



Monthly Bulletin – August 2015

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KCR Highlights

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KCR Needs Your Input!

We are seeking representatives from Central Okanagan non-profit organizations to participate in upcoming Community Information Database Focus Groups. Focus Group participants should be somewhat familiar with the online KCR [Community Information Database](#) and be able to participate in one of the hour long focus group sessions.

Focus group sessions have been scheduled for:
Tuesday, September 15th from 9:00 am – 10:00 am
Tuesday, September 22nd from 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Both sessions will be held at KCR, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna.
Please contact stephanie@kcr.ca to participate in one these sessions, or if you would like more information.

The [Community Information Database](#) is the place to start when you are looking for information on services, programs and organizations in the Central Okanagan. This valuable resource connects community members to organizations providing services. Each listing provides detail about the program or service and contact information including direct online links to websites.

-Source: Stephanie Moore, Project Manager, KCR, July 2015

Central Okanagan Local Immigration Partnership Newsletter

Want to keep in the loop about events, programs, and happenings in our community in regards to the integration of newcomers? Sign up for our COLIP Newsletter!

[Sign Up Today](#)

-Source: Kay Nguyen, Local Immigration Partnership Coordinator, KCR, July 2015

Crisis Line Seeking Volunteers

The Crisis Line is looking for empathetic, reliable and committed people to answer calls from individuals in our community experiencing relationship problems, isolation, and mental health concerns.

What we offer our volunteers:

- A way to expand your academic and work experience
- Training that will enhance interpersonal and communication skills
- A greater understanding of human behavior
- An enriching way to give back to our community

If you are looking for a powerful and rewarding way to affect the lives of individuals and families in need and can make a 6 month commitment of approximately 16 hours per month to provide support to our callers – we need you!

The Crisis Line is taking applications now for our fall training which starts September 7.

Please email Janet at crisisline@kcr.ca.

-Source: Janet Roth, Crisis Line Coordinator, KCR, June 2015

Register Now!

Fund Development Overview

Dates: Wednesday – September 9, 16, 23, 30, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Description: This 4-day course is an overview essential for those working in, or interested in working in, the area of fund development for their non-profit organization.

[Register Now](#)

Overview of Volunteer Management

Dates: October 19-20, 26-27, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Description: 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.

[Register Now](#)

-Source: Stephanie Moore, Project Manager, KCR, July 2015

KCR's Mailing List

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[Click here](#) to consent to receiving electronic messages from KCR for our Publication Updates

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-Source: Kelsey Grmek, IT Coordinator, KCR, June 2014

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Aboriginal

- [TAPPING INTO POST-SECONDARY FUNDING FOR ABORIGINAL YOUTH](#)
- [ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN CARE WORKING GROUP: ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN CARE – REPORT TO CANADA’S PREMIERS](#)
- [BCACCS CHILD CARE RECOGNITION AWARDS OPEN IN AUGUST](#)

Tapping into Post-Secondary Funding for Aboriginal Youth

Millions of dollars in federal funding for postsecondary education are currently going unclaimed by Aboriginal families. That’s why the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation and the National Association of Friendship Centres, among others, have partnered to encourage participation in the Canada Learning Bond among Aboriginal people in Canada. The bond is offered by the federal government and gives low-income families an opportunity to start saving for their children’s post-secondary education through a registered education savings plan.

[Read More](#)

-Source: First Call, BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 16 July 2015

Aboriginal Children in Care Working Group: Aboriginal Children in Care – Report to Canada’s Premiers

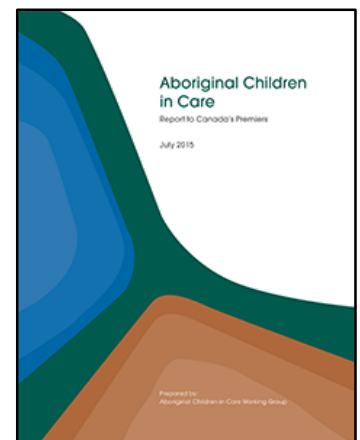
Aboriginal children are currently overrepresented in Canada’s child welfare systems. This report was developed for Canada’s premiers to share information on potential solutions to mitigate child protection concerns, reduce the number of Aboriginal children in child welfare systems across Canada, and improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in care.

The report provides examples of existing programs and services that have been shown to reduce the number of Aboriginal children in child welfare systems and/or improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in care. It highlights a number of issues and challenges, and profiles some best and promising practices along three strategic child welfare themes: root causes of abuse and neglect (e.g., poverty, the impacts of residential schools); prevention and early intervention strategies for Aboriginal families; and better supporting the capacity of the child welfare workforce.

Although the premiers also requested that the federal government be engaged in this work, neither the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada nor the Minister of Employment and Social Development Canada responded to invitations to participate.

The report’s Appendix B also contains a very useful compilation of statistics on Aboriginal People in Canada.

One response to the report came from First Call partner the Federation of Community Social



Services of BC (FCSSBC), who on July 17 called on our elected leaders to take coordinated action to reduce the number of Aboriginal children and families living in poverty in Canada.

[Read the Report](#)

-Source: First Call, BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 23 July 2015

BCACCS Child Care Recognition Awards Open in August

Nominations open on August 18, 2015.

Remember to honour your valuable colleagues by nominating them for the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society's Child Care Recognition Awards.

The award recipients are the champions of our communities. Traditional First Nations and/or Métis language, culture and practice are maintained through their hard work in child care environments around the province. Their passion inspires others to strive for excellence.

Each year, BCACCS asks child care professionals to nominate colleagues in the field of Aboriginal early childhood development who are deserving of this special recognition. Contact reception@acc-society.bc.ca or call 604.913.9128 for info.

-Source: First Call, BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 23 July 2015

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Awards

- [COMMUNITY LEADER AWARDS 2015](#)
- [NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PROVINCIAL MULTICULTURAL AWARDS](#)

Community Leader Awards 2015

Do you know someone that goes out of their way to help others? Are there people that you see everyday going above and beyond to make this the best community to live in? You can find these people coaching a minor sports team, volunteering at one of the many organizations that provides assistance to those in need or helping out at one of the many local events that take place in our community. Many of these people have families of their own but still find the time to make a difference by contributing their compassion, knowledge and enthusiasm to those around them.

The Capital News wants to hear who these people are so that we can recognize them by telling their stories in our 2nd Annual Community Leader Awards section as well as honouring them on the evening of September 21, 2015. It doesn't take much to nominate someone that is very well deserving of this recognition. All we need is a nominee's name, contact info and a brief description of why you feel they should be nominated. The nomination process is open until August 14th.

Email your submission to contests@kelownacapnews.com or enter ONLINE at kelownacapnews.com/contests. Submissions must be in by August 14th, 2015.

The SUBMISSION you provide should be approximately 250 words and include information such as: length of time nominee has spent in the community; specific examples of the work and/or contribution he/she has made; community associations and memberships. Please provide references of other individuals who may be able to provide further support on the nominee's behalf.

Nomination Categories:

COACH

Makes a positive contribution to their sport. Is exemplary in developing skills and confidence in participants. A role model who inspires and encourages high athletic achievement.

MENTOR

Makes a positive contribution by being a true leader. An influential counselor, teacher or educator that provides support or sponsorship. Demonstrates a high level of ethics and professional standards, is an inspirational motivator, excellent communicator, good listener and a reliable resource to the community.

COURAGE

This person has risen above adversity or formidable challenges to become a success. As a result, they have had a positive effect on the people around them.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

This person makes a positive contribution to their community through their work. Someone who goes beyond the requirements of their job to support the community and make it a better place.

EMERGENCY SERVICE

Makes a positive contribution to the community by going the extra mile – over and above the call of duty. Is exemplary in the area of emergency services and unselfishly shoulders enormous responsibility while accepting the potential risks and challenges of the job.

SERVICE ORGANIZATION VOLUNTEER

This individual makes a positive contribution to the community by volunteering their time to one community service organization. This person is well thought of and is significantly relied upon by others in the organization.

VOLUNTEER

This individual makes a positive contribution to the community by volunteering their time to a variety of causes. They are dedicated to making a difference in several initiatives.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER

Makes a positive contribution to youth in the community. Someone who is depended upon and committed to provide direction, programs and/or support to ensure our youth have positive experiences.

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER

Makes a positive contribution to the community by championing environmentally friendly initiatives. Someone who inspires others to be “green” by being a leader in ecologically sound practices.

COMMUNITY BUILDER

Someone who has taken the initiative to engage a variety of local residents in an innovative or new community project or event. The initiative may assist different groups to work together, address a gap in community participation, or result in a more inclusive, engaged community.

-Source: Karen Hill, Publisher, Kelowna Capital News & Lake Country Calendar, 3 July 2015

Nominations Open for Provincial Multicultural Awards

The B.C. government opens nominations today for the British Columbia Multicultural Awards to draw attention to our province’s multicultural champions, be it a deserving individual, business or organization.

British Columbia has hundreds of multicultural organizations and countless businesses and individuals in all corners of the province who work hard to promote multiculturalism and nurture empathy and inclusion.

Five categories are open for nomination – individual, business, organization, youth and multicultural excellence in government. Recipients in the first four categories will receive \$5,000 to be donated to a non-profit organization of their choice to further support the work of multiculturalism in the province, and all recipients will take home a trophy.

The British Columbia Multicultural Awards (previously known as the Provincial Nesika Awards) were started in 2008 to recognize the people, organizations and businesses whose exceptional

work helps bring our diverse cultures together. The name was changed this year to better reflect the purpose of the awards and to promote multiculturalism.

