



Monthly Bulletin – September 2015

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KCR Highlights

- [KCR NEEDS YOUR INPUT!](#)
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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

Workshop: 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 Lists

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

[Publications](#): Newest versions sent right to you bi-annually

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

[COLIP Newsletter](#): Information about events, programs and happenings for newcomers

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

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AGM's

- [OKANAGAN BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING](#)

Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs – Annual General Meeting

Join us as we celebrate at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 17th at 5:30 pm. For more information or to RSVP, email Linnea Archondous at larchondous@boysandgirlsclubs.ca.

-Source: Website, Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs, 3 September 2015

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Awards

- [NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PROVINCIAL MULTICULTURAL AWARDS](#)
- [CHAMPIONS OF WELLNESS AWARDS: NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!](#)
- [NEW MEDAL WILL HONOR BC CITIZENS WHO DO GOOD DEEDS](#)
- [NEW NONPROFIT AWARD RECOGNIZES ORGANIZATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN PEOPLE LEADERSHIP](#)

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.

The most ethnically diverse province in Canada, B.C. welcomes nearly 40,000 new immigrants every year. Almost 30% of British Columbians have emigrated from another country in their lifetime and one-quarter of the people in the province are self-identified visible minorities.

In 2015, the B.C. government will spend more than \$1.6 million to engage cultural groups, to fight racism and discrimination and to promote multiculturalism. With one million job openings expected by 2020 in B.C., immigrants will play a vital role in the economic well-being of the province.

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

Champions of Wellness Awards: Now Accepting Applications!

At the 2015 Balancing our Minds Youth Summit, held on February 12 at Roger's Arena, the Champions of Wellness Awards made their debut. The premise behind these awards was that other awards to honour those making changes in the field of mental health often left youth competing with adults who had more time to establish themselves. These awards were seen as a way to bridge that gap and I firmly believe that they have done just that.

As the nominations for the first Champions of Wellness Awards poured in, my heart swelled reading about each nominee. Youth from across the province were doing incredible work, contributing towards ending the stigma of and increasing the quality of care for mental health challenges. I thought back to my own days in high school and how I not only didn't know that what I was experiencing was a mental health challenge, but also that I never would have dreamed of sharing that experience with others. The loneliness of experiencing a mental health challenge can be palpable.

And here were so many youth not only openly discussing mental health challenges (sometimes their own!) but taking the initiative to reach out to others around them. They reached out to support loved ones, helped their communities grow, and contributed towards ending the stigma surrounding mental illness.

The three categories for the Champions of Wellness Awards are: Sharing Your Story; Supporting Others; and Community Involvement. These were created in order to cover the span of how people can affect change around mental health – whether from a personal, interpersonal, or community approach, all of them matter and carry so much weight behind them.

This year's winners for Sharing Your Story, Supporting Others, and Community Involvement were Sarah Balderson, Dan Nixon and Connor McCracken, respectively (pictured above). They were honored at the 2015 Youth Summit and presented with medals and a jersey by Kevin Bieksa; seeing the smiles on their faces as they received their awards was truly inspiring.

We're so excited to begin accepting nominations for this year's Champions of Wellness Awards, and I'm so excited to hear all about the amazing work youth are doing in the field of mental health in BC. If you know of an exceptional youth 25 or under who's making a difference in mental health, [click here to nominate them](#).

-Source: Kelty News Newsletter, Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, 31 August 2015

New Medal Will Honor BC Citizens who do Good Deeds

The Province is heralding B.C. Day by unveiling its new Medal of Good Citizenship today. The medal features British Columbia's shield, floral emblem and the words, 'Generosity, Service and Selflessness'. British Columbians are now urged to consider good citizens making a difference in their communities and nominate them for this new honour.

The front of the Medal of Good Citizenship features the shield of the province. On the back, a stylized version of B.C.'s floral emblem, the Pacific dogwood, and the words, 'Generosity, Service and Selflessness' are engraved to honour the kindness and generous acts of recipients.

Nominations must be received by September 25th, 2015.

[Read More](#)

-Source: The Connector Newsletter, Volunteer BC, 20 August 2015

New Nonprofit Award Recognizes Organizational Achievement in People Leadership

With a staff turnover rate of just eighteen months for senior leadership roles in the nonprofit sector, we know that retention of skilled professionals is a serious issue for charitable organizations across the country.

With such high demand for good fundraising talent, job-hopping is a common practice among fundraising professionals. Unfortunately high turnover rates do nothing to help improve perceptions about how fundraisers add value to organizations. Nor does it help nonprofits raise more money for their missions.

Yet, should a fundraising professional stay in a job where they are not being set-up for success? Should fundraisers accept working in an environment where there is a lack of understanding about what it takes to get positive results? Should good fundraisers stay in a toxic climate just to improve the sector's retention rates? Of course not!

If you are considering a move, how can you ensure that you are not jumping from the frying pan into the fire? How do you know that your next move is the right one?

Nonprofit Employer of Choice Award

Hilborn;ECS is again taking a leadership role in the sector with the launch of the new Nonprofit Employer of Choice (NEOC) Awards that recognizes those organizations who have committed themselves to becoming better managers of financial and human resources. By partnering with CCEOC Inc. as well as The Goldie Company this new awards program for nonprofit employers is the first of its kind in Canada.

Who is eligible?

Participating nonprofits must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Registered as a Canadian nonprofit (or charity)
- Have a physical presence in Canada
- Have 10 or more full-time employees
- Have been in operation for a minimum of one year

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 7 August 2015

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Employment

- [OKANAGAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS – PROGRAM AREA LEADER](#)
- [OKANAGAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS – AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM STAFF](#)
- [CMHA – SENIOR’S WELLNESS ACTIVITY GROUP FACILITATOR](#)

Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs – Program Area Leader

Temporary Position: September 1, 2015- July 1, 2016

Location: Lake Country Club – Afterschool Program

The Program Area Leader will work as member of the Lake Country Leadership team and be responsible for the development, organization, implementation and evaluation of the Afterschool Program.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Responsible for care, nurturing, supervision and safety of children 6 – 12 years old and specific goals are met
- Transporting children in Agency Vans from school to various sites for recreational purposes
- Ensures programs and activities offered are consistent with agency core values, core programming areas, Mission and Vision statement
- Develop programs that engage members, address healthy positive child development and provide members with a sense of belonging
- Provides supervision and leadership to program staff
- Establish open communication with parents/care givers

