



Monthly Bulletin – December 2016

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KCR Finds a New Home



KCR will be moving to a new location at 620 Leon Avenue in Kelowna. Staff currently operating from four (4) separate sites will be together, which fulfills a long-term vision and strategic plan of the Board of Directors.

Services will be somewhat limited throughout the move that will begin December 21st and will be completed by January 9th.

“Bringing staff together will enhance our work culture as we all get to know one another better,” said Ellen Boelcke, Executive Director. “Working from the same site will create a larger sense of team. Departments will be more able to share information and cross-training of staff will be easier. Ultimately, this move will increase our service quality”, Boelcke added.

One location means that KCR is easier to find. Participants, service providers, funders and stakeholders will have access to all KCR staff, programs, and services. Transportation access by public transit and major thoroughfares is improved. A downtown site is more centralized within the Central Okanagan region for people traveling from Lake Country or Peachland.

“KCR has served our community for 33 years and our investment in a single location that houses all employees, volunteers and programming confirms our continued commitment to serve the Central Okanagan and beyond,” said Rob Peter, KCR Board President.

-Source: Ellen Boelcke, Executive Director, KCR, October 2016

Space for Rent!

KCR has an office space for rent at [255 Lawrence Avenue](#), downtown Kelowna. The building has ~2,500 square feet.

For more information, contact Ellen Boelcke at 250.763.8008 or ellen@kcr.ca.

-Source: Ellen Boelcke, Executive Director, KCR, October 2016

Sponsor a Family – Sponsors Needed!



Our community needs your help this holiday season! Our [Christmas Sponsorship program](#) is in need of sponsors! You can “adopt” a family and experience the gift of giving.

The [Christmas Sponsorship program](#) started in 2006 in an effort to help brighten the lives of families that are working hard with local organizations to rise above their circumstance. These families are matched with the generosity of community sponsors to provide the Christmas that

they cannot provide themselves.

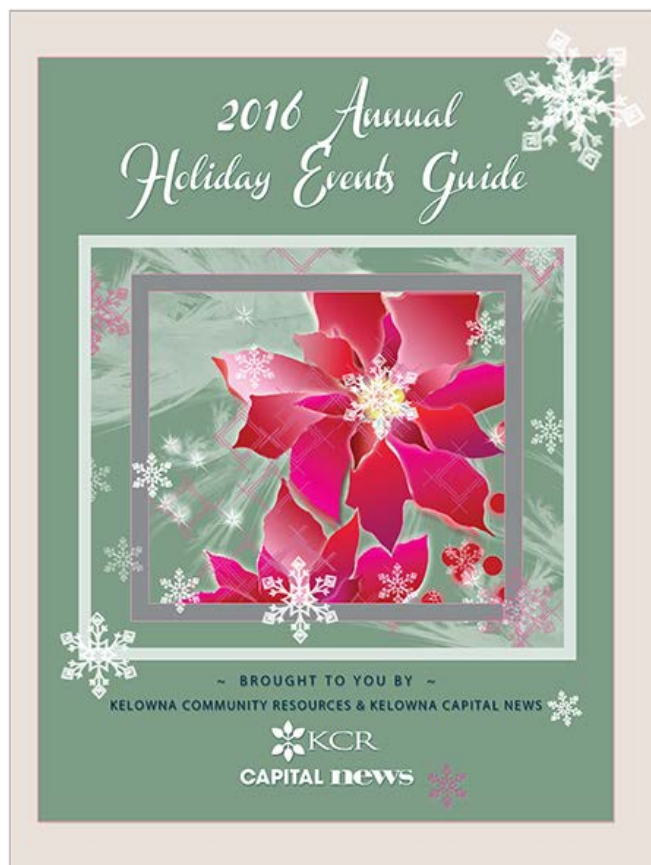
Who can be a Sponsor? A Sponsor can be an individual, group, or organization that is willing to support the families listed in the program. A sponsor is matched with a family and provided with the family's first names and wish list. This list provides ideas for easy shopping, as well as a more personalized experience and connection between the family and the sponsor. The sponsor provides gifts for each member of the family, as well as grocery gift cards (in lieu of food). Once the hamper is completed, the sponsor drops it off at KCR and we take care of delivery to families!

- [I want to sponsor a family](#)
- [I want to make a cash donation](#)

For more information, contact: Lisa Ford
KCR Family Friend Coordinator
250.763.8008 ext 136
sponsorfamily@kcr.ca

-Source: Lisa Ford, Coordinator, Family Friend, KCR, November 2016

2016 Holiday Events Guide



The [2016 Holiday Events Guide](#) is now available for download in regular and Large Text editions. The Holiday Events Guide consists of FREE/low-cost events, community dinners, spiritual services and Christmas hamper locations happening in the Central Okanagan during

the holiday season.

Also available for download is the stand-alone publication for [Craft Fairs & Bazaars](#). Check out the [publications page](#) for the large text versions!

-Source: Dawn Anthony, Information Development, Community Services, KCR, November 2016

Workshop Series: Nourishing Managers of Volunteers – Tis the Season

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Location: KCR, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna

Cost: Free

[Register Now](#)

Come and warm your innards. Mingle. Get to know others better.

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

Central Okanagan Family Hub – Calendar of Events – December 2016



Central Okanagan Family Hub – Kelowna
Open Mon – Fri 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Peerson Road Elementary (east side entrance) 700 Peerson Rd
www.facebook.com/COFH for up to date info

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Everything is always free at the Family Hub!	Happy Holidays 			Parent-Child Mother Goose and Playtime 10:00 - Noon Kelowna Breastfeeding Café 10:00 - Noon	Interactive Storytelling 10:30 - Noon	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Want to offer a program at the Hub? Email rich@cofh.ca		Feebleway Family (Christmas Decoration Making) 11:00 - 2:00pm		Parent-Child Mother Goose and Playtime 10:00 - Noon	Interactive Storytelling 10:30 - Noon	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Need information about community services? Email rich@cofh.ca		No Program by Melis Community Services		Parent-Child Mother Goose and Playtime 10:00 - Noon	Interactive Storytelling 10:30 - Noon	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Ask Debbie and Rich, we are here to help!		Feebleway Family (Traditional Melis Christmas Lunch) 11:00 - 2:00pm		No Mother Goose	No Storytelling	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Season's Greetings	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Family Hub re-opens January 3, 2017 Happy Holidays to You and Yours

Interactive Storytelling - Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society – Drop in for stories and fun – up to age 4 years
Parent-Child Mother Goose and Playtime – The Club House – rhymes, songs and stories – birth to 4 years
Feebleway Family – Melis Community Services Society – Check with Melis Community Services Society for up to date programming information
Kelowna Breastfeeding Café – Breastfeeding Support and Resources
Debbie Markus – Community Engagement Facilitator debbie@cofh.ca Rich Chapman – Hub Facilitator rich@cofh.ca

[Download the December 2016 Calendar of Events](#) for the Central Okanagan Family Hub – Kelowna.

-Source: Debbie Markus, Central Okanagan Family Hub – Kelowna, November 2016

KCR Mentor Volunteer Committee



Our KCR Mentor Volunteer Committee has been created! Thank you to our volunteers: Julie, Rachel, Alexandra (with Settlement Workers Vicki Pilot and Marrianna Chen) for stepping up to host our quarterly Mentor-Mentee Potlucks. Other fabulous ideas and ways to network to come!

