

*Laws of Her Majesty's Province of Upper Canada*, passed in the year 1850. Toronto: Stewart Derbyshire & George Desbarats, 1850.

13 & 14 Victoria – Chapter 127

**An Act to incorporate the Quebec Workmen's Benevolent Society. 24th July, 1850.**

Whereas it is expedient to encourage all associations formed for the purpose of raising by the annual subscriptions of members and otherwise, a fund out of which provision may be made for the relief and support of such members as may be afflicted with sickness, old age or infirmity; And whereas the persons hereinafter named and others, have formed such an Association at the City of Quebec for the said purpose among others, and have prayed that for better effecting the objects of the Association the same may be incorporated, and it is expedient to grant their prayer: Be, it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled: *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That Pierre Gauvreau, Alexis Robitaille, Maurice Poulin, Louis Larose, and such other persons as now are members of the Association known as the The Quebec Workmen's Benevolent Society, or as may hereafter, under the provisions of this Act and the By-Laws hereinafter referred to, become members of the Corporation hereby established, shall be and are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of The Quebec Workmen's Benevolent Society, and by that name shall and may have, hold and exercise all and every the powers by law vested in corporate bodies generally, subject always to the provisions of this Act, and with the addition of such other powers as are hereinafter vested in the Corporation; provided always, that the real property to be held by the said Corporation shall not exceed in value the sum of two thousand pounds, and that the personal property to be held by the Corporation shall not exceed the sum of five hundred pounds.

II. And be it enacted, That the property of the said Association, real or personal, shall be and is hereby transferred to and vested in the Corporation hereby constituted, as shall also all the rights and claims of the said Association for all the liabilities and obligations whereof the said Corporation is hereby made liable, and the individual members of the Association are discharged therefrom.

III. And be it enacted, That the said Corporation shall, within the limits of amount aforesaid, have full power to take by donation, bequest, devise, purchase or other title, any personal property or real property within this Province, and to sell, alienate or otherwise dispose of the same, and to acquire other property instead thereof and for the purposes aforesaid.

IV. And be it enacted, That any majority of the members of the said Corporation, present at any meeting thereof held or called in accordance to the By-Laws of the Corporation then in force, shall have full power and authority to make all such By-Laws for the government of the Corporation, the management of its affairs, the admission of new members, the meetings of the Society or of

its Managers or Officers, the fixing of the annual or monthly or other contributions to be paid by members, the election or appointment of Managers, and a Secretary, Treasurer and other Officers, and defining their powers, and for the guidance and conduct of such managers, and Officers and of the members of the Society, for establishing the conditions on which any person shall remain a member, and for regulating the relief which Members shall receive in sickness, old age, or infirmity, and generally all such By-Laws as may be requisite for the well-working and efficiency of the said Corporation for all lawful purposes for which the said Association was instituted; Provided that such By-Laws shall not bind others than members of the Society, and shall not impose for any contravention a higher penalty than twenty shillings; and that no such By-Laws shall be inconsistent with this Act, the objects of the said Association, or the laws of Lower Canada; and any penalty incurred or sum payable to the Corporation under any such By-Law may be recovered as a debt due to the Corporation in any Court of competent civil jurisdiction; and any such By-Law may be repealed, altered or amended by any subsequent By-Law.

V. And be it enacted, That the By-Laws or rules of the Association shall be the By-Laws of the Corporation, in so far as they may not be inconsistent with this Act, until they be respectively repealed or altered by By-Laws under this Act, and the present Managers, (*gérans*) and officers of the Association, shall be the Managers and officers of the Corporation, and have the powers now vested in them, in so far always and no farther, as such By-Laws, Rules and powers, may not be inconsistent with this Act or with the Laws of Lower Canada.

VI. Provided always, That no By-Laws of the Corporation, made or to be made hereafter, shall have force or effect after the expiration of three months from the passing of this Act, unless and until they shall have been submitted to the Superior Court at Quebec, at some weekly sitting thereof, and by the said Court approved as consistent with this Act, the purposes of the Corporation and the Laws of Lower Canada.

VII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act.