

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER 2022

The Charter

THE ROYAL CHARTER OF INCORPORATION VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting.

WHEREAS Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Knight, and others of our loving subjects did, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty establish a Society, by the name of The Royal Geographical Society, for the advancement of Geographical Science, and of which Society we have become the Patron:

AND WHEREAS it has been represented to us that the same Society has since its establishment sedulously pursued such its proposed object, by collecting registering, digesting, and, from time to time, publishing an annual Journal of Transactions, which have contributed to the progress of geographical knowledge; by carrying out, at its own expense, various important Expeditions in every quarter of the Globe, and by assisting other Expeditions with grants of money and otherwise; and whereas, distinguished individuals in foreign countries. as well as British subjects, have availed themselves of the facilities offered by the same Society for communicating important discoveries, greatly extending geographical knowledge:

AND WHEREAS the same Society has, in aid of its objects, collected a large and valuable Library of Scientific Works, Atlases, Maps, Charts, Plans, Views, Instruments, to which fresh accessions are constantly being made; and the said Society has hitherto been supported by Donations, and annual and other Subscriptions and Contributions to its Funds.

AND WHEREAS, in order to secure the property of the said Society, to extend its operations, and to give it a more permanent establishment among the scientific Institutions of our Kingdom, we have been besought to grant to the said Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Knight, and to those who now are, or shall hereafter become, members of the said Society, our Royal Charter of Incorporation for the purposes aforesaid.

NOW KNOW YE, that We, being desirous of encouraging a design so laudable and salutary, of our especial Grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have willed, granted and declared, and Do, by these Presents for us, our heirs, and successors, will, grant and declare, that the said Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Knight, and such other of our loving subjects as now are Members of the said Society, or shall from time to time be elected Fellows thereof, according to such Regulations, or Bye Laws, as shall be hereafter framed or enacted, and their successors, shall for ever hereafter be, by virtue of these Presents, one body politic and corporate, by the name of "The Royal Geographical Society;" and for the purposes aforesaid, and by name aforesaid, shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with full power and authority to alter, vary, break, and renew the same at their discretion, and by the same name, to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, in every court of us, our heirs, and successors, and be for ever able and capable in the law, to purchase, The Society's Charter and Bye Laws receive, possess, hold and enjoy, to them and their successors, any goods and chattels whatsoever; and also to be able and capable in the law (notwithstanding the Statutes of Mortmain), to take, purchase, hold and enjoy, to them and their successors, a Hall or House, and any such messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments whatsoever, as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Society, the yearly value of which, including the site of the said Hall or House, shall not exceed in the whole the sum of eight

thousand pounds, computing the same respectively at the rack rent which might have been had or gotten for the same respectively at the time of the purchase or acquisition thereof; and to act in all the concerns of the said body politic and corporate, as effectually, to all intents and purposes, as any other of our liege subjects, or any other body politic or corporate, in our said Kingdom, not being under any disability, might do in their respective concerns.

AND we do hereby grant our especial licence and authority, unto all and every person and persons, bodies politic and corporate, otherwise competent to grant, sell, alien, and convey in Mortmain, unto and to the use of the said body politic and corporate, and their successors, any messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, not exceeding, such annual value as aforesaid.

AND our will and pleasure is, and we further grant and declare, that there shall be a General Meeting, or General Meetings of the Fellows of the said Society, to be held from time to time as hereinafter mentioned; and that there shall be a Council to direct and manage the concerns of the said body politic and corporate, and that the General Meetings and the Council shall have the entire direction and management of the same in the manner and subject to the regulations hereafter mentioned.

AND we do hereby also will, grant and declare, that there shall be a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and Secretaries of the said body political and corporate; and that the Council shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Trustees, Secretaries, and not more than twenty-one, nor less than twelve, other Fellows of the said Society.

AND we do hereby further will and declare, that the said Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Knight, shall be the first President of the said body politic and corporate; and the other persons now being the Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Trustees, Secretaries, together with twenty-one Members of the Council, shall be the first Members of the Council, and shall continue such until the election of Officers shall be made in pursuance of these presents.

