### **SAMPLE Complaint to the Canada Revenue Agency**

**To:**Charities Directorate
Canada Revenue Agency
Ottawa ON K1A 0L5

**From:
Name:
Phone Number:
Address:**

### **Subject: Complaint Against the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Canada (Jehovah’s Witnesses)**

I am filing this complaint against the Jehovah’s Witnesses in Canada, operating under the legal name Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Canada. I believe they are violating public policy and the principles outlined in the **Income Tax Act** for charities by engaging in practices that restrict the political participation of their members and enforce these restrictions through coercion and social punishment.

### **Details of Allegations:**

The Jehovah’s Witnesses, as part of their global doctrine, prohibit their members from participating in political activities, including voting or running for public office. Members who violate these rules are either:

1. **Expelled (Disfellowshipped/Removal):**This process leads to the member being ostracized by all other members, including family and friends, as instructed in their internal manual *Shepherd the Flock of God*.
2. **Disassociated:**Members who voluntarily leave or engage in “non-neutral activities,” such as voting, are also subjected to social punishment, whereby no member of the congregation is allowed to associate with them.

These practices are codified in their internal documents, including:

* The manual *Shepherd the Flock of God*, Chapter 18, Point 3, Subsection 4, which describes “violating Christian neutrality” (e.g., participating in politics) as grounds for disassociation.
* Additional instructions that explicitly prohibit voting or political involvement under the guise of maintaining “neutrality.”

The organization’s enforcement of these policies restricts members’ fundamental rights under **Section 3 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms**, which guarantees every citizen the right to vote and participate in democratic governance.

### **Evidence Submitted:**

1. Excerpts from *Shepherd the Flock of God* explicitly describing punitive measures for political involvement.
2. Witness testimonies detailing the social isolation imposed on members who violate these rules.
3. Internal Jehovah’s Witness literature outlining their stance on political participation.

### **Legal and Ethical Concerns:**

By implementing and enforcing these practices, the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Canada is acting contrary to the public policy requirements outlined in the **Income Tax Act**, which mandates that registered charities must operate for the public good and not restrict or coerce their members’ rights. The organization’s actions undermine Canada’s democratic principles and the rights guaranteed to all citizens under the Charter.

### **Request for Investigation:**

I respectfully request that the CRA investigate the Jehovah’s Witnesses in Canada to determine whether their practices align with the requirements of a registered charity. Should violations be confirmed, I ask that appropriate measures be taken, including revocation of their charitable status if necessary.

I am available to provide additional information or clarification as required.

Sincerely,