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*Read the KCR Monthly Bulletin in Web Format Here*

SUBSCRIBE to the Monthly Bulletin for email updates
**KCR Highlights**

- **WORKSHOP:** PUTTING THE FUN IN FUNCTIONAL TEAMS
- **NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 10-16**
- **SHARE HOW YOU RECOGNIZE VOLUNTEERS**
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- **FACILITATING:** TAKE YOUR SKILLS TO THE NEXT LEVEL (2 HALF-DAYS)
- **2016 VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX CLINICS GUIDE**
- **KCR’S MAILING LISTS**

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**Workshop: Putting the FUN in FUNctional Teams**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Location:** BDO, #400 – 1631 Dickson Avenue (Landmark 6, 4th floor)  
**Cost:** $25  
[Register Now](#)

Great teams are innovative and more productive. Find the ingredients and proven theories that create great teams. Be prepared to have fun and participate and lots of team building activities to bring back to your office.

-*Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, February 2016*

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**National Volunteer Week April 10-16**

April 10 - 16, 2016

![Volunteer Week Image](volunteer.ca/nw2016)

April 10-16, 2016 is [National Volunteer Week (NVW)](#), a time to celebrate and thank Canada’s 12.7 million volunteers. This year marks the 13th consecutive year that Volunteer Canada and
Investors Group have partnered to deliver the NVW campaign.

Volunteers are the roots of strong communities. Just like roots are essential for trees to bloom, volunteers are essential for communities to bloom. Thanks to volunteers, our communities grow strong and resilient. Even the tiniest volunteer effort leaves a profound and lasting trace in a community, much like tree rings that appear over time.

-Source: Newsletter, Volunteer Canada, 26 January 2016

Share How YOU Recognize Volunteers

Be encouraged. It’s not about money. It’s about impact.

Research by Volunteer Canada encourages us to think differently about how organizations recognize volunteers.

We can learn from each other. SHARE ideas.
- What have you tried in your organization?
- As a volunteer, what recognition was most memorable?

Let us know how you’re recognizing your volunteers

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, March 2016

Workshop: Board Boot Camp 201

Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Location: Kelowna Community Resources, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna
Cost: $25 / Organization (Max 3 participants)
Register Now

It’s 6:30pm. You’ve been up since 6:00am and have just put in a full day at work. Your head and stomach are telling you it’s time for dinner. And you’re still sitting in a not-for-profit board meeting that started at 4:30 … which was supposed to wrap up at 5:45pm. Suddenly, you hear, “I nominate [your name] for Board Chair”. What?!

Maybe your appointment as Chair of your favourite not-for-profit wasn’t quite so dramatic. Maybe you were one of the lucky ones that served as Vice-Chair for a term before becoming Chair. Even so, most future Chairs of not-for-profit Boards are not prepared (read: groomed) to take over the leadership position.

Board Boot Camp 201 will give you a quick primer and overview to become the best leader you can be for your not-for-profit organization. Learn effective qualities of leaders and your personal leadership style. Understand the separation between the Board and staff, and between the senior staff and the Chair. Find how to run your meetings timely and effectively – one of the best ways to retain current directors and attract new ones! And, when you think you or your organization might need outside help, explore the circumstances when going outside for expertise is of benefit to your organization.
The Law & You – Hiring International Workers

**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2016, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
**Location:** Kelowna Community Resources, #120-1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna  
**Pre-register:** Contact Dorothee at dorothee@kcr.ca or call 250.860.4911

**Description:** Hiring and Supporting Foreign Workers to Permanent Residency through the use of Labour Market Impact Assessment Applications and Express Entry Programs including the Provincial Nomination Program. Sandra Hakanson, an Immigration and Citizenship Lawyer with Pushor Mitchell LLP, will share her expertise and the latest information on Immigration Law.

*Doors open at 6:00 pm. Free Child Minding is available on request.*

-Source: Dorothee Birker, Immigrant Services, KCR, March 2016

Workshop: Overview of Volunteer Management

**Dates:** April 18-19, 25-26, 2016, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Kelowna Community Resources, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna  
**Cost:** $199, Includes materials and light refreshments  
**Register Now**

This 4-day workshop will help you attract and retain volunteers. Content is based on Canadian research, best practices and the Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement.

*Read more about the 8 modules*

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, December 2015

Workshop: Living a Healthier Lifestyle – Making the Most of Your Efforts

**Date:** Tuesday, May 17, 9:00 am – 11:00 am  
**Location:** KCR, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Ave., Kelowna  
**Cost:** $5  
**Register Now**

Your time is limited. How can you get the most benefit for the least effort? Want some help to prioritize where to put your time and energy? Want to set goals for lifestyle changes that you
can stick to? A wellness and current trends perspective will help.

Learn about: What matters? How much does it matter? How can mindfulness help you?

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, April 2016

**Facilitating: Take Your Skills to the Next Level (2 half-days)**

**Dates:** Wednesdays, June 8 & 15, 2016, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Location:** KCR, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue  
**Facilitator:** Kerry Rempel, MBA, BPE, Professor, Okanagan School of Business, Okanagan College  
**Cost:** $25 includes BOTH sessions  
Register Now

**Audience:** These two half days are aimed at facilitators who have led training sessions and want to enhance their skills.

Through interactive learning, participants will gain:
- Understanding of training best practices;
- Ability to categorize learning preferences using the VARK approach;
- Ability to recognize key learner behaviours and actions;
- Assessment about how they currently plan training;
- Knowledge about developing learning environments for adult learners;
- Experience with role-plays; and
- Strategies for dealing with challenging participant situations.

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, April 2016
For those living on a low income in the Kelowna, West Kelowna, Peachland or Lake Country areas who need to have their taxes done, help is at hand!

On KCR’s Publications Page, you will find this year’s Volunteer Income Tax Clinics Guide, listing clinics in your area that serve seniors, single parents, students, and other low-income individuals and families.

Download your copy today

-Source: Dawn Anthony, Community Services, KCR, February 2016

KCR’s Mailing Lists

Monthly Bulletin: Sent electronically each month, plus time sensitive information updated periodically on the website

Publications: Newest versions sent right to you bi-annually
| **KCR Workshops**: Information about upcoming training opportunities
| **Adoption Centre of BC**: Upcoming information sessions, newsletters and general adoption information

*Source: Kelsey Grmek, IT Coordinator, KCR, June 2014*
How will Refugees Impact Homelessness?

During their election campaign, the Liberal party pledged government sponsorship for 25,000 refugees, with private sponsors facilitating the arrival of even more. So far, over 16,000 have arrived in Canada. Some people have claimed that Canada should “take care of their own first,” and have heavily critiqued the efforts spent on refugees. Others have disagreed, saying there’s no reason why we cannot support both groups – and I agree.

It does, however, make sense that many people are concerned about what an influx of refugees means for the state of homelessness overall. As Sharad Kerur’s piece in The Toronto Star summarized: refugee housing needs have shone a light on the dismal state of affordable housing in Canada.

Read More

-Source: Blog, The Homeless Hub, 4 March 2016
NEW: Testimonials & Outreach

Now Available, Testimonials!
Let your volunteers know how much you appreciate them. Volunteer retention and productivity are dependent on if your volunteers feel recognized; learn how to easily add testimonials.

Conduct Outreach Campaigns!
We’ve added another way for you to find the most suitable volunteers! Volunteers can now choose to be contacted by organizations and you can view that list to find volunteers with specific skills. This feature is brand new, so this list will continue to grow as volunteers learn about it.

More Exciting Updates
- Your organization management area has received a facelift. This makes it easier for you to recognize when you are acting as an admin on behalf of your organization and to more clearly access your admin pages.
- Group message ALL volunteers at once with a single click! This can be very helpful if you need to broadcast a message, send an update, or issue a call for help – Here’s How!
- Sortable volunteers list: Under the “Volunteers” tab in the Management Area, you can now sort your list of volunteers by name and city.

-Source: Newsletter, Volinspire, 10 March 2016

Updates & New Features

Newsfeed & Posting Stories
- It’s now much easier to post! You will see post boxes on the newsfeed and organization and business profiles with a much better user experience and improved design.
- Posting for Admins has been simplified! You no longer need to enter your Management area. In the post box, simply click beside “Posting as” and choose to post as yourself or as your organization/business.
- Use mentions (@) to increase recognition! You can now recognize volunteers and employees, as well as organizations and businesses in your area. This also encourages peer to peer recognition and empowers users to help share your story.
- Multi-mentions increases reach and branding! Posts with multiple mentions can now be displayed on each of the mentioned business and organization profiles, increasing branding, reach and click-throughs across the platform.
- Anyone can share! Increased Moderation Control. Before you needed a connection to post about an organization or business. Now anyone can (not only your employees or volunteers, but someone who attended your event or just wants to share positivity about you). You have total control to approve these to show up on your profile page and you can remove them later if you wish.
- Share ability increases reach and branding! When any user posts a story, they are auto-prompted to share to their social networks.
Stay Informed with improved Notifications! When a story is shared about your organization or business, or if you (as an employee or fellow volunteer) are mentioned in a post, you will receive a notification to stay informed (or to moderate the content). You can choose to have these notifications sent through to your email by customizing your settings.

Share longer and rich stories! We have increased the character limit from 1000 to 2500, so you have greater choice. Remember, you can share a post’s link to anyone (Volinspire user or not), which will auto-expand the entire story on its own page.

Overall
- Improved user experience. We’ve made many UX improvements and have specifically fixed many issues on Internet Explorer.
- Enhanced On-boarding for all! New users are now walked through a short and engaging wizard to ensure their city and skills are properly filled out and are also educated with some steps to get started.

Tracking Hours / Recognition
- Improved tracking and recognition data! When volunteers & employees log past or ongoing volunteerism, they can now log their hours by year, so you are able to effectively base your volunteer program and recognition on current milestones. Admins receive more accurate notifications and user profiles now show current year vs. overall.