Our organization appreciates and gives back to our wonderful Volunteers in many different ways. If you are interested in participating in the Employment and/or Settlement Programs please give us a call at 250.763.8008.

-Source: Vicki Pilot, Settlement Worker, Immigrant Services, KCR, November 2016

KCR's Giving Tuesday Mitten Tree




With the help of a large generous donation from London Drugs, KCR has surpassed our goal to provide Inn From the Cold – Kelowna with 150 gloves/mittens for Giving Tuesday -“National Giving Day”.

A very large Thank You to Assistant Manager, John Pereira who brought in the donation!!

-Source: Vicki Pilot, Settlement Worker, Immigrant Services, KCR, November 2016

Central Okanagan Flu Shot Locations 2016

2016 / 2017 Central Okanagan Flu Shot Locations				
KELOWNA - Downtown				
Location	Address	Phone	Date(s)	Times/ Details
Costco Pharmacy	2479 Hwy 97 N	250.868.2548	Tuesdays: November 15 th and 22 nd and December 1 st Call ahead to ensure availability	12:30pm - 5:30pm Available Free (if eligible) and privately
Dyck's Pharmacists - Remedy'sRX Pandosy/Mission	3039 Pandosy St	778.478.0360	Call ahead to ensure availability from November 1, 2016	Monday-Friday, 9am - 5:30pm Saturday, 10am - 4pm Sunday/Holidays, closed Available free (if eligible) and privately
Lakeside Medicine Centre	2365 Gordon Dr	250.860.3100	Call ahead to ensure availability	Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm Available free (if eligible) and privately * drop in
Lakeshore Pharmasave	3979 Lakeshore Rd	250.764.6410	Call ahead to ensure availability	Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 9am - 6pm Sunday, 10am - 5pm Available free (if eligible) and privately
Loblaw Pharmacy (Inside Your Independent Grocer)	1835 Gordon Dr	250.861.1525	Call ahead to ensure availability	Monday-Friday, 8am - 9pm Saturday, 9am - 6pm Sunday, 10am - 6pm Available free (if eligible) and privately * drop in
London Drugs Spall Plaza	400-1950 Harvey Ave	250.860.2232	Call ahead to ensure availability	Monday-Friday, 9am - 10pm Saturday, 9am - 10pm Sunday, 10am - 6pm Available free (if eligible) and privately * drop in
Orchard Remedy'sRx Pharmacy	152-1876 Cooper Road	250.420.2882	Call for dates and times and to ensure availability	Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 10am - 4pm Sunday, closed Available free (if eligible) and privately

Community Services - Kelowna Community Resources
Updated October 27, 2016

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Have you had your Flu shot yet? [Download our 2016 Flu Shot Locations Guide](#) to view a list of

clinics, dates/hours they're open and eligibility requirements. Includes locations from Kelowna, Lake Country, Lumby, Okanagan Falls, Peachland, Summerland & West Kelowna.

[Click here](#) to consent to receiving electronic messages from KCR for all of our Publication updates.

-Source: Dawn Anthony, Information Development, Community Services, KCR, November 2016

Web Master & Designer (Volunteer / Practicum Student)

Position Summary:

Primary role is to coordinate the development of the Employment Services Division Web Portal Online – taking lead from Kelowna Community Resources' Employment Services Department staff to create, design and layout of the main portal to assist the community and our program participants to create a single place online locally for existing weblinks for employment & education, labour market resources, valuable online resources, Jobseeker FAQs and an online promotional page for the promotion of participants in our government-funded employment programs.

This web portal will be the Employment Division's main online marketing medium to drive awareness of services in the community, and create a single portal for "all things job search" in the Central Okanagan.

Responsibilities:

Content and Website materials:

- Storyboarding the web portal layout and helping conceptualize direction and needs of the project
- Assist with collection of online materials, content and organization of the materials online for ease of accessibility online for home-based jobseekers and program participants
- Assist the Program Service Manager with technical expertise in the creation of the web portal
- Assist participants with the use of the web portal including, but not limited to, user groups and feedback sessions to assess the usability of the site for users with different levels of computer expertise
- Demonstration and modeling of web portal to: staff, stakeholders, individuals, and groups
- Investigate and ensure website has accessibility options for disability-related needs
- Assist with the writing and submission of content and assist department staff

Design, Marketing, and Layout:

- Creation of front-end web portal using various graphic software for digital imaging & editing pictures and appropriate graphics (e.g., themes of older workers, new Canadians, and persons with disabilities)
- Ensuring SEO optics to increase awareness of web presence online and to encourage users to regularly use the web portal when they seek out work as the central source for jobsearch
- Website Coding and development of pages for functionality, readability, and user-centric needs

Other Duties as Required:

- Assist clients, where possible, with basic questions, technical questions, and use of website and computer resources (minimal)
- Attend appropriate team meetings and provide updates on progress, concerns, and technical needs (minimal)
- Communicate and collaborate with the KCR IT Services Manager's technical needs and requests (minimal)
- Track, update, and monitor progress for Employment Services Manager

Reference Check & Criminal Record will be required for this opportunity as KCR serves community residents from various socio-economic backgrounds, is accredited by CARF, and has various contracts with both levels of Government.

Salary:

Volunteer

Reward:

This is a great opportunity to develop a vital web resource for a leading non-profit in the community. Employers love community development and would-be visionaries who can demonstrate that they can work in partnership with a proactive team of industry experts. This project will help the practicum student create a portfolio to showcase to future employers. References from and work completed with the Project Lead and Employment Services Manager will help the practicum student gain the knowledge and experience necessary to secure future employment.

Please contact:

Travis Schneider, Manager, Employment Services, 778.484.5587, travis@kcr.ca

-Source: Travis Schneider, Employment Services Manager, November 2016

Programs, Services and Activities for 55+



KCR is working on a Seniors' Wellness project with funding from the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors program. We are currently pulling together information to include in a new resource guide that will be specific to each of the four Central Okanagan Communities. The resource guide will be launched in November 2016 at community workshops throughout the region.

If you know of any programs or services that target the 55+ age demographic and would like to have the information included in the guide, please email Stephanie at stephanie@kcr.ca.

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

KCR Employment Programs – Apply Today!



Need to get ready for post-secondary training, or improve your Math, reading, and study strategies?

KCR is hosting their Job Readiness and Essential Skills training programs. Both programs are free to participants, and involve 6-week, 3-hours-a-day training to help individuals identify career goals and take the steps necessary to reach these goals. In addition, individuals are provided with an additional 12 weeks of one-on-one follow-up support to help them meet their goals.

“Both Job Readiness and Essential Skills programs are being led by a team of truly amazing individuals,” says Travis Schneider, KCR Employment Services Manager. “Over 70% of those who have completed the training have found employment, which is incredible”.

Are you employed or underemployed, do you feel lost or don't know what to do when it comes to employment? Are you over 18, are you a BC resident, and have you not collected employment insurance (EI) in the past 3 years?

If so, give us a call today at 778.484.5587, or [visit our website](#) to see if you're a fit for these programs.

Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Job Fund's Employment Services and Support Programs. For more information about B.C.'s labour market programs, visit www.workbc.ca.