The Government of British Columbia, with advice and support from the Province's Multicultural Advisory Council, organizes the British Columbia Multicultural Awards to honour and celebrate British Columbia's cultural diversity and Aboriginal heritage.

All nominations must be received by 5:00 pm on September 21st, 2015. For more information, eligibility requirements, or to download the British Columbia Multicultural Awards nomination form, visit www.EmbraceBC.ca or email mac@gov.bc.ca

[Read More](#)

-Source: Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, Newsletter, 7 July 2015

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Financial

- [THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN FOUNDATION 2015 FALL GRANT CYCLE](#)
- [CANADIAN WOMEN'S FOUNDATION MULTI-YEAR ANTI-TRAFFICKING GRANTS, 2016-2020](#)

The Central Okanagan Foundation 2015 Fall Grant Cycle

The Central Okanagan Foundation is pleased to announce it will be accepting applications for their fall 2015 granting cycle. The fall intake deadline is Thursday, October 1st.

Organizations are invited to apply for funding in the following eight areas: Environment –Global Initiatives – Arts & Culture – Children, Youth & Family -Education – Health & Community Services – Heritage & Historical – Animal Welfare.

Prior to submitting your grant application, it is recommended applicants contact Cheryl Miller, Director of Grants and Community Initiatives to discuss your grant proposal.

Grant application package available at www.centralokanaganfoundation.org.

Grant submissions must be delivered to the Central Okanagan Foundation's office prior to or on Thursday, October 1st, 2015.

Cheryl Miller, Director of Grants & Community Initiatives
Central Okanagan Foundation, #225-1889 Springfield Road
Tel: 250.861.6160

-Source: Cheryl Miller, Director of Grants & Community Initiatives, Central Okanagan Foundation, 16 July 2015

Canadian Women's Foundation Multi-Year Anti-Trafficking Grants, 2016-2020

Accepting proposals until September 15, 2015 Interested in applying?

1. Download the full request for proposals
2. Read the granting guidelines
3. Download and complete the application form and budget form
4. Download the application form for Access Funds

The Canadian Women's Foundation is now accepting proposals for Multi Year Anti-Trafficking Grants for 2016-2020.

The multi-year anti-trafficking grants aim to –

1. Prevent sex trafficking of women and girls in Canada through work involving girls or teens within universal prevention programs; prevention for at-risk youth and for victims of sex trafficking by creating awareness, sharing information and stopping further victimization.

2. Support women's organizations and projects in Canada to help women and girls rebuild their lives after the crisis of experiencing trafficking by providing multiple layers of intensive support and services.
3. Support collaborative projects for groups working together in a region, province, territory or nationally (in Canada) to create awareness, to share resources, to provide coordinated responses, and to advocate or to support sex trafficking survivors' participation or leadership in policy issues.

We will select approximately 10 grants up to a maximum of \$50,000 per organization for five years. If your organization and work fits the selection criteria, you may apply for additional funding of up to \$3,000 to assist with access costs.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: Tuesday, September 15th, 2015

[Read More](#)

-Source: Canadian Women's Foundation, June 2015

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Fund Development

- [GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP](#)
- [CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT – PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN OLDER ADULTS AND/OR THEIR CAREGIVERS](#)
- [SERVICE COORDINATION & INTEGRATION FOR YOUTH TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD \(CYCLE 7\)](#)
- [BC TECH CO-OP GRANTS PROGRAM](#)

Grant Writing Workshop

Date: Tuesday & Wednesday, August 18th & 19th, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, 442 Leon Ave, Kelowna

Cost: \$350 + \$17.50 GST – \$367.50 (Coffee, tea, fruit and snacks provided) **Class Limit:** 16

This story-filled, information packed two-days will give you the basics and more for: locating funding sources; articulating your idea into a fully developed proposal; networking with partners; developing a relationship with funding contacts; and, information on completing your proposal with the evaluative and reporting process. Extensive funding inventories, templates, and additional resources will be provided on CD and in emails to participants.

For more information or to register contact:

Ellen Huse, 250.895.1775 or moc.liamg@esuh.nelle

WORKSHOP OUTLINE

Is your community or non-profit organization looking for funds to develop a project or program, or to sustain what you have already implemented? This two-day workshop will give you the basics and more for: locating funding sources; articulating your idea into a fully developed proposal; networking with partners; developing a relationship with funding contacts; and, information on completing your proposal with the evaluative and reporting process. Participants are invited to bring current proposal projects to the second day of the workshop for group and individual assistance.

Day One

- Funder Guidelines and Criteria
 - Proposal Components Step-by-Step

Learning the language of grant writing greatly increases the chances of success!

Day Two

- Succinct Writing and Formatting
- Development of Logic Models, Performance Measurement and Evaluative Tools
- Participant Grant Writing Practice and Development
- Locating Funding Sources

Extensive funding inventories, templates, and additional resources will be provided on CD and in emails to participants. The classic book on writing, *The Elements of Style* by Strunk & White, will also be included with each 2-DAY EFFECTIVE GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP binder.

-Source: Ellen Huse, E. Huse & Associates, 27 July 2015

Call for Letters of Intent – Promoting Mental Health and Wellness in Older Adults and/or their Caregivers

Issued: July 17, 2015

Deadline: September 30, 2015 at 5:00 PM (Pacific Time)

The Community Action Initiative (CAI) is issuing a call for letters of intent for proposals to promote mental health and wellness in older adults, including those with low incomes, immigrant or refugee, and Aboriginal peoples living in community, assisted living, or residential care settings. Proposals that focus on a direct service to older adults with chronic health conditions are encouraged. Proposals that focus on promoting mental health and wellness in family caregivers of older adults will also be considered.

This funding opportunity is linked to a larger service delivery opportunity, and thus implemented through a two-stage process. In this first convening stage, agencies will apply for a convening grant, which will be used to explore appropriate potential partnerships, and design a comprehensive service innovation program. Applicants who receive a CAI convening grant will then proceed to the second stage, where they will be invited to apply for a service innovation grant valued up to \$200,000 to support a project lasting two to three years in duration.

Approximately twenty-five (25) convening grants, valued up to \$10,000 each are available.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Community Action Initiative, 21 July 2015

Service Coordination & Integration for Youth Transitioning to Adulthood (Cycle 7)

Focusing on community-based service coordination and integration for youth transitioning to adulthood within the mental health and substance use sector, a total of thirty (30) convening grants, valued at up to \$15,000 each will be offered to community groups. The grants will support community engagement activities, research and partnership development.

Five (5) in-person workshops will be held in communities across BC in October 2015, to inform potential convening grant applicants and partners about evidence-based service integration principles, existing models, tools and resources for moving through different phases of service integration in the community-based context.

Details on the call for letters of intent and the in-person workshops will be announced on August 24, 2015.

-Source: Newsletter, Community Action Initiative, 21 July 2015

BC Tech Co-op Grants Program

BCIC Tech Works unites students with valuable training opportunities in BC's technology sector through the BC Innovator Skills Initiative and BC Tech Co-op Grants Program.

By facilitating knowledge transfer and innovation in the tech sector, BCIC Tech Works seeks to advance all other industries, from healthcare to traditional resource industries including mining, forestry and energy. BCIC Tech Works is fueling the growth of BC's vibrant technology sector and furthering the momentum of the BC Jobs Plan.

The BC Tech Co-op Grants Program is delivered through co-op departments at BC post-secondary institutions. It encourages student training and job readiness through work terms with small technology firms.

Program Objectives

1. To provide business and/or technical skills training for students in their first co-op placement
2. To encourage small technology firms to employ their first co-op student

Who's Eligible?

Small technology companies are matched with first-term co-op university students. If it is the company's first co-op employee in five or more years, they are matched with students of any term.

Funding

Employers receive a BC Tech Co-op Grant of \$2,700, which is up to 25% of the student's salary, with the remaining 75% to be paid by the employer. This is equivalent to about one month's salary of a typical four-month (16 week) work term.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, 21 July 2015

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Housing

- [INFORMATION SESSION – THE HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY](#)
- [SENIORS' HOUSING PROGRAMS IN BC](#)
- [SENIORS' HOUSING IN BC: AFFORDABLE, APPROPRIATE, AVAILABLE](#)
- [7TH ANNUAL REPORT CARD ON HOMELESSNESS FOR NELSON, BC](#)
- [20,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN](#)
- [CAEH15 EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES AUGUST 30TH](#)
- [RAPID RE-HOUSING: WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS](#)
- [FAMILY HOMELESSNESS IN PRINCE GEORGE, KAMLOOPS, KELOWNA, NELSON AND NANAIMO](#)
- [TOWARDS A NEW BILL OF RIGHTS: THE VOICE OF TENANTS IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING](#)
- [SENIORS' HOUSING INFORMATION SESSION](#)
- [OUR COMMUNITIES OUR YOUTH: THE HEALTH OF HOMELESS AND STREET-INVOLVED YOUTH IN BC](#)

INFORMATION SESSION – The Homelessness Partnering Strategy

Date: August 17th, 1:30 pm

Location: Boardroom, Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna

RSVP by August 13th to Mia Burgess at 250.861.6160 or mia@centralokanaganfoundation.org

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) Call for Proposals (CFP) will be released on August 10, 2015.

The Central Okanagan Foundation will hold an information session for organizations considering an application for HPS funding.

HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY AND CORE CONCEPTS

The Federal Government's 2013 Economic Action Plan announced that nearly \$600 million will be allocated to the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2019.

HPS 2014 – 2019 supports a Housing First (HF) approach. The HF approach acknowledges that a stable living situation is critical for service delivery aimed at helping clients improve their employment, education and health in a long-term and sustainable way. HF recognizes that people experiencing homelessness have diverse needs and seeks to address these needs through specific evidence-based approaches for reducing homelessness. The HF model promotes community collaboration and focuses on rapidly housing and providing supports to individuals experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness, with the goal of assisting clients toward greater self-sufficiency.

