



## Irish Draught Horse Society of Canada (IDHSC) Incorporation Question and Answer

**Q:**

Why, after operating over 20 years, has IDHSC decided to incorporate under Canada's *Animal Pedigree Act (APA)* now?

**A:**

Incorporating the IDHSC under APA the Irish Draught (ID) and Irish Draught Sport Horse (IDSH) will become recognized, distinct breeds in Canada, and the IDHSC will be a legal entity to register the Irish Draught in Canada.

**Q:**

Why did IDHSC incorporate with Corporations Canada instead of under the APA?

**A:**

Previous board members decided to formalize IDHSC as a national not-for-profit and charitable organization under the *Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act*. While this approach was well intended it does not address the IDHSC's role in registering Irish Draughts and Irish Draught Sport Horses. Only incorporating under the APA does that.

**Q:**

Why didn't IDHSC incorporate under APA from the start?

**A:**

Over the years, when IDHSC approached Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada about being considered, it was determined the herd numbers of Irish Draught in Canada were too low to be considered. IDHSC's close connection with Ireland's main studbook and registry was therefore the focus to ensuring Canadian bred IDs were recognized and this included signing the 2012 harmonization agreement with Horse Sport Ireland.

**Q:**

Why is Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) considering IDHSC now?

**A:**

Recent discussions with the department resulted in their consideration. IDHSC demonstrated that the registration numbers have increased. IDHSC also pointed out the need for formalization due to the changes to Horse Sport Ireland's Breeding Programme for the Irish Draught Studbook which the department noted changes the circumstances. Lastly IDHSC discussed the need for our breeders to have assurances their horses are recognized as a breed in Canada particularly for export opportunity. Supporting agriculture exports is a priority for AAFC so these discussions have resulted in IDHSC preparing to submit application to incorporate.

**Q:**

If IDHSC incorporates under the APA how does this affect my horses already in the registry?

**A:**

Our application requests horses listed in IDHSC's database, along with the Main Studbook and filial societies (GB and NA) be recognized.



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**Q:**

What if I choose to register my horses with the Irish Draught Horse Society of North America (NA)?

**A:**

The same rules apply as before.

**Q:**

What if I'd prefer NA to be incorporated under APA instead of IDHSC?

**A:**

The society must be Canadian based with a Canadian board to incorporate under APA. NA is not eligible to incorporate under Canadian legislation.

**Q:**

If I send feedback to the IDHSC that I don't support this incorporation will this information even be shared?

**A:**

Yes, all responses will be included in the consultation appendix of the application. Any responses not in support will be accompanied by an explanation of how the IDHSC has addressed the concern, or will mitigate for the lack of support.

Fundamentally it is the IDHSC's responsibility to demonstrate the Irish Draught should be a recognized breed under Canada's *Animal Pedigree Act*, and IDHSC is the organization responsible for managing the registry of these horses.

**Q:**

How can I support IDHSC's application to incorporate under APA?

**A:**

Submitting your endorsement for the IDHSC's incorporation through an email or letter will give the IDHSC more documentation for supporting the application. As a breeder of Irish Draughts or Irish Draught Sport Horses it is a positive move forward to have these horses recognized as distinct breeds in Canada. IDHSC thanks you for your support.