-Source: Travis Schneider, Manager, Employment Services, KCR, June 2016

KCR's Mailing Lists

[Monthly Bulletin](#): Sent electronically each month, plus time sensitive information updated periodically on the website

[Publications](#): Our updated publications will be sent right to your inbox

[KCR Workshops](#): Information about upcoming training opportunities

[Adoption Centre of BC](#): Upcoming information sessions, newsletters and general adoption information

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

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COLIP Workgroup Update

Workgroup is currently in the final development stages of the Beyond Lip Services Speaker Series set to launch January 2017. As well, the Welcome Newcomer Summit and Canada 150 projects are in the initial stages. More updates to follow.

The UBCO Management third year management students successfully completed the Healthy Communities project with a solid team presentation about creating a brand identity for COLIP. The Marketing workgroup is in the process of review their presentation and finding the ideas deemed implementable will then be presented to the COLIP Council. Stay tuned for more news on this project in the coming days.

-Source: Rawle James, Coordinator, COLIP, December 2016

2017 Immigration Levels in Canada

Immigrants contribute to Canada's success and enrich our country economically, socially and culturally. The Government of Canada is committed to an immigration system that strengthens the Canadian middle class through economic growth and attracting investment, supports diversity and helps build vibrant, dynamic and inclusive communities.

The Government of Canada is maintaining its commitment to a strong immigration program and will welcome 300,000 immigrants in 2017. [Key highlights of 2017 Immigration Plan](#).

[Read More](#)

-Source: News, Government of Canada, 31 October 2016

Syrian Refugees Fear what Lies Ahead as Government-Sponsored Year Runs Out

A year after arriving in Canada, the first wave of resettled Syrian refugees is about to face a whole new round of challenges.

December begins the so-called Month 13, when the government-sponsored refugee package, with its monthly living allowance, ends for many families. They either have to support themselves or fall back on provincial social assistance.

[Read More](#)

-Source: CBC, 29 November 2016

Vancouver's Syrian Refugees Introduced to Canadian Christmas

Vancouver—Mohammed Alsaleh had no idea how Christmas was celebrated in Canada when he arrived two years ago. There are Christmas-like celebrations in Syria, a country that he fled in November 2014, but the traditions in Syria were different.

“In Syria, the tradition is fireworks at midnight. When 12 o'clock comes, the skies become so bright, like it was day,” said Alsaleh. He said the traditions of tree and decorations are not as pronounced in Syria, but Christmas is a national holiday where everyone comes together, regardless of anyone's religious background.

[Read More.](#)

-Source: The Thunderbird, 23 November 2016

New Liberal Immigration Plan Seeks to Woo Overseas Talent into Moving to Canada

The Liberals are proposing an immigration plan they say will help Canadian businesses attract international talent.

The program, outlined in Finance Minister Bill Morneau's fall economic update, sets a two-week standard to process visas and work permits for international workers hoping to coming to Canada.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Global News, 1 November 2016

Immigration & Refugee News

[For international Immigration news](#)

[UN Refugee Agency](#)

[Canadian Council for Refugees](#)

[Government of Canada Citizenship and Immigration](#)

[Canadian Immigration News](#)

[An article on Canadian migration to Kelowna](#)

-Source: Rawle James, Central Okanagan Local Immigration Partnership Coordinator, November 2016

Immigration Resources

Central Okanagan Refugee Community Resources

The Institute of Community Engaged Research at UBC Okanagan in collaboration with Kelowna Community Resources have created a mapping website that allows users to share information about household items, employment opportunities, services, housing, and volunteering that might be used by incoming Syrian refugees. To Donate Household Items, Employment Opportunities or Volunteer Time or for more information visit kcr.ca/immigrant-services/okanagan-refugee-community-resources

KCR Event Calendar

A listing of free, local, fundraisers and nonprofit events. Visit the link www.kcr.ca/community-services/community-information-volunteer-centre/calendar-of-community-events

City of Kelowna: www.kelowna.ca

Lake Country: www.okanaganway.ca/municipal

District of West Kelowna: www.districtofwestkelowna.ca

District of Peachland: www.peachland.ca

Regional District of Central Okanagan: www.regionaldistrict.com

Kelowna Chamber of Commerce: www.kelownachamber.org

Tourism Kelowna: www.tourismkelowna.com

Respect Network: www.respectnetwork.ca

Project Literacy: projectliteracykelowna.org

Central Okanagan Food Bank: cofoodbank.com

Castanet News: www.castanet.net

KelownaNow: www.kelownanow.com

Do you have an event, workshop or news item that you would like the community to know about? Email the details to your LIP coordinator Rawle James at ac.rck@elwar

[Visit COLIP on Facebook for more news and updates.](#)

-Source: Rawle James, COLIP Coordinator, November 2016

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AGM's

- [BALLET KELOWNA – AGM](#)

Ballet Kelowna – AGM

Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 6:00 pm

Location: Stewart Family Room, Quails Gate Winery, 3303 Boucherie Road, West Kelowna

Join us at our AGM to learn about the past year's achievements and activities. Stay afterward for a glass of wine courtesy of Quails' Gate Winery! Members will also hear the latest news about the 2016/17 Season from Artistic Director and CEO Simone Orlando.

Not a member? To become a member or to RSVP for the AGM, please call Ballet Kelowna at 250.762.6105 or email us at info@balletkelowna.ca.

-Source: Newsletter, Ballet Kelowna, 21 November 2016

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Awards

- [42ND ANNUAL CIVIC & COMMUNITY AWARDS](#)
- [VOLUNTEER AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS](#)

42nd Annual Civic & Community Awards

The City of Kelowna is proud to announce the nomination period for the 42nd Annual Civic and Community Awards!

Please help us recognize the amazing people and organizations, who help make Kelowna a great place to live! There are 15 different award categories open for nomination!

Community & Youth Volunteers, Athletes, Artists, Businesses, Not-for-profit organizations and Environmental Leaders

We all know someone that should be celebrated for their contributions and achievements in 2016! Nomination forms for the 42nd Annual Civic & Community awards are available at www.kelowna.ca/residents.

Three Easy ways to nominate:

1. Online submissions – here is the [quick link](#) to the online form.
2. Email – you can access the [fillable pdf nomination form](#) from the City's web page, and email it to [Amber Gilbert](#) along with your support letters when they are ready.
3. Drop-off nomination packages in person to the Parkinson Recreation Centre, Attention : Amber Gilbert.

*There are hard copy nomination forms available at City Hall, The Parkinson Recreation Centre, and city Library locations.

Nomination Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2017

The 42nd Annual award finalists will be celebrated on *Wednesday, May 10, 2017*, at the Kelowna Community Theatre.

-Source: Amber Gilbert, Recreation Technician, City of Kelowna, 14 November 2016

Volunteer Awards Call for Nominations

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, announced on November 15th, National Philanthropy Day, that the call for nominations for Canada's Volunteer Awards is now open and will run until **February 3, 2017**.

This year, 21 awards will be presented, and award recipients will have the chance to identify a not-for-profit organization of their choice to receive a \$5,000 or \$10,000 grant.