FUNDING AVAILABILITY

The maximum amount of funding available for this CFP is \$147,400 under the Designated Communities stream and \$37,510 under the Aboriginal Homelessness stream, to fund projects between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017. A subsequent CFP will be held to solicit project proposals for the period April 2017 to March 2019. The quantity and quality of proposals received will determine the number of projects funded and the amount of funding each project

receives.

-Source: Mia Burgess, Community Entity Coordinator, Central Okanagan Foundation, 22 July 2015

Seniors' Housing Programs in BC

Did you know that there are many programs available to help B.C. seniors make their homes more affordable and more accessible? Whether you own or rent your home, check out the links below to see if there's a program that's right for you.

Property Tax Deferment is a low-interest loan program that allows you to defer paying all or part of your property taxes on your principal residence if you are 55 or older, a surviving spouse of any age, or a person with a disability. For more information, including eligibility criteria, visit gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment or email taxdeferment@gov.bc.ca.

Home Owner Grant for Seniors and the Home Owner Grant Low Income Supplement The Home Owner Grant for Seniors reduces the amount of property tax you pay each year on your principal residence; you may qualify for an additional reduction if your property is located in a northern and rural area. If the grant amount you qualified for was reduced because of the high assessed value of your principal residence and you have a qualifying low income, you can also apply to receive a supplement for all or part of the amount your grant was decreased. For more information, including who qualifies and how to apply, visit gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant.

Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) provides financial assistance for home modifications that improve accessibility and promote safe and independent living for low-income persons with a permanent disability or diminished ability. For more information on who is eligible and how to apply, visit bchousing.org/Options/Home_Renovations or phone 1.800.257.7756.

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible B.C. residents who are age 60 or over, and who pay more than 30% of their gross monthly income toward rent for their homes. For more information on who is eligible and how to apply, visit bchousing.org/Options/Rental_market/SAFER or phone 1.800.257.7756.

Subsidized Housing for Seniors is long-term housing with rent geared to income for eligible lower-income B.C. residents aged 55+. For more information on who is eligible and how to apply, visit bchousing.org/Options/Subsidized_Housing or phone 1.800.257.7756

HAFI, SAFER, and subsidized housing are managed by BC Housing. For more information about BC Housing programs for seniors, visit bchousing.org/Find/Senior.

-Source: SeniorsBC.ca, e-Newsletter, 15 July 2015

Seniors' Housing in BC: Affordable, Appropriate, Available

On May 21st, the Office of the Seniors Advocate released *Seniors' Housing in BC: Affordable, Appropriate, Available* — a report with 18 recommendations to improve the state of seniors' housing in the province.

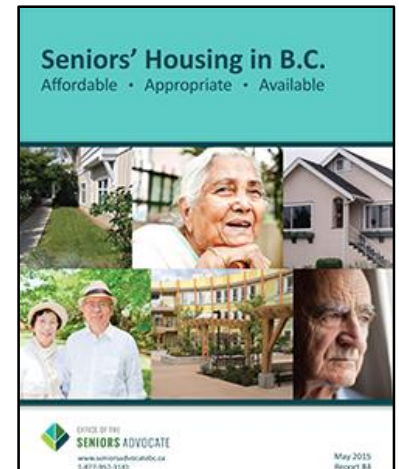
In the past year, the Seniors Advocate has met with thousands of seniors and their families in every region of the province. Among the many issues and concerns these seniors have raised and brought forward for discussion, they expressed a deep concern around the affordability, availability and appropriateness of seniors' housing in the province.

Seniors expressed clearly that they want to age as independently as possible in their own homes and in their local communities. However, low incomes and high living costs have a profound impact on the affordability of independent housing options for seniors, and on their ability to freely choose their living arrangements.

Many seniors accept that, as they age, changes to their health and mobility may necessitate a move to housing that incorporates a support or care component. However, many feel frustrated that their housing options are limited by the availability of appropriate housing in their communities and by the policies, practices and regulations currently in place that determine eligibility for particular types of housing. They fear they will be forced into assisted living or residential care prematurely, or need to move to faraway communities where there is no support system of friends and family.

[Read the Report](#)

-Source: *SeniorsBC.ca, e-Newsletter, 15 July 2015*



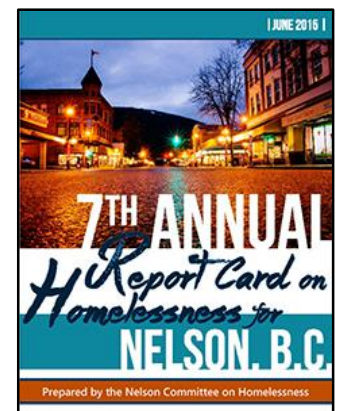
7th Annual Report Card on Homelessness for Nelson, BC

Prepared by the Nelson Committee on Homelessness, this year's report card, found on nelsoncares.ca, focuses on women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including women and their children who have fled violence at home and single mothers struggling to feed their kids. Food security is a huge issue, with children making up 20% of the people needing food bank services.

[Read the Report](#)

[Read news coverage](#) from the Nelson Daily: 2015 Homelessness Report Card: Housing dollars being slashed

-Source: *First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, Newsletter, 3 July 2015*



20,000 Homes Campaign

In 2014, over 3,100 individuals experienced homelessness in the City of Hamilton – staying at some point throughout the year in one of the City’s emergency shelters. These individuals include women, men, youth, and families, and represent the most vulnerable members of our community. Communities across Canada are working together towards the goal of housing 20,000 people who are experiencing persistent homelessness by July 1, 2018.

Volunteers surveyed people experiencing homelessness in Hamilton to better understand their health and housing needs and to identify those most in need of immediate housing assistance. Some of the preliminary findings:

- 454 individuals surveyed
- 3 years on average those surveyed had spent homeless
- 67% reported experiencing homelessness for 6 months or longer
- 26% of homeless identified as Aboriginal or as having Aboriginal Ancestry
- 191 individuals are 26 to 49 years old
- 85 individuals are 14 to 25 years old

[Read More](#)

-Source: Raising the Roof, Housing Again Bulletin, 2 July 2015

CAEH15 Early Bird Registration Closes August 30th

The 2015 National Conference on Ending Homelessness is fast approaching. Online registration is now open!

[Register by August 30th](#) to take advantage of our discounted early bird rate.

The [program for the 2015 National Conference on Ending Homelessness](#) is now online. The program includes 60 concurrent sessions, featuring 130 national and international experts organized into seven streams: leadership, planning and practice; youth homelessness; open space; housing; 20,000 Homes Campaign; Housing First in Canada; and, research and policy. Stay tuned for some exciting news on another terrific line up of keynote speakers.

The [2015 National Conference on Ending Homelessness](#) will be held at the Hotel Bonaventure Montreal in Montreal, Quebec November 2 – 4, 2015.

-Source: Newsletter, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 27 July 2015

Rapid Re-housing: What the Research Says

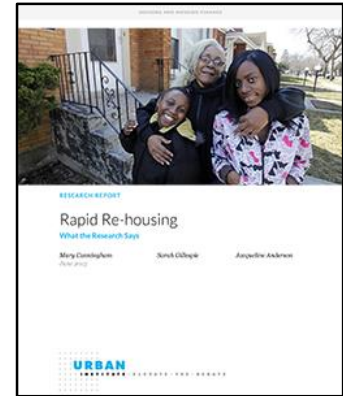
Rapid re-housing, an intervention that helps homeless families exit shelters and get back into permanent housing quickly, provides short-term help with housing expenses (e.g., rent arrears, ongoing rent assistance, moving costs) and case management focused on housing stability. Rapid re-housing is a relatively new but, as early evidence shows, promising strategy that communities across the country are adopting. The emphasis on rapid re-housing represents a

significant shift in the response to family homelessness toward a Housing First philosophy. Increased attention on rapid re-housing, accompanied by an influx of resources, and expansion of programs, elicits urgent need for more rigorous evaluation, some of which is already underway.

There is a small, but growing, body of evidence on the efficacy of rapid re-housing. Drawing on program data and early findings from evaluations in progress, this brief describes rapid re-housing and lessons from its recent expansion.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 23 July 2015



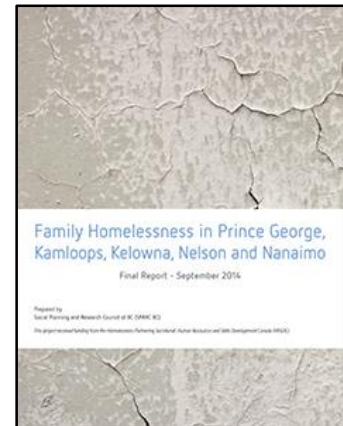
Family Homelessness in Prince George, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nelson and Nanaimo

Family homelessness represents a significant challenge in many communities. This research seeks to fill a critical gap in knowledge about family homelessness and the different types of coping strategies adopted by vulnerable families and individuals who find themselves without a safe, secure place to live.

This research, funded through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), uses a participatory action approach to look specifically at the issue of family homelessness in five small and mid-sized communities in British Columbia (Kelowna, Kamloops, Prince George, Nanaimo and Nelson).