Event / Position Management
- Role names are now Editable. You can now edit / change role names when creating a position and can duplicate previously-used positions (with attached skills, description, etc..) and edit the name.
- Remove Volunteers seamlessly. If you have approved a volunteer, but no longer need them, you can now remove them, provide a reason why and the position will be removed from their profile and they will be sent a notification.
- Improved Group Dynamics. When volunteers apply for positions or events, they can see “Who is volunteering?” Now, admins and users can click through to their profiles, increasing engagement and recognition amongst users. Users have the ability to disable this feature to protect their privacy.
- Access position details more quickly. Admins can now view how many volunteers have signed up vs. how many are needed by looking at position cards, so that you no longer have to click and open each position page individually.
- Improved view of Applicants. In your management area, when viewing applicants and the positions they applied for, you will now see position start dates and the location, so you can easily tell the difference between similar positions you have posted.

Cosmetic Changes – Small but Impactful
- It’s more clear that your main menu in the top right is a drop-down
- When logging hours, you can now enter and edit the hours using your keyboard

**Just a reminder that our Help Centre has also been updated to reflect these new changes, so feel free to take a look (especially the ‘How to Post a Story’ article) for additional guidance.

-Source: Newsletter, Volinspire, 23 March 2016
Journey of Reciprocity: The First Eight Years of The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada

This article is the eighth in a series on Indigenous Communities and Philanthropy.

The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada strives to promote dialogue amongst First Nations, Métis, Inuit communities; private, public and community foundations; corporate philanthropy programs, charitable organizations, and United Ways. This article describes the origins of The Circle and the need for philanthropic organizations to commit resources to reconciliation. There is opportunity to learn together about what it takes for Indigenous peoples to rekindle their traditions of social resilience; to understand when philanthropic investment helps and when it harms; and how respectful dialogue across differences and troubled history is an essential part of reconciliation.

Read More


Statistics Canada: Aboriginal Peoples: Fact Sheet for British Columbia

The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) and the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) are the main data sources for this fact sheet. The 2011 NHS collected social and economic data about the Canadian population. The 2012 APS was a national survey of First Nations people living off reserve, Métis, and Inuit aged 6 and older.

Among the findings: Half of Aboriginal children live with both parents:

- In British Columbia, 45% of First Nations children aged 14 and younger lived in a family with both their parents in 2011, as did 58% of Métis children and 60% of Inuit children. The corresponding percentage for non-Aboriginal children was 78%. About a third of First Nations and Inuit children and 29% of Métis children lived in a lone-parent family, rates that were higher than that for their non-Aboriginal peers (16%).
- In 2011, 4% of Aboriginal children aged 14 and younger were in foster care; at 6%, the percentage was highest for First Nations children living off reserve.

Moreover, of all British Columbia children in foster care in 2011, over half (56%) were Aboriginal children, the majority of whom (91%) were First Nations children.

-Source: Newsletter, First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 24 March 2016
Celebrate with Kelowna’s Finest – 2015 Civic Awards

The City’s annual Civic and Community Awards recognize outstanding individuals, businesses and organizations whose contributions and achievements have benefited the city. The nomination period for 2015 has ended and the finalists will be announced in March.

There are a number of categories to recognize individuals and organizations in volunteerism, environment, arts and athletics. This is the second year that the Young Male & Female Volunteer of the Year finalists will receive funding towards their post secondary education through the Dillon Thomas Budd Youth Scholarship, sponsored by the Thomas Alan Budd Foundation.

**The gala**

Be inspired and celebrate with the finalists and award recipients at the awards gala on April 27. Tickets will go on sale March 14, to purchase tickets please call 250.469.8811.

For more information, visit [kelowna.ca/residents](http://kelowna.ca/residents).

*Source: Newsletter, City of Kelowna, 24 February 2016*
**Funding Sources**

- YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & ENGAGEMENT GRANT
- CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMPONENT IN 2016-2017
- ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ARTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE GROUPS

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**Youth Development & Engagement Grant**

The City of Kelowna is offering a Youth Development & Engagement Grant for youth (aged 13-19) around Kelowna. This matching grant (up to $1000) will help you and your friends lead, develop and implement projects to make your neighbourhood an even better place to live. If you have at least two friends around your neighbourhood and a project that could help improve the neighbourhood you live in, then you can apply! Your group will be paired with a Neighbourhood Development Coordinator to help guide you through applying for the grant, planning, and carrying out your project. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Neighbourhood garden, potluck, or cooking class
- A mural, poetry slam, or cultural event
- Setting up and maintaining a social media page for neighbours to discuss relevant events
- Inter-generational or inter-cultural project
- A bicycle maintenance or other skill-building workshop
- A local environmental awareness or cleanup day

If you’d like more information, send us an email at ac.anwolek@sdoohruobhhgien. We’re here to help! If you already have an idea, download or fill out the grant application online at kelowna.ca/neighbourhoods.

**Application Deadline is April 15, 2016**

-Source: Tom Clark, Recreation Technician, City of Kelowna, 22 February 2016

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**Calls for Proposals for the Strategic Initiatives Component in 2016-2017**

The Canada Cultural Investment Fund (CCIF) will issue two calls for proposals for its Strategic Initiatives component in 2016-2017.

Applicants must submit their application no later than:

- April 15, 2016 for projects starting October 1, 2016
- September 15, 2016 for projects starting April 1, 2017

For more information on the component’s objectives, eligibility criteria and forms to be completed, please visit [http://pch.gc.ca/eng/1269288468775](http://pch.gc.ca/eng/1269288468775) or contact the program at 819.997.3955 or toll free at 1.866.811.0055 or by email.

-Source: Canadian Heritage CCIF (PCH/PCH), 5 February 2016
Organizational Development Grants Now Available for Arts, Culture, Heritage Groups

Non-profit arts, culture and heritage organizations are encouraged to apply for a City of Kelowna Organizational Development Grant by April 29. This grant program provides matching funds for projects and activities that enhance the capacity and ongoing efforts of non-profit groups.

Organizational Development Grants are available for up to 50 per cent of a developmental project cost, to a maximum of $10,000. Matching contributions may be cash or in-kind. Two or more organizations may partner on a project such as joint planning or training.

“Organizations, just like people, go through phases and changes,” says Cultural Services Manager Sandra Kochan, “Navigating through change can be challenging for organizations, especially when it pulls time and people away from the day-to-day work that needs to get done. These grants provide some extra resources so that organizations can get the help they need to make plans, improve their skills, and increase their community impact.”

Funding can be used to pay for consulting services or for tuition in reputable learning programs. Applications are being accepted as of March 1. Deadline to apply is Friday, April 29 at 3:00 pm PST.

Please review the grant guidelines for eligibility and other information, available on our website at kelowna.ca/culture > heritage grants.

Applications should be submitted to:
2016 Organization Development Grants
City of Kelowna Cultural Services Branch, Glenmore Office
#105 – 1014 Glenmore Drive
Kelowna, BC V1Y 4P2
HOURS: Monday to Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

-Source: Newsletter, City of Kelowna, 4 March 2016
Fund Development

- WORKSHOP: WRITING GAMING GRANTS
- THE ART OF THE LOI – SO MUCH TO SAY, SO LITTLE SPACE
- HOW TO CREATE A BOARD FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
- MARKETING IS NOT FUNDRAISING
- EASILY HELP YOUR DONORS FIND THEIR CANADAHELPS TAX Receipts!
- MAKING AN EFFECTIVE DONATION MEANS PROVIDING MONEY TO KEEP THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENGINE RUNNING
- FUNDRAISING LESSONS FROM UNLIKELY SUCCESSES, FAILURES & FASTER HORSES
- FOUR KEYS TO FINANCIAL SUCCESS IN SMALL TO MID-SIZE NONPROFITS & CHARITIES

Workshop: Writing Gaming Grants

Date: Friday, April 8, 2016
Location: Ramada Hotel & Conference Center, 2170 Harvey Avenue, Kelowna

Schedule
Registration & Coffee: 8:15 am – 8:45 am
Meet & Greet with Steve Thomson and Norm Letnick: 9:00 am – 9:30 am
Workshop: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Materials will be provided; there is no cost, but we do ask that you pre-register by sending an email to carolinemiller@shaw.ca so that we know you are coming. Kindly include the name/s of the attendees and the organization name.

We look forward to seeing you there. We will be giving you an update regarding our recent meetings with the Gaming Branch in Victoria, and updating you on guidelines and other changes being made by Gaming to the charitable gaming program.

-Source: Caroline Miller, Central Okanagan Charitable Gaming Association, 29 March 2016

The Art of the LOI – So Much to Say, So Little Space

Letter of intent, letter of inquiry, letter of interest… these are just a few of the many different terms you might encounter when you’re preparing your grant applications.

Often referred to as the ‘cover letter’ of the grantseeking world, LOIs present a difficult challenge: sell a funder on your project in a limited amount of space and time.

The pre-screening process has its perks – Think of the time you’ll save by finding out your organization isn’t a great fit BEFORE you complete a full application! However, it can be daunting to realize your organization’s fundraising success rests on your ability to summarize and synthesize.

Read More
How to Create a Board Fundraising Campaign

Want to find a way to inspire your board to be a bigger part of your fundraising team? A social, peer-driven fundraising campaign can great way to get your board involved, grow your list, recruit new donors, and raise money through a campaign that gets people excited. By leveraging your board, who likely have large networks and strong influence, you can expand your reach by tapping into their connections.