[Apply Now](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Early Alert, Imagine Canada, 28 November 2016

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Housing

- [HOMELESS HUB 2016 SURVEY](#)
- [HELP IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY WORKSPACE ON HOMELESSNESS!](#)
- [NO VACANCY: AFFORDABILITY & HOMELESSNESS IN VANCOUVER](#)
- [2016 DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S NEEDS ASSESSMENT](#)
- [PREVENTING, REDUCING & ENDING LGBTQ2S YOUTH HOMELESSNESS: THE NEED FOR TARGETED STRATEGIES](#)
- [WITHOUT A HOME: THE NATIONAL YOUTH HOMELESSNESS SURVEY](#)
- [TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE: REIMAGINING OUR RESPONSE TO YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CANADA](#)
- [FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HEARS CALLS TO END HOMELESSNESS IN NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY CONSULTATION](#)
- [WHAT WE HEARD: SHAPING CANADA'S NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY](#)
- [T3 PODCASTS](#)
- [SCIENCE-BASED STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS](#)
- [STUDY: HIDDEN HOMELESSNESS IN CANADA](#)

Homeless Hub 2016 Survey

As part of our continuing efforts to improve the content that we bring you, we are conducting this survey to understand how you use our website, if there are any additional resources or tools that would be of use to you, and how satisfied you are with your overall Homeless Hub experience.

Please answer each question to the best of your ability. To navigate between pages use the "Next" and "Back" buttons below.

[Take the Survey](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 8 November 2016

Help Improve the Community Workspace on Homelessness!

We also want to know how you use the Community Workspace on Homelessness, our online platform for sharing information and exchanging resources about homelessness. If you have an account on the Workspace, take a few minutes to complete our survey!

Let us know what features you find most useful, what could be improved and what you would like to see more of on this interactive space. Your feedback will guide the development of the Workspace on Homelessness so that it continues to meet the needs of communities.

[Take the Workspace Survey](#)

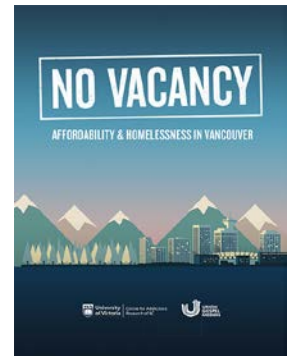
-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 8 November 2016

No Vacancy: Affordability & Homelessness in Vancouver

Recent Point-in-Time homeless counts in Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver indicate a growing number of people experiencing homelessness in the community. Despite government investments in social housing and rent supplements, more people are homeless in Metro Vancouver than ever before. Virtually every indicator points to an increase in homelessness and housing insecurity in Metro Vancouver, both now and in coming years. Unless significant action is taken to address these structural factors, homelessness will continue to impact a growing number of individuals and families.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 10 November 2016



2016 Downtown Women's Needs Assessment

National research shows that domestic violence is one of the main drivers into homelessness for women. This 2016 report details the characteristics, and conditions facing homeless and extremely low-income women living in downtown Los Angeles and found nearly half of all respondents (46.9%) had experienced violence within the last 12 months. Due to a lack of safe, affordable housing options, these women are often forced to choose between remaining with their abuser or becoming homeless.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 10 November 2016

Preventing, Reducing & Ending LGBTQ2S Youth Homelessness: The Need for Targeted Strategies

Gender non-conforming and sexual minority youth are overrepresented in the homeless youth population and are frequently discriminated against in shelters and youth serving organizations. This paper provides a contextual understanding of the ways that institutional and governmental policies and standards often perpetuate the social exclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and 2-Spirit (LGBTQ2S) youth, by further oppression and marginalization.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 10 November 2016

Without a Home: The National Youth Homelessness Survey

Youth Homelessness is a significant problem, and one that we must urgently address. Young people who are homeless between the ages of 13-24 make up approximately 20% of the homeless population in Canada, and on any given night there are between 6,000-7,000 youth experiencing homelessness.

Without a Home: The National Youth Homelessness Survey, released today by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness in partnership with A Way Home Canada, and funded by the Home Depot Canada Foundation, is the first pan-Canadian study of young people who experience homelessness. As we move toward more permanent and effective solutions to youth homelessness, the question to be asked is: Can we do things differently?

Can we shift from merely managing the problem, to preventing and ending homelessness in Canada?

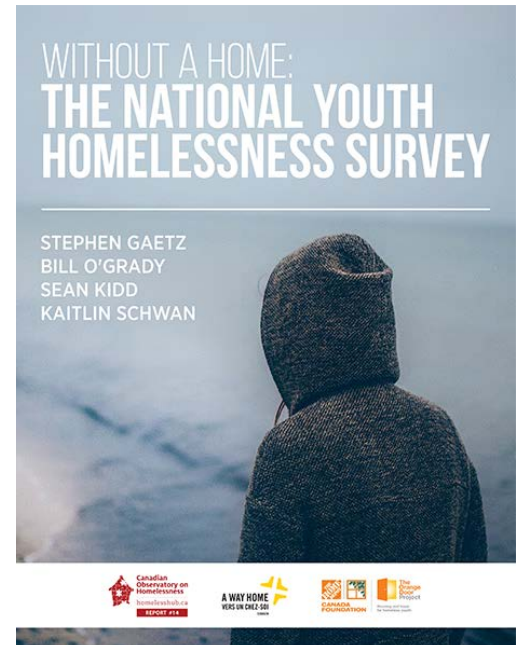
Between October and December 2015, we surveyed 1,103 young people experiencing homelessness from 49 different communities across 10 provinces and territories. The findings provide detailed information about the nature and extent of youth homelessness in Canada. We explore the make up and diversity of the population, the factors that contribute to youth homelessness, the experience of homelessness and importantly, the resilience of these youth.

Differences matter in terms of how we understand youth homelessness; a successful strategy to prevent and end youth homelessness must ensure that the diverse needs of young people are met. One size does not fit all.

We believe there are solutions to youth homelessness, and this means doing things differently.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 17 November 2016



Too Little, Too Late: Reimagining Our Response to Youth Homelessness in Canada

Without a Home vividly demonstrates why a new approach to youth homelessness is urgently needed. Our findings indicate that we are waiting too long to intervene when it comes to youth homelessness. In many communities, services for young people who experience homelessness are not available until the age 16 or even 18. By that time, a great deal of harm has already occurred.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 17 November 2016

Federal Government Hears Calls to End Homelessness in National Housing Strategy Consultation

Today Minister Jean-Yves Duclos released a summary of what they heard from public consultations on a National Housing Strategy. [‘What We Heard’ is available on line here.](#)

Ending homelessness, prioritizing the most vulnerable and embedding the right to housing featured prominently in a comprehensive accounting of the consultation process.

According to the report Canadians said clearly, “a fundamental goal of a National Housing Strategy should be to eliminate homelessness in Canada, and short of that, make it rare, brief and non-recurring. The needs of homeless Canadians, who fall at the extreme end of the housing spectrum, ought to be prioritized.”

The government will now spend the next few months on critical budget deliberations and on developing the National Housing Strategy.

If we want an end to homelessness and the right to housing to become a reality in Canada we must keep the pressure on government.

Politicians have to weigh thousands of competing demands for resources and make difficult decisions on where to make investments. They need to keep hearing from Canadians that ending homelessness has to be a priority in the National Housing Strategy.

We’ve made it easy for you to contact your MP. [Please take a moment to send an email](#) telling your MP to support ending homelessness in Canada. It only takes a few clicks!