[Read More](#)

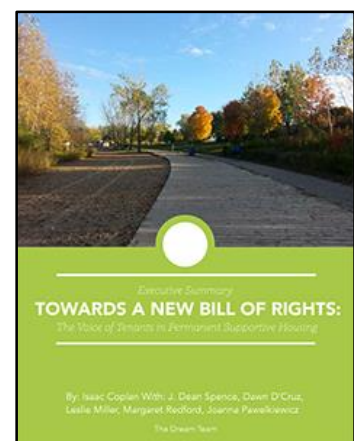
-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 16 July 2015



Towards a New Bill of Rights: The Voice of Tenants in Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent supportive housing is a critical resource for people living with serious mental health and addictions issues. Yet tenants of permanent supportive housing often face challenges in their day-to-day living and access to units continues to remain an issue. There is also a serious concern that the voice of tenants is not being heard.

This report is meant to start a conversation about the way that tenants and service providers can work together to advocate for services and resources to improve the lives of tenants in permanent supportive housing. The research focused on bringing the voices and experience of tenants living in permanent supportive housing to the forefront.



The Dream Team Research Committee laid the groundwork to create the New Bill of Rights that were developed directly from research conducted with tenants who live in permanent supportive housing.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 9 July 2015

Seniors' Housing Information Session

This free information session will cover the various housing options available to seniors, including Subsidized Housing, Supportive Living, Assisted Living, and Residential Care. An Interior Health representative will also be present to help answer long term care questions. This session is provided monthly on the second Thursday.

Next upcoming session:

Date: Thursday, August 13th, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Location: Seniors Outreach & Resource Centre, #102 – 2055 Benvoulin Court, Kelowna

To register for this free event please call 250.861.6180 or email seniorshousing@telus.net

-Source: Judy Dow, Regional Coordinator, Seniors Outreach & Resource Centre, 29 July 2015

Our Communities Our Youth: The Health of Homeless and Street-Involved Youth in BC

The 2014 Homeless and Street-Involved Youth Survey captured information from youth living in 13 diverse communities across British Columbia between October 2014 and January 2015. A total of 689 youth (aged 12–19 years) participated, from which the study collected 681 usable surveys. The results provide important information about risk and protective factors among BC youth who are homeless, precariously housed, or involved in a street lifestyle.

One of the major messages which the project advisory committee members and community co-researchers picked out from the data was the important role that school plays in the lives of homeless youth. The data showed that youth are vulnerable to victimization within the school environment. Yet when they feel connected to school and receive individualized support, they can be resilient to the challenges they face. It is hoped that this report will confirm what a vital role school personnel have in supporting vulnerable youth to engage in school life, and can be used to strengthen relationships between community service providers and schools, which can in turn help reduce the barriers youth face to accessing services and enable them to stay in school and be successful.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 29 July 2015



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Park & Play 2015

Park & Play encourage families with children to be active during the summer months. With a focus on connecting neighbours to each other and their surroundings, this program helps turn neighbours into communities.

Park & Play is a free family event that runs weeknights from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm throughout July and August.

August

Gerstmar Park, 955 Gerstmar Road – Monday, August 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31
Quilchena Park, 347 Quilchena Dr – Tuesday, August 4*, 11, 18 & 25
Mugford Park, 425 Stetson St – Wednesday, August 5, 12, 19 & 26
Whitman-Glen Park, 308 Whitman Rd – Thursday, August 6, 13*, 20 & 27
Jack Robertson Park, 1655 Willow Cr – Friday, August 7, 14, 21 & 28

* events are in conjunction with Parks Alive!. Visit festivalskelowna.ca for the entertainment schedule.

For more information about Park & Play, call the Parkinson Recreation Centre at 250.469.8800 or visit kelowna.ca/recreation.

-Source: News Releases, City of Kelowna, July 2015

Fall into fun with Active Living and Culture

The City of Kelowna's Active Living and Culture division makes falling into fun even easier with a number of great programs and activities in more than 25 convenient locations throughout Kelowna. These include Okanagan Mission Secondary School, Watson Road Elementary School and Rutland Activity Centre.

The Fall Activity and Program Guide will be online starting Tuesday, July 28th. Stay active throughout the fall with after-school programs, sports leagues, cooking classes and more. There's something for everyone.

Registration for general programs begins August 4th. Fall registration dates and times:

- August 4: General Programs, 7:30 am
- August 6: Aquatics and First Aid, 7:30 am
- August 7: Leagues, 7:30 am / Programs for Persons with a Disability, 9:30 am

Set up online registration account in advance to avoid registration lineups and register from home. Call 250-469-8800 to get an account pin and client barcode. Hard copies of the guide will be available at H2O Adventure & Fitness Centre, Glenmore IGA, Main Library Downtown, Parkinson Recreation Centre and Rutland Arena on Wednesday, July 29th.

Need flexibility in your fitness routine? The Parkinson Recreation Centre has a fitness centre and aquatics area. The affordable rates make it easy to get active and stay active when it's convenient. There are also drop-in fitness classes throughout the city.

Additional program information and registration is available in person at the Parkinson Recreation Centre, by phone at 250.469.8800 or online at kelowna.ca/recreation.

-Source: News Releases, City of Kelowna, 27 July 2015

Pihl Paddle for Prevention

Date: Sunday, August 9th, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: Rotary Beach, 3726 Lakeshore Drive, Kelowna

Cost: Adult \$40 / \$20 Youth (18 and under) / MINIMUM AGE for participation is 7 years

[Register Now](#)

Registration Includes Participation in event, use of a board/paddle, Personal Flotation Device (PFD), bag full of goodies including a visor, lip balm, bubbles and more, and BBQ Lunch!

MAJOR incentive prizes for fundraising

PLUS all adult participants entered for the chance to win a paddleboard courtesy of Okanagan Beach Rentals and SUPATX, and all youth entered for a chance to win a prize package from the Kelowna Rockets.

ALL PARTICIPANTS are eligible to purchase a \$20 one hour Stand up Paddleboard lesson regularly priced at \$60! Lessons provided by the Kelowna Paddle Centre. Contact Tamlyn at kelownapaddlecentre@gmail.com

Buy an Expert Paddler!

Teams can purchase an expert paddler to race with their team for \$200. Contact Magda Kapp at mkapp@braintrustcanada.com *Limited number of 'experts' available!

-Source: Maribeth Friesen, CEO, BRAINTRUST Canada Association, 3 July 2015

INFORMATION SESSION – The Homelessness Partnering Strategy

Date: August 17th, 1:30 pm

Location: Boardroom, Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna
RSVP by August 13th to Mia Burgess at 250.861.6160 or mia@centralokanaganfoundation.org

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) Call for Proposals (CFP) will be released on August 10, 2015.

The Central Okanagan Foundation will hold an information session for organizations considering an application for HPS funding.

HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY AND CORE CONCEPTS

The Federal Government's 2013 Economic Action Plan announced that nearly \$600 million will be allocated to the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2019.

HPS 2014 – 2019 supports a Housing First (HF) approach. The HF approach acknowledges that a stable living situation is critical for service delivery aimed at helping clients improve their employment, education and health in a long-term and sustainable way. HF recognizes that people experiencing homelessness have diverse needs and seeks to address these needs through specific evidence-based approaches for reducing homelessness. The HF model promotes community collaboration and focuses on rapidly housing and providing supports to individuals experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness, with the goal of assisting clients toward greater self-sufficiency.

FUNDING AVAILABILITY

The maximum amount of funding available for this CFP is \$147,400 under the Designated Communities stream and \$37,510 under the Aboriginal Homelessness stream, to fund projects between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017. A subsequent CFP will be held to solicit project proposals for the period April 2017 to March 2019. The quantity and quality of proposals received will determine the number of projects funded and the amount of funding each project receives.

-Source: Mia Burgess, Community Entity Coordinator, Central Okanagan Foundation, 22 July 2015

Royal BC Museum Travelling Exhibit: Species at Risk

The Royal BC Museum is hitting the road this summer to discuss what BC could lose if we don't make big changes to our relationship with the natural world. Housed in an inventively re-made trailer and accompanied by skilled and personable interpreters from the Royal BC Museum and the Robert Bateman Centre, Species at Risk will be a fun and illuminating mobile museum for summer camps, community museums and other partners throughout the province.

The week of August 24th – Kelowna Museums

Kelowna Museum

August 27th, 7:00 pm

Join us for an evening event, exploring the role of museums, community engagement and

environmental stewardship, using the Species at Risk as inspiration for this dialogue event.

[Visit their website](#) to see other dates and to learn more.

-Source: Metro Community, Metro UP Newsletter, 28 May 2015

Canadian Evaluation Society BC / Yukon Chapter – Event

Date: Wednesday, August 26th, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: The Jib Room, 2nd Floor, Kelowna Yacht Club, 1414 Water Street

Register Now: [Preregistration required](#) by August 23rd at Noon

Canadian Evaluation Society BC / Yukon Chapter invites evaluators to celebrate '2015 International Year of Evaluation' with an epic Evaluation Evening in the Okanagan.

Open to CES members and non-members; credentialed and non-credentialed evaluators; public sector, NPO, and private evaluators; university researchers; plus veteran, novice, and student evaluators!

Schedule

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Refreshments & Networking

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm, Short program with Guest Speakers

No Registration Cost / Complimentary Appies / Cash Bar

Registrations and questions c/o [Sandra Sellick & Associates](#), sandra@sellick.org or 250.717.6064

[Download the Pamphlet](#)

-Source: Sandra Sellick, Sandra Sellick & Associates, 30 July 2015

12th Annual 'Back To School Bash'

Date: Saturday, August 29th, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Parkinson Recreation Centre, 1800 Parkinson Way, Kelowna

Hairstylist? Volunteer? Have Clothes? HELP US PUT A SMILE ON A CHILD'S FACE!