Qualifications

Education and Knowledge:

- A diploma, certificate and/or relevant experience working with children in recreation, education or other social services
- Excellent leadership, communication and interpersonal skills
- Self-motivated and enthusiastic

Training and Experience:

- Two (2) years recent related experience. Or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience
- Complete Agency screening including criminal record check
- Class 4 driver’s license required
- Excellent leadership, supervisory, communication and interpersonal skills

Hours: 30 hours per week, Monday through Friday, 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Range of Pay: \$14.96 – \$16.22 per hour

Closing Date: September 15th, 2015

Please send resume and cover letter to:

Tobilynn Siemens, Centre Director, tsiemens@boysandgirlsclubs.ca

-Source: Website, Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs, 2 September 2015

Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs – Afterschool Program Staff

Location: Lake Country Club

Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs invites applications from qualified individuals for the position of Afterschool Program staff at our Lake Country Club location.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop and implement programs activities that are consistent with agency core values and core programming areas. Ensure that programs developed, engage members, address healthy positive child development and provides members with a sense of belonging
- Supervision and safety of children 6 – 12 years old
- Transporting children in Agency Vans to and from school and to various sites for recreational purposes
- Establish open communication with parents/caregivers

Qualifications

Education and Knowledge:

- Successful completion of a course or a combination of courses of at least 20 hours duration which include child development, guidance, health and safety or nutrition
- Ensure that specific goals of children in programs are met
- Valid First Aid Certificate

Training and Experience:

- Excellent leadership, communication and judgment skills
- Relevant experience working with children/youth
- Establish open communication with parents/caregivers
- Supervision of children/youth
- Class 4 driver's license or the ability to obtain it

Successful completion of Agency screening process, including criminal record check

Salary: \$13.13/hour/ \$14.16/hour with Class 4 Drivers License Hours: Monday thru Friday – 2 to 6 pm – 20 hours per week

Closing Date: September 30th 2015

Please send resume and cover letter to:

Tobilynn Siemens, Centre Director, tsiemens@boysandgirlsclubs.ca, or Fax 250.766.5219

-Source: Website, Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs, 3 September 2015

CMHA – Senior's Wellness Activity Group Facilitator

CMHA Kelowna is seeking an enthusiastic and dynamic facilitator to offer wellness programming that inspires, engages, and activates seniors. The Seniors Wellness Activation Group facilitator works fairly independently to plan and facilitate positive social and recreational activities for seniors with mental health concerns. The position is part-time for approximately five hours on Mondays.

MISSION

As a nation-wide organization, CMHA facilitates access to the resources people require to

improve mental health and community integration, build resilience and support recovery from mental illness through:

- Building capacity
- Influencing public policy
- Providing services and supports
- Developing resources

VISION: Mentally healthy people in a healthy society

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this position is to engage, inspire, and activate the participants of the Seniors Wellness Activity Group to enhance their quality of life. The facilitator provides a positive group environment for seniors with mental health issues to partake in psychosocial activities focused on activation, recovery, and sustaining wellness. The program aims to (1) improve the participants' mental health overall, (2) increase skills and knowledge in achieving wellness, (3) build new relationships and a stronger social network, and (4) increase access to participation in social and recreational activities.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide overall guidance and support to program participants
- Implement all aspects of program goals and contract deliverables
- Create consistency in information, values, and skill building across all activities offered to program participants
- Ensure a safe, supportive and comfortable atmosphere for program participants
- Plan and execute activities that promote social, emotional, physical, and mental health for participants with mental health issues
- Create opportunities that will build self-esteem, sense of belonging, personal and interpersonal skills
- Arrange for occasional guests to attend groups and/or facilitate activities
- Provide supervision, leadership, and decision making to support volunteer involvement in activities
- Assist with the purchase of supplies within budget quotas and prepare reports as needed
- Assist with maintenance of daily records, attendance, and monthly statistics
- Perform other related duties as assigned

ACCOUNTABILITY:

This position reports to the CMHA Wellness Programs Coordinator

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

- Minimum Human Service Worker or Mental Health Worker Certificate, Recreation Therapist, Psychosocial Rehabilitation Worker Certificate an asset
- Demonstrated experience working with people with mental health concerns and/or substance misuse issues and complex personal needs

Rate of Pay: \$16.00-19.00 per hour

Hours: 5 hours per week (on Mondays, normally 10:00 am – 3:00 pm)

Please send a cover letter and resume to kelowna@cmha.bc.ca by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 9th and quote Comp #15-09 on the subject line.

Closing Date: September 9th, 2015

-Source: Website, CMHA, 2 September 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 15th, 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

[Read More](#)

-Source: Canadian Women's Foundation, June 2015

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Fund Development

- [CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT – PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN OLDER ADULTS AND/OR THEIR CAREGIVERS](#)
- [FUNDERS, YOUR GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS MAY BE PERPETUATING INEQUITY](#)

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

Issued: July 17th, 2015

Deadline: September 30th, 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

Funders, your Grant Application Process may be Perpetuating Inequity

A few weeks ago, a fellow Executive Director of color and a friend of mine, “Maria,” was nearly in tears after failing for a second time to get a small grant. She doesn’t drink, or else I would have offered access to the personal minibar that I keep in my office. A shot of Wild Turkey and a brisk walk always cheer me up after a grant rejection.

“I’m so tired,” Maria said over the phone, “I can’t continue putting in my own money to keep this afloat. Maybe nonprofit is just not for me. It’s too hard.” She had spent over 40 hours on these two grants, and I had spent over 12 hours facilitating part of a board retreat, helping develop the logic model, revising the budgets, editing the narratives, and providing moral support.

The grant was a one-time award for less than 10K, and she had been told repeatedly, by different people at this foundation, that her work was important and much needed.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit with Balls, 24 August 2015

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Housing

- [2016-2017 CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR HOUSING FIRST PROJECTS IS LIVE](#)
- [THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HOUSING: TRENDS IN PUBLIC HOUSING INTERNATIONALLY](#)
- [FAMILY OPTIONS STUDY: SHORT-TERM IMPACTS OF HOUSING AND SERVICES INTERVENTIONS FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES](#)
- [YOUTH PATHWAYS IN AND OUT OF HOMELESSNESS](#)
- [SENIORS' HOUSING INFORMATION SESSION](#)
- [SCREENING FOR HOUSING FIRST](#)

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy

The application package is available on the [Central Okanagan Foundation website](#).