-Source: Newsletter, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, 22 November 2016

What We Heard: Shaping Canada’s National Housing Strategy

This report highlights what was heard during the four-month National Housing Strategy consultation process. In the feedback from more than 7,000 Canadians who participated in the consultation, the themes of affordable housing and eliminating homelessness were prevalent. Many respondents believe that a fundamental goal of a National Housing Strategy should be to eliminate homelessness in Canada. In 2017, the Government of Canada will release a comprehensive National Housing Strategy influenced by the responses outlined in What We Heard.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 22 November 2016

t3 Podcasts

The 100-Day Challenge Midpoint Review: Youth Liberating Creativity to End Youth Homelessness

In this second of three episodes, host Jeff Olivet returns for an update from Terrance Walker and Phoebe VanCleeve, two youth leaders who discuss the progress, strategies, challenges, and surprises they see midway through the “100-Day Challenge to End Youth Homelessness” in Los Angeles, Austin, and Cleveland through the A Way Home America & Rapid Results Institute partnership.

[Listen Now](#)

Homelessness is Not About Homelessness

Host Jeff Olivet sits down with C4’s Laura Gillis of Baltimore, public health nurse, advocate, activist and service provider in the homelessness field for 25 years, to discuss what’s changed in the field, what homelessness is really about, and what it would take to level the playing field.

[Listen Now](#)

-Source: Newsletter, t3, 21 November 2016

Science-Based Strategies to Support Children Experiencing Homelessness

Have you ever watched an infant play? I mean really observed them? Try it some time, and while you watch, contemplate this...

At birth, we have 100 billion neurons, most of which are not connected. Infants form 700 new neural connections every second – tens of thousands of pathways that literally build the architecture of their brains. Through their senses and their relationships, they come to know the external world, and their brain begins to build the systems to understand it. The attention they receive (or don’t) from their primary caregivers, stimulation they receive from their environment, stress they experience and the responses to that stress by those around them reinforce or prune away at their neural connections and promote or hinder cognitive, physical, and social-emotional development. Now consider this: the age a person in the US is most likely to experience homelessness is infancy. And, a person is next most likely to experience homelessness from ages one through five. The experiences of these children – who number in the millions – often include food insecurity, frequent moves, and living environments that often do not include safe places to play, explore, and rest. Their mothers – the people most frequently responsible for their care and well-being – are understandably under enormous stress and coping with the effects of a lifetime of trauma and violence which often manifests in clinical depression.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, t3, 30 November 2016

Study: Hidden homelessness in Canada

On November 15, Statistics Canada released a study on hidden homelessness in Canada.

[Read More](#)

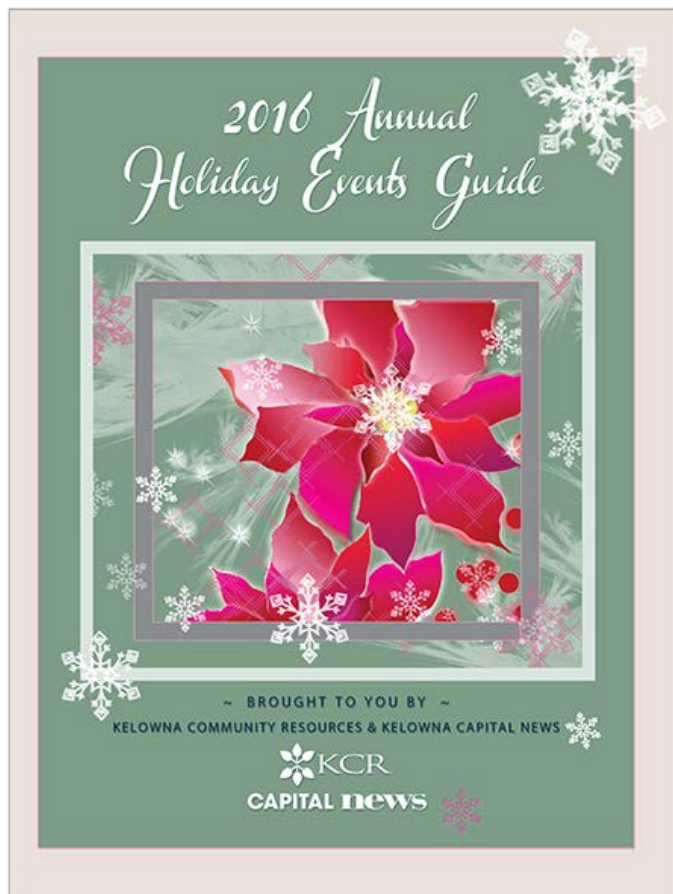
-Source: *Newsletter, Early Alert, Imagine Canada, 28 November 2016*

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- [FREE DENTAL CLINIC REOPENS IN KELOWNA](#)
- [RUTLAND & GLENMORE WALK-IN CLINIC CLOSURES](#)

Holiday Events



The [2016 Holiday Events Guide](#) is now available for download in regular and Large Text editions. The Holiday Events Guide consists of FREE/low-cost events, community dinners, spiritual services and Christmas hamper locations happening in the Central Okanagan during the holiday season.

Also available for download is the stand-alone publication for [Craft Fairs & Bazaars](#). Check out the [publications page](#) for the large text versions!

-Source: Dawn Anthony, Information Development, Community Services, KCR, November 2016

Yalda Night

Date: Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 pm

Location: German Club, 1696 Cary Road, Kelowna

Cost: Adults \$25 / 5-10 years \$5 / Under 5 FREE

Yalda Night (Shabe Yalda) is right around the corner! Let's all celebrate this beautiful event together and enjoy music by a famous LA singer, dancing, and tasty foods! This event will be a potluck party so please bring your favourite foods to share with everyone!

Please purchase your tickets at Mount Royal Bagel Factory, 1551 Sutherland Ave, Kelowna. Thank you and hope to see you all there!

-Source: Okanagan Persian Community, 24 November 2016

Learn to Shred

Elevation Outdoors is running our Learn to Shred program over the winter months for socially and financially disadvantaged youth in the Kelowna area. The program involves teaching young people to snowboard starting from the elementary level. It also involves reflecting upon this experience and using it as a metaphor for life experiences and learning. Each program runs for four weeks, with two snow sessions each week on Wednesday afternoon/evenings and Sunday full days.

We will be running two programs again this season, the first for 12-14 year olds from January 11th – February 5th and the second for 15-18 year olds from February 15th – March 12th. Once again the program will run on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30 pm – 8:00 pm and the Sunday program will run from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm.

We have space for up to 13 youth in each program and would be thrilled to fill every spot and get as many young people up to the hill as we can this winter.

[Download the Forms from their website](#)

In an effort to impact as many youth as we can, we have made some adjustments to our eligibility requirements that should allow for greater access to our programs for many families.

We are now using the L.I.C.O. index provided by Stats Canada to determine if a families income meets the low income thresholds rather than our previous cut off of family/guardian income of \$30,000 per year or less. This takes location and family size into consideration and will allow families that earn over \$30,000 to still be eligible to participate in our programs. You can [view the entire chart here](#). I have put the income levels that are relevant to Kelowna below as a quick reference.

Family Size – Allowable Income

- 1 person – \$20,952
- 2 persons – \$26,082
- 3 persons – \$32,065
- 4 persons – \$38,931
- 5 persons – \$44,154
- 6 persons – \$49,800

- 7 persons or more – \$55,444

The other change that we have made is that now any youth in a restorative justice program is eligible as well. For this we will require a letter stating they are in the program in the same manner we have previously required a letter for any youth in the Youth Criminal Justice program.