AND we do hereby further will and declare, that it shall be lawful for the Fellows of the said body political and corporate hereby established, to hold a General Meeting once in the year, or oftener, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, namely, that the President, Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, the Secretaries, and other members of the Council, shall be chosen at such General Meeting, and that the General Meetings shall from time to time make and establish such Bye Laws, and vary and alter, or revoke the same, as they shall deem to be useful and necessary for the regulation of the said body politic and corporate, for the admission of Fellows and of Honorary and Foreign Members, and for the fixing of the number of the Presidents, Officers, and for the management of the proceedings, and the estates, goods, and business of the said body politic and corporate, so that such Bye Laws be not repugnant to these presents, or to the Laws and Statutes of this our realm, and shall and may also enter into any resolution and make any regulation respecting the affairs of the said body politic and corporate that may be necessary and proper.

AND we do further will and declare that the General Meetings shall take place at such time as may be fixed by the said Council, and that the present regulations of the said Society, so far as they are not inconsistent with these presents, shall continue in force until the same shall be altered by a General Meeting.

AND we further will, grant and declare, that the Council shall have the sole management of the income and funds of the said body politic and corporate, and the appointment of Secretary, Librarian, Curator, and such other officers, attendants, and servants, as the Council shall think necessary or useful, as also the entire management and superintendence of all the other affairs of

the said Society, and shall and may, but not inconsistently with or contrary to the provisions of this our Charter, or any existing Bye Law, or Laws and Statutes of this our realm, do all such acts and deeds as shall appear to them necessary for carrying into effect the objects and views of the said body politic and corporate.

PROVIDED always, and we do will and declare that the Council shall from time to time render to a General Meeting a full account of their proceedings, and that every Fellow of the Society may, at all reasonable times, to be fixed by the said Council, see and examine the accounts of the receipts and payments of the said body politic and corporate.

AND we further will, grant and declare, that the whole property of the said body politic and corporate shall be vested, and we do hereby vest the same solely and absolutely in the Fellows thereof, and that they shall have full power and authority to sell, alienate, charge, and otherwise dispose of the same as they shall think proper; but that no sale, mortgage, incumbrance, or other disposition of any messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments belonging to the said body politic and corporate shall be made, except with the approbation and concurrence of a General Meeting.

AND we lastly declare it to be our Royal Will and Pleasure, that no Resolution or Bye Law shall on any account or pretence whatsoever be made by the said body politic and corporate in opposition to the general scope, true intent, and meaning of this our Charter, or the Laws or Statutes of our realm, and that if any such Rule or Bye Law shall be made, the same shall be absolutely null and void to all intents, effects, constructions, and purposes whatsoever.

IN witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves, at our Palace at Westminster, this eighth day of February in the twenty-second year of our reign.

By Her Majesty's command.

EDMUNDS

PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER

CHARLES THE THIRD by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of our other Realms and Territories King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS by Royal Charter dated the 8th day of February 1857 (hereinafter referred to as "the Original Charter") Her Majesty Queen Victoria constituted a body corporate by the name of "The Royal Geographical Society" (hereinafter referred to as "the Society").

AND WHEREAS a humble petition has been presented unto Us by the Society praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant to it a Supplemental Charter to allow changes to the composition of the Council and to provide for the power to amend the Charter by Order in Council in future:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We, having taken the said petition into Our Royal Consideration, and being minded to accede thereto, have by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial

grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, granted and declared and do by these presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors hereby grant and declare as follows:

1. **Delete from the Original Charter:** “And we do hereby also will, grant and declare, that there shall be a President, Vice -Presidents, a Treasurer, and Secretaries of the said body politic and corporate; and that the Council shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Trustees, Secretaries, and not more than twenty-one, nor less than twelve, other Fellows of the said Society.”
2. **And substitute:** “And we do hereby also will, grant and declare, that there shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and Councillors of the said body politic and corporate; and that the Council shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Councillors, and not more than sixteen, nor less than twelve, Fellows of the said Society in total.”
3. In the Article beginning: “And We do hereby further will and declare, that it shall be lawful for the Fellows of the said body political and corporate hereby established, to hold a General Meeting once a year”, **delete** “the Secretaries,”.
4. After the Article beginning “And We further will, grant and declare, that the whole property of the said body politic and corporate shall be vested, **insert** a new Article:

“The Society may by Special Resolution revoke, amend or add to any provisions of this Our Supplemental Charter or the original Charter, provided that no revocation, amendment or addition shall be made which shall cause the Society to cease to be a charity at law. When allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, any such revocation, amendment or addition shall become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforth continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made accordingly.”
5. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Supplemental Charter shall ever be construed in every case most favourably to the Society and the promotion of the Objects.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the day of in the year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT OF THE KING’S SIGN MANUAL