

## Choosing a Non-Charity Partner

Alignment, capacity, and the potential for a positive working relationship are the main factors for success. Charities should take time at the onset to carefully consider if the partnership is a good match and if there is sufficient capacity and resources on both sides to support the relationship.

In the table below, a positive answer to the first three questions is essential. If the answer to any of these first three questions is no, the charity likely should not proceed with the partnership. "No" to any of the other questions indicates a need for further conversation with the non-charity to resolve these matters.

	Selecting a Non-Charity Partner	Yes/No
1	Are the activities of the non-charity considered "charitable" under current CRA guidelines?	
2	Do the activities of the non-charity align with the mandate that you have registered with CRA?	
3	Will the activities of the group help you to achieve your charitable mandate?	
4	Does the non-charity have the capacity, resources and ability to deliver the services and provide regular financial and activity reports for the proposed project?	
5	Does the non-charity have funding to support its work?	
6	Is the non-charity willing to work transparently with your organization and openly share information with you?	
7	Does the non-charity have a positive reputation for their work in the community?	
8	Is the non-charity incorporated? If <b>not</b> please note that the charity may have to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willing to sign for leases</li> <li>• Willing to provide insurance coverage</li> </ul>	
9	Does the non-charity have a strong governance structure in place?	
10	Is your board aware of and in support of this partnership?	
11	Does the non-charity engage in political activities considered advocacy work? If so, can your charity support that work within the political activity guidelines of CRA?	
12	Has the non-charity provided you with a written proposal outlining the supports that they require? (Could include financial, human resources, space, insurance supports)	

Copyright Permission granted: Main, K. (2014). Partnerships for Community Benefit: A Canadian Handbook on Partnerships between Charities and Non-Charities (including Citizen-led initiatives).

**For more information on this topic :**

**“Better Together. A guide to Charity/ Non-Charity Partnerships”.**

[https://www.communityfoundations.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Better\\_Together\\_2015.pdf](https://www.communityfoundations.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Better_Together_2015.pdf)