We will continue to provide our programs at no cost to youth in the Foster system as well as any family that is on social assistance. We feel these are some great changes that will allow for more families and youth to experience and benefit from our programs.

If you have any questions please feel free to email mike@elevaitonoutdoors.ca.

-Source: Newsletter, Elevation Outdoors, 21 November 2016

Dining Out for Literacy

For another year, Bai Tong Restaurant in downtown Kelowna, will host a major fundraising event for Project Literacy Kelowna.

The Story

In 2004, Jamjit and Kitti Karunyasopon, who had arrived from Thailand with limited English skills, were referred to Project Literacy. Working with our Educational Coordinators and a tutor, the couple learned English and also received support in adjusting to life in a new community. Jamjit and Kitti opened Bai Tong in 2006 and the restaurant has received accolades for its exceptional, authentic Thai food. In 2007, they became proud Canadian citizens. Kitti and Jamjit have always been grateful for the help and support they received from Project Literacy so in 2012, they came up with the idea for a unique fundraiser that benefits those in the community who continue to receive literacy support.

The Details

This year's Dining Out for Literacy event has started and will run until January 31, 2017. Purchase a \$10 voucher in advance of your next meal at the Bai Tong Restaurant (275 Bernard Avenue, Kelowna) and you will be supporting adult learners in our community. Vouchers are available at Project Literacy at 1635 Bertram Street. The Voucher cannot exceed 50% of the total bill and is good for food only. There is limited availability.

Please help Kitti and Jamjit promote literacy in the Okanagan by dining at one of the best restaurants in Kelowna. Purchase your vouchers today! For more information, please call Project Literacy at 250.762.2163.

-Source: Christine McWillis, Executive Director, Project Literacy Kelowna Society, 29



DINING OUT FOR LITERACY

Purchase a \$10.00 Voucher in advance of your next meal at the Bai Tong Restaurant (275 Bernard Avenue) and you will be supporting adult learners in our community.

100% of proceeds go to support literacy initiatives in our community!



VOUCHERS AVAILABLE AT
PROJECT LITERACY KELOWNA SOCIETY
1635 BERTRAM STREET, KELOWNA, BC
250-762-2163

Voucher not to exceed 50% of the total bill. Voucher valid for food only.
Vouchers expire January 31, 2017. Not valid December 21, 2016 – January 1, 2017.
Limited availability - while supplies last.

WWW.BAITONG.CA

OGO Updates

City Hall powered by Fusion! Ford Fusion, that is. Located downtown in the City Hall parking lot, the most recent addition to our OGO fleet fuses style and sustainability! Our new Ford Fusion is a four door hybrid sedan with a backup camera, bluetooth audio, and enough room to seat five people. Next time you're booking an OGO vehicle, why not give it a spin?

Say hello to OGO's 15 minute booking times! Starting this month, OGO members will be able to book in 15-minute increments giving our members more flexibility and peace of mind on the road. Tight schedule? No problem. OGO bookings can now be made in 15 minute increments.

-Source: Newsletter, Okanagan Car Share Co-op, 16 September 2016

Free Dental Clinic Reopens in Kelowna

After shutting its doors six weeks ago, the Kelowna Gospel Mission's free dental clinic will reopen Monday. For more than a decade the clinic has been offering free treatment to clients who need dental work but don't have the means to pay for it.

On Oct. 7 the Mission was forced to temporarily shut the clinic's doors as it searched for a new dentist to take it over. That search ended this week when the Mission hired a recent graduate of the UBCO residency program to work full-time.

Executive Director Randy Benson says that starting Monday, the clinic will once again be open "pretty much five days a week."

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, KelownaNow, 12 November 2016

Rutland & Glenmore Walk-In Clinic Closures

The Rutland Walk-In Clinic located at 590 Hwy 33W in Willow Park Mall will close permanently effective August 20, 2016.

Also, the Glenvalley Medical Centre located at #207 – 437 Glenmore Rd, will close permanently effective January 9, 2017.

[Find a list of alternatives on our Directory here.](#)

-Source: Dawn Anthony, Information Development, Community Services, July 2016

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- [CALL TO ACTION: PARTICIPATE IN CRA'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES CONSULTATION](#)
- [PARLIAMENTARY STUDY OF CHARITABLE & NONPROFIT SECTOR PROPOSED](#)

Call to Action: Participate in CRA's Political Activities Consultation

Deadline extended to December 9th

The CRA is asking charities for our opinions on how political activity should be regulated. Imagine Canada, in collaboration with many other organizations, has developed a comprehensive proposal for reform. We have concrete suggestions relating to the questions posed by the CRA. Among our recommendations, we are advocating for the following:

- Consider changing the Income Tax Act to focus on charitable purposes
- Clarification of the existing guidance especially as it pertains to the concept of indirect partisan activity
- Extensive outreach to charities to ensure clarity in what they can and can not to do.

[Act Now!](#) To download and endorse our framework, add comments and submit to the consultation, and spread the word!

-Source: Newsletter, Early Alert, Imagine Canada, 28 November 2016

Parliamentary Study of Charitable & Nonprofit Sector Proposed

MP Alexandra Mendès this week gave notice of a Private Member's Motion calling for a study of our sector. It is possible that this will be debated in the House in the new year; if the motion passes, the relevant Committee is to report by October 31, 2017. The motion reads:

That the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities be instructed to undertake a study that examines the status of the charitable and not-for-profit sectors in Canada and to make recommendations by: (a) identifying the strategic role that organizations in these sectors play in our economy, as well as their socio-economic impact; (b) setting out a series of economic, tax and funding policies that will both strengthen these sectors and protect the jobs they create; and (c) finding ways that the government can increase support for and the capacity of charitable and not-for-profit organizations; and that the Committee report its findings and recommendations to the House no later than October 31, 2017.

-Source: Newsletter, Early Alert, Imagine Canada, 28 November 2016

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- [INCLUSION BC: BC FAILED A GENERATION OF STUDENTS](#)
- [BERNARD RICHARD NAMED BC'S REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH](#)

Inclusion BC: BC Failed a Generation of Students

During the 14-year fight between the BC government and teachers, a generation of students with special needs had their supports and inclusion steadily eroded. Now Inclusion BC calls for an urgent response to ensure public schools can restore inclusion, lost access and special education supports.

“Without adequate resources and a firm commitment to inclusive education in our schools, we certainly expect more families will be forced to leave their communities or to pay privately to educate their child with special needs,” said Faith Bodnar, executive director of Inclusion BC, a First Call member.

“Inclusive education and free public education are fundamental rights for all students and the majority of students with special needs will always rely on our public schools to access those rights,” adds Jackie Carpenter, Inclusion BC president. “It’s not just a right but the first choice for most BC families.”

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Child & Youth Advocate, 28 November 2016

Bernard Richard Named BC's Representative for Children & Youth

In November 15 [report](#) to the BC legislature, a special bipartisan committee recommended that Bernard Richard be appointed BC's new representative for children and youth.

First Call welcomes this timely appointment and look forward to working with BC's new representative for children and youth.

Bernard Richard is a lawyer and former social worker and politician who served as New Brunswick's first child and youth advocate.