Deadline for applications: September 21st, at 4:00 pm

Applications must be submitted electronically to mia@centralokanaganfoundation.org

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

The Future of Public Housing: Trends in Public Housing Internationally

This report is the first phase of research conducted as part of the Future of Public Housing project which seeks to address the gap in knowledge on public housing by focusing on an international, multidisciplinary and comparative investigation of the history, current situation and possible futures for public housing.

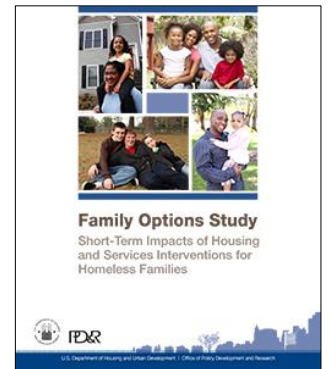
This study explored historical patterns in the provision of public housing in four global regions: North America, the EU, Eastern Europe and East and Southeast Asia. Initial analysis reveals that there is a lessening of public sector involvement in public housing; out of sixteen countries with available historical data, twelve showed declining percentages of public housing stock since the 1990's. Closer examination of countries where there are increasing units of public housing show that there are challenges in keeping up with increasing population growth – while numbers of units may be increasing, percentages are decreasing.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, *The Homeless Hub*, 20 August 2015

Family Options Study: Short-Term Impacts of Housing and Services Interventions for Homeless Families

The Family Options Study, launched by HUD in 2008 (and still under way), is a rigorously designed experimental study intended to provide the strongest evidence possible about the effectiveness and relative costs of four main interventions available to homeless families—permanent housing subsidy, project-based transitional housing, community-based rapid re-housing, or usual care. More than 2,200 homeless families, including more than 5,000 children in 12 communities, were randomly assigned to one of four interventions. The families are being tracked for a minimum of 3 years and were extensively interviewed at baseline, 18 months after random assignment, and again 36 months after random assignment to assess outcomes related to housing stability, family preservation, adult well-being, child well-being, and self-sufficiency.



This report documents outcomes at 18 months, presenting striking evidence of the power of offering a permanent subsidy to a homeless family. Families who were offered a housing voucher experienced significant reductions in subsequent homelessness, mobility, child separations, adult psychological distress, experiences of intimate partner violence, school mobility among children, and food insecurity at 18 months. Moreover, the benefits of the voucher intervention were achieved at a comparable cost to rapid re-housing and emergency shelter and at a lower cost than transitional housing.

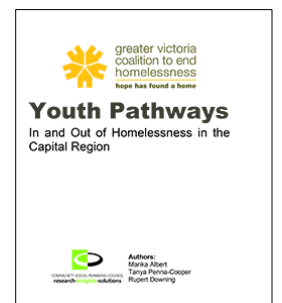
[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, *Homeless Hub*, 6 August 2015

Youth Pathways In and Out of Homelessness

In March 2015 the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness released the Youth Pathways In and Out of Homelessness report. The Community Social Planning Council conducted this report on behalf of the coalition using principles of social inclusion and participatory action research by involving youth throughout the study.

The report documents the pathways in and out of homelessness as described by the experiential youth and service providers that participated in the study.



[View a summary of the report](#)

[View the full report](#)

-Source: Newsletter, First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, 2 September 2015

Seniors' Housing Information Session

Date: Thursday, September 10th, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

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

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.

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

Screening for Housing First

The Homelessness Partnering Secretariat (HPS) has developed several directives to assist communities with the shift to a Housing First framework. The first directive states that chronically and episodically homeless individuals should be prioritized to receive Housing First services. Therefore, it is imperative that communities are equipped with the necessary information and skills so as to facilitate the screening and prioritization of homeless individuals into Housing First services.

A total of 15 tools were assessed using the HUD criteria. The strengths and weaknesses of the tools were discussed by the Housing First Assessment Taskforce, created by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, during monthly meetings. Once the most promising tools were identified, key informant interviews were conducted with the developers and current users of the tools. This process enabled the Taskforce to uncover the specifics of each tool and develop a comprehensive understanding of their use and scope. Based upon this process, the Taskforce concluded that the Vulnerability Assessment Tool was the best brief screening tool available that can assist with prioritization of clients for Housing First programs.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Homeless Hub, 3 September 2015



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Transformative Dance Workshop

On September 11th & 12th, Kelowna will welcome back Vancouver based 5 Rhythms instructor Bettina Rothe for her second 5 Rhythms workshop titled “Rhythm and Soul”.

The 5Rhythms are an exhilarating and liberating approach to the exploration of improvised movement and dance that is authentic, inspired and catalytic. It is a workout for body and soul, a moving meditation, a spiritual practice designed to release the dancer that lives in every body, regardless of age, experience or condition. This is the second 5 Rhythms workshop to take place in Kelowna. The first, held in April 2015, was well received, with over 40 people participating over the two days. The workshop is structured with an open, introductory session on the Friday night, and then a full day of dancing on the Saturday. People can sign up for one day, or for the full workshop and attend both days. While no previous experience is necessary for this workshop, those who have not danced 5 Rhythms before are encouraged to join us for the Friday night introductory session. All sessions will be held at the Kelowna Unitarian Church located at 1310 Bertram Street.

Pricing:

Combined Friday & Saturday

6:30 pm – 10:00 pm & Saturday, September 12th, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
\$140

Friday, September 11th ONLY

6:30 pm – 10:00 pm

\$45

Friday evening will be an Introduction of the 5Rhythms practice – great for first time dancers or folks who want a refresher

Saturday, September 12th ONLY

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

\$105

Some somatic / intuitive dance practice is recommended – the Friday intro session will provide that

Visit openheartdance.ca to register online. Cash and cheque payments are also accepted. Please contact Katie Brennan at 250.550.9869 or at brennankatie@gmail.com.

-Source: Katie Brennan, 20 August 2015

Lake Country Artwalk

Each year the Lake Country Art Gallery presents a themed exhibition in conjunction with Lake Country's hugely popular annual Artwalk – Artwalk proper will be held September 12th & 13th this year. The Lake Country Art Gallery's themed Artwalk exhibition will kick things off early, with the juried exhibition will opening on Wednesday, August 26th and continuing to September 25th.