How do you convince your board to get on board with this plan? Follow these 10 steps to launch a peer fundraising campaign powered by your biggest champions—your board members:

1. **Get buy-in.**
   Get your board excited about your campaign by giving them a clear vision of your target that shows the impact on your mission, as well as your bottom line. Next, help them see how their involvement will help you expand your outreach and raise more money. Illustrate how each board member’s fundraising page and resulting donations bring you closer to your program goals. Describe how your board’s fundraising campaign fits into your larger fundraising strategy.

2. **Define a focus.**
   Instead of a general fundraising appeal, your campaign may be more effective when it focuses on a specific project, program, or emergency need. This can also set the campaign apart from other appeals and help make the impact feel more tangible for potential donors.

Read More

Marketing is Not Fundraising

Nonprofit marketing communications does not equal fundraising. But many organizations lump the two together and this is a problem; because it holds nonprofits back. Please note: I’m in no way questioning the value of fundraising itself. And yes, many fundraisers are, and need to be, excellent communicators. And strong fundraising must include strong communications. AND marketing communications and fundraising need to work closely together.

However, if you’re responsible for marketing communications for a nonprofit organization, your work extends beyond helping to reach fundraising goals.

“In our organizations, we are all working towards a common goal of making life better for our beneficiaries. Yet sadly, too often, there is a systemic lack of respect and understanding of the strengths and skills that distinctive professions have to offer to the whole of our organizations,” says Colleen Mulholland, President & CEO, Burlington Community Foundation.

Read More
Easily Help your Donors find their CanadaHelps Tax Receipts!

The deadline for submitting 2015 tax returns is quickly approaching, and we are receiving an influx of calls and emails regarding tax receipts.

If you have donors and supporters contacting your charity directly to ask for their CanadaHelps tax receipt, you can direct them to our easy Tax Receipt Tool. Or, send a communication to your donors directly promoting this to ensure they easily find their tax receipt.

This online tool will allow them to get a copy of all receipts for donations made in 2015 using CanadaHelps. This includes donations made directly from the CanadaHelps website or from your charity’s Custom Donate Now page.

CanadaHelps Online Tax Receipt Tool

-Source: Newsletter, CanadaHelps, 21 March 2016

Making an Effective Donation Means Providing Money to Keep the Not-for-Profit Engine Running

For many, making a contribution to a charity or not-for-profit can feel overwhelming. There’s a lot of information in the marketplace that helps guide our decision making processes, but many of us are left asking one key question: “Can I trust the organization to use my donation in the best possible way to achieve its social mission?”

There is much debate with the public and the media about the issue of overhead ratios – generally the percentage of a not-for-profit or charity’s operational expenditures allocated to fundraising or administration. There’s a sentiment that by directing a donation in a way that supports a program directly – in effect keeping the overhead ratio low – that more funding can be allocated to ‘doing good’.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 17 March 2016

Fundraising Lessons from Unlikely Successes, Failures & Faster Horses

Have you ever written something off as a failure that then went on to be a huge success?

History is littered with stories of unlikely and unexpected successes.

- The Beatles were turned down by Decca records in 1962 because they thought guitar music was 'on the way out.'
- JK Rowling’s Harry Potter manuscript was turned down by 12 different publishers before being picked up by Bloomsbury.
- Walt Disney was apparently fired from a newspaper because he ‘lacked imagination and had no original ideas.’
History is also littered with stories of unexpected failure. I’ve listed some in my blog – If you don’t succeed destroy the evidence so no one knows you tried, although my favourite failure, from which we can learn is the epic fail of New Coke.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 11 March 2016

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## Four Keys to Financial Success in Small to Mid-Size Nonprofits & Charities

Many small-to-mid-size nonprofits and charities struggle financially. Either they have difficulty raising the funds they need to achieve their missions or they experience organizational anxiety because they’re not sure if their managing and spending the money they do have appropriately.

Both of these issues can be solved. If boards are clear about what they want, it’s generally possible to get there.

So you ask…what do we need to do to raise the money we need to achieve our mission and manage and spend our money appropriately? Good question.

We work primarily with nonprofit organizations and charities on their internal financial management. We have seen many organizations struggle with these issues and many of those have mostly – or entirely – been able to overcome them.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 7 March 2016

To Top
Registration is Now Open for the 2016 National Conference on Ending Homelessness

The 2016 National Conference on Ending Homelessness is shaping up to be our biggest and best conference yet! We have a great selection of keynote speakers coming together, exciting new content and a very enthusiastic host city!

The 2016 National Conference on Ending Homelessness will be held at the London Convention Centre in London, Ontario November 2 to 4, 2016.

Our conference website is now live with our call for presentations, the Lived Experience Scholarship application, online registration and conference hotel information with links to the online reservation systems. Be sure to check back often as we’ll be updating the site regularly with new information on the conference.

Register Now

-Source: Newsletter, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 8 March 2016

“Homelessness Affects Every Single Country and is Spreading with Impunity.”

The present report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to nondiscrimination in this context, is submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 15/8 and 25/17.

Homelessness is a global human rights crisis that demands an urgent global response. It is occurring in all socioeconomic contexts — in developed, emerging and developing economies, in prosperity as well as in austerity. It is a diverse phenomenon, affecting different groups of people in different ways but with common features. It is symptomatic of the failure of governments to address growing inequalities in income, wealth and access to land and property and to effectively respond to the challenges of migration and urbanization. Homelessness occurs when housing is treated as a commodity rather than as a human right.

Read More
Budget 2016 Invests $2.3 Billion Over 2 Years on Housing & Homelessness

In their first budget the Trudeau government today announced over $2.3 billion in spending over two years on housing and homelessness representing the most significant investments in housing and homelessness in at least 25 years. Highlights from the budget include:

- A two year “Phase 1” investment to be followed by the development of a National Housing Strategy and a “Phase 2” that “will deliver on the remaining eight years of the Government’s long-term infrastructure plan”
- A major expansion of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy with an additional $111.8 M over two years giving “communities the support they need to help prevent and reduce homelessness, including Housing First activities, better emergency response services, and supports for youth, women fleeing violence, and veterans”
- Doubling current federal funding under the Investment in Affordable Housing

Budget 2016 is a very positive first step toward fixing Canada’s housing and homelessness crisis, but there important work ahead. We have to ensure new affordable housing investments will house Canada’s most vulnerable homeless people. We will continue to press the government to make sure the level of investment grows to meet the scale of the crisis in Canada we will work closely with our partners and the Government of Canada to build a National Housing Strategy that ends the unnatural disaster of homelessness once and for all.

Read More

Podcast: Race, Homelessness, & Philanthropy

During his trip to the Housing First Partners Conference in Los Angeles, Jeff tackles philanthropy as a driving change around racism and homelessness with a group of experts from across the country: Amanda Andere, David Wertheimer, and Marc Dones.

Listen Now

#RethinkHousing & take Action on BC’s Housing Crisis

The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition has launched their #RethinkPoverty series with a focus on #RethinkHousing in March. Housing was a focus of the United Nation’s late February/early March review of Canada and the situation of the homeless camps in Abbotsford and Victoria is ramping up. Also, the promised provincial “housing budget” didn’t give us anything meaningful to tackle BC’s housing crisis.
Please let BCPRC know if you would like to provide a quote, link, host a Twitter chat/live FaceBook interview or any other idea you may have. They have some Action Team members standing by to record a podcast if you're interested.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 24 March 2016
**WHNS – Free Digital Device Assistance for Seniors**

Bring your iPad, iPhone, laptop, tablet or any other device that you need some help with! Mount Boucherie students will be available to help you navigate your own device.

**Dates:** Thursdays, March 31 – April 21, 2016, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
**Location:** Mount Boucherie High School (career center), 2751 Cameron Rd, West Kelowna

Register today by calling WHNS at 250.768.3305. Limited space available. $10 membership to WHNS would be appreciated.

*-Source: Debbie Elliott, Coordinator of Volunteers, Westside Health Network Society, 11 March 2016*

**West Kelowna CRA – Community Volunteer Tax Program**

Westside Health Network Society sponsored: WHNS Tax Program Service – CVITP Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP)

The CVITP is collaboration between the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and the Westside Health Network Society (WHNS) organization that hosts this free tax preparation clinic for West Kelowna residents using volunteers who prepare income tax and benefit returns for eligible individuals that have a modest income and a simple tax situation.

**Dates:** February 25 – April 21, Thursdays, 9:30 am – 11:30 am  
**Location:** Westbank Lions Community Centre, 2466 Main Street, West Kelowna
Clients Must Bring: A copy of last year’s taxes, 2015 Notice of Assessment and all 2014 tax receipts

See CRA for particulars

Suggested guidelines are:
- Individual – $30,000
- Couple – $40,000
- Individual with a dependant – $35,000

Filing Deadline: April 30, 2016

For more information: www.westsidehealthnetwork.com, whns@telus.net, OR contact Westside Health Network Society at 250.768.3305

-Source: Debbie Elliott, Coordinator of Volunteers Westside Health Network Society, 3 March 2016

Peachland Wellness Centre – Tax Help

2016 CRA sponsored program that allows eligible individuals, who are not able to complete their income tax and benefit returns by themselves, to have their taxes done at no charge. The Peachland Wellness centre is hosting this program from February 29 – April 18, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Qualified Tax Volunteers confer with participants on a drop in, first come first served basis. Donations to the Wellness Centre are greatly appreciated.

-Source: Newsletter, Peachland Wellness Centre, 12 February 2016

Kelowna Art Gallery – Back to the 80s

The Kelowna Art Gallery takes visitors Back to the 80s with an exhibition that celebrates this decade of classic cult movies. From Batman to Beetlejuice, visitors will likely recognize characters or scenes from films they have seen, depicted in the art on view. Over twenty local artists have created works in a variety of media, including traditional animation drawing, digital media, sculpture and mixed media.

The exhibition is presented in partnership with local artists’ group Art Brew, the same team that was behind Superheroes and Supervillains shown at the Gallery in the spring of 2015.