[Read his Bio](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Child & Youth Advocate, 28 November 2016

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Research

- [GIVINGTUESDAY CONTINUES TO SHOW BIG GROWTH](#)
- [CATCH PARTNER RESEARCH INVITATION](#)
- [CANADIAN CHARITIES 'NEED TO ADAPT' TO STAY RELEVANT](#)
- [GREATER TRANSPARENCY WOULD SPUR CHARITABLE DONATIONS: SURVEY](#)

GivingTuesday Continues to Show Big Growth

Thank-you for making this the biggest GivingTuesday ever. This year 98 countries participated around the world, including very strong growth in Canada.

With more than 5,700 partners, we saw lots more GivingTuesday activity this year. Preliminary numbers from CanadaHelps show another increase in gifts bringing the four year lift in donation dollars to over 353%.

[Take the Survey](#)

-Source: Newsletter, GivingTuesday Canada, 1 December 2016

CATCH Partner Research Invitation

“Framework for dialogue and learning with parents and professionals; an examination of learning (related to stigma) across relations of power.”

Many parents experience stigmatization. There are structural, societal reasons for feeling marginalized. Yet these reasons are not always clear in view. This dialogue project, facilitated through a UBC action research process, in collaboration with CATCH and SB6 and Mitacs, hopes to create a space for learning with a group of professionals and parents with a specific focus on these underlying structures. Apart from the WHAT that may be discovered from this dialogue, the HOW of what was learned, is also important and will inform future dialogues and the design of programs and services.

If you are a parent who self-identifies as struggling being a parent, and who would like to tell their story in an individual conversation (anonymously), you can contact Menno Salverda (see contact details below). As a parent or caregiver you have lived in the Central Okanagan for at least 1 year and the child or children you care for are 12 years or younger. A first conversation will be about 1 hour while a second conversation will be about 2 hours. More information will be disclosed upon first contact. The stories will form a critical part in the reflections of the group of professionals.

The project started in September 2016. Parents will receive a \$25 gift card in appreciation for their participation (and compensation for child-minding to a maximum of \$20). You choose the time and place that works best for you.

More Information:

Menno Salverda
250.681.3356, menno.salverda@gmail.com

-Source: Newsletter, CATCH, 23 November 2016

Canadian Charities ‘Need to Adapt’ to Stay Relevant

It’s more than just a “rebrand.”

One of the largest charities in this country, Heart & Stroke is dropping the “Foundation of Canada” from their name, launching a new website, transforming their logo and also revamping their research, donation and core focus strategies — all in the name of healthy living and an effort to become more “personal” to Canadians.

The reinvention of the Heart & Stroke has taken place with hopes that it will “re-ignite the passion for what we do in Canadians, so they get behind and support us so we can do this very important work,” said Diego Marchese, interim CEO and VP of Heart & Stroke, who has been with the organization for 23 of its 60 years.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, 15 November 2016

Greater Transparency would Spur Charitable Donations: Survey

Only half think charities are open and transparent, but 72% say that accreditation positively influences their views.

Transparency and sound management are the top considerations when deciding whether to support a charity for 86% of Canadians, according to a new survey.

The study, which was commissioned to explore familiarity, trust and confidence in Canadian charities, shows a clear need for greater transparency to enable donors to become more knowledgeable about their operations and the societal value they create.

The findings clearly show a gap between the desired levels of transparency that Canadians want and what they are currently seeing from Canada’s charities. They also point to the importance of independent accreditation, like Imagine Canada’s Standards Program, as a way to bridge that gap.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, 15 November 2016

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Resources

- [HOW TO WRITE AMAZING YEAR-END APPEALS](#)
- [2017 MULTIFAITH CALENDAR](#)
- [DEALING WITH DIFFICULT BOARDS: TIPS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS](#)
- [GUIDE TO GIVING](#)

How to Write Amazing Year-End Appeals

How do you feel about the last annual report you produced? Are you proud of it?

How do you feel about the process of planning and creating your annual report? Did it go smoothly? As planned? Was it a fun, creative experience?

If you would like to improve your next annual report – or if you'll be planning your first annual report in the coming months – I've got something for you today.

[Download Now](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Centre for Social Innovation, 30 November 2016

2017 Multifaith Calendar

Today's society is both diverse and multicultural. Festivals and religious holidays are an important part of many peoples' lives. Being aware of these occasions can foster a work environment that is respectful, inclusive and productive.

The Multifaith Calendar facilitates understanding of these religious occasions and festivals important to our diverse cultural communities. Our Calendar is held in high regard for its accuracy, integrity and visual impact.

[Click here to order](#) your 2017 MFC through one of our Canadian distributors – suggested retail price is \$15.95 – with discounts available for bulk purchases.

Go Green... alternatively, MAS offers an Electronic (online) subscription-based version of the MFC for organizations, institutions, etc.

[Click here](#) for more information, including pricing.

-Source: Newsletter, Multifaith Action Society, 28 November 2016

Dealing with Difficult Boards: Tips for Executive Directors

To paraphrase Tolstoy's famous quote about families: all happy boards are alike; each unhappy board is unhappy in its own way.

Boards of directors, by law, hold nonprofits accountable to the broader community through what are broadly described as “duties of loyalty and care”. While boards of directors do vital work (hiring executive directors, holding fiduciary responsibility, setting strategic direction for the organization, etc.), not all boards function smoothly. There is often a degree of dissonance between the vital role of boards of directors and their actual practice.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Canada Helps, 28 November 2016

Guide to Giving

If you have questions about giving to charity, this Guide to Giving presents tips and information to help you make more meaningful contributions to the causes most important to you.

presents tips and information to help you make more meaningful contributions to the causes most important to you.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 15 November 2016

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Social Media & Tech

- [BEST PRACTICES TO INCREASE EMAIL CONVERSIONS](#)
- [HOW TO KEEP UP WITH CHANGES TO SOCIAL MEDIA YOU ALREADY USE](#)

Best Practices to Increase Email Conversions

There are a lot of strategies that go into a well-developed and successful email marketing program. Some “experts” say that the most important element is that the subject line needs to be provocative. Some say the most the important strategy is to decide who the sender of the email will be and that’s what your donors will respond to. So what’s the most important strategy to increase email conversion rates? Let’s dig in and look at the data...

1. The sender’s name is typically the most important element of your fundraising emails. You will see an increase in open rates if the sender’s name in the email appeal really resonates with your donors, and if they feel a personal connection to them. For example, this could be your organization’s Executive Director, a well-known board member who is very active with your nonprofit and who is deeply involved in the movement, a celebrity who is connected to the movement, etc. The best way to find out which sender will move your donors is to test it. Remember: fundraising is about relationships, not advertising pitches. Don’t treat them like an ad.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Care2, 7 November 2016

How to keep up with Changes to Social Media you Already Use

Surprise! In the past few months, there has been a flurry of changes to social media platforms that matter to many nonprofits.