The theme this year is “Light: Illuminating Art”. Artists are invited to interpret the theme in any manner, style or medium – 2D or 3D. “I’m always intrigued by how folks approach a themed exhibition. I like to leave a lot of room for creativity of all sorts”, says gallery curator Katie Brennan.

As with the past few Artwalk theme exhibitions at the Lake Country Art Gallery, artists do not need to be participating in Artwalk in order to be a part of this exhibition. “This is the third year where we’re inviting any and all artists to submit work for this exhibition – you don’t have to be participating in Artwalk to submit work”, explains Brennan. “We’ve opened this up to all artists as not everyone is able to be a part of Artwalk, and we’d like as many artists as possible to be a part of this exhibition at the Lake Country Art Gallery”.

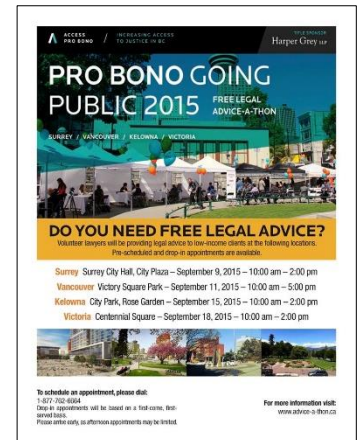
EVENTS & DEADLINES AT A GLANCE:

Light: Illuminating Art – an Artwalk themed exhibition will run at the Lake Country Art Gallery from August 26th – September 25th, 2015. Grand opening event to coincide with Artwalk on September 12th & 13th from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm each day.

The last Lake Country Art Bazaar of the season will take place on Saturday, September 12th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. This outdoor market offers an intriguing mix of vintage wares, family activities, artisanal boutiques, glass and other giftware, art books on a variety of topics and outdoor artist galleries on the grounds of the Lake Country Art Gallery's Art House.

It may seem a bit early, but it's time for artists to start thinking about the Lake Country Art Gallery's annual Under 100 exhibition. This exhibition features hundreds of works available for purchase for \$100 or less. The deadline for submissions is at midnight on October 15th, 2014. Further submission details and deadlines will be released in mid September.

-Source: Katie Brennan, Curator, Lake Country Art Gallery, 12 August 2015



Pro Bono Going Public 2015 – Free Legal Advice-a-thon

Date: Tuesday, September 15th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: City Park Entrance along Abbott Street, Kelowna

This September, lawyers will once again provide free legal advice in the streets of Surrey, Vancouver, Kelowna and Victoria – in order to raise awareness and funds for BC's pro bono programs. The free legal advice-a-thon will facilitate access to justice for low- and modest-income people, including the homeless, by engaging lawyers in advising pre-scheduled and drop-in clients on all legal issues.

If you are a lawyer, you can help us by volunteering at one of our four open-air clinics. We

encourage volunteer lawyers to donate one or more hours of their time, and to raise an amount equal to or above their billable rate. Information can be [found here](#).

Pre-scheduled and drop-in appointments are available. Schedule an appointment at 1.877.762.6664. Drop-in appointments will be based on a first-come, first-served basis. Please arrive early as afternoon appointments may be limited.

[Visit their website](#)

-Source: Annie Baric, Operations Coordinator, Access Pro Bono Society of BC, 26 August 2015

Take a Break – 2015 Fall Program

Strategies for Staying Flexible: Body & Mind

Date: Wednesday, September 16th, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

Location: Okanagan Regional Library Westbank Branch, 31-2484 Main Street, Westbank

More Information: Call 250.768.3305

Free Admission – Open to Everyone

Presented by Karen Marquardt – Corporate Events Manager at Nature's Fare Market

Sponsored By Westside Health Network Society

-Source: Debbie Elliott, Coordinator of Volunteers, Westside Health Network Society, 1 September 2015

Beyond the Blues Postpartum Support Group

Are you a New Mom? Are you experiencing any of the following feelings after the birth or adoption of a child?

- Crying for no apparent reason
- Feelings of helplessness
- Frightening or intrusive thoughts
- Feeling overly concerned for your infant
- Feelings of inadequacy or inability to cope
- Depression that may range from sadness to thoughts of suicide
- Anxiety or panic attacks
- Anger & aggression
- Sleeping problems
- Feelings of resentment towards the baby or other family members
- The feeling that something is not right

If you have any of the above feelings, you are not alone, we understand and can help. Call your local Public Health Center in the Central Okanagan for more information about a new program called Beyond the Blues Postpartum group.

West Kelowna: 250.980.5150

Kelowna: 250.868.7700

Rutland: 250.980.4825

Kelowna Mental Health Center: 250.868.7788

-Source: The Bridge Youth & Family Services, 18 August 2015

Downed Spacecraft Found in Kelowna

Take a walk downtown and you might come upon what appears to be a small crashed spacecraft. It seems to have become entangled and stuck suspended above a popular Cultural District walkway.

Is it some kind of hoax? No, it's the launch of Fossils from the Future, a public art project, created by Okanagan-based artist Johann Wessels and presented by the Kelowna Art Gallery.

Pedestrians will notice a metal label near the wreckage that offers information and ideas for interacting with the piece. People are encouraged to dive further into the experience and read what others have to say, watch video clips from "experts," and check out other behind-the-scenes "leaked" information by visiting kelownaartgallery.com.

"One of the primary aims of this project is to get the community involved," says Nataley Nagy, Executive Director at the Kelowna Art Gallery. "Use the hashtag #futurefossils and join the conversation – snap a photo, tweet about it, post on Facebook, or even film your own video. We really want to hear what people think about these puzzling objects and hope that a lively discussion will ensue."

Where will the next fossil be seen and when will it appear? "You'll have to be on the lookout over the next five months and discover them for yourself," says Nagy. "Finding them is part of the fun and how residents choose to interact with the pieces will add to the ongoing narrative that will continue to build."

For up-to-date news and additional information about the Fossils from the Future project, visit www.kelownaartgallery.com. *-Source: Joshua Desnoyers, Marketing and Events Coordinator, Kelowna Art Gallery, 2 September 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

Kelowna Art Gallery – Fall Art Classes 2015

DAY CLASSES

Cost: \$160.00 (\$130.00 for members)

Mixed Media: In the Mix!