Back to the 80s will be on view until April 27, 2016.

The Kelowna Art Gallery is located at 1315 Water Street in downtown Kelowna. For more information about current exhibitions, public programming or special events, please visit the Kelowna Art Gallery online at www.kelownaartgallery.com or call 250.762.2226.

-Source: Joshua Desnoyers, Marketing and Events Coordinator, Kelowna Art Gallery, 17 March
**NeighbourWoods is Branching Out**

The City of Kelowna’s annual NeighbourWoods program, a residential planting initiative, will start on Monday, April 4 at 8:30 am. There will be 500 trees available for purchase at a cost of $40 (GST included). Residents will have a choice between Japanese Tree Lilac, Carnival Hedge Maple, Honey Locust “Sunburst”, Little Leaf Linden and Sienna Glen Maple.

“The program encourages Kelowna residents to grow and preserve our urban forest by providing trees at an affordable rate,” said Andrew Hunsberger, Urban Forest Health Technician. “Trees provide a number of benefits and their positive effects can be felt throughout the city.”

New this year, residents will purchase the tree prior to pick-up. Helping to grow Kelowna’s urban canopy is as easy as one, two, tree.

For more information about Urban Forestry and the NeighbourWoods program, visit kelowna.ca/parks under NeighbourWoods.

-Source: Newsletter, City of Kelowna, 31 March 2016

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**JAZZ NIGHTS with the Trevor Salloum Group**

Loni Moger – guitar, Bernie Addington – bass, Trevor Salloum – drums and Special Guests:
- April 8 – Kinga Heming (Vocal)
- May 13 – Yoko Dharma (Vocal)
- June 10 – Bob Rogers (Trombone)
- July 8 – Amanda Morazain (Vocal)
- August 12 – Stephen Buck (Sax/flute)

Second Friday of the month, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
$5 Cover, Muninn’s Post, 575 Bernard Ave, Kelowna
Check out the Facebook Page

-Source: Trevor Salloum, 27 February 2016

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**Appetite for Art Fundraiser**

**Date:** Saturday, April 9, 2016, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
**Location:** Kelowna Art Gallery, 1315 Water Street, Kelowna
**Cost:** $120 / 4 for $420
Buy Tickets

For one night only – Appetite for Art takes over the entire Kelowna Art Gallery and combines a
celebration of amazing food and drink with a selection of art for purchase.

You’ll be shaken and stirred! Guests can expect a captivating evening inspired by classic James Bond films. Prepare for an evening filled with the finer things in life – martinis, fine wine, exceptional cuisine, fine art, and add in a series of thrilling burlesque performances. Guests do not need to dress for the theme – but are encouraged to “dress to impress.”

Proceeds from this fundraising event support ongoing educational and children’s programming at the Gallery, including our School Tour program, Family Sundays, Art Adventures camps for kids, art programs for the vision impaired, and CONNECT – an art program for adults with developmental disabilities.

Tickets include:
- Glass of Sparkling Wine upon arrival courtesy of Blue Mountain Vineyards
- Food & Beverage pairings from five of the region’s finest chefs
- Burlesque Performances and entertainment by the evening’s special guest
- Live & Silent Art Auction

-Source: Newsletter, Kelowna Art Gallery, 28 February 2016

Cool Arts Greek Dinner Fundraiser

**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
**Location:** Yamas Greek Restaurant, 1630 Ellis St, Kelowna  
**Cost:** $30

$30 gets you a choice of Chicken Souvlaki, Greek Baby Back Ribs or a Spanakopita dinner. Ticket price includes taxes and gratuity. Drinks are extra. Silent Auction and 50/50 Draw and Door prizes included.

To purchase your ticket write to info@coolarts.ca, call 250.899.6381 or contact one of our board members. Tickets will also be available at any of our regularly scheduled classes.

-Source: Rena Warren, Executive Director, Cool Arts Society, 22 March 2016

Law Day in Kelowna

**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2016, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Kelowna Law Courts, 1355 Water St, Kelowna

Access to Justice: What does it mean to YOU?

Learn about BC’s Justice System & legal resources during Law Week. Come out to the Kelowna Law Courts for family friendly fun!

**More Information:**  
Karen St.Aubin, 604.687.3404, events@cbabc.org
**Dial-a-Lawyer Day**

Need FREE legal advice? Dial-a-Lawyer Day is happening on Saturday, April 16, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Call 604.687.3221 or 1.800.663.1919 to speak with a lawyer for up to 15 minutes.

The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch thanks the Law Foundation of BC, the Law Society of BC, the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC, & the Vancouver Bar Association. [www.bclawweek.org](http://www.bclawweek.org)

**CATCH Spring Network Gathering 2016**

**Date:** April 19, 2016, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm  
**Location:** Coast Capri Hotel Ballroom, 1171 Harvey Avenue, Kelowna

Join us on April 19 for this event focusing on influencing policy to benefit the early years. We will be hosting guest speakers Adrienne Montani, Provincial Coordinator of First Call – BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition and Trish Garner, Community Organizer of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition.

BC is the only province without a poverty reduction plan. We know how poverty impacts children’s development, come explore how we can influence a poverty reduction plan for BC.

Lunch will be provided.

[Register Now](#)

**Soil Mate’s Idea Jam**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 19, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Location:** 1Space, #104 – 1405 St. Paul St, Kelowna

Join Okanagan Changemakers Tuesday, April 19 to co-create and brainstorm creative ideas for a local social enterprise, and ChangeUP first-prize winner, Soil Mate.

Soil Mate is on a mission to educate and foster the connection between consumers and their local farmers, raisers and produce. Its website, which makes it easy for people to connect with local food and drink options in their area, has thousands of listings in every U.S. state and every Canadian province. And Soil Mate is just getting started!
During this fun, collaborative session, you’ll learn the story of Soil Mate’s social enterprise and growth to date. You’ll also hear about Soil Mate’s most pressing strategic business challenge. With several experts on hand to provide advice as well as input from a diverse audience, this working session will benefit everyone by highlighting practical ideas and lessons for running a social enterprise.

-Source: Newsletter, Okanagan Changemakers, 31 March 2016

**Okanagan Regional Heritage Fair**

**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
**Location:** The Laurel Packinghouse, 1304 Ellis St, Kelowna

Join us in investigating, sharing, and celebrating our local and national heritage. The exhibition style event will have Okanagan students from grades 4-10 share their inquiry and knowledge of a variety of heritage related topics.

-Source: Newsletter, Kelowna Museums Society, 30 March 2016

**19th Annual New Hope Retreat**

**Date:** April 29-30, 2016  
**Location:** Emmanuel Baptist Church, 3412-15th Ave, Vernon  
**Cost:** Regular $75  
**Register:** Contact newhope.bc.ca@gmail.com or call 250.545.6004.

New Hope Retreat offers a time of refreshment, encouragement and support for women and men who have been widowed, either recently or for a space of time. We offer a safe place to rest and be cared for, to share common stories and learn from one another. Here you can find help emotionally and spiritually, with practical advice that will assist you on your grief journey.

Some bursary funds are available upon request. Space is limited, so please register early.

-Source: New Hope, 29 February 2016

**Women & Wellness 2016**

**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
**Location:** Bottega Farm Inn & Studio, 4485 Sallows Rd SE, Kelowna  
**Cost:** $55 each, includes $20 charitable tax receipt  
**Buy Tickets**

Women & Wellness® is a special night designed to unite and empower socially-conscious women who share our goal of a mentally healthy community. Guests will hear real stories shared by like-minded women, enjoy great food and a Wellness Marketplace, while raising
awareness and funds to support CMHA Kelowna’s youth and family initiatives.

What can you expect?
- Inspiring speakers
- Wine, tapas, and treats
- Silent auction
- Prize wheel
- Wellness marketplace
- …and more!

-Source: Newsletter, CMHA – Kelowna Branch, 16 March 2016

**Shoe Repair & Shoemaking School**

**Location:** 1733 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna  
**Contact:** Rob Gibbon, 204.557.9080, rob.gibbon@sd23.bc.ca

The wonderful people at W.H.E.E.L.S Bike Repair & Maintenance (Transitional Employment Program through the School District for youth with disabilities) have expanded their program to Shoe Repair and Shoemaking.

Your shoes can be repaired at Student Rates and support our youth in acquiring the skills needed for their successful, future careers. Student shoe repairers-in-training repair shoes and other leather goods under the supervision of a certified instructor. Repairs are done at significantly lower than industry prices.

While the school makes every effort to ensure that high-quality work is done, customers understand that their items are being repaired by students and that the work may reflect less than complete mastery. The school also reserves the right to limit the quantity and type of work accepted in order to meet the training needs of the student.

-Source: Rob Gibbon, School District 23, March 2016

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Step 4: Explore the site and start learning! Clicking on Lynda.com logo will bring you to the New and Recommended Courses page. Click on the Library drop-down menu to view Courses by
Topics and by Software. Clicking the Featured drop-down menu lets you explore by Authors, Playlists, and Software type. You can also search for a course or topic of interest in the Search box.

-Source: Okanagan Regional Library, 10 March 2016

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**Elevation Outdoors Spring Programs**

Elevation Outdoors needs your help! We have 2 amazing programs starting up this May and we would love to have them both full of amazing young people. We have our Get a Grip rock climbing program and our Wind in Your Sails learn to sail program coming up this Spring, and our Live to Ride mountain bike program this summer. Many of you have helped us fill the available spots in the past and we are looking for your assistance once again!

Our programs are offered at no cost to the participants aged 12 – 18 and their families. In order to qualify for participation the youth and their parent/guardians must meet the following criteria:

1. Parent/Guardian income of $30,000/year or less, or
2. The youth or parent/guardian is on social assistance, or
3. The youth is in the foster care system, or
4. The youth is involved in the YCJA.