Victory Life is committed to help ease the financial burden of the back to school season. There will be:

- 650 Children Receive FREE Backpacks
- FREE Hotdogs
- FREE Haircuts for Children
- FREE New & Used Clothing
- FREE Backpacks
- FREE Children's Activities
- Games, Entertainment & Prizes

We anticipate approximately 1,200 guests. There is absolutely NO CHARGE for this event!

Would you partner with us? Together we can make a difference!

- Volunteer at a Children's Activity Booth (Sponge toss, face painting, animal balloons, cotton candy etc.)
- Volunteer in Food, Prizes, KidZone, Clothing, Host, Security, Parking or Other
- Cut Children's Hair
- Provide New or Used (good quality) Clothing
- Supply a Door Prize
- Donate Cash or Online Gifts

\$26 covers the cost for one child to attend and receive a quality Bentley's backpack.

You can contact us by e-mail vlf@shaw.ca, phone 250.862.3044, or visit our website at www.victorylife.ca.

-Source: Diana Tripke, Events Coordinator, Victory Life Fellowship, 16 June 2015

Women 4 SustainAbility: Shining the Light on SustainAbility

Date: Tuesday, September 22nd, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Lake Country Coffee House / Lake Country Art Gallery, 10356 Bottom Wood Lake Road, Lake Country

Cost: \$35 + Tax

[Buy Tickets](#)

The Fresh Outlook Foundation is partnering with the Lake Country Art Gallery, Lake Country ArtWalk, and the Lake Country Coffee House to host a Women 4 SustainAbility event guaranteed to feed your mind, body, and spirit! Building on the 2015 ArtWalk theme and gallery presentation of 'Light,' you will connect with other participants to explore how the art triggers ideas about all aspects of sustainability. For example, how can a painting that showcases abstract 'light' bulbs prompt you to think about energy efficiency? Or, how does the sunrise photo reflect your experience with en'light'enment?

Only 60 tickets available, so get yours today! Tickets include a three-course meal, coffee and tea. Wine is available for purchase by the glass.

-Source: Joanne de Vries, Founder & CEO, Fresh Outlook Foundation, 25 July 2015

Call to Artists for the Art for Veterinarians

Most artists are animal lovers whether dogs, cats, iguanas or pigs and the list is endless and unbounded as our hearts. Our veterinarians give excellent care to our own fur family as well as others belonging to non artists. Our vets are always there for us in an emergency.

This is not a juried show. Free for SWAC members, \$20 non-Members.

The art show will take place September 1-30 at the Westbank Blenz. Artwork to be delivered on

Research

- [OKANAGAN FRUIT TREE PROJECT – HEALTH & AFFORDABLE FRESH FOOD STUDY](#)
- [FROM STARVATION TO CELEBRATION: 5 WAYS YOUR CHARITY CAN HELP CHANGE THE OVERHEAD CONVERSATION](#)

Okanagan Fruit Tree Project – Health & Affordable Fresh Food Study

The team at the [Okanagan Fruit Tree Project](#) is excited about this research and feels that it is valuable to our community! Research about our local food system is important and helps us to better understand our community and how to improve the services we offer!

Goal of the study:

The researchers are studying barriers to accessing healthy and affordable food in our community. The researchers hope to learn what initiatives and actions can create a more inclusive, food secure, and socially just community.

You are eligible to participate if:

- You are over the age of 18
- You have experienced or are experiencing challenges in accessing healthy, affordable food
- Live in or around Kelowna, BC

What is involved in the study?

You will take part in a fun and innovative form of research that involves taking pictures of your experience of hunger and food injustice and sharing them with the researchers. This will take 2 hours max plus up to 1 hour to meet beforehand to go over camera training, ethical issues in photography, and sign the consent form. An interview of up to 1.5 hours will be carried out after the photo project. An additional interview of 1 hour may be carried out if necessary.

You will receive an honorarium of \$20 for the Kelowna Farmers' and Crafters' Market for participating in this study. Confidentiality is ensured.

The researchers feel that your input is important to our community and they hope you will share your thoughts and life experiences so that others can learn from this project.

For more information and to participate, please contact:

Co-Investigator: Ailsa Beischer at 778.363.5507 or a.beischer@gmail.com.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jon Corbett, at 250.807.9348 or jon.corbett@ubc.ca.

-Source: Casey Hamilton, Executive Director, Okanagan Fruit Tree Project, 21 July 2015

From Starvation to Celebration: 5 Ways your Charity can help Change the Overhead Conversation

A [2013 Muttart Foundation survey](#) revealed that nearly three-quarters of Canadians believe that charities spend too much on salaries and administration. Another recent survey conducted on behalf of World Vision Canada found that 51% of Canadians believe that between 81% and 99% of money should go 'to the cause' with 32% of those surveyed actually believing the number should be 100%.

It's concerning to think one third of Canadians believe no money should be spent on administration given the evidence that spending too little on infrastructure can actually be counter-productive to achieving mission (let alone spending none). At Imagine Canada, we believe that achieving real impact requires real investment. Not only is the focus on overhead [counter-productive](#) to achieving impact, it's also surprisingly difficult to evaluate organizations based on their balance sheets alone. If you were presented with a list of all the teachers in a school and the amount of money they spent on their classrooms, would you assume the teacher who had spent the least was the best? Of course not; you would rightly want additional information such as how well the students did on tests, how many graduated, etc. Similarly, it's difficult to evaluate charities and nonprofits without additional contextual information.

So what can you do to help change the overhead conversation? Here are 5 simple strategies that you can start working on right now at your organization.

1. Help your donors to look beyond expense ratios

Even when you have an overhead ratio that is remarkably low, focusing primarily on this ratio as a measure of success can be a short sighted tactic. Let's say your organization focuses on at-risk youth. What if your agency discovers that one of its programs is only helping a small percentage of youth and as a result decides to abandon that initiative in favour of one that, although more expensive, has produced better results? Will you lose donors after they see a marked difference in your overhead ratio next year?

Instead of solely focusing on ratios, provide your donors with different types of evidence of your organization's effectiveness and credibility. Not only will this encourage your stakeholders to expect other measures – thereby allowing your organization the flexibility to pursue the programming with the best impact – but it will make your fundraising efforts stronger. It seems that Canadian donors are looking for more details about the organizations they support, which is a positive development. Bolster your brand by providing multiple types of evidence for your effectiveness and credibility, such as annual reports with financial statements, biographies and messages from your leadership, media highlights, and impact reports.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 29 July 2015

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Resources

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- [5 TRAITS OF GREAT BOARD MEMBERS](#)
- [SUNNY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN: HOW TO KEEP YOUR STAFF ENGAGED DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS](#)
- [5 LESSONS EVERY BUSINESS CAN LEARN FROM THE NON-PROFIT WORLD](#)
- [NEW REPORT: GROWING PAINS – CHILDCARE IN CANADA](#)
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- [HOW I GIVE ON LESS THAN \\$30,000 A YEAR](#)
- [IS IT GOOD FOR CHILDREN – ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FROM CATCH](#)
- [CENTRAL OKANAGAN FOOD POLICY COUNCIL – SUMMER 2015 NEWSLETTER](#)

Top Tips for Efficient Board Management

Efficient communication with board members reduces administrative burden and frees up valuable resources for revenue generation or service delivery. It can also lead to a more engaged board.

Our research found that 90% of board members were engaged or very engaged when archived meeting minutes, organizational data and other resources are accessible to board members, logically organized and easy to use. This number dropped to 68% when they are not. Clearly, solving the problem of board management is an important one.

For answers, we turned to board members and leaders. Here are proven strategies that have helped nonprofits manage their boards more efficiently. (For more tips and tricks on board recruitment, management and engagement, download our free guide.)

Create Communication Processes

Consistent communication is key to an active and well-informed board. Establish processes so board members know when to expect information and what to do with it. Suggestions that were offered:

Develop a process to deliver data and important information to board members regularly. Focus on a simple, consistent format that gives them the resources they need in a straightforward way.

Be respectful of board members' time and busy schedules. Create an agenda for board meetings, and keep discussion focused on mission-critical decisions.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Blog, GuideStar, 23 June 2015

5 Traits of Great Board Members

A great board member offers so much to your organization, from specialized professional expertise to high-level fundraising. It can be a challenge to build an A-team board—or even

know what to look for—so we asked Rachel Muir, vice president of training at Pursuant and founder of Girlstart, to shine some light on the subject.

Here are the five traits Rachel recommends looking for when recruiting for your board.

Great board members hold themselves and the organization accountable

Quality board members know it's not just the organization holding the bag. They take responsibility for their actions and the role that they play in supporting and advancing your cause.

They're passionate about the mission

It's that passion that allows your board to be successful in recruiting other people to your organization. You want to put board members who feel a strong connection to your work front and center in all you do since their passion gets other people excited about your mission.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Blog, Network for Good, June 2015

Sunny Days are here again: How to keep your Staff Engaged during the Summer Months

After a long, hard winter in most parts of Canada, many people are counting the days until they are able to get away to the lake, the ocean or even just the balcony to savour the season. But the fact that most of us have to come to work for a large part of the summer doesn't mean that our summer experience has to be squeezed into evenings and holidays. Summer can be a great time for workplaces to change their pace and enjoy the joys of the season — while still getting work done.

Nonprofits can lead the way

The nonprofit sector has long been progressive and creative about offering rewards beyond financial compensation. For many nonprofits — with the exception of service providers and nonprofits that offer specific summer programs — summer can provide a real opportunity to give back to their staff.

“It's important to really acknowledge the uniqueness of the summer season,” says Denise Lloyd, CEO of Engaged HR. “After a long year, staff are often tired. And when September and October come, it will be crunch time again. There's no point in just forcing them to sit at their desks all summer and do hard work in an unhappy way — it's counter to what you're trying to achieve. Instead, as part of a wellness strategy, we need to find ways to bring the joy of summer into our organizations.”

