

Types of Group Structures	Description	Best Fit
<p>a) Informal, Unincorporated Non-Profits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fewer government forms and reporting requirements • legally have no status • networks and coalitions are typically included here • acts of the organization are considered to be the acts of the individual directors • a successful lawsuit against the organization would make all board members jointly liable for the damages awarded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable for small organizations with no employees providing a limited range of services
<p>b) Incorporated Non-Profits, Societies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • legally corporations are considered persons, a legal entity separate from their directors and members • successful lawsuits could only affect the assets of the corporation • the Corporations Act requires that directors act: <i>"honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interest of the corporation and to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances"</i> • Directors can still be held liable in certain circumstances e.g. entering into contracts without proper authorization, breaking the law, breaching financial duties etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable for small organizations with no employees providing a limited range of services • see this link for general information about incorporation • go to Yukon Government Corporate Affairs for more information about incorporating as a society.
<p>c) Incorporated Charitable Non-Profits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those permitted by Revenue Canada to issue charitable tax receipts • same duties as those of incorporated non-profits except increased reporting requirements and more stringent conflict of interest regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable for large organizations for whom issuing charitable receipts is a priority • organizations that have paid staff • those with the capacity to handle extensive administration requirements
<p>d) Cooperatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • autonomous associations formed and democratically directed by people who come together to meet common economic, social, and cultural needs • founded on the principle of participatory governance, co-ops are governed by those who use their services: their members • based on the principles of empowerment, education, and community, co-ops operate laterally promoting participation both within their own organization, and through a focus on community interaction, and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best for organizations focused on retail, credit unions, service providers, housing, etc. • suitable for those interested in having more flexibility in terms of how work is done and profits are shared. See this link for more information about cooperatives

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e) Social Enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieves a social purpose by applying entrepreneurial strategies in the marketplace • does not distribute profits to individuals • holds assets and wealth in trust for community benefit • democratically involves members in governance of the organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best for groups who are focused on achieving social, cultural, community economic or environmental outcomes; and, earning revenue