**Our new Get a Grip rock climbing program**

After a successful pilot program in the Fall of 2015 we are pleased to announce that we will be running a full 4 week climbing program starting on May 2, 2016.

Through the support of Mountain Equipment Co-op we will be running a program that will introduce the participants to both indoor and outdoor rock climbing while helping instill some life lessons to better prepare the participants for life.

The program will run Monday and Thursday evenings from 4:30 – 7:00 with two weekend trips to the Skaha Bluffs in Penticton for some outdoor climbing with a certified guide/instructor.

We have 12 spots available in this program, and for those of you that work with the youth that participated in the Pilot program, they are more than welcome to come out and participate in the full program.

You can find all the documents we will need for participation [on our website](#).

**Wind in your Sails sailing program**

Last spring saw our largest sailing program participation yet, and we are looking to continue off this success. We have 12 spaces available in the sailing program, and would really love to fill this program!

The sailing program will run on Tuesday afternoons from May 17 – June 21st from 4:30pm – 7:30pm. The program is run through the Kelowna Yacht Club and provides the participants an opportunity to learn the basics of sailing and how to skipper their own boat. Low wind days offer an opportunity to use kayaks and stand up paddle boards as well to round out the experience.

You can find all the documents needed for registration [on our site](#) and [register online here](#).
OGO Updates

OGO member survey
Every piece of information helps us provide better service moving forward, and helps us to build a better carsharing community. Please help do your part by participating in our 2016 Member Survey. This brief survey will take you less than ten minutes and will provide invaluable information to help make your OGO experience better.

Two new vehicles in our fleet
To help make sure there’s always a car when you need it OGO is pleased to announce that we added a second vehicle in the Landmark area. A grey Toyota Prius is now parked in the Parkinson Rec. Centre lot.

Many of you have told us that our pickup truck downtown has been a great tool to have. We are happy to tell you that we changed our current model to a 2009 Ford Ranger which is parked in the same parking stall.

-SOURCE: Newsletter, OGO Car Share Co-op, 15 March 2016
2016 Canadian Budget in Brief

Strengthening the Middle Class
A strong economy starts with a strong middle class. When you have an economy that works for the middle class, you have a country that works for everyone.

When the middle class thrives, it creates more than just good jobs and opportunity; it can drive real change.

An Innovative and Clean Economy
New ideas drive economic growth. That’s why budget 2016 defines a new vision for canada’s economy as a centre of global innovation. Protecting the environment and growing the economy go hand in hand.

Investments in budget 2016 will start canada on the right path, through support for leading-edge research and for innovative and job-creating businesses.

An Inclusive and Fair Canada
Canada’s strength lies in its diversity. That is why the government set out an agenda to help all canadians to build better lives and contribute to and share in the prosperity of the country.

Budget 2016 delivers on this agenda, with investments for those who need it most, including seniors, indigenous peoples and veterans.

Canada in the World
Canada’s diversity and connections to the world are among its greatest assets and contribute to growing the middle class.

Open and Transparent Government
Making government more open, enhancing tax fairness and investing for long-term growth.

Read More

-Source: Government of Canada, 23 March 2016

Canada Child Benefit Calculator

Budget 2016 gives Canadian families more money to help with the high cost of raising their children, by replacing the current complicated child benefit system with the new Canada Child
Benefit. The introduction of the Canada Child Benefit represents the most significant social policy innovation in a generation.

The Canada Child Benefit will be:
- simpler—families will receive a single payment every month;
- tax-free—families will not have to pay back part of the amount received when they file their tax returns;
- better-targeted to those who need it most—low- and middle-income families will receive more benefits, and those with the highest incomes (generally over $150,000) will receive lower benefits than under the current system; and
- much more generous—families benefitting will see an average increase in child benefits of almost $2,300 in the 2016–17 benefit year.

The Canada Child Benefit will provide a maximum annual benefit of up to $6,400 per child under the age of 6 and up to $5,400 per child for those aged 6 through 17.

Families with less than $30,000 in net income will receive the maximum benefit.

Use the Calculator

-Source: Government of Canada, 23 March 2016

What Does the Charitable Sector have to Offer? A Response to the Federal Budget

As Canadian governments search for creative policy responses to the current difficulties of the economy, we should remember that there is no better investment than supporting and sustaining Canada’s vibrant and growing charitable sector – a win-win sector which delivers the social value Canadians want while at the same time creating quality jobs and contributing to economic growth. At the federal level, while Finance Minister Morneau has recognized the importance of investing in Canadian families, the vital partnership with the charitable sector is largely absent from the federal government’s economic blueprint.

The decision not to proceed with the income tax exemption in respect to capital gains of the donation of real estate and shares of private corporations sends a troubling message related to the creation of a regulatory environment that will enable charities to thrive, fulfill their missions and continue to be a powerful contributor to the economic well-being of this country.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 29 March 2016

Education Indicators in Canada: An International Perspective, 2015

To what level have Canadian adults studied? How much time do students spend in classrooms? On what resources and services is education funding spent?

Today, Statistics Canada releases a report entitled Education Indicators in Canada: An
International Perspective, 2015, a rich source of education statistics for Canada and its provinces and territories. Jointly produced with the Council of Ministers of Education (Canada), it contains a set of 12 indicators presented in five chapters, which cover topics such as:

- Educational attainment of the adult population,
- The connection between educational attainment and the labour market,
- Financial resources invested in education,
- Transitions from education to the working world,
- Working time and teaching time of teachers in public institutions,
- Canadians’ skills and readiness to use information and communication technologies,
- and much more!

This report is a companion report to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Education at a Glance 2015, which presents complete data for all OECD member countries, including Canada.

-Source: Newsletter, Statistics Canada, 29 March 2016
Summer Institute 2016: Promoting Mental Wellness in BC School Communities

Save the Date – Thursday & Friday, August 25-26, 2016!

The 7th Annual Summer Institute is a two-day event that will bring together school professionals, parents, youth and school community partners from across BC to exchange knowledge and ideas about improving mental wellness in school communities.

New this year, we will be taking applications for breakout session presentations. If you are interested in hosting a session at the Summer Institute, please complete the Session Presenter Application Form. The deadline to apply is April 15.

Details and registration information

-Source: Newsletter, Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, 23 March 2016
Research

- MILLENNIALS AND WHY THEY MATTER
- MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION – THE EARLY YEARS OF LIFE HAVE AN IMPORTANT EFFECT ON GROWTH
- ENCOURAGING THOSE DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Millennials and Why They Matter

The millennial generation, born between 1980 and 2000 are now entering employment in vast numbers. They will shape the world of work for years to come. Attracting the best of these millennial workers is critical to the future of any business. Their career aspirations, attitudes about work, commitment CSR and knowledge and use of new technologies will define the culture of the 21st century workplace.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 11 March 2016

Mental Health Promotion – The Early Years of Life have an Important Effect on Growth

Infant Mental Health Promotion (IMHP) is a coalition of individuals and professional representatives from agencies concerned with infants and their families. IMHP is dedicated to promoting optimal mental health outcomes for infants through developing and supporting best practices through education and training, dissemination of information, networking and advocacy.

Social and Emotional Development

We know more than ever before about how young children think, learn, and grow. From birth to the first day of kindergarten, growth moves more quickly than at any other time of life. Early experiences make a difference. The early years of life have a critical and important effect on growth, relationships, and functioning that affects our whole life.

Social and emotional learning is the way a child gradually develops the ability to:

- Experience, control, and express emotions;
- Form close, secure relationships; and
- Explore the world and learn.

Infant mental health and healthy development go hand in hand. Healthy child development includes physical, emotional, cognitive, and social development.

Read More

-Source: Anita Desjardins, Administrative Assistant, Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use, 13 March 2016
Encouraging those Difficult Conversations

The debates over the merits of performance management often overlook a deeper challenge: Managers aren't necessarily comfortable talking with employees.

A new survey by Interact found the majority of managerial respondents (69 per cent) felt there is something about their role as a leader that makes them uncomfortable about communicating with their employees.

“The fear of hurting people’s feeling and facing drama and retribution is reaching crisis proportions in the workplace,” says Interact. It notes one-third (37 per cent) of managerial respondents reported they are uncomfortable about giving an employee direct feedback or criticism for fear that individual might respond badly.

The survey covered 1,120 workers in the United States, 616 of which were people managers.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 29 March 2016
Dude, what’s with this Notion that Nonprofits don’t have Clear Outcomes?

For some wacky reason that I can’t comprehend, there seems to be this pervasive notion that nonprofits don’t have clear outcomes. In the past few months, I’ve heard this several times in various places. At a leadership seminar last June, for example, a colleague from the business sector said, “Nonprofits are just so squishy on outcomes.” I think squishy was her exact word. Or maybe slippery. Or fishy? Whatever, it was not complimentary. I got so annoyed I had to look at several pictures of baby animals on my phone to calm down.

Meanwhile, the comments on my post “Hey, you want nonprofits to act more like businesses? Then treat us like businesses” included this:
“I am often disconcerted by the lack of clear outcomes. In any for-profit business, you don’t launch without expected outcomes/metrics – qualitative and/or quantitative. These usually evolve and change along the way, but there is always a way for investors to gauge ROI and impact. Many nonprofits still don’t have these outcomes defined nor do they have consistent processes to evaluate and evolve. In the absence of a clearly discernible way to determine ‘success,’ funders are forced to ask for breakdowns or make (often detrimental) assumptions.”

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit with Balls, 7 March 2016

The Lifeline Canada Foundation App Updates & Online Auction

The Lifeline Suicide Prevention & Awareness Mobile App The Lifeline is the Canadian Suicide Prevention and Awareness App, a free App devoted to Aid in Suicide Prevention across Canada.

