



Capacity Building Training Programme
Module 1 | Unit 3
Worksheet 2



Activity : Role play

Scenario

Susanne: Going back to our previous case study about WE Charity, does anyone want to share something you have found and was not mentioned before?

John: During the period of the scandal, the opposition government had requested to review various documents relevant to the case as previously promised by the charity. However, WE Charity refused this request by saying that *“The committees ceased to exist with the prorogation of Parliament. There is no committee to receive the documents...when there is a new committee, our clients will be pleased to communicate with the clerk of the new committee regarding the production of documents.”*¹ This reaction makes them seem guilty, even if they were not.

Maryam: Also, I remember reading somewhere that WE Charity announced the return of the funds received by the program. This also looks to me as a confirmation that they were indeed guilty.

Jasmine: Another important point implying the impact this scandal had on the reputation of WE Charity is that the Queen's University announced the termination of their relationship with the charity through their social media accounts, stating that *“While WE Charity is committed to completing their ongoing sustainable development projects around the world, we decided that it was the best decision to contribute to a new organisation as WE Charity is planning to close operations in Canada.”*²

Susanne: These are excellent points and thank you for sharing all them along with your opinion.

Can anyone think of any ways that WE Charity could have followed to avoid this scandal?

John: I believe that the point of the conflict of interest and WE Charity becoming the beneficiary of the CSSG program, since the volunteers participating in it were doing their volunteering hours within WE Charity, could have been avoided. WE Charity could have directed students into other voluntary organisations.

Jasmine: I agree with John. Also, in relation to its inability to operate in French-speaking regions of Canada, I think it would have been wise of them to disclose this, and be transparent publicly about this. Then other organisations could apply to administer this program and this would have increased the fair treatment to all eligible candidates. Doing this, WE Charity would promote its integrity, fairness and honesty.

Susanne: These are valid points. Does anyone want to add something? Let us think in some more practical ways this time; more of proactive rather than reaction actions.

¹ Lee, B. (2020, August 31). *WE calls latest Conservative request for documents “politics” rather than “proper process”*
<https://nationalpost.com/news/tories-call-on-we-to-release-documents-requested-by-parliamentary-committee>

² Ierino, M. (October 22, 2020). *Queen’s University WE Chapter to end ties with WE Charity-*
<https://yqknews.ca/2020/10/22/queens-university-we-chapter-to-end-ties-with-we-charity/>



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