[Read More](#)

-Source: Village Vibes Newsletter, Charity Village, 6 July 2015

5 Lessons Every Business Can Learn from the Non-Profit World

At the end of June, CURE Childhood Cancer will close out its fiscal year having raised \$4.5 million in the past year. This is no small feat considering the Atlanta based non-profit was raising less than \$1 million a year just nine years ago, and the remarkable growth has spanned years of deep recession in the U.S. This fundraising achievement is the result of a small but successful non-profit which has built bridges across philanthropic and corporate communities and has earned the respect of medical professionals and institutions across the U.S. According to the Executive Director, Kristin Connor, an important strategy to growth has been to “think like an entrepreneur.”

“We approach our day to day operations like a small business with heart,” says Connor who has grown CURE Childhood Cancer’s revenue 400% since joining 9 years ago. “Many aspects of a non-profit organization can translate to a small business counterpart, and that is how we handle our financial goals, patient and family services objectives, employee, donor and volunteer relations and our research investments.”

Ken and Darla Beam, Founders of the Texas Alliance for Homeless Pets, would agree. Their non-profit, dedicated to changing the systemic issues behind pet overpopulation in Texas, has grown from humble beginnings into an organization able to put on regular large-scale adoption events that involve a significant number of Dallas-area shelters, attract hundreds of visitors, and result in an impressive amount of pet adoptions each year.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire Newsletter, Imagine Canada, 9 July 2015

New report: Growing Pains – Childcare in Canada

Canada’s political parties are currently staking out their positions on child-care in advance of the 2015 federal election, ranging from enhancements to the Universal Child Care Benefit to a universal child care plan.

This paper, produced through the Renewing Canada’s Social Architecture project, gives an overview of the policy opportunities and challenges in child care and proposes options to improve on current approaches that meet the diverse needs of Canadian families.

Renewing Canada’s Social Architecture is a collaborative project involving researchers from the Mowat Centre, the Caledon Institute for Social Policy, the Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity and the Institute for Research on Public Policy.

[Read the Report](#)

-Source: First Call, BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 16 July 2015



Career Q&A: I Want a Higher Level Nonprofit Job

I am feeling the need to progress in my career – to go from being in charge of implementing projects to more program development and management. What is the fastest way to make this happen?

How fast you will be able to make the transition depends greatly on the kinds of skills and experience you are bringing to the table in addition to the health of the job market where you are looking. The key to making any career transition is to be clear on what you want to do, your rationale for making the change and investing in the necessary preparations to start marketing yourself as a viable candidate these types of positions. To get yourself ready, we suggest you:

Test-drive your thinking about why you want to make this move

Reflect on what you think this new type of position will bring to both your professional and personal life. Is it more money? Greater job satisfaction? A chance to deepen skill sets that you enjoy or ones that would challenge you? Once you have done this, test your thinking with some trusted colleagues, mentors and friends to see if your reasons resonate with what they know about you and your goals.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Village Vibes Newsletter, Charity Village, 20 July 2015

How I Give on Less Than \$30,000 a Year

When I got my first paycheck nearly four years ago, I was eager to contribute a portion of my earnings to a charity that would effectively use my donation to help the world's neediest people. More than a billion men, women, and children live on less than \$1.25 a day, the World Bank's benchmark for measuring extreme poverty. And around 22,000 children die each day from preventable illnesses associated with poverty—these are diseases that have been long eliminated in the developed world. In other words, that's almost 1,000 children who die needlessly every hour.

The thing is, I'm no big earner—I'm a PhD student in a humanities degree program. So as I started to research how I could best allocate a part of my earnings to help those less fortunate than myself, I began feeling overwhelmed—or rather underwhelmed—with how little I could contribute on my first post-college salary. Since I've graduated from college, my total earnings from teaching, research funding, and freelance editing projects have totaled just a bit over \$27,000 pre-tax annually. I selected my current field of work knowing full well the typical pay scale for humanities research and teaching. What I didn't know, however, was how hard it could sometimes be to find the motivation and financial resources to pledge a portion of my earnings to effective non-profits while living on less than \$30,000 a year.

Yet I'm convinced that giving is something we all can do to help the world's poorest people, no matter what our income. Here are a few things that I've found helpful for myself as I learned more about what it means to give while living on a salary of less than \$30,000 a year.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Blog, Huff Post, 20 July 2015

Is it good for Children – Advocacy and Awareness Campaign from CATCH

Community Action Toward Children's Health (CATCH) is conducting a local campaign to raise awareness of children's issues in the Central Okanagan by asking people to highlight the question "Is it good for children?" The campaign runs until National Child Day, November 20th, 2015.

They are asking our partners to place tent cards, window clings and social media graphics with the question "Isitgood4children" anywhere you are connected to and to encourage asking the question as part of decision making.

Sign up to spread the message. Electronic materials for your website and social media are available. Window clings are available to Central Okanagan businesses and residents.

Find more info at www.isitgood4children.ca

-Source: First Call, BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 23 July 2015

Central Okanagan Food Policy Council – Summer 2015 Newsletter

Looking for more ways to get involved with food and volunteer in our community? Check out the [Central Okanagan Food Policy Council's newsletter](#).

The Central Okanagan Food Policy Council is a group of citizens who are working towards a food secure Central Okanagan. Membership is open to anyone in the communities of Lake Country, Kelowna, Westbank First Nations, West Kelowna, Peachland and Regional District of Central Okanagan. Current members include representatives from the Non-Profit, Health and Business sectors.

The COFPC table provides an opportunity for information and resource sharing, and a chance for people interested in food-related issues in the Central Okanagan to work together towards common goals.

The Council started the Fruit Tree Project 4 years ago and supports other awesome projects right now like Incredible Edibles and the Food Forest!

-Source: Alisa, Coordinator, Central Okanagan Food Policy Council, 16 July 2015



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10 Best Practices for Email Security for Nonprofits

Email is a critical business tool for nonprofits. Unfortunately, nonprofits face the same threats to their email security that other businesses and organizations face.

Deploying a central email security solution and following 10 best practices will help keep your email system protected.

1. Stop Spam & Phishing Emails

Spam is not only a nuisance; it can also pose security risks. Phishing emails entice recipients to click on malicious links and provide credentials or confidential information, which can result in security breaches.

2. Use a Multi-Antivirus Scanner

With new threats being introduced daily, it is important to use multiple antivirus engines in order to increase the rate of detection and reduce the window of vulnerability. Since email is one of the main sources of malware, it is advisable to use a fast performance multi-antivirus scanner to scan incoming email attachments for email-borne threats. Read more about why multi-scanning is essential for email security.

3. Check for Confidential Content

Make sure that no confidential content is sent via email by checking emails and attachments for sensitive information such as social security numbers and credit card data.

4. Prevent Targeted Attacks

Zero-day and targeted attacks can go undetected by anti-malware engines, since they are only sent out to specific groups and individuals. In order to protect against these unknown threats, email attachments should be "sanitized" by converting to a different file format and removing any possible embedded threats. For instance, by converting a Word file to PDF, any potentially harmful scripts can be removed.

[Read More](#)

-Source: TechSoup Canada, Blog, 22 July 2015

Why and How to Create a Corporate Email Policy

Do you have an email policy in place for your organization? If you don't, you'd better get one fast. Find out why you need an email policy and download a sample email policy to help you get started.

Why Do You Need an Email Policy?

Here are five reasons why your company needs an email policy:

1. Protect against email threats

An email policy helps prevent email threats. A well laid out email policy makes your staff aware of the corporate rules and guidelines, which if followed will protect your company against (spear) phishing attacks and confidentiality leaks, aid compliancy and minimize legal liability.

2. Avoid misconduct

An email policy can help stop any misconduct at an early stage, for instance by asking employees to come forward as soon as they receive an offensive email. Keeping the incidents to a minimum can help avoid legal liability. For instance in the case of Morgan Stanley, the court ruled that a single e-mail communication (a racist joke, in this case) cannot create a hostile work environment and dismissed the case against them.

3. Reduce liability

If an incident does occur, an email policy can minimize the company's liability for the employee's actions. Previous cases have proven that the existence of an email policy can prove that the company has taken steps to prevent inappropriate use of the email system and therefore can be freed of liability. WorldCom Corp. for instance, faced a court case from two former employees for allowing four racially offensive jokes on its email system. WorldCom successfully defended themselves because they had an email policy that spelled out inappropriate content and because they took prompt remedial action against the co-worker who sent the racially harassing e-mails.

4. Educate Email Etiquette

You can use your email policy to educate your employees in email etiquette to ensure that your company conveys a professional image in its email communications.

[Read More](#)

-Source: TechSoup Canada, Blog, 22 July 2015

Harnessing the Power of Mobile for Your Nonprofit

Mobile technology has become an integral way for organizations to communicate and engage their supporters. With an increasing number of mobile users worldwide, mobile is the perfect medium for nonprofits to stay connected with supporters. In fact, a recent study conducted by npEngage revealed that "9.5% of donations came from mobile devices".

With such a demand for mobile technology, you may wonder "how can I harness the power of mobile for my nonprofit?" Let's review a few ways you can make mobile work for you.

Mobile Landing Pages

If your nonprofit offers services or information or runs campaigns, a targeted mobile-friendly landing page is essential. A mobile friendly webpage is also necessary if you do any marketing or advertising, to ensure individuals can easily access your website from their handheld devices. Google offers free resources on mobile friendly website practices you can employ for your business (applicable to nonprofits as well). You can also take Google's Mobile-Friendly Test to analyze your nonprofit website's current mobile performance.