Everyone seems to have been affected by suicide in one way or another. It could be a family
member, friend, colleague or someone close. It touches all of our lives and the effects can impact the survivors for a lifetime. Tragically, many of those suicides could have been prevented.

You can help save a life. Here are 2 simple things you can do.

In 2012 it felt like this app developer, Liane Weber’s world turned upside down which included not one but two separate suicides that affected her terribly. The aftermath of a suicide is a nightmare for those left behind. It was because of the overwhelming pain and sadness that she created and developed The LifeLine Suicide Prevention and Awareness App. The goal of this communication is twofold. First to bring awareness to The LifeLine App and all the resources available for you and those you care about. And to ask your help to get the word out to as many people as possible. By growing the awareness of the App, we can help save more lives.

Read More

Canadian Mental Health Week Online Auction
The LifeLine Canada Foundation will host the online auction fundraiser during Canada’s Mental Health Week from May 2nd – May 8th 2016.

TLC is a mental health initiative based foundation dedicated to Suicide Prevention. Our ongoing initiatives have proven to be effective and we hope for your support in our ongoing action to reduce suicide, suicide attempts and the pain by loved ones left behind after a suicide.

Please consider supporting our event by donating gift certificates, merchandise or services. Sponsorships are also available. In exchange you will receive some excellent exposure. Bidders may be from British Columbia, or anywhere in the country.

If you have any questions, would like to donate an auction item or want more information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Liane Weber at liane@thelifelinecanada.ca. Thank you in advance for considering our request in supporting suicide prevention and The LifeLine Canada Foundation.


Dear Business People, Please Stop Bizsplaining Things to us Nonprofit Folks

All right, business pals, we need to have another talk. First of all, I love y’all. I just moved into a new house this week, and spent time at a hardware store trying to find these little thingies that hold up the shelves in my kitchen cabinets. They’re called “shelf pins,” and you can move them to different holes to lower or raise the shelves. Without some business somewhere making these little pins, my liquor cabinet would not be able to fit my really tall bottles of vodka and it would just look awful. So yes, I am deeply appreciative for all the businesses out there doing all sorts of useful, interesting, and important stuff. I am glad you exist, and I am glad to pay money for the stuff you make and do. Especially vodka.

But dude, the condescension needs to stop. Recently, I’ve noticed it has been in the form of explaining to us simple nonprofit bumpkins just how much better off we’d be if we just acted more like businesses. Sometimes it is conscious, most times it is not, but always it is irritating. One time, I was showing a potential board member our Saturday morning program, which
served 150 kids. It was his first visit, and he launched into a lecture about having a business plan. “We have a three-year strategic plan,” I said, and before I could elaborate, he interrupted to explain what a business plan was. He interrupted several times to explain various Important Business Concepts to me.

A colleague, Allison Carney, wrote a blog post and calls this phenomenon “bizsplaining.” (#bizsplaining) It is business people “talking to nonprofit staff like they have never successfully operated a blender, let alone worked (successfully) in their underpaid, understaffed, and completely vital position for years.”

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit with Balls, 21 March 2016

### Autism Speaks Canada – Look at me Project

Together, with Samsung Canada, we will be giving 500 tablets to individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and organizations supporting those living with ASD across Canada.

Project Details:
March 31-April 30: Apply for a tablet at lookatme.autismspeaks.ca
July 31: Tablets distributed by Samsung Canada and Autism Speaks Canada to individuals and organizations across Canada.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Canadian residents.
- Individuals with a diagnosis of ASD OR organizations supporting individuals with ASD.
- Do not currently have a touch device.
- Willing to share the benefits of the tablet with the Look At Me online community group.

Autism Speaks Canada is committed to providing the autism community with useful resources. Thanks, in part, to you and our corporate partners. For more information about the 2016 Tablet Program, visit samsung.com/whoeyeam. If you have any questions, please email lookatme@autismspeaks.ca.

-Source: Newsletter, Autism Speaks Canada, 31 March 2016

### Podcast: Mastering the Governance Foxtrot – Effective Board/ED Relations

This month’s podcast guest, Kathi Irvine, gets out her dance shoes to walk us through the steps of Mastering the Governance Foxtrot: Effective Board/ED Relations. Kathi is a long-time knowledge philanthropist here at Vantage Point and a skilled consultant and facilitator. She is Co-Founding Partner of Watershed Organizational Development Group Inc., where she supports for-profit and not-for-profit organizations with strategic planning, leadership development, knowledge transfer and succession planning. Kathi has brought her skill in not-for-profit governance to her own board role with Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver, as well as to many of her own client organizations.
Postpartum Depression: New Screening Recommendations

Approximately one in seven mothers experience postpartum depression. An American panel has recommended for the first time that women be screened for depression during pregnancy and after giving birth. Postpartum depression often starts during pregnancy and if left untreated can have severe effects on the well being of children.

In Canada there are no national standards for screening of depression or anxiety before or after giving birth. Pregnancy and having a child is usually celebrated, and many women have a difficult time talking about depression, anxiety and negative thoughts and feelings. Doctors have often been hesitant to screen for depression out of fear of stigmatizing women and not being able to provide them with the treatment they need. Making screening for depression a routine part of pre and post natal care could connect more women with the tools and supports they need, which would benefit both mothers and children.

Stresslr: A Stress Management Resource for Kids

Stresslr is a free online resource that provides a fun and engaging way for children ages 9-11 to learn about stress! Children can follow along with Stresslr, a friendly robot, to understand what causes them stress, how they react to it, and to develop healthy strategies to cope with stress in their everyday lives.

Stresslr can be used on any computer, tablet, Android or iPhone device! Visit stresslr.ca to get started! You can also watch this video to learn more and to meet Stresslr!

Improvis Tools for Organizational Impact

The structures and philosophy of the art of improv can help nonprofits stay grounded in what they are, while simultaneously allowing them to creatively respond to the ever-evolving needs of the people they strive to serve.

Working to create greater social good is notoriously difficult, in part because doing it effectively requires that people perform a challenging balancing act. Nonprofits, for example, must work toward achieving a core organizational mission, and at the same time, continuously respond to the changing needs of the complex groups they serve.
That’s why the social sector can uniquely benefit from the approach and tools of the world of improv. Yes, improv! The art of improv—refined by comedy troupes the world over—is about working with grounded rules and creative flexibility. As such, its core elements—establishing a baseline reality, understanding a character’s underlying motivations, creating a supportive environment, and listening—can help people in social organizations learn how to stay true to their overall goals while pivoting to respond creatively to the shifting needs of their beneficiaries.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 14 March 2016

Managing Overwhelm in the Nonprofit Workplace

Have you ever felt like your workload is a never-ending list of priorities with no end in sight?

Have trouble focusing because you’re pulled in too many directions?

If your workload keeps de-railing your progress, or if starting on something new just seems impossible, it can begin to feel like things will always be this way. Should you just make the best of a stressful situation and deal with it?

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 12 March 2016

Five Tips to Improve Staff & Stakeholder Consultations

A strategic planning or visioning exercise should be a time of hope and opportunity for any company or organization. A successful process will engage staff and stakeholders to better inform decision making and to communicate relevant information along the way. But what form does that engagement take? How do we actually ensure consulting is meaningful and not just an empty exercise that undermines trust in a workplace?

It is simply not good enough to talk to a few leaders, hold some meetings and half-heartedly request written input. Instead, meaningful consultation requires you to support the people involved in the process, to use appropriate mechanisms for engagement and to actually act on what is heard. Meaningful consultation does not allow for simply going through the motions.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 7 March 2016
Canada’s Top Employers for Young People: What it takes to Successfully Engage Young Employees

When it comes to engaging the younger generation of employees, some nonprofits are really on the ball. From mentorship and learning development opportunities to a culture that appreciates life-work balance, these organizations have found meaningful ways to attract, connect with and retain younger staff. It’s no wonder that some were recently chosen as Canada’s Top Employers for Young People, an editorial competition that recognizes employers for the workplaces and programs they offer employees starting their careers. We spoke with four nonprofits who were recognized on that list to find out what they are doing to earn them such impressive accolades and what we can learn from their approach.

What are they doing right?

Take winner Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, Canada’s largest children’s rehabilitation hospital focused on improving the lives of kids with disabilities. “The work we do is incredibly attractive to potential employees in general but very attractive to young people,” says president and CEO, Julia Hanigsberg who adds the hospital has an inherent leg-up thanks to their embedded mission and vision: to create a world of possibility for kids with disability. “We ask them [employees] to join this world of possibilities,” she explains. “I think for young workers in particular, there is a strong desire to feel they are making significant impact and broad social impact; if we look at the population that we serve, our ability to draw a clear line to making real impact on lives is easy for us to do.”

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 29 March 2016
How Web Traffic Finds Your Nonprofit’s Website

Driving web traffic to your nonprofit’s website is likely at the top of your to-do list. You’ve invested in it, consistently update the content, post to your blog, and market events through your website. So, of course you want people to see all that great content.

Bottom line is, many, if not most, of your web visitors are arriving at your website not for the reasons you intended. And we often do not know exactly why the majority of our website visitors are on our website. It could have been by accident, or to see a specific blog post. Perhaps your event featured an affluent celebrity and the web surfer landed on your page because of that name.

In order to better understand how to drive more website traffic, it is important to first understand through which media visitors are landing on your page.

1. Organic searches
   “Go ahead and Google it.”

Google, the once exclusive noun has turned into a verb, much like its printer / copier cousin, Xerox, did a few years ago. Does the phrase “Can you Xerox that document for me?” come to mind?

The vast majority of web users are using Google to identify which webpages have the information they’re searching for. Google’s algorithm for generating this list is of course proprietary, but it is important to find out what search terms are being used to land visitors onto your webpage.