September 21 – November 2 | Mondays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

This course is designed for students who want a mixed bag of inspirational projects that will allow them to choose materials and methods that best fit their creative visions. Materials and techniques will be explored through instruction, demonstration, sample projects, and studio time! Three-dimensional projects and assemblage will be included in this session to help you stretch out of the comfort of the flat surface.

Drawing for the Absolute Beginner

September 9 – October 14 | Wednesdays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

This course is designed for the absolute beginner. The basic principles of observational drawing will be taught through a series of concentrated exercises and guided practice, using a variety of drawing materials and subjects.

Advancing Skills in Drawing

October 21 – November 25 | Wednesdays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Students will continue to use concentrated exercises and guided practice to further develop their drawing skills. Participants will have the opportunity to work with a variety of drawing materials and subjects.

Sage-ing with Creative Spirit

November 3 – December 8 | Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Creative aging is the emerging, positive practice of engaging older adults (55+) in participatory, professionally run arts programs with a focus on social engagement. Creativity doesn't mean you have to be a full-time artist or need lots of training, supplies or time ... You just have to be you—and express what that means.

EVENING CLASSES

Cost: \$160.00 (\$130.00 for members)

Beginner Acrylic Painting: Landscape

September 8 – October 13 | Tuesdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This course is designed for the beginner acrylic painter. Basic techniques and principles of acrylic painting will be taught. Each class will include an informative lesson, a practical exercise, and time spent working on a large landscape painting that ties everything together. Exercises will illustrate basic techniques and build upon the elements of design.

Intermediate Acrylic Painting: Portraiture

October 20 – November 24 | Tuesdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This course is designed to expand upon the basic techniques and principles of acrylic painting through portraiture. Each class will include a historical perspective on portraiture, an exercise

exploring that perspective's technique, and time spent working on a large portrait. Students will provide their own photographs as source material.

Mixed Media: Imagination and Story

September 8 – October 13 | Tuesdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This course is designed for all levels and will explore personal style and break down the fear of being wrong during the artistic process. The workshop will progress from paper to canvas using mixed media to inspire and help students express their own stories.

Drawing for Everyone

September 10 – October 15 | Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This course is designed for students who have always wanted to draw, or just want to improve on the drawing skills they have. Students will work through a variety of creative exercises and technical drawing systems to increase the ability to 'see' what they want to draw and then have the skills to draw it.

Beginner Cartooning: Finding Your Inner Cartoonist!

September 10 – October 15 | Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This introductory course is designed to give beginning and intermediate artists strategies and tools for drawing cartoons. Students will have many opportunities to create original cartoons or try their hand at reproducing their favourite television or movie cartoon characters.

More Cartooning: Perfecting Features

November 5 – December 10 | Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This course is designed for students who already like to draw cartoons. We will consider how to perfect the features of the face and body, experiment with drawing clothes, shoes, etc, and even consider cityscapes and landscapes. Particular attention will be paid to bringing all the details of a composition together to form a humorous narrative.

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

The Art Abandonment Project (NEW)

October 3, November 7, December 5 | Saturdays, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Cost: \$5.00 per workshop

This community engagement program was originally developed by Vancouver-based assemblage artist and educator Michael deMeng. It involves artists, non-artists and any interested parties in creating art in various formats and becoming an 'abandoneer.' The works of art made in monthly abandonment challenges are left in random places and the 'finders' share in the fate of the pieces. The project is collaborative, ego-less, and rebels against traditional notions of jurying, coveting, and sanctioning art.

Draw by Night

October 6 | Tuesday, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

This event is free and open to the public! Come armed with your favourite drawing utensil or just bring your bad self and you can use our stuff. We will provide materials and food for your inspiration. Come draw with us!

-Source: Newsletter, Kelowna Art Gallery, 24 August 2015

Theatre Kelowna Society Presents – Blowin’ in the Wind

Date: September 16th – October 4th

Time: Evening shows Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 pm / Matinee Sundays only at 2:00 pm

Location: Black Box Theatre, 1375 Water St, Kelowna

Tickets: \$25 + service charges in advance at www.selectyourtickets.com / Prospera Place Box Office 250.762.5050 / \$30 cash at the door

Our Fall Show at the Black Box Theatre this year will be a musical revue featuring the folk music of the 1960’s. Due to the enormous popularity of our last tribute to the 1960’s “The Swingin’ Sixties,” we have decided to once again explore the large treasure trove of music from that era. This time however, we will visit the “folk revival” that started in about 1959.

We are also pleased to feature more Canadian content, including the music of Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell, Ian & Sylvia and Leonard Cohen. This will be combined with music by great American folk singers such as Pete Seeger, The Weavers, The Kingston Trio, The Chad Mitchell Trio, Judy Collins, Bob Dylan, Peter Paul & Mary, Tom Paxton, The Brothers Four and Simon & Garfunkel.

We will also pay tribute to the comedy of the era that spawned the first “comedy albums”.

-Source: Wendy Sanderson, Theatre Publicity, 12 August 2015

VOTE online for the Peachland Business Excellence Awards

Save the date and come celebrate excellence in business at the Peachland Chamber of Commerce 2015 Business Excellence Awards Gala and Auction Night, which will take place on Saturday November 14th We recognize businesses, organizations and individuals for their achievement in excellence within the Peachland business community before an active and vibrant group of business peers, dignitaries and the community at large.

Tickets are \$55 per person and are available now.

The event is open to the public.

The Nominees Reception is on Monday November 9th at the Historic School Building. The reception starts at 7:00 pm and ends 9:00 pm.

To be eligible for nomination, Business Award nominees must:

Be a licensed business or Not For Profit; have been in business for at least two years with the exception of the “Rising Star” award which honors new start-up businesses.

In order to receive the award the finalists must be a member of the Peachland Chamber in good standing.

[Vote Now](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, 6 August 2015

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- [HARPER GOVERNMENT HELPS CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES GAIN JOB SKILLS](#)

Harper Government Helps Canadians with Disabilities Gain Job Skills

The Government of Canada will provide over \$35 million over three years for 10 projects as part of its goal to help Canadians with disabilities gain the skills and experience they need to find jobs. The announcement was made today by the Honourable Candice Bergen, Minister of State for Social Development.

