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BCSI Depth

BCSI is committed to developing standards that are credible, meaningful and understandable. We believe effective standards serve as a beacon to those who choose to use them as well as serving as a market differentiator for consumers.

Involving the association community in the development of standards is critical in terms of credibility and the acceptance of benefit corporation standards on a broad scale. Although benefit corporation statutes prevent associations or businesses they represent from being more than one-third of our Standards Development Committees, or from materially financing BCSI, there is nothing saying associations cannot or should not be involved in the standards setting process.

By having associations involved in standards setting we can:

- Avail ourselves of their considerable standards setting expertise;
- Develop standards that are specific to a particular industry or profession to ensure we are maximizing opportunities to be socially and environmentally responsible; associations will have ideas on specific actions their industries and professions can take;
- Develop standards that will be seen as trust-worthy and practical by the association's members;
- Provide road-maps to benefit corporations who are developing their corporate charters and seeking to implement standards;
- Develop standards that will be seen as credible by consumers with the weight of the association endorsement;
- Give associations a voice and the opportunity to be seen as relevant to both their members and consumers; and,
- Ensure associations have a deep working knowledge of the standards that apply to businesses in their industries or professions who choose to operate as benefit corporations.