

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1851. Quebec: Stewart Derbishire and George Desbarts, 1852.

16 Victoria – Chapter 117

An Act to incorporate the Saint Roch's Reading Room. Assented to 22nd April, 1853.

Whereas an Association has lately been formed in the Saint Roch's Suburb, Quebec, under the name of "The Saint Roch's Reading Room," for the formation of a Library, a Reading Room and a Museum, for the organization of a method of public instruction by means of Lectures on subjects adapted to diffuse among the citizens of the said Saint Roch's' Suburb, Quebec, and its environs, a taste for instruction, and for the arts and sciences, as well as for the extension of useful and practical information for the general advantage of society, and more especially for that of the Members of the said Association, and of those who may become Members thereof in future; And whereas Joseph Hamel, Esquire, President, and Messieurs Thomas Conrad Lee, Aurèle Plamondon, Pierre Lavoie, J. V. Desplats, Frs. Huot, Pierre Huot, Chs. Arelle, Zéphirin Vezina, Théophile Racine, Etienne Simard, Wm. Venner, Gabriel Valin, Gaspard Garneau, Pierre Lacombe, Joseph Lebreton, Louis Lépine, James Huston, Pierre Lacroix, Antoine Sanfaçon, Félix Hamel, Louis Lavoie, Régis La-pointe, James Nelson, Joseph Michaud, George Pare, Joseph Carrier, J. B. Praneau, Nareisse Vénrière and John McMullin, the present office-bearers, acting on behalf of the said Association, have by their Petition to the Legislature represented, that the said Association has already acquired a considerable number of books, and caused divers lectures to be given to the public on various useful matters; And whereas they have further represented that in order to obtain all the advantages resulting from the said Association, it is necessary that the said Association be incorporated, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said Petition, subject nevertheless to the provisions hereinafter set forth and made in that behalf: 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 above mentioned office-bearers, with all such other persons as now are or may hereafter become Members of the said Association, and their successors forever, shall be and they are hereby constituted a Body Politic and Corporate, by the name of "The Saint Roch's Reading Room," and shall by that name have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, if they shall deem it expedient, and shall have power from time to time to alter, renew or change such Common Seal at their pleasure, and shall by the same name from time to time, and at all times hereafter, be able and capable to have, take, receive, purchase, acquire, hold, possess and enjoy to them and their successors aforesaid, to and for the uses and purposes of the said Corporation, any moveable property or effects, as well as any immoveable or real estate, provided the said immoveable property shall not exceed the value of One Thousand Pounds currency of this Province, and shall enjoy all civil rights granted by the laws of this Province to all Bodies Politic or Corporate.

II. And be it enacted, That in all actions and suits at law which may hereafter be instituted against the said Corporation, Service of Process at the residence of the Recording Secretary of the said Corporation, shall be held to be a sufficient service for all purposes of law.

III. And be it enacted, That the officers of the said Corporation shall be: an Honorary President, an acting President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, an Assistant Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Librarian, two Assistant Librarians, a Curator of the Museum, and a Board of Management to be composed of the acting President and the above mentioned officers and of fifteen other Members of the said Corporation, which said officers and Board of Management shall be chosen and elected by a majority of votes of the Members present at the General Meeting which shall be held on the first Monday of the month of November in each year, and sufficient notice shall be given by the Recording Secretary, of the day, place and hour of the said Meeting, eight days before the day of such Meeting: Provided always, that if the said election shall not take place on the day above mentioned, the acting President, or in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association for the time being, shall call such General Meeting for any subsequent day in the manner above mentioned; Provided also, that the first Meeting for the election of the officers and of the Board of Management, shall take place within the three months immediately after the passing of this Act.

IV. And be it enacted, That the Board of Management shall have the administration of the property and effects of the said Corporation, and shall have authority to make all necessary By-laws and Regulations for the proper government of the same, which said By-laws and Regulations shall be approved at a General Meeting of the Members of the said Society, and after such approval, the said By-laws and Regulations shall not be changed, altered, modified or repealed, unless notice shall have been given of such change, alteration, modification or repeal, one month at least before the day on which such change, alteration, modification or repeal shall be intended to be made, nor unless such change or repeal shall have been approved by two thirds of the Members present; Provided always, that the said By-laws and Regulations shall in no respect be contrary to the laws of this Province, or to the provisions of this Act.

V. And be it enacted, That whenever the majority of the Board of Management shall have decided that it is necessary to call a General Meeting of the Members of the Association, for some special purpose other than that of the election of officers, it shall be lawful for the acting President, or in his absence for one of the Vice-Presidents, to call such General Meeting by public advertisement in the newspapers of the said City of Quebec, giving notice of the place, day, hour and object of such meeting, signed by the Recording Secretary.

VI. And be it enacted, That none of the Members of the said Corporation shall be personally liable for the debts of the said Corporation.

VII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be held and considered to be a Public Act.