For example, Facebook made it easier for people to recommend Pages to friends. Twitter changed what counts toward its 140-character limit. Instagram is becoming ever more monetized. YouTube launched Creators for Change. Snapchat undid the mess that was Auto Advance Stories. Pinterest updated advertising options. LinkedIn...did nothing that notable for nonprofits (harumph). Medium improved how it displays and uploads images. Oh, and Vine is dead.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 16 November 2016

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Training

- [FAMILY CAREGIVER SERIES](#)
- [PLANNING FOR SUCCESS: THE CRITICAL ROLE OF A STRATEGIC PLAN](#)
- [PASSION PLANNING 2017: A REVOLUTIONARY APPROACH TO NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS!](#)
- [FREE WEBINAR: VIRTUAL COLLABORATION FOR VOLUNTEER MANAGERS & BOARDS OF DIRECTORS](#)
- [TRANSFORM THE SECTOR](#)
- [31 DAYS, 31% OF ANNUAL GIVING: MAKE THE MOST OF DECEMBER FUNDRAISING](#)

Family Caregiver Series

Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Alzheimer Resource Centre, #307-1664 Richter Street, Kelowna

Register by calling the Resource Centre at 250.860.0305 or by email cgronlund@alzheimerbc.org

A full-day workshop for family members who are caring for a person with dementia. Learn about dementia, practical coping strategies and early planning.

The Family Caregiver Series covers the following topics:

- Understanding Dementia
- Understanding Communication
- Understanding Behaviour
- Planning for the Future
- Self-Care for Caregivers

-Source: Newsletter, Alzheimer Society of BC, 19 October 2016

Planning for Success: The Critical Role of a Strategic Plan

Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 11:00 am

Cost: Free

[Register Now](#)

Taking the time to think big and envision where your organization will be in a year—or even five years—is critical in creating the future you want. And having a strategic plan is what gets you there.

Join Anissa Hilborn, CFRE and president of the Joseph Brant Hospital Foundation, as she explains the critical elements of a strategic plan and how to put one to work at your organization.

-Source: Newsletter, Blackbaud Canada, 30 November 2016

Passion Planning 2017: A Revolutionary Approach to New Year's Resolutions!

Dates:

- Saturday, December 10, 2016, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Kelowna Heritage Lofts, #201 – 339 Bernard Ave, Kelowna (to be confirmed)
- Wednesday, December 28, 2016, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Lake Country Art Gallery, 10356A Bottom Wood Lake Rd, Lake Country
- Saturday, January 7, 2016, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Lake Country Art Gallery, 10356A Bottom Wood Lake Rd, Lake Country

Cost: \$79

[Register Now](#)

Do you have personal and/or professional goals that, if met, would make you happier, healthier, and more prosperous? Join the Fresh Outlook Foundation for an informative, interactive, and fun workshop that will help you:

- Pinpoint your passions and values
- Categorize and prioritize your goals
- Uncover barriers to achievement
- Identify practical measures of success
- Create a passion plan for 2017
- Build accountability structures/networks

Bring a friend or family member to get a fresh outlook on life at home, work and play!

-Source: Newsletter, Fresh Outlook Foundation, 23 November 2016

FREE WEBINAR: Virtual Collaboration for Volunteer Managers & Boards of Directors

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2016, 10:00 am PST

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

[Register Now](#)

Working effectively with others helps your organization better serve the community. Increasingly, that work has a virtual component. Yet, trying to get things done via virtual channels can be a frustrating experience. Our upcoming free webinar can help!

This free webinar will show you practical ways to get things done with others, virtually, without sacrificing personal connection and relationship. Session topics include:

- Key differences between virtual and in-real-life communications
- 5 essential tools for your virtual collaboration toolbox
- Strategies and tips for facilitating virtual boards, teams, and difficult conversations
- And much more!

Not sure if you can make the live session? Not to worry — everyone who registers gets a copy of the full recording, regardless of attendance. Watch for it in your inbox the day after the webinar.

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Canada Helps, 21 November 2016

Transform the Sector

Date: February 23, 2016

Location: MaRS Centre, 101 College St, Toronto

Cost: Early \$185 / Regular \$225

[Register Now](#)

We work in a time where digital data has the ability to radically transform how social sector organizations operate, interact with one another, and achieve their missions.

Transform the Sector is a one-day conference about how we can leverage new tools, models, and methods to build a data-enabled social sector for the 21st century. Join data experts, policy innovators, and social sector leaders for a day of learning, networking, and strategizing on how the social sector can increase its impact through the use of digital data.

-Source: Newsletter, LinkedIn Groups, Imagine Canada, 10 November 2016

31 Days, 31% of Annual Giving: Make the Most of December Fundraising

Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 10:00 am PST

[Register Now](#)

During December, visitors will click “DONATE” on your nonprofit’s website more than any other time of the year. Register for this webinar and learn how you can connect with generous procrastinators and encourage donors to give (and give big) during December.

Sign up for this webinar and learn:

- How to maximize year-end fundraising for small nonprofits
- How to craft a year-end appeal
- How to make the most of the last two days of the calendar year

-Source: Newsletter, Network for Good, 1 December 2016

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Volunteerism

- [WORKSHOP SERIES: NOURISHING MANAGERS OF VOLUNTEERS](#)
- [CANADIANS ARE TOO BUSY TO VOLUNTEER...](#)
- [FOUR WAYS TO CREATE A MORE REWARDING VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE](#)
- [CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT: CREATE EXPERIENCES, NOT EVENTS](#)

Workshop Series: Nourishing Managers of Volunteers

Tis the Season

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Location: KCR, #120 – 1735 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna

Cost: Free

Registration Opening in November

Come and warm your innards. Mingle. Get to know others better.

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

Canadians are too busy to Volunteer...

We think not!

I was invited to speak on CBC's BC Almanac today in response to the state of volunteering in Canada. I thought I would share some of the concepts that we gathered in preparing for the interview. Tell me what you think!

Statistics Canada releases new study on volunteerism

The headline some will take away from the study is that 66% of Canadians cite lack of time as a reason for not volunteering. But this statistic misses the bigger picture. Looking at the numbers another way, there's a different story: The proportion of Canadians who volunteer has held steady at 44%. So, accounting for population growth, Canada has 1,000,000 more volunteers today than in 2004.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Canada Helps, 28 November 2016

Four Ways to create a more Rewarding Volunteer Experience

More than four in 10 Canadians volunteered in 2013, according to the latest General Social Survey released earlier this year. While that's impressive, volunteering is down since 2010, the last time the survey was conducted. That's not terribly surprising considering a Volunteer Canada report found that 62% of volunteers have had a negative experience. That draws the

challenge for nonprofits into clear focus: How do you not only recruit volunteers, but keep them coming back?

The best way to engage volunteers is to make working with your organization a positive experience. Here are a few tips for achieving that:

1. **Be professional.**

This seems obvious, but volunteers who have a negative experience most often cite organizational issues as the main problem. Nonprofits should remember that providing a professional experience is in the details. When volunteers arrive, have name tags ready and know what the assignments are and where people should go. Ensure staff and signs are on hand to help direct people to the right place, and that instructions are ready so volunteers can get started right away. The tone you set is important: If people see that you've got your act together, they're more likely to feel that this is a good use of their time and your organization is a good vehicle through which to make a difference.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Village Vibes, Charity Village, 28 November 2016

Corporate Engagement: Create Experiences, Not Events

As nonprofits it's easy to offer volunteer events when you're asked to support programming for 20, 50, 100 or more corporate employees and leaders. They're usually hands-on, they're often scalable, and they have that craveable turning-nothing-into-something effect.

But.

Please don't tell you're just offering them a typical volunteer event. Please don't tell me you're just welcoming them off the bus, a light orientation and then straight into the act of volunteerism. Please don't. You're missing massive opportunities to gain so much more for your nonprofit with just a few tricks that turn average events into proactive experiences.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, LinkedIn Groups, 15 November 2016

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