

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1851. York: Stewart Derbishire and George Desbarts, 1851.

14 & 15 Victoria – Chapter 35

An Act to incorporate The House of Industry of Toronto. 2d August, 1851.

Whereas an Institution supported by voluntary contributions and by grants from the Legislature, has long subsisted in the City of Toronto, called and known as “The House of Industry,” the object and purposes of which are to provide for the destitute poor of the said City, and to promote and encourage habits of honest industry in the young who have sought its protection; And whereas the management of the said Institution has hitherto been vested in three Trustees and a Committee selected annually at a public meeting of the inhabitants of the said City of Toronto; And whereas the Reverend Henry James Grasett, M. A., Clerk, William Cawthra, Esquire, and John Ewart, Esquire, are at present Trustees of the said Institution and acting in the management and the government of the same; And whereas the said Trustees and others, interested in the welfare of the said Institution, have by their petition represented that the said Institution would be rendered much more efficient by giving to it the character of a Corporation: 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 the said Henry James Grasett, William Cawthra, and John Ewart, together with the Mayor of Toronto, for the time being, the Reverend Stephen Lett, L.L.D., Clerk, the Reverend Alexander Geikie, the Honorable John Elmsley, John Arnold, John Doel, Samuel Spreule, James William Brent, Peter Paterson, William Mathers, Edward H. Rutherford and William Montague Westmacott, and all others who may from time to time be elected to succeed them, in manner hereinafter mentioned, as Trustees and Managers, shall be and they are hereby nominated and constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of “The Trustees of the Toronto House of Industry.”

II. And be it enacted, That the said Corporation shall have perpetual succession, and may have a common seal, with power to change, alter, break and renew the same when and as often as they shall think proper; and may, under the same name, contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, prosecute and be prosecuted, in all Courts and places whatsoever in this Province; and that by the same name, they the said trustees and Managers, and their successors from time to time and at all times hereafter, shall be able and capable to have, take, receive, purchase and acquire, hold, possess, enjoy and maintain to and for the use of the said Corporation, all lands and property, moveable and immoveable, which may hereafter be sold, ceded, exchanged, given, bequeathed or granted to the said Corporation, or to sell, alienate, convey, let or lease the same if need be; provided that the annual income to be derived from such property shall not exceed the sum of Three Thousand Pounds; and the said Corporation shall further have the right of appointing an Attorney or Attorneys for the management of its affairs,

and generally shall enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by other bodies politic and corporate recognized by the Legislature, and shall have full power to make and establish such and so many By-laws, Orders and Regulations (not being contrary to the laws of this Province or to this Act) as they shall deem useful or necessary for the conduct and government of the said Institution: Provided always, that no act done by such Trustees and Managers shall be valid and effectual unless seven of such Trustees or Managers at the least shall be present, and the major part of them consenting thereto.

III. And be it enacted, That the said Trustees and Managers shall keep or cause to be kept in a book to be opened for that purpose, a list of all subscribers to the said Institution, and that a meeting of the said subscribers shall be held annually on the second Wednesday in the month of January in each year, (the first of such meetings to be on the second Wednesday in January next) at such time and place as the Trustees and Managers for the time being shall, by notice thereof given in some newspaper published in the city of Toronto, appoint; and at each such meeting a report in writing of the affairs and management of the said Institution, and of all moneys received and expended, and of all property, moveable and immoveable, then held by the Institution, and also of the numbers of persons received into, or discharged from the house, and of all persons relieved out of the house, under their proper heads, shall be exhibited by the Trustees and Managers for the year then past. And at such meetings, vacancies shall be filled up in the number of Trustees which may have occurred during the year by resignation, absence for twelve months from the City, neglecting to attend to any of the business of the Institution for six consecutive months, when not absent from the City, or death. And also, at the same meeting, the persons then present who shall be respectively subscribers of a sum not less than Ten Shillings annually, or donors who shall have contributed at any one time a sum of money not less than Twelve Pounds Ten Shillings, or shall have given lands to the value of Twenty-Five Pounds, shall elect from the subscribers or donors of like amounts, twenty-five fit and proper persons as Managers of the said Institution, who, with the Trustees, shall be the governing body of the Institution: Provided always, that if from any cause such meeting shall not take place at the time aforesaid, such meeting may be called as aforesaid at any subsequent time.

IV. And be it enacted, That the said Trustees and Managers shall and may send out to service and apprentice thereto, or to any healthy trade or business, all youths, male or female, having the protection or aid of the said Institution, to such persons or person, and upon such terms as to the said Trustees and Managers may seem fit and proper, and for that purpose, on behalf of, and for such youth and themselves, to enter into, and make with any persons or person with whom such youth may be placed by the said Trustees and Managers, articles of apprenticeship or agreement; and such articles or agreement may be enforced as well by action at law or in equity for breach thereof, warranting any such action, as by summary application to a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, (who is hereby authorized and empowered to act thereon) on any such occasion as would according to: the laws of this Province warrant the interference or adjudication of any one more Justice or Justices of the Peace in disputes or difficulties between Masters and Apprentices: Provided always, that a copy of the articles of indenture apprenticing such youth shall, within three days; from the time that such articles of indenture were executed, be lodged with the Clerk of the Common Council of the City of Toronto, who is hereby required to file such copies.

V. And be it enacted, That all property which shall at any time belong to the said Institution, as well as the revenues thereof, shall at all times be appropriated and applied exclusively to provide for the destitute poor, and to promote and encourage habits of honest industry in the young, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever.

VI. And be it enacted, That the persons now acting as the Committee or Board of Management of the said Institution, shall have the like powers, and be considered as Managers of the Corporation for, and until the second Wednesday in January next, or till such time as Managers shall be appointed, as provided for by this Act.

VII. And be it enacted, That the said Corporation shall be bound, when required by the Governor, or person administering the Government of this Province for the time being, to render true statements of their receipts and expenditure, and of the real and personal estate held and enjoyed by the said Corporation.

VIII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a public Act.