

Volunteer Action - Volunteer North Shore Newsletter

Partnerships & Collaboration

Working in partnership, with organizations in other sectors or agencies within the non-profit sector, to achieve a desired outcome requires hard work, determination, hard work, a desire to want to work collaboratively, and more hard work. Partnerships and collaborative working arrangements, however challenging, can offer some of the most innovative and sustainable long term results. So how do you know if your organization would benefit from a partnership? And what steps do you need to take to put a partnership in motion?



To begin, think about what you want from a partnership. Make sure you are clearly able to articulate why you want a partner and the role the partner will play. Whether it is a social enterprise venture or a partnership to gain long term program volunteers, be able to state what is needed from the potential partner and know in advance how flexible

you will be about changing a program should the partner offer suggestions.

Next, consider who might be a good fit as a potential partner. Consider an organization’s vision, mission, and values and see if they are compatible with the mission of your program; and if the organizational values align with your own. If more than one partner is needed, reflect on how the various organizations support each other’s missions and values. Be prepared to discuss how you see each organization’s connection. If there is consensus about the fit and roles move to formalize the partnership.

Finally, remember Newton’s first law of motion that states an object at rest stays at rest and one in motion stays in motion. Keep your partnerships in motion by taking the initiative to connect regularly and update your partners on the progress of the program or activity. Ensure the partner organization is communicating back to its stakeholders. Lastly, whenever possible and appropriate keep the partnership fun and interesting.

Nancy Hollstedt

- <http://www.charityvillage.com/cv/research/rpart10.html>
- <http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=5823>
- <http://volunteer.ca/en/corporate-community-topics-resources>

Check out CELEBRATE! for information on volunteer awards and recognition.


Inside this issue:


CELEBRATE!	2
Volunteer BC Training	2
BC State of Volunteering Report & National Survey of Giving & Volunteering	2
Post Secondary Recruitment Fairs	3
Dalhousie University - Non Profit Governance	4

CELEBRATE!

Celebrate your volunteers' contributions by recognizing their commitment and nominate them for one of the following awards.

No Deadline

 **Order of Canada**
www.gg.ca/honours/natord/oc/oc-info_e.asp

 **Governor General's Caring Canadian Award**
www.gg.ca/honours/awards/cca/01_e.asp

Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians

On June 8th, 2009 the Government of Canada released the most recent Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating.

The highlights and survey results can be found at http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/files/giving/csgvp_highlights_2007.pdf. (Source: Imagine Canada)

Volunteer BC Training - Volunteer Futures

Volunteer BC is hosting it's annual training event for boards of directors from around the province. Volunteer Futures is intended to be an opportunity for board members to learn, enhance their organizations, and engage with other volunteer leaders from around the province.

The two day event will be held in North Vancouver this September 25-26, 2009 at the Capilano Suspension Bridge. A variety of workshop options will be offered including:

- understanding and applying findings from the most recent Canadian Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participation
- Board basics such as Robert's Rules of Order, understanding the legal responsibilities of directors, understanding financial reporting for the non-accountant, and best practices in governance, by-laws and tips for operational boards.
- Volunteer management, recruitment and recognition
- Trouble-shooting common challenges faced on boards: inactive members, staff/board relations, succession planning, and more
- Fundraising and social enterprise options
- Tools, technology and good resources for board development and sustainability

Interested participants are encouraged to register soon as space is limited. Members' discount and early bird registration fee is \$70.00 and ends July 31st, 2009. After August 1st the fee will be \$95.00 and close on September 1st, 2009. To obtain a registration form please contact Volunteer BC at volbc@vcn.bc.ca or by phone at 604-873-5877.

(Source: Volunteer BC)

BC State of Volunteering

Volunteer BC is pleased to announce the release of the inaugural *BC State of Volunteering Report*. The BC State of Volunteering report comprehensively assesses volunteering in BC, giving both a broad view of the health of volunteerism, as well as specific experiences and examples from which insights can be drawn from varying local contexts. Copies are available for download from the official website at www.bcstateofvolunteering.org. The website includes additional links and resources from Volunteer BC, online discussion forums, and full case studies from participating volunteer centres.

(Source: Volunteer BC)

Post Secondary Volunteer Recruitment Fairs

If you are an organization interested in engaging university students in the volunteer work your agency offers, you may want to consider participating in two post secondary volunteer and civic recruitment fairs this fall.

Simon Fraser University is hosting a Volunteer & Civic Opportunity Fair at the Burnaby campus on Tuesday September 22nd. Registration for the fall event will open in early summer. For more information, visit www.sfu.ca/volunteer/events/week/fair.html.

Volunteer Burnaby is hosting a volunteer recruitment fair at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) on Thursday October 8, 2009. For more information on the BCIT event please contact Volunteer Burnaby at www.volunteerburnaby.ca.

(source: Volunteer Burnaby & Simon Fraser University)

Reminder

United Way Day of Caring

Deadline for the
September 2009
event
is July 20th.

For more
information go to
[http://
www.uwlm.ca](http://www.uwlm.ca)



Volunteer North Shore Planning & Information Meeting

Mark Your
Calendar



Thursday October 22, 2009

10:00 - 11:30 am

The Community Room 203 at North Shore Community Resources
2nd Floor Capilano Mall, #201 - 935 Marine Drive, North Vancouver, BC

Agenda:

- 2010 Training Information
- 2010 Recruitment Events Calendar
- Round Table Discussion

A meeting reminder with an agenda will be circulated 1 week prior to the meeting. If you haven't already, please RSVP to Nancy Hollstedt by phone at 604-982-3311 or by email to nancy.hollstedt@nscr.bc.ca.

Improving Non-Profit Governance

Online Program: September 21, 2009 to January 31, 2010

Dalhousie University, through its Continuing Education department, is offering an on-line course in Improving Non-Profit Governance. The course is targeted at executive directors and others involved in the leadership of voluntary and non-profit organizations in Canada. The structure allows for non-profit staff to learn and work together, with their own boards and themselves as clients, in an innovative online facilitated course focused on improving their organizations' governance.

Dalhousie University's College of Continuing Education is known for its "expertise in board development, adult education and online learning. The program, organized into four modules, will be demanding and rewarding. It will be facilitated by an instructional team from East and West, and from two academic institutions and two leading non-profit agencies". For more information please visit the following link. <http://collegeofcontinuinged.dal.ca/Continuing%20Management%20Education/Non-Profit%20Sector%20Leadership/improvingnonprofitgo.php>

(Source: Dalhousie University - Continuing Education)

Volunteer North Shore is the volunteer centre that serves the communities of the City of North Vancouver, the District of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver.

Volunteer North Shore:

- Helps people find volunteer work
- Helps organizations find volunteers
- Promotes volunteering as a benefit to the community
- Works with organizations to develop, implement and maintain effective volunteer programs

Volunteering is a vital part of our community and Volunteer North Shore is here to make sure voluntary effort is encouraged, sustained and increased.

Volunteer North Shore is just one of the valuable programs and services offered by North Shore Community Resources. North Shore Community Resources, conveniently located on the 2nd floor at Capilano Mall, is the North Shore's multi-service information and referral agency.

*Many thanks to the
individuals and
organizations who
contributed to this issue of
Volunteer Action.*



**North Shore
Community Resources**
Connecting You to Community Services!

Suite 201-935 Marine Drive
North Vancouver, BC
V7P 1S3
Phone: 604.985.7138
Fax: 604.985.0645