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THE CHARTER OF THE INSTITUTE



ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith: TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented unto Us by the President and Vice-President of the unincorporated Association established in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six and now known as the “Institute of Foresters” (hereinafter called “the former Association”) praying that We should constitute a Corporation incorporated by Our Royal Charter to acquire and take over the assets now vested in the former Association and to carry on the activities of the former Association in succession thereto and with such provisions as should seem to Us right and suitable:

AND WHEREAS We have taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to accede thereto:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and declare as follows:

1. The members of the former Association and all such persons as may hereafter become members of the Body Corporate hereby constituted shall forever hereafter be one Body Corporate and Politic by the name of “The Institute of Chartered Foresters” (hereinafter referred to as “the Institute”) and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with power to break, alter and make anew the said Seal from time to time as their will and pleasure, and by the same shall and may sue and be sued in all Courts, and in all manner of actions and suits, and shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate.
2. The objects of the Institute shall be to maintain and improve the standards of practice of forestry, to advance, spread and promote all aspects of forestry especially in Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and to encourage the study of forestry. In this Our Charter and the Bylaws the expression “forestry” shall include all aspects of the science, economics, conservation, amenity and art of establishing, cultivating, protecting, managing, harvesting and marketing forests, woodlands, trees, timber and wood. Provided that in pursuing these objects, insofar as they may be similar to those of existing Bodies incorporated by Royal Charter, the Institute shall use its best endeavours to co-operate with them and to ensure that its activities are complementary to those of such Bodies Corporate.
3. In furtherance of its objects (but not further or otherwise and only to the extent to which the same may lawfully be exercised by a body having exclusively charitable objects) the Institute shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Bylaws, have the following powers:
 - (a) to establish and maintain appropriate standards of education and experience for persons engaged in forestry or its application or entering upon courses of study in forestry or its application and to promote,

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encourage, guide and co-operate in the education and training in all matters relevant to the advancement of forestry or its application of persons who are engaged in or likely to be engaged in forestry or its application paying due regard to the provision of courses of instruction by other organisations;

- (b) to hold and/or to supervise examinations and to award certificates, diplomas, prizes, bursaries or scholarships either alone or jointly with other educational or professional bodies provided that no certificate or other like award issued by or on the authority of the Institute shall contain any statement expressing or implying that it is granted by or on the authority of any Department or Authority of Our Government unless it is in fact so granted;
- (c) to enable and encourage all persons engaged in or interested in forestry or its application to meet and correspond in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information on the science, practice and teaching of forestry and its application;
- (d) to prepare, edit, print, publish, issue, acquire and circulate books, papers, periodicals, circulars and other literary works or films, photographs or other visual aids or recordings treating of or bearing upon forestry and its application to trade or industry and to translate, compile, collect, publish, lend and sell and to secure or contribute to the translation, compilation, collection and publication by other bodies or persons of any such literature, information and statistics held to disseminate information on forestry and its application by means of the reading of papers, delivering lectures, organising conferences, seminars or other forms of meeting, giving advice, promoting or organising, taking part in or assisting in promoting or organising exhibitions, demonstrations or experiments which may advance any of the objects of the Institute;
- (e) to found, aid, maintain, and endow bursaries or scholarships and to make grants for the instruction and support (whether in Our United Kingdom or overseas) of persons engaged in forestry and its application or in research into forestry matters and to employ and remunerate instructors or other staff or supervisors for such persons as may be deemed expedient and to retain or apply skilled, professional or technical advisers or other workers in connection with the objects of the Institute and to pay such fees or remuneration as may be deemed expedient therefore and to use the funds of the Institute in the employment of persons of learning or skill as may be required to undertake the objects of the Institute;
- (f) to collect, index and publish information on any or all aspects of forestry and its application, and the teaching thereof, and the application to industry or educational organisations of such information and to support any library or bureau of information deemed expedient for the fulfilment of the said objects;
- (g) to invite from any person written or oral communications concerning or relating to the science and practice of forestry, its application or related subjects, and to receive, hear and discuss such communications at meetings of the Institute and to reproduce such communications for