A total of 10 organizations are receiving over \$35 million from the Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities for their projects to help more than 4,250 people with disabilities across Canada prepare for the job market. Through the projects, participants who have little or no work experience will learn to obtain and maintain employment through one-on-one and group workshops, job coaching and on-the-job training.

Since 2006, the Opportunities Fund has helped 40,000 people with disabilities across Canada. This is part of the Government of Canada's overall strategy to equip all Canadians with the skills and training they need to connect with available jobs.

Today's announcement is one example of what the Government is doing to help Canadians. In its ongoing effort to help hard-working families, the Government also increased the Universal Child Care Benefit, introduced the Family Tax Cut and made improvements to the Child Care Expenses Deduction and the Children's Fitness Tax Credit.

Quick Facts

- To provide more demand-driven training solutions for people with disabilities, the Government's Economic Action Plan is increasing funding to the Opportunities Fund to \$40 million annually. Employers and community organizations will be involved in designing and delivering training projects.
- Projects such as these demonstrate how important it is that we support Canadians of all abilities in finding a job. The Opportunities Fund builds upon our Government's strong record of supporting those Canadians who need it most.
- Through Economic Action Plan 2014, the Government is providing \$15 million over three years to the Canadian Association for Community Living to help connect people with developmental disabilities with jobs. It is also providing \$11.4 million over four years to the Sinneave Family Foundation and Autism Speaks Canada to expand vocational training programs for people with autism spectrum disorders.
- The Universal Child Care Benefit is providing up to \$1,920 per year for children under the age of six. Parents are also receiving a new benefit of up to \$720 per year for each child aged six through 17.

-Source: BioTalent Canada, 6 August 2015

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- [2015 MENTAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM SURVEY RESULTS](#)

2015 Mental Health Care System Survey Results

The Canadian healthcare system continues to critically under perform for individuals with mental illness, according to Mood Disorders Society of Canada's (MDSC) June 2015 pan-Canadian survey of the country's mental health community.

The survey, conducted between June 16th and June 27th, received a remarkable 2,245 responses.

Results of this national survey clearly illustrate that Canadians are calling for immediate action and change on systemic issues identified in Canada's mental healthcare system. The issues highlighted in this report are considered to be critical areas for government focus, with particular emphasis on increasing access to mental healthcare professionals across Canada.

Key Findings

- Of the top two priorities suggested for government action, a total of 91% of respondents indicated that increasing access to mental healthcare professionals, (e.g. psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, etc.) was their top priority, while 88% reported the need to focus on increasing community mental health services.
- When asked directly, 38% of respondents indicated that the time between initial help seeking and diagnosis exceeded a period of 12 months. Retrospectively, following a similar 2011 MDSC national mental health survey, it was reported that a total of 35% of the respondents indicated having to wait more than 12 months for a diagnosis. These comparative results show that our performance on diagnosis has not improved. Comments received indicated a shortage of professionals available to diagnose and treat individuals with mental health issues.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Mood Disorders Society of Canada, 4 August 2015

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Resources

- [ISN'T IT TIME FOR A NEW STORY? INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO NONPROFIT STORYTELLING](#)
- [3 THINGS COMPANIES WANT IN THEIR NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIPS](#)
- [MITACS ACCELERATE PROGRAM](#)
- [EVERYDAY PRACTICES FOR MENTAL WELLNESS](#)
- [12 OUTCOMES TO MEASURE AND COMMUNICATE FOR A SUCCESSFUL NONPROFIT ANNUAL REPORT](#)
- [HOW TO MANAGE A PRO-BONO AGENCY RELATIONSHIP](#)
- [HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE NONPROFIT MEETINGS: WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SAY?](#)
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- [5 THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW TO PLAN YOUR END-OF-YEAR FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN](#)
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Isn't it Time for a New Story? Innovative Approaches to Nonprofit Storytelling

A few weeks ago, I joined a small group of volunteers at the offices of Volunteer Toronto for an intensive three-day workshop. Participants — sent by the organizations with whom they volunteered — were taking part in a digital storytelling initiative with one goal in mind: to tell their story.

A community arts practice where people record a personal narrative to which they add photographs and music to create a two-to-five minute video, digital storytelling has been generating some buzz lately. With content generation a ubiquitous priority these days and with the competition for eyeballs higher than ever, it's no surprise that organizations are looking for new and innovative ways to tell their stories, or, as in the case with Volunteer Toronto, those of their members.

As a testament to the growing need for forward-thinking storytelling tools and initiatives, a few weeks ago the US-based Center for Digital Storytelling launched their Canadian headquarters in Toronto. "Our mission is to help organizations and communities create story-based programs and share and tell their stories," explains Rani Sanderson, program coordinator of StoryCentre Canada and the facilitator who ran the Volunteer Toronto workshops.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 4 August 2015

3 Things Companies Want in Their Nonprofit Partnerships

What do _____ want?

It's a fundamental question when it comes to fundraising and marketing in general. If you know what _____ wants, then you just need to give 'it' to them. And while it's not easy to just create 'it', communicate 'it' and deliver 'it' to the right people, it sure beats doing all that work and finding out they don't even want 'it' in the first place.

But what does a company want in their nonprofit partner?

That's the question the good folks at For Momentum were looking to answer with their 2015 Corporate Partner Survey. Remember, always be careful with survey responses because what people say is not always what they actually do. This can be especially true when it comes to areas like philanthropy, parenting, and performance. Generally speaking, we perceive ourselves in a positive light and want others to perceive us that way as well. This makes us respond to questions as the best versions of ourselves – something we may not always be in all situations in real life.

Okay, survey caveat aside, there are still some great insights in the report (insights – not facts). Here're a few key points for you.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Popular LinkedIn Discussions, Imagine Canada, 6 August 2015

Mitacs Accelerate Program

- Are you seeking ways to leverage your R&D budget?
- Does your organization have a research or business challenge that requires outside expertise?
- Would you like to connect with potential employees?

Mitacs Accelerate is Canada's premier applied research internship program. Companies engage top graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to address an organizational research challenge, benefiting from their insight and the expertise of their faculty supervisor. Matching funds from Mitacs ensure that Accelerate collaborations are cost-effective and low-risk for companies of all sizes.

UBC Okanagan and Mitacs would like to partner with you. Together, they can bring the fresh ideas and perspectives of top graduate and postdoctoral researchers to your challenges.

For more information, contact Jennifer Tedman-Jones at ac.scetim@namdetj or visit www.mitacs.ca/accelerate.