Mobile Giving or Donating

Mobile giving refers to donating to an organization through a mobile device, usually via SMS. Mobile donating is becoming an increasingly common method for nonprofits to raise money. Essentially it works by donors seeing a call to action via email, an advertisement, etc. They then text a keyword such as "give" to a short code such as "33333" to donate \$5 to \$10. The individual donating is then charged on their next phone bill. When the Cell Phone Provider (CPP) collects the money, they pass it onto the trusted third party (TTP), who passes it on to the nonprofit. In Canada, the Mobile Giving Foundation Canada serves as the TTP. All in all, mobile giving is a great way for nonprofits to capitalize on each and every moment an individual is inspired to support a cause.

[Read More](#)

-Source: TechSoup Canada, Blog, 21 July 2015

5 Tips for Keeping Your Nonprofit Safe Online

Why should my nonprofit care about Internet safety?

The Internet is full of opportunities and useful tools for managing and promoting your nonprofit. However, it is also not without its pitfalls. Internet security and privacy threats can harm a nonprofit or other charitable organization just as easily as they can affect an individual Internet user. In fact, extra caution is required for nonprofits and charities because confidential information regarding employees, donors and clients alike, is at stake.

Therefore, it's important to know some general ways that you, as a nonprofit, can keep your Internet data and activities safe. Again, this is not only to protect your own team and operations, but also your supporters.

What can my nonprofit do to stay safe on the Internet?

1. Find and use a strong piece of antivirus software

Computer viruses and other nasty programs can easily get onto many computers — even Apple ones — and slow them down, delete files, or even steal information. Therefore, a good basic precaution to take is to install strong antivirus software on the computers that your nonprofit uses, in order to block bad programs from getting into your system.

There are several useful free antivirus programs out there, but if you have the budget, you may want choose a paid option. This often gets you extra features like email scanners or the ability to scan your entire network at once.

[Read More](#)

-Source: TechSoup Canada, Blog, 9 July 2015

Five Key Lessons from Google for the Voluntary Sector

Last week Hugh Rajodev heard two experts from Google pass on their digital tips to the charity sector. He rounds up the key lessons.

On a sweltering day in North London, Google sent two digital experts to give the gathered voluntary sector representatives some important tips on how to make “the most of the web”.

Here’s what we learnt:

Be targeted

So, you’ve set up your charity’s website. You’ve made yourself a Facebook page, a Twitter account and amassed a compendious collection of email addresses for direct mail. What now?

Tailoring your content to convey your message is a good place to start. “Content is king when it comes to the web,” said Marie Schwob, YouTube consultant at Google UK. Churning out content about “anything and everything, even the office dog,” won’t help your organisation attract attention, she says.

In other words: less can be more when it comes to the web, so long as it’s relevant.

Be engaging

Your donors have short attention spans and busy lives. If you want your message to stand out from the crowd make it accessible but also present it in an interesting, unique way.

Ilinka Zaharceva, global project manager at Google UK, pointed to the unbridled success of the Kony 2012 campaign. Whether you loved or hated it, Zaharceva said, it was undeniably successful.

“The makers of the film knew exactly what they wanted to do. They had a set target which was to make the film go viral and they knew that to do that, they had to harness social media and get everyone talking about it. It’s now one of the most watched things on YouTube.”

[Read More](#)

-Source: Imagine Canada, Nonprofit Newswire, 6 July 2015

12 Nonprofit Call-to-Action Twitter Images to Study and Learn From

It is true that tweets with images receive more engagement, but how much more engagement depends on the quality of the images and if they are properly sized for Twitter (1024 x 512 pixels or a 2:1 aspect ratio). If your nonprofit is committed to maximizing engagement on Twitter, then you must create visually compelling call-to-action images for fundraising and advocacy campaigns. As we begin preparing for another year-end fundraising season spent tweeting and retweeting, studying the images below and creating a series of your own would be time and financial resources well spent.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Charity Village, Village Vibes Newsletter, 20 July 2015

24 Must-Read Fundraising and Social Media Reports for Nonprofits

The reports listed below are just a small sampling of some of the research available to nonprofits on the subjects of online fundraising and social media. The data can be used to help your nonprofit craft a technology and fundraising strategic plan.

If you would like to suggest a report be added to the list, please post the name and a link to the report in a comment below. Most of the reports listed are based on U.S. nonprofit research, but Nonprofit Tech for Good would also like to add similar reports from other regions of the world.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Tech for Good, 3 July 2015

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Training

- [WEBINAR: 10 BLOGGING BEST PRACTICES FOR NGOS](#)
- [WEBINAR: TRAUMA IN THE SHELTER SECTOR – PART II](#)
- [WEBINAR: JOB SEARCH STRATEGIES FOR FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS](#)
- [WEBINAR: HOW TO CREATE VISUAL CONTENT FOR YOUR NGO](#)
- [WEBINAR: THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS: 10 TIPS AND TRICKS PRACTICES FOR NGOS](#)
- [WORKSHOP: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES FOR UPSTREAM ACTION](#)
- [VOLUNTEER FUTURES – WE ARE COMMUNITY](#)
- [SAVE THE DATE: BOSS 2015 – BC’S NOT-FOR-PROFIT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE](#)
- [3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH](#)

Webinar: 10 Blogging Best Practices for NGOs

Date: Tuesday, August 4th, 10:00 am – 11:30 am PDT

Presented by: Heather Mansfield of Nonprofit Tech for Good and OnGood

Cost: Free

[Register Now](#)

This webinar covers the top 10 blogging best practices for NGOs and begins by discussing the importance of blogging as part of your social media and content strategy. Attendees will gain an understanding of good blog design as well as how to format blog posts to maximize their retweet and share rates on social media. Throughout the webinar more than 20 NGOs that excel at blogging will be featured.

Topics include:

- Which blogging platform is best for NGOs and why
- How to format blog posts to maximize reading and click-throughs on calls-to-action
- How to use your blog to grow your email list, social network followers, and online donations
- How to blog to maximize search engine optimization (SEO)
- How often an NGO should blog
- 10 blog content ideas for effective storytelling

-Source: Volunteer BC, The Connector Newsletter, 15 July 2015

Webinar: Trauma in the Shelter Sector – Part II

Date: August 11th, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

[Register Now](#)

Shelter Net BC’s Trauma in the Homeless Sector webinar offers a compelling look into the science of trauma and how service providers can effectively respond to clients and co-workers that may be affected by trauma. Participants learn best practices for trauma-informed practices and how they can help individuals affected by trauma. Shelter Net BC’s Trauma in the Homeless Sector webinar provides opportunities for participants to ask questions as well as contribute to surveys and discussions.

-Source: Newsletter, Shelter Net BC, 27 July 2015

Webinar: Job Search Strategies for Fundraising Professionals

Date: Thursday, August 20th, 10:00 am PST

Cost: Free – Space is limited so register early to avoid disappointment

[Register Now](#)

What you'll learn

This session will give you the tools you need to successfully secure a fundraising position, including:

- An overview of how employers find applicants for fundraising positions.
- Key insight into what employers are looking for in their fundraising candidates.
- Tips and strategies to prepare you for a successful fundraising job search.

-Source: Village Vibes, Charity Village, 27 July 2015

Webinar: How to Create Visual Content for Your NGO

Date: Tuesday, August 25th, 10:00 am – 11:30 am PDT

Presented by: Heather Mansfield of Nonprofit Tech for Good and OnGood

Cost: Free

[Registration Opening Soon](#)

The rise of social media has had a profound impact upon how donors and supporters process messages and calls-to-action online. Content that is text-heavy with few visuals will fail to inspire the online masses and if your NGO is not adept at creating visual content, then you will struggle to communicate your success stories and fundraise online. This webinar will demonstrate how NGOs can tap into the power of visual content on a minimal budget.

Topics include:

- How to create visually compelling images for social media
- The importance of creating infographics
- How to use Instagram to create video content
- Low-cost photo and video editing tools
- How to launch fundraising campaigns in visual format.

-Source: Volunteer BC, The Connector Newsletter, 15 July 2015

Webinar: The Science of Social Networks: 10 Tips and Tricks Practices for NGOs

Date: Tuesday, September 15th, 10:00 am – 11:30 am PDT

Presented by: Heather Mansfield of Nonprofit Tech for Good and OnGood

Cost: Free

[Registration Opening Soon](#)

More than a decade into the Social Web, social scientists have had ample time to study how, when, and why online individuals engage with NGOs on social networks – yet most NGOs are not aware of the scientific data about online social network behavior. Once this data is learned, however, NGOs can significantly improve their use of social networks for online fundraising and increasing cause awareness and brand recognition. Based on the science of social networks, this webinar will feature the top ten tips and tricks to maximize engagement on social networks.

Topics include:

- Share content on Facebook to maximize likes, comments, and shares
- When and how often to post on Facebook
- Format the perfect tweet to maximize retweets
- When and how often to tweet
- The basics for effectively sharing content on LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest, and Instagram

-Source: *Volunteer BC, The Connector Newsletter, 15 July 2015*

Workshop: Connecting Communities for Upstream Action

Date: September 17th, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Hollywood Road Education Services, 1040 Hollywood Road, Kelowna

Cost: Free

[Register Now](#)

Trish Garner (BC Poverty Reduction Coalition) will facilitate a community workshop on storytelling and effective advocacy, providing an opportunity to strategize about how we can work together to make systemic change in tackling poverty.

Everyone welcome!

- People living in poverty and their allies
- Service providers, community organizations or others who work directly with those in poverty
- Anyone who wants to make meaningful change!

Lunch provided. Other supports to attend available on request.

For more information, call Trish at 604.801.5121 ext 241 or visit the [website](#).