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distribution or sale and, where appropriate, to offer and grant prizes or other awards in respect thereof;

- (h) to prepare, print and publish regulations about education and training in forestry and its application;
- (i) to promote, establish and support standards of education, training and codes of practice such as shall be conducive to a high standard of professional skill and conduct and of responsibility for the welfare of the public and the environment;
- (j) to act as an advisory body in matters relating to the education and training of those engaged in forestry or its application;
- (k) to confer, consult, maintain contact and co-operate with any other scientific, professional or technical institution, institute, society or association or other body, whether incorporated or unincorporated and whether or not formed for purposes of profit, with a view to the pursuit and promotion of common interests in forestry and its application, and to represent the profession of forester both nationally and internationally;
- (l) to maintain a register of persons qualified as foresters by admission to one of the grades of Corporate Membership and to admit persons not so qualified as Non-Corporate Members;
- (m) to procure that the Institute be registered or recognised in any part of the world;
- (n) to make arrangements for the carrying on of the work of the Institute and for such purpose to engage and provide in whole or in part for the salaries, pensions and superannuation for officers, servants and employees and former officers, servants and employees of the Institute and their surviving spouses and dependants;
- (o) so far as the law from time to time allows to purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges in any part of the world necessary or convenient for the promotion of the objects of the Institute and to construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections necessary, convenient or fitted for the work of the Institute;
- (p) to sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of the Institute;
- (q) to administer the affairs and property of the Institute in all respects without any restrictions whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his or her own affairs and property and, in particular:
 - (i) to take over and acquire all the property and assets of the former Association and to assume the obligations of the former Association and to do all such acts and things as may be incidental thereto;

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- (ii) to demand and receive fees, subscriptions and other charges;
 - (iii) to seek and accept donations and legacies;
 - (iv) to borrow moneys whether on the security of any or all of the property of the Institute or without security;
 - (v) to invest the funds of the Institute not immediately required for its purposes in such manner as may be prescribed by the Bylaws; and
 - (vi) to accept obligations and liabilities.
- (r) to undertake and execute any charitable trusts which may be lawfully undertaken by the Institute and may further its objects;
- (s) to establish and support or aid in the establishment and support of any charitable association or institutions having objects similar to those of the Institute and to subscribe or guarantee money for charitable purposes being purposes calculated to further its objects;
- (t) to provide such assistance in connection with the housing of employees of the Institute as the Institute shall deem fit;
- (u) to enter into, and to give effect to, agreements or arrangements of any kind with, or to, other institutions whose objects are not repugnant on this Our Charter whereby:
- (i) activities may be carried on in co-operation;
 - (ii) any such institution may be or become recognised for any purpose by the Institute;
 - (iii) any such institution may be or become incorporated in, federated or affiliated to or associated with the Institute, or, if such institution shall be established for charitable purposes only but not otherwise, the Institute may become affiliated to or associated with any such institution; provided that no such incorporation or federation shall take place without the consent of the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which consent a certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence;
- (v) to obtain through Our College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings, which shall be duly recorded in Our said College.
- (w) to do such other acts and things (including the promotion of a Bill or Bills in Parliament), whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not, as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the Institute.
4. The income and property of the Institute shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects as set forth in this Our Charter and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the Institute and no member of the Council shall be appointed to any office of the Institute paid by salary or fee or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Institute;

Provided that nothing herein shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Institute:

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- (a) of reasonable and proper remuneration to any member, officer or servant of the Institute (not being a member of the Council) for any services rendered to the Institute;
 - (b) of interest on money lent by any member of the Institute or of the Council at a rate per annum not exceeding two per centum less than the minimum lending rate for the time being prescribed by the Bank of England;
 - (c) of reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member of the Institute or of the Council;
 - (d) of fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any company of which a member of the Council of the Institute may also be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the capital; and
 - (e) to any member of the Council or of its Committees of out-of-pocket expenses.
5. There shall be a Council of the Institute (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") consisting of such number of members of the Institute with such qualifications and to be elected or constituted in such manner and to hold office for such period and on such terms generally as may be prescribed by or in accordance with the Bylaws.
6. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Bylaws and Regulations of the Institute the government and control of the Institute and its affairs shall be vested in the Council. The business of the Council shall be conducted in such manner as may be prescribed by or in accordance with the Bylaws.
7. There shall be a President and a Vice-President of the Institute who shall be the Honorary Officers of the Institute. The said President and Vice-President shall be elected in such manner and shall hold office for such period and on such terms as to re-election and otherwise as shall from time to time be prescribed by or in accordance with the Bylaws.
8. The first President and Vice-President of the Institute, and the first Editor of the Institute's Journal, after the date of this Our Charter shall be the persons whose names appear in the First Schedule hereto.
9. The Bylaws shall regulate the admission of members of the Institute and the period or periods of such membership and the terms and conditions subject to which such membership shall be held and such Bylaws shall apply as well to the first members of the Institute as to those admitted hereafter and the Bylaws may prescribe such division of the membership into grades or classes as shall to the Institute seem proper and such division shall likewise be binding upon the first members of the Institute as well as upon members admitted hereafter.
10. (a) The Bylaws may, subject to the provision of this Our Charter, govern such matters as the Institute may deem fit and meet with respect to or for the governance of the Institute and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

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- (b) The Bylaws set forth in the Second Schedule hereto shall be the first Bylaws of the Institute.
11. The Corporate Members of the Institute in General Meeting may, by Special Resolution in that behalf, make such Bylaws adding to, amending or repealing the Bylaws for the time being in force as shall seem necessary to them for the furtherance of the objects of the Institute; but no Bylaws so made shall take effect until the same shall have been approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence, and provided always that no amendment shall be made to the Bylaws which would cause the Institute to cease to be a charity at law.
 12. The Bylaws may direct that any matter which pursuant to this Our Charter might be prescribed or regulated in the Bylaws may be further prescribed or regulated by Regulation, provided that any such further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or the Bylaws. Regulations may be added to, repealed or varied in like manner to that in which they were respectively made.
 13. Regulations shall be made, amended or repealed by Special Resolutions of the Institute in General Meeting or by the Council as provided in the respective Bylaws which authorise the making thereof. Regulations which shall be made by Special Resolution shall be known as "General Regulations"; Regulations which shall be made by the Council shall be known as "Council Regulations". General Regulations may direct that any matter prescribed or regulated may be further prescribed or regulated by Council Regulations.
 14. The Institute in General Meeting may at any time amend, add to or revoke any of the provisions of this Our Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such amendment, addition or revocation shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as amended, added to or revoked. Provided always that no addition, amendment or revocation shall be made to this Our Charter which would cause the Institute to cease to be a charity at law. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or revoked in manner aforesaid.
 15. The Institute may with the sanction of a Special Resolution determine to surrender this Our Charter subject to the sanction of Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council and upon such terms as We or They may consider fit and wind up or otherwise deal with the affairs of the Institute in such manner as shall be determined by such special Resolution or in default of such determination as the Council may direct having due regard to the liabilities of the Institute for the time being. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Institute there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Institute, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Institute, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Institute under or by virtue of this Our Charter, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Council of the Institute, at or before the time of dissolution,

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and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some other charitable object.

16. For the purposes of this Our Charter a "Special Resolution" means a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Corporate Members of the Institute convened and held in accordance with the Bylaws and Regulations and passed by not less than three-fourths of the Corporate Members present (whether in person or by proxy) and voting.
17. In any case of conflict, the provisions of this Our Charter shall prevail over those of the Bylaws and Regulations and the provisions of the Bylaws shall prevail over those of the Regulations.
18. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourable to the Institute and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.
WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the SECOND day of APRIL 1982
in the thirty-first year of our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

President: James William Dodds, Esquire, B.Sc., F.I.C.For.
Vice-President: William Edward Scott Mutch, Esquire, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.C.For.
Editor(s) of the Journal: Douglas Cunningham Malcolm, Esquire, B.Sc., Ph.D.,
F.I.C.For.

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