-Source: Newsletter, Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, 6 August 2015

Everyday Practices for Mental Wellness

Last week, over 250 school professionals, parents, students and community partners gathered together at our annual Summer Institute to share ideas about promoting mental wellness in school communities. Each year, I'm inspired by the passion and energy that participants and speakers bring to this event, many of whom are still on summer holiday! This year was no exception.

There were many highlights at the 2015 Summer Institute including wonderful keynote presentations by Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl and Dan Reist and a facilitated discussion led by the WellAhead team. In addition, an incredible panel of passionate youth bravely and articulately shared their personal stories and perspectives. Each in their own way, they reminded us of the power of connection and relationships and how opening up to others about our struggles can create a ripple effect of sharing and support in the community. We were happy to have many youth engaged in the event this year as planners, presenters and participants.

A theme that emerged from the presentations and conversations was the idea of everyday practices that can create big changes for mental wellness. Everyday practices can be thought of as the small practices that are embedded in the pores and floors of the school environment that help create a culture of belonging and wellness. Throughout the two days, many ideas were brought forward about how these practices can support student and staff wellbeing. Ideas included everyday solutions like greeting students by name, sharing a daily wellness tip, celebrating a more diverse range of successes, doing a mindfulness activity, changing the physical space of the school to make it more inviting and inclusive, practicing gratitude or simply asking someone how they're doing.

The conversations reminded me that these practices can be applied in any setting and can go a long way in building connections with others and improving overall wellness. As a new school year begins, what everyday practices are you going to use to create more balance in your life?

[Details about the 2015 Summer Institute](#)

-Source: Newsletter, Kelty News, Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, 31 August 2015

12 Outcomes to Measure and Communicate for a Successful Nonprofit Annual Report

What if the CEO of corporation X refused to report profits in their annual report to shareholders? He would be seeking a new job in 2015, right? Just like this hypothetical out-of-work CEO, for too long nonprofits have got away with leaving their true profit out of their annual reports. The bottom line for a nonprofit is more than the difference between dollars raised and expenditures. The true profit of a nonprofit should be measured in outcomes: how is the organization changing lives and changing circumstances? Your profits, which should be included in your annual report, are measured in a higher quality of life, increased job creation, stronger communities, etc.

Like corporations, the nonprofit sector has a responsibility to achieve a high return for investors. You do this by producing outcomes for your target populations and creating more efficient organizations. Are you fulfilling this responsibility by measuring and demonstrating your organization's reason for existence in your annual reports?

[Read More](#)

-Source: *LinkedIn Popular Discussions, Imagine Canada, 20 August 2015*

How to Manage a Pro-bono Agency Relationship

You've surmounted a major hurdle in securing the pro-bono services of an agency to support your nonprofit's marketing initiatives. Now comes the delicate balancing act of managing the relationship. Do you treat the agency purely as a supplier or more like a volunteer? The truth is somewhere in the middle.

Here are five steps to help you manage a pro-bono agency relationship.

1. Know your limits but be prepared to be flexible

An agency will likely suggest ideas that shake up your notions of a campaign or approach. This could result in a great leap forward for expanded audience mindshare and your brand. But you also need to retain and connect with your current audiences. Where is the line between the two?

David Foy, President of Agency 59 Response notes, "An agency hopes that with greater creative control while working on a pro bono account, they will produce work that is often breakthrough and attract more business."

Have a frank and open discussion with your internal teams to determine the comfort level with becoming more audacious with the brand in order to raise awareness or support fundraising. If you have well-established brand guidelines, or sensitive audiences, this could become a more challenging negotiation. Once you are confident of your position and rationale, communicate those points with your agency.

Above all, the line will be determined by your strategy. If that is well thought out and on target, the creative advertising or other tactics should directly support it.

[Read More](#)

-Source: *Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 18 August 2015*

Healthy and Productive Nonprofit Meetings: What Does the Research Say?

How many meetings and conference calls did you have yesterday? Our work days are filled with meetings and conference calls with the intent of getting stuff done. But many meetings end up being a complete waste of time.

That's why we included a module in the Emerging Nonprofit Leaders peer learning group on meeting design and facilitation – and these days it is an important leadership skill. In preparation, I've been studying the research and best practices for productive meetings. Here's a summary of what I learned:

Do You Have The Basics of Good Meetings Covered?

If you want the basics about holding a meeting that is energizing instead of draining, here is a good summary from the Harvard Business Review: “What Everyone Needs to Know About Running Productive Meetings.” Many of these practices are used at companies that pride themselves in having productive meetings. Andrea Kihlstedt and I gave a webinar for Guidestar on healthy and productive nonprofit meetings. Our tips are here.

The best advice is to ask yourself if you need to schedule a meeting in the first place. The HBR article has a handy decision-making tree. If you can't get by with fewer meetings, try to make them shorter. Don't fall into the trap scheduling a meeting for one-hour by default. Try scheduling them for 30, or 15 minutes. What happens is that you stay focused and waste less time.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Beth's Blog, 2 September 2015

Let Someone Else do the Fundraising for a Change: An Introduction to P2P

The progressive ease with which we can share information has created a feeling of interconnectedness around the world. Social media — and other information technologies — allow us to easily influence the decisions of our peers and colleagues, whether it's the food they eat, the clothes they wear, or the charities they donate to.

With these technologies on the rise, it's no wonder that Peer to Peer (P2P) fundraising has been gaining traction. The 2013 Blackbaud study, *The Next Generation of Canadian Giving on the Charitable Giving Habits of Canadians*, shows tremendous P2P buy-in from Canadian donors.

- Eighty-one percent of donors say they do not mind being asked by a friend to donate: compare that to 69% that find letter appeals from charity acceptable, and only 14% of donors that find street canvassing acceptable
- Almost all donors have given in response to a peer to peer ask: 84% of donors say they have given at least once to a friend's cause in the year preceding the study
- Young donors are standing by, waiting to fundraise for you: 51% of Gen Y donors and 49% of Gen X donors say they have fundraised directly on behalf of a cause or charity in the year preceding the study (only 36% boomers and 25% of civics have fundraised)

[Read More](#)

-Source: Grantseeker Monthly, 3 September 2015

The Secret Sauce for Productive Nonprofit Meetings that no one Talks About

I'm facilitating a peer learning leadership development group for Emerging Nonprofit Leaders supported by the Packard Foundation. One of the modules is on meetings. It includes design and facilitation – and these days those are important leadership skills. But often we forget to add the secret sauce: how to participate in meetings with impact.

