or not a corporation) is that it is not operated for the financial gain of any of its members. This is in contrast to a business corporation, the essence of which is to produce financial gain for its shareholders, whether by way of dividends or capital appreciation of its shareholders' interests. It should be noted, however, that a non-profit organization is not precluded from activities that generate a profit for itself, to be used in carrying out its overall purposes, so long as none of the profit is for the benefit of individual members.

Legalities

The law in this area is not well defined and there are certainly techniques whereby activities carried on may technically not run afoul of the law. However, the principle underlying the intent of the law is clear and unambiguous and the Club has always adhered to it. Specifically, bylaw 4.12 recognizes the principle and the Board has considered and confirmed this policy on several occasions.

Practice

It has come to the attention of the Board that this principle may not always have been respected and followed. The purpose of this Policy is to clarify that such activities are not to be carried. Specifically:

- Sales of prints exhibited in the Powell Gallery or elsewhere in the Club are not to be offered for sale otherwise than for the sole benefit of the Club, whether the sale is to be consummated on site or privately elsewhere
- Portraits taken by individual members in the Club are not to be sold or charged for, whether Club portrait equipment is used or not, where any of the proceeds may benefit the member
- Prints made in the Club's darkroom are not to be sold, again where any of the proceeds may benefit the member

The foregoing are examples and are not a comprehensive list. The policy is simply that the Club's premises are not to be used for the financial gain of any individual member.

Violation

It is recognized that it may be difficult, perhaps impossible, to enforce this policy if a member intentionally takes steps to violate it. However, this is not a justification for not having the

policy. To the contrary, it is a reason for reducing the policy to writing and ensuring that it is widely disseminated and understood. If any member thereafter intentionally violates the policy they should be aware that there may be adverse consequences.