-Source: *CATCH Network Newsletter, 22 June 2015*

Volunteer Futures – We Are Community

Date: Thursday & Friday, September 24th & 25th

Location: Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, 7311 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC

Cost: \$195 – Early Bird Rate Ends September 14th / \$250 – After Early Bird / \$125 – Student Rate / \$150 – Single Day

[Register Now](#)

Volunteer and Non-Profit Sectors strengthen and build communities. In order to succeed and make an impact, we must nurture our networks – share our goals and work together. High-

impact organizations build networks of allies, share their expertise and talent with their peers. As we progress in the information age, the savvier our stakeholders become – non-profits must also focus on technology to increase their impact.

This is the event to share the voices of your community, find out what's happening across the province and collaborate with like-minded partners and learn! Anyone from the general public interested in learning more about volunteerism and non-profits are welcome. Join us!

The 2-day event will be jam-packed with inspiring keynote addresses, practical workshops and plenty of opportunities to network with non-profit colleagues from across BC. We've added a Volunteer Centre Scavenger Hunt and brought back the ever-popular Speed-Dating for Non-Profits.

For more information on the conference, please contact:
Lorelynn Hart at 604.379.2311 or volbcdesk@gmail.com.

[Learn More](#)

-Source: Volunteer BC, The Connector Newsletter, 15 July 2015

Save the Date: BOSS 2015 – BC's Not-For-Profit Leadership Conference

Date: October 15th

Location: Pinnacle Hotel Vancouver Harbourfront, 1133 W Hastings St, Vancouver

[Register Now](#)

Vantage Point is launching this innovative one-day leadership conference to convene seasoned and emerging leaders, board members and volunteers in a shared space to develop competencies, skills and tools.

BOSS 2015 will provide a space for dialogue and game-changing tactics on how not-for-profits approach leadership. Over 150 sector leaders will connect and tackle sector challenges like shared-leadership and appreciative inquiry while equipping themselves with skills ranging from leading without authority to interagency partnerships. Together we are building a network of generative leaders and transforming not-for-profit leadership.

YOU ARE BOSS.

Want a conference that speaks specifically to BC's not-for-profit leaders? Whether you are a new or seasoned leader, board member or volunteer, BOSS2015 is for you.

Through focused sessions, networking opportunities and expert learning, you will walk away with ideas, direction and inspiration relevant for you and your organization.

[Learn More](#)

-Source: Vantage Point Newsletter, 29 June 2015

3rd International Conference on Youth Mental Health

Date: October 8-10

Location: Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Cost: \$395 – \$945

[Register Now](#)

The mental health of young people is a priceless resource for communities around the world since it is the key determinant of the mental wealth and prosperity of society as a whole. In recent years it has become increasingly apparent that mental ill health and its correlates are the major health issue affecting young people with 50% experiencing significant mental ill health at some stage during the transition to adulthood. This is not an academic or philosophical issue but an intensely practical one since such mental ill health puts lives and futures at genuine risk. The neglect until now of the predicament of young people in such distress and danger has been described as a form of self harm that our society has inflicted upon itself. Fortunately this is all changing.

In partnership with young people themselves and families, mental health reformers in a number of countries have begun to build a new and evidence based approach to mental health care which aims to deliver early intervention in a stigma free setting. This approach blends developmental thinking with epidemiology and seeks to replace the paediatric/adult model of health care with a more continuous one much more appropriate to the needs of adolescents and emerging adults in the 21st century. Of course there are a myriad of perspectives and sources of knowledge which can be drawn upon to build the growing field of youth mental health and these will be on display during this unique conference. Anyone who attended the meetings in Melbourne in 2010 and Brighton in 2013 knows that this is a mental health conference unlike any other. The presence of young people in substantial numbers and in key roles absolutely transforms both the content and experience of such events.

It is truly appropriate that this year's conference is being held in Montreal, since Canada has shown great leadership in investing in transformational research in youth mental health which should in turn catalyse reform and investment in youth mental health care. The conference program has been assembled to maximise creativity, communication and connection, as well as featuring new ideas, showcasing new evidence and translating skills and knowledge in our exciting new field. We hope that you are inspired, energised and empowered by this event to contribute to the next phase of growth and progress in youth mental health."

-Source: Sarah Sweeney, IAYMH 2015 Conference Secretariat, 8 July 2015

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Volunteerism

- [THE VOLUNTEER RELATIONSHIP](#)
- [6 TIPS FOR HOSTING YOUTH VOLUNTEERS](#)
- [NEW: CANADIAN CODE FOR EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERING](#)
- [VOLUNTOURISM 101: THE DOS AND DON'TS FOR PLANNING A VOLUNTEER VACATION](#)

The Volunteer Relationship

Many charities and not-for-profit organizations depend on the dedication and hard work of their volunteers. Volunteer contributions can include fundraising, promotion and advocacy, governance, and service delivery. As such activities are often integrated with day-to-day operations, and integral to an organization's success, it is important to consider the obligations arising from the relationship between volunteer and organization.

As employers, charities and not-for-profit organizations can be held vicariously liable for the actions of their employees. The doctrine of vicarious liability can also apply to volunteers, provided the volunteer is acting within his or her assigned role, and the charity or not-for-profit exercises direction and control over the volunteer's activities. The Supreme Court of Canada has specifically rejected the premise that "an organization's responsibility and control over its operations diminish when it employs volunteers" (see *Bazley v. Curry*, [1999] 2 SCR 534). Organizations should therefore have policies and procedures in place that address the roles and responsibilities of volunteers as they do for their employees.

An organization's By-law and/or Code of Conduct typically define the parameters for the organization's volunteer Board of Directors. Developing job descriptions for other volunteer positions can also assist with clarifying the extent of a volunteer's authority, and can also define qualifications, licences, record checks or other pre-requisites for a role. Properly documenting expectations can also leave an organization well-positioned in the event that it needs to restrict or terminate its relationship with a volunteer, such that any impact on morale and reputation can be minimized.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Volunteer Canada, Media Monitoring Newsletter, 9 July 2015

6 Tips for Hosting Youth Volunteers

Youth volunteers can be a great way to boost the energy of an organization — and get a lot done.

Youth can provide enthusiasm and excitement while contributing in a large way to the organization's mission. The youth also benefit by learning new skills, meeting new people, and of course earning those all-important volunteer hours that are now essential for college or job applications.

Has your organization been hesitant to offer youth volunteer opportunities? It can be a win-win

situation for both you and the volunteers if you keep these six tips in mind:

First Impression

It's very likely that this experience may be the first time that a young person volunteers. Keep that in mind when selecting a project and relating to the volunteer. Nothing is worse than a poor initial exposure to volunteerism for a youth volunteer.

Meaningful Work

A meaningful task is the most important aspect of a youth volunteer project. Limit clerical or fundraising projects to a minimum, and try to focus on projects where volunteers can truly see the impact of their work. The most popular projects usually include client-based work since youth appreciate being able to get to know the people or animals they're helping.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Volunteer Canada, Media Monitoring Newsletter, 9 July 2015

Volunteering a Resume Booster

Sometimes the job of looking for a job can be hard work, especially if the skills section of your resume lacks lustre.

Volunteering can provide career experience, boost your skills inventory, and benefit your community all at the same time.

Some of the common skill sets employers look for include teamwork, communication, problem solving, project planning, time management and organization.

These are the same skill sets used by volunteers, although they rarely mention them on a job application or resume. Just because volunteer work is unpaid, does not mean the skills are not valuable or transferable.

A 2013 U.S. study found that unemployed individuals who volunteered during the next year had a 27 per cent higher chance of being employed at the end of that year, than non-volunteers.

Staying engaged in the work world while unemployed is a great way to impress a prospective employer.

Listing a volunteer position on a job application shows you are interested in maintaining your skills and staying in touch with your community.

Don't forget, most organizations who need volunteers also have paid staff.

If your volunteer position closely matches your interests and skills, you may be able to expand your network of contacts, and possibly become aware of employment opportunities in the community.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Volunteer Canada, Media Monitoring Newsletter, 9 July 2015

New: Canadian Code for Employer-Supported Volunteering

Supported by Cenovus Energy, the Canadian Code for Employer-Supported Volunteering (CCESV) is designed to provide guidance to workplaces to develop and enhance their employer-supported volunteering programs. It aims to support the work of those who manage these programs within a workplace. The CCESV was designed to align with the Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement. It has the flexibility to be adapted to the context, language and business objectives of Canadian workplaces of all sizes and within all sectors.

[Read the Report](#)

-Source: *Imagine Canada, Imagine Matters Newsletter, 7 July 2015*



Voluntourism 101: The Dos and Don'ts for Planning a Volunteer Vacation

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps in hopes of sending “the best and brightest Americans abroad on behalf of the United States to tackle the most pressing needs of people around the world.” This paved the way for the hundreds of international organizations today to offer volunteer trips worldwide. Volunteer vacations and voluntourism (volunteer tourism) have become huge trends in recent years, with thousands of people all over the world traveling to underdeveloped countries, such as Colombia, Tanzania, Kenya and Morocco. Working with children in schools and orphanages, nursing injured or ill animals back to health, and building houses are just a few of the programs offered.

The possibilities are endless — and so is the list of organizations and companies offering volunteering opportunities abroad. With more and more volunteer organizations and companies popping up every year, it’s hard for a traveler to know which to trust, which is why U.S. News spoke with Erin Barnhart, an expert in the field of international service and volunteer engagement. She provided tips on how to choose the right organization and red flags to look for when signing up for one of these trips. And fret not, Barnhart strongly believes that there is an international volunteer program for everyone.

[Read More](#)

-Source: *Volunteer Canada, Media Monitoring, 16 July 2015*

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