Once you’ve discerned your key search terms, use this information to bolster your webpages and make them even more enticing.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, Tech Impact, 28 March 2016

The Importance of an Online Presence: Engaging the Next Generation of Donors

As more Canadians turn to the Internet for information and services, it is becoming critical for nonprofits to use the web to engage with the communities they serve. With the help of Framework, the team at the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) analyzed these
organizations’ digital capacity in a special edition of the .CA Internet Factbook. The research shows nonprofits are embracing the Internet; 63 per cent use a content management system and 86 per cent are able to collect donations online.

If your organization is lagging or you think you can improve your presence, consider reevaluating your digital communications strategy. Below are a few things you might want to consider.

**Make online donating easy**
Donations are often the lifeblood of nonprofits. And people are more likely to donate if it’s easy.

Last year, Framework conducted an audit of 400 Canadian nonprofits funded by the .CA Community Investment Program. The study found some discrepancy in how nonprofits are collecting donations. Although there is no best way to solicit donors, ease of use should be top of mind.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, TechSoup Canada, 24 March 2016

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**Part One: Planning a Nonprofit Blog You Can Manage**

Many nonprofits want to start a blog, but their staff are often balancing multiple roles and don’t have the resources to regularly maintain one. However, blogs bring many benefits to nonprofits, and with a strategic approach you can manage a blog with minimal time and resources.

You may have doubts, but it is possible; Marlene Oliveira runs her Nonprofit MarCommunity blog as a side project. She has no staff and a minimal budget, and yet she’s able to balance her Nonprofit MarCommunity blog with her full-time work as a communications consultant at moflow.

In order to keep the MarCommunity blog running, it has to be streamlined. It took Marlene about a year to make the blog manageable, and now guest authors are coming to her and the blog is filling itself with content. Here’s how Marlene pulls it off!

**Justifying the Time**
Every blog needs to start with a clear purpose.

Why are you blogging? What is your goal? Why does it make sense for your organization? Your answers here need to be crystal clear, as they will help focus your efforts starting up your blog and help you when pitching the idea to your supervisor or board.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, TechSoup Canada, 24 March 2016
How to Write for the Web

If you ask a professional copywriter how to write for the web, many will say, “Conversationally.” But what does “conversational” actually look like? How do you have a conversation with someone you can’t see, hear or talk back to?

If staring at a blank Word doc makes you feel anxious, you’re not alone. Creating web content, a blog post, an email, an e-book or a press release can be intimidating even for professionals. But once you understand some of the basics, you’ll find your fingers flying across your keyboard in no time.

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, The Hubcap, 14 March 2016
Webinar: Functional Measures for Assessing and Managing People with Chronic Pain

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2016, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Register Now

When opioid treatment of chronic pain became popular in the 1990s and 2000s, a large part of the rationale for using opioids was that the pain relief afforded would improve patients’ function. But in focusing on the pain intensity level, we lost sight of that most important overall goal of the treatment: improvement in function and quality of life. This session will describe outcome assessment tools that can be applied in busy practice settings and can be used to direct the holistic care that chronic pain patients need.

Learning objectives
- Why pain intensity levels should not be the primary measure for chronic pain
- Which measurable factors underlying chronic pain are important to elicit
- What measurement tools are practical and applicable in busy practice settings

-Source: Newsletter, Tonya Hyde, Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain & Disability, 16 March 2016

The Virtual Fundraising Career Conference

Date: April 6-8, 2016
Register Now

Here’s a fundraising career conference for you! For just the low price of $97 (until April 8th) you get:
- Three days of dynamic speakers from all areas of the nonprofit world.
- 12 sessions focused on helping YOU succeed in your career, whatever that looks like for you.
- Original fundraising career research unveiled for the first time.
- Expert advice from fundraising recruiters on how to structure your job search.
- Insider secrets on how to move from lower paid small nonprofit roles to large university fundraising roles.
- A comprehensive expert panel on all aspects of nonprofit consulting.
- How to create healthy boundaries in our nonprofit fundraising work.
- Space to acknowledge our health, our bodies and how this relates to our careers as fundraisers.
- All conference recordings from April 6th-8th 2016 so that you can watch and learn when it’s convenient for you.

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 29 March 2016

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**Workshop: Conflict Resolution Skills**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Holiday Inn Express, 2429 Hwy 97 N, Kelowna  
**Cost:** $198 Early Rate / $220 Regular Rate  
Early Rate Expires March 22nd, 2016  
[Register Now](#)

Conflict holds great potential for harm and for good. The results of unhealthy conflict impact us individually and contribute to negative group performance. Those people who master essential conflict resolution skills reduce the occurrence of negative conflict in their lives, leading to healthier, happier relationships and work environments. Conflict has many sources, including miscommunication, disagreements, stress and personality differences. Many conflicts would not spiral out of control if people used conflict resolution techniques that are easy to learn and utilize. This workshop will teach participants to understand the dynamics of conflict and equip them with the skills needed to respond confidently and effectively.

**Workshop Outline:**
- Understanding Conflict  
- The Roots of Conflict  
- How Conflict Escalates  
- Dealing with Misunderstandings  
- The Intention Check Tool  
- Dealing with Disagreements  
- Tool for Resolving Disagreements – Positions to Interests  
- Dealing with Conflict Style Differences  
- How to Assess Conflict  
- Trigger Phrases and Gestures to Avoid  
- Key Skills for Conflict Resolution  
- Practical Strategies for Conflict Resolution  
- The Four-Part Conflict Resolution Process  
- When Resolution is Not Reached  
- Skill Development

**Method of Delivery:** Lecture, personal reflection, skill building, video and small group discussions

-Source: Newsletter, ACHIEVE Training Centre, 25 January 2016
Webinar: Work-related Musculoskeletal Risks When Medical Staff Handle Overweight Patients

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Register Now

Nurses and nursing assistants are susceptible to work-related musculoskeletal disorders and injuries due to the increase in overweight and obese patients they are handling on a daily basis. To alleviate the risk of musculoskeletal disorders and injuries, additional research and development into what safe patient handling interventions suit this growing population needs to be addressed.

This talk will review the literature on work-related musculoskeletal hazards and risks associated with handling overweight and obese patients, and discuss the recommended interventions to mitigate musculoskeletal concerns among nurses and nursing assistants.

During this webinar, you will learn:
- What are the challenges with the increased overweight and obese population
- What are the musculoskeletal hazards and risks associated with handling overweight and obese patients
- What are the suggested solutions to alleviate the work-related musculoskeletal injuries and disorders

-Source: Newsletter, Tonya Hyde, Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain & Disability, 16 March 2016

Workshop: Chronic Pain Self-Management

Coming to the Peachland Wellness Centre April 19 – May 24, 2016 from 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm. Registration in advance is required. To register call 1.866.902.3767.

For More Information call the Peachland Wellness Centre at 250.767.0141

-Source: Newsletter, Peachland Wellness Centre, 12 February 2016

Webinar: Cognitive Behavioural Insomnia Therapy in those with Chronic Pain

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Register Now

Insomnia and chronic pain frequently co-occur but resources and training on how to integrate sleep treatment into existing pain management treatments are scarce. Effective strategies are needed in this group, as pain can cause insomnia, and insomnia can worsen/cause pain, and insomnia treatment can help with chronic pain.

This talk will review the literature on the co-occurrence of pain and insomnia and the evidence for cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) for insomnia in those with pain. Moreover, it will provide a
model of understanding etiology and the way in which pain and insomnia are related.

You will learn:
- To identify key targets in a sleep assessment
- What causes sleep problems in those with chronic pain
- What are the key cognitive behavioural insomnia therapy techniques in those with chronic pain

(Source: Newsletter, Tonya Hyde, Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain & Disability, 16 March 2016)

**Registration Now Open for Arts BC & Heritage BC 2016 Conference**

**Date:** May 5-7, 2016  
**Location:** Granville Island, Vancouver  
[Register Now](#)  

Three days of workshops. Two provincial organizations. One GIANT conference.

Looking for skills development and networking with peers?

Colleagues from across the province have told us our annual conference is one of the most important services we offer to our member network. It provides the opportunity for community arts leaders to come together; share stories; foster peer learning, and offer deeper skills development for administrators and volunteers.

Already a member of Arts BC or Heritage BC? Your full registration includes a complimentary one-year individual membership in this year’s partnering organization. Can't make it to the full conference? Half day registrations are available. A full conference pass includes Friday and Saturday daytime conference speakers, workshops and walking tours. Refreshments, some meals and nutrition breaks are included. On-site registration begins at noon, Thursday, May 5th at Performance Works on Granville Island.

By spreading the savings between your board, your staff and your members, your organization will come home from Conference 2016, “PlaceMaking: Where Art and Heritage Collide” with more knowledge, more connections and more tools in your toolkit!

(Source: Newsletter, ArtsBC, 15 March 2016)

**Webinar: Autism – Strategies for Self-Regulation**

**Date:** May 10, 2016 11:00 am – 12:00 pm PST  
**Cost:** Early $42 (Expires April 26) / $52 Regular  
[Register Now](#)  

Helping professionals and educators are increasingly understanding the importance of self-regulation in dealing with anxiety and stress for any population. When helping people on the Autism spectrum, the method of teaching self-regulation may need to accommodate this population’s specific needs and learning styles. This webinar will look at emotional, physical and
cognitive self-regulation strategies for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

-Source: Newsletter, Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute Inc., 29 March 2016

Kelowna Child Care Society FREE Information Night: How To Become a Child Care Provider

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:00 pm – 6:50 pm
Cost: FREE
Location: Winfield Room, Lake Country Municipal Building, 10150 Bottom Wood Lake Rd

Come to our information night to learn more about the benefits of becoming a Registered License not Required (RLNR). Some of the benefits and services are listed below.

