

# **TI-CANADA'S DONATIONS POLICY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Donations and other income enable TI-Canada to build awareness and develop resources to assist organizations and individuals to fight corruption. TI-Canada needs to secure the funding necessary to undertake its vital work. Secure and diverse funding enables TI-Canada to maintain its independence, protect its reputation and operate effectively.

## **BACKGROUND**

Historically, TI-Canada has been funded from diverse sources, such as: Foundations, the private sector, individuals, membership fees, events and other activities. Relying on many sources of income helps TI-Canada to maintain its independence. Funding may be unrestricted or tied to specific projects.

TI-Canada must not risk jeopardizing its reputation for honesty, openness and integrity. Its reputation could be compromised if it received funding from sources that were perceived to be pursuing activities inconsistent with TI-Canada's mission to be an informed voice that promotes anti-corruption practices and transparency in Canada's governments, businesses and society at large.

## **POLICY**

It is TI-Canada's policy to accept funding from any donor and whether monetary or in-kind, provided that acceptance does not:

- Impair TI-Canada's independence to pursue its mission;
- Endanger its integrity and reputation.

## **SCOPE**

This Policy applies to all fundraising for TI-Canada, regardless of types of donor or amounts involved, unless otherwise stated in this document. It is to be applied to all new funding from existing donors and to all new donors in the future. It does not apply to income raised from the sale of publications or from fees for participation in conferences, events and other activities. Appropriate care to protect the reputation of TI-Canada should always be taken.

## **GUIDELINES**

Funding to enable TI-Canada to carry out its work will be sought from a wide range of sources. Care will be taken to ensure that project-related funding does not result in undue influence over TI-Canada's programme work. Subject to maintaining TI-Canada's independence and reputation, TI-Canada may accept funding from all kinds of sources.

TI-Canada will list on its website and in its Annual Report the names of all donors who have donated over \$1,000 within the last fiscal year. If there is a significant risk that receiving funds from a particular source would impair TI-Canada's independence or if there is a significant risk to TI-Canada's reputation from public association with the donor, then funding from that source will not be accepted by TI-Canada. If a donor asks that their donation over \$1000 be recorded as "Anonymous," TI-Canada will conduct a due diligence assessment to ensure that the donor is a legitimate company or individual that does not have a reputation for corruption. If the due diligence assessment reveals no evidence of a reputation for corruption, then the donation can be accepted and recorded as "Anonymous."

Any donation to TI-Canada must be able to stand up to public scrutiny. TI-Canada's independence requires that a donor may be subject to the same criticism by TI-Canada as any other organization or individual in a comparable situation.

TI-Canada can receive funding from corporations and donors from the private sector. This does not imply any endorsement of a donating company's policies or record. It is advisable that a potential donating company has made a public commitment to ethical standards (such as the UN Global Compact, the TI Business Principles for Countering Bribery, etc.). TI-Canada works with companies on the understanding that they are working towards a business environment in which bribery is not accepted.

## **PROCEDURE**

It is the responsibility of the Senior Advisor and Board of Directors of TI-Canada to ensure that TI-Canada's independence and reputation are not jeopardized. The procedure below describes the steps which should be followed when the Senior Advisor or Board Member believes that TI-Canada has accepted, or is considering accepting, funding from a source:

1. If the Senior Advisor or any Board Member of TI-Canada is concerned that there is a threat to TI-Canada's independence or reputation from donations already received, or about to be accepted, the person(s) should draw this to the attention of the Senior Advisor or the Chair of TI-Canada;
2. If necessary, the Senior Advisor or the Chair of TI-Canada will consult with the Fundraising Committee of TI-Canada and seek their advice on whether to accept funding from a specific donor;
3. If TI-Canada proposes to accept an amount greater than 20% of its overall budget from any private company in a year, this should be brought to the attention of the TI-Canada Fundraising Committee for their advice;
4. All communications with the TI-Canada Fundraising Committee should be made through a TI-Canada Board Member or the Senior Advisor.

*Accepted – 19 November 2014*