

## Understanding the Societies Act I: Legal Basics for BC Societies

### The Societies Act impacts your organization's success - it's time to understand the basics.

**The Societies Act sets the legal framework for the majority of charitable and not-for-profit organizations operating in BC. Are you in compliance?**

This workshop reviews the key foundations of the Act and how it affects the ongoing work of your board and organization. This Part 1 workshop will focus specifically on key governance and legal compliance issues, such as the role, rights and responsibilities of members and directors, constitution and bylaws, AGMs, board meetings, resolutions, records-keeping, and filings. Part 1 will also address some common questions about basic corporate attributes and the difference between corporate status and tax designation and provide the basic hierarchy of rules that societies must follow.

*The workshop will also highlight how the new Societies Act, coming into force on Nov 28, 2016, will impact your organization around these basic areas of compliance (e.g., AGM, constitution and bylaws, etc.).*

#### Who Should Attend

Board member, executive directors/CEOs and senior leaders of not-for-profit organizations

#### Learning Outcomes

At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the distinctions between incorporated Societies and registered Charities
- Articulate the critical compliance areas under the Society Act, including issues related to Constitution, Bylaws, AGMs, board meetings, records-keeping, and filings
- Explain the different roles and responsibilities of members, board directors and officers, and employees under the Society Act
- Identify specific action steps to strengthening organizational compliance to the Society Act

#### Topics

- Introduction to societies
- What is corporate governance and why is it important?
- Roles, responsibilities and compliance related to distinct governance "players": Members, board directors and officers, and employees
- Specific areas of compliance: Constitution, Bylaws, AGMs and board meetings (minutes, resolutions, quorum), records-keeping/privacy, and filings

To see if this workshop is currently scheduled, visit our upcoming [learning opportunities listing](#)

**For more information, please email [info@thevantagepoint.ca](mailto:info@thevantagepoint.ca)**