CCRR Services:
- Onsite email/telephone consultation
- Start-up support
- Training in:
  - Child development
  - Behaviour strategies
  - Health, safety and nutrition
  - Working with families

Benefits of becoming a RLNR:
- Increased Child Care Subsidy Rates
- Free Child Care Referrals to your program
- Low cost training
- CCRR support
- Child Care Operations Templates
- Quality & Safe Child Care in your own home

Please Pre-register/more information: 250.762.3536 ext. 205, moc.craddlihcanwolek@ecruoser, www.kelownachildcare.com, #4 – 1890 Ambrosi Rd, Kelowna

-Source: Janice Reilly, Acting CCRR Program Coordinator, Kelowna Child Care Society, 23 March 2016

Webinar: De-escalating Potentially Violent Situations

Date: Monday, May 16, 2016, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cost: Early $42 (Expires May 2) / Regular $52
Register Now

For those who work in an environment where there is potential for violence, it is important to develop the skills needed to defuse dangerous situations. This webinar will focus on how to de-escalate potentially violent situations through assertiveness and interpersonal communication. Participants will gain a clear understanding of how to assess the potential for violence and respond with a diverse set of interpersonal tools and strategies designed to defuse potentially violent situations.
Beyond the Waves Conference Registration is Now Open

We're so excited to announce that registration is now open for our upcoming conference – Beyond the Waves presented by VMPNS & VMPC!

The conference will be held in Halifax, NS at the Delta Halifax May 25-28, 2016.

We hope you can join us as we explore topics such as welcoming newcomer volunteers, youth volunteers, online training and so much more!

Please visit www.vmpns.com for more details and information. To register as a member of VMPNS/VMPC (to receive the discounted rate) please use the following code: QNWA8MD

And for anyone travelling, please note we do have access to a WestJet discount code for travel associated with the conference.

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Volunteerism

- NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK PHOTO CONTEST
- NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 10-16
- SHARE HOW YOU RECOGNIZE VOLUNTEERS
- WORKSHOP: BOARD BOOT CAMP 201
- WORKSHOP: OVERVIEW OF VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT
- NONPROFIT CENTERS NETWORK – TWO IN-DEPTH TRAINING’S
- VOLUNTEER CENTRE LEADERSHIP FORUM
- REGISTRATION FOR 2016 NATIONAL CONFERENCE NOW OPEN!
- INCORPORATE THE POWER OF LIVE WEB CALLS INTO VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

National Volunteer Week Photo Contest

Do you have photos of volunteers that are the root and foundation of your community?

Send us photos that reflect the unique qualities of your volunteers and the strong contribution they make. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 photos. Winners will be included in our promotional materials.

Deadline is April 4, 2016

-Source: Nasrin Baji, Program Admin, Volunteer BC, 10 March 2016

National Volunteer Week April 10-16

April 10-16, 2016 is National Volunteer Week (NVW), a time to celebrate and thank Canada’s 12.7 million volunteers. This year marks the 13th consecutive year that Volunteer Canada and Investors Group have partnered to deliver the NVW campaign.

Volunteers are the roots of strong communities. Just like roots are essential for trees to bloom, volunteers are essential for communities to bloom. Thanks to volunteers, our communities grow
strong and resilient. Even the tiniest volunteer effort leaves a profound and lasting trace in a community, much like tree rings that appear over time.

-Source: Newsletter, Volunteer Canada, 26 January 2016

**Share How YOU Recognize Volunteers**

Be encouraged. It’s not about money. It’s about impact.

Research by Volunteer Canada encourages us to think differently about how organizations recognize volunteers.

We can learn from each other. SHARE ideas.
- What have you tried in your organization?
- As a volunteer, what recognition was most memorable?

Let us know how you’re recognizing your volunteers

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, March 2016

**Workshop: Board Boot Camp 201**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
**Cost:** $25 / Organization (Max 3 participants)
**Register Now**

It’s 6:30pm. You’ve been up since 6:00am and have just put in a full day at work. Your head and stomach are telling you it’s time for dinner. And you’re still sitting in a not-for-profit board meeting that started at 4:30 … which was supposed to wrap up at 5:45pm. Suddenly, you hear, “I nominate [your name] for Board Chair”. What?!  

Maybe your appointment as Chair of your favourite not-for-profit wasn’t quite so dramatic. Maybe you were one of the lucky ones that served as Vice-Chair for a term before becoming Chair. Even so, most future Chairs of not-for-profit Boards are not prepared (read: groomed) to take over the leadership position.

Board Boot Camp 201 will give you a quick primer and overview to become the best leader you can be for your not-for-profit organization. Learn effective qualities of leaders and your personal leadership style. Understand the separation between the Board and staff, and between the senior staff and the Chair. Find how to run your meetings timely and effectively – one of the best ways to retain current directors and attract new ones! And, when you think you or your organization might need outside help, explore the circumstances when going outside for expertise is of benefit to your organization.

-Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, March 2016
Workshop: Overview of Volunteer Management

**Dates:** April 18-19, 25-26, 2016, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Kelowna Community Resources, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna  
**Cost:** $199, Includes materials and light refreshments

Register Now

This 4-day workshop will help you attract and retain volunteers. Content is based on Canadian research, best practices and the Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement.

Read more about the 8 modules

*Source: Dawn Wilkinson, Manager, Community Services, KCR, March 2016*

Nonprofit Centers Network – Two In-Depth Training’s

**Dates:** April 27-28  
**Location:** Philadelphia, PA  
**Cost:** $129 – $339

Register Now

In just 4 weeks, shared service practitioners, shared space operators, funders, consultants and professional advisors from across the US and Canada are coming to Philly for this event. This groundbreaking conference brings together state-of-the-art thinking from the social sciences with leading practitioners in resource sharing to explore solutions to overcoming the human barriers to success.

We’ve challenged our 11 guests experts to bring out-of-the-box thinking around nonprofits sharing resources. Learn from leaders who will give real life examples, share insights on starting the conversation, give suggestions to get buy-in from your funders, donors and team and most importantly, the resources you need to put a game plan into action.

**Energize: High Impact Shared Spaces**  
This training brings a much needed hands-on learning to help you assess your shared space, Maximize revenue while minimizing expenses and sparking collaboration. This training is filled with opportunities to apply what you learned through three case studies. Gain insight and new ideas from your peers, while brainstorming how you can apply the strategies. At the close of this training, walk away ready to Energize your shared space.

**Streamlining Social Good**  
Nonprofits are increasingly asked to work collaboratively to achieve scale and impact. Much has been covered on the legal and financial aspects of collaboration, but why is it still hard? This symposium will bring together social science experts and nonprofit practitioners to learn from one another about how the latest research can inform the human dynamics that challenge nonprofit resource sharing.

Be part of a new conversation that will develop tools and practices to build better coalitions, develop better donor relationships, and help you better explain the work you do. You’ll walk away with the confidence, support and strategy to break barriers.
**Volunteer Centre Leadership Forum**

**Dates:** May 24-25, 2016  
**Location:** Mount Royal University, 4825 Mt Royal Gate SW, Calgary, AB

The Volunteer Centre Leadership Forum is a bi-annual Volunteer Canada event that brings together representatives from volunteer centres from across the country to share innovation and leading practice; discuss current trends and issues; learn about new programs, tools and resources; and connect with each other. In 2016, the Volunteer Centre Leadership Forum will be held in Calgary, AB on May 24 and 25, in conjunction with the Canadian Alliance for Community Service Learning (CACSL) Conference, May 25-27. Both events will take place at Mount Royal University in Calgary. The goal of CACSL Conference is to open and broaden conversation between academic and community partners. Volunteer Canada will lead three integrated sessions at the conference.

Please note that registration is separate for both events. To register for the Volunteer Centre Leadership Forum, please click “Register Now!” below. There is no registration fee to attend the Volunteer Centre Leadership Forum.

Register Now

**Contact:**  
Deborah Pike, Volunteer Canada  
1.800.670.0401 ext. 234, dpike@volunteer.ca

-Source: Volunteer Canada, March 2016

**Registration for 2016 National Conference Now Open!**

We’re so excited to announce that registration is now open for the 2016 national conference – Beyond the Waves presented by VMPNS & VMPC!

The conference will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia at the Delta Halifax May 25-28, 2016.

We hope you can join us as we explore topics such as welcoming newcomer volunteers, youth volunteers, online training and so much more!

Read More

-Source: Newsletter, AVRBC, 31 January 2016
March brings Energize’s 39th anniversary, which is hard for me to believe. So much has happened in the world and in volunteering since 1977, when my sole piece of state-of-the-art equipment was a brand-new IBM Selectric typewriter (see photo, for those who don’t remember it). I doubt anyone would disagree that the most profound change since then has been the introduction of computers for individual use, followed by the invention of the World Wide Web and then smartphone technology that puts a powerful computer with Internet access into the palm of our hands. This technology has led to entirely new ways of volunteering virtually and new tools for volunteer management, such as online registries of volunteer opportunities in dozens of countries (like VolunteerMatch (link is external) and Do-It (link is external)). In The Last Virtual Volunteering Guidebook, Jayne Cravens and I offer a comprehensive look at how electronic, global communication and access to information has become integral to every volunteer initiative.

Yet, from my observations, most leaders of volunteers have not yet embraced the enormous potential of technology. In this Hot Topic, I want to discuss the amazing opportunities that VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) platforms offer for a wide range of volunteer management needs. Once only imagined through the wrist watch of the Dick Tracy comic strip, today face-to-face, real-time audiovisual conversations are both commonplace and free. Even a decade ago, only big corporations and universities had video transmission capabilities, often requiring satellite access and costing thousands of dollars for only a few minutes of air time. Today, Skype, Google Hangouts, and other similar platforms require nothing more than a webcam and microphone (on both sides of the call) to link people across the world in no-cost conversation.