There is lots of advice out there about how to design and facilitate meetings. In fact, I just wrote a post summarizing some of the most recent research on the topic. So much of our work life is being in meetings, but many times are a participant, not the meeting leader. What can we do as a participant to make meetings more productive?

The Healthy Meeting Mindset

Your mindset influences your behavior and participation at meetings. Have we become so complacent about the meetings we attend that we tune out, don't prepare, and complain about the experience afterwards.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Beth's Blog, 3 September 2015

5 Things you Can do Now to Plan your End-of-Year Fundraising Campaign

Summer's over and the busiest fundraising season of the year is right around the corner. Are you ready? To help you get a jumpstart on your campaign planning, we've put together a checklist of things you can do now to ensure a blockbuster end-of-year fundraising appeal.

1) Start with the big picture

What are your campaign objectives? Sure, you want to raise money, but what's your message? Why would someone support your cause over another at this busy time? And so on. What's your theme? How can segmentation strategies help? What about putting beneficiaries' front and center? Does video have a place in your campaign?

[Read More](#)

-Source: Steph Drahozal, Salsa Labs, 3 September 2015

Change Day BC

Date: October 15th Change Day BC is building on the successful global movement ignited by the National Health Service (NHS) in England. Countries including Northern Ireland, Scotland, New Zealand, Australia, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands, India, Jordan, South Africa, USA, Saudi Arabia and Saskatchewan, Canada are holding their own change days.

We are inviting anyone involved in health and social care across the province to commit to an act of change that will improve care for patients or the system we work in. What someone pledges, and how they do it, is entirely up to them.

We invite you to make your pledge any time between now and Change Day, then join a province-wide movement by acting on that pledge for one day or every day.

Your pledge can be big or small. Pledges for change have included such things as:

- Spending a day in a wheelchair to better understand the patient experience
- Tasting a pediatric medicine to appreciate why children complain about the taste

- Smiling at colleagues to brighten their day
- Learning more about diabetes to better comprehend the personal and social impacts of diabetes
- Introducing oneself by name to patients, residents or clients – a relatively little thing that can positively affect an individual's experience of treatment and care

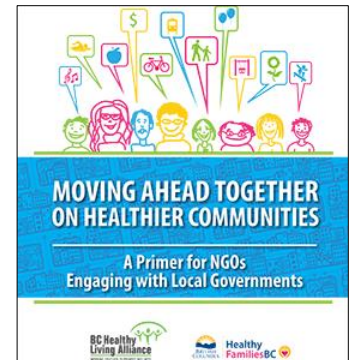
[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, BC Healthy Communities, 3 September 2015

Moving Ahead Together On Healthier Communities

When it comes to building healthier communities we all have a role to play. Partners from different sectors have different types of expertise and resources to contribute. Collaboration can make all the difference because it draws from the strengths of, and can mobilize the assets of, diverse contributors. The BC Healthy Living Alliance builds produced two useful guides about NGO collaboration.

This 2015 Framework Moving Ahead Together on Healthier Communities builds on consultation processes, done in partnership between Healthy Families BC, BC Healthy Communities Society and the BC Healthy Living Alliance, to explore collaboration between NGOs, health authorities and local governments and how connections could be strengthened.



[Read More](#)

-Source: Newsletter, BC Healthy Communities, 3 September 2015

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Social Media & Tech

- [A NONPROFIT'S GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING & AVOIDING EMAIL THREATS](#)
- [SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT STRATEGY IS A CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS FOR NONPROFITS](#)
- [THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR NEWSLETTER ISN'T IN YOUR NEWSLETTER](#)
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A Nonprofit's Guide to Identifying & Avoiding Email Threats

Technology and the Internet have revolutionized the way nonprofits communicate and work with their volunteers, donors and supporters. While this has proved extremely beneficial for nonprofits and charities alike, it can also make your organization vulnerable to online predators. The best defense against online threats is to educate your nonprofit's staff and volunteers on safe computer practices, starting with email protection.

What email threats should my nonprofit watch out for?

There are generally three kinds of security hazards that your nonprofit team needs to be aware of when handling email.

1. Spam

"Spam" refers to trivial or otherwise useless information sent in bulk over email (such as advertisements, chain letters, or fake security alerts). It's generally harmless, but it can clutter up your email inbox and make it difficult to locate important emails.

2. Phishing

Some of the more dangerous types of spam are referred to as "phishing". These emails generally try to convince the recipient to send money or personal information to the sender by promising a reward (i.e. "your charity was named a beneficiary in a bequest. Enter your details to claim") or by warning you that something bad will happen if you don't respond (i.e. "you are close to defaulting on your insurance. Enter your details to make a payment").

Phishing scams can sometimes be hard to detect, as many appear to come from trusted sources such as banks or well-known brands. There is also what is known as "spear phishing", which is a type of phishing that deliberately targets organizations, such as nonprofits. Spear phishing works to compromise one employee's computer and/or steal their clearance information, and then use it to steal other company information and secrets from the inside.

Check out this article to learn more about phishing scams.

[Read More](#)

-Source: By the Cup, TechSoup Canada, 27 August 2015

Successful Social Media Content Strategy is a Continuous Improvement Process for Nonprofits

I was in San Antonio this week to facilitate an interactive master class for 300 nonprofits that was hosted by the San Antonio Nonprofit Council that hosts The Big Give, a very successful local giving day. One of the goals of the giving day is to improve the local skills and capacity of nonprofits in online fundraising, and I was impressed at the level of knowledge in the room. (Having 300 people and doing a participatory style of teaching gave me an opportunity to use some of my facilitation techniques for large groups that are in my tool set – and because colleagues have asked me to share tips about it, expect that in another blog post next week.)

I taught a section on developing and implementing an effective content strategy after some exercises to help participants identify target audiences, create personas, measurable objectives, and channels. It struck me that an effective nonprofit content strategy is a process of continuous improvement. It starts with ideas and brainstorming. So having a few brainstorming facilitation techniques to use with your team, is useful. Then you have get organized, really organized. Not only do you need to pre-plan your content using an editorial calendar but coordinate and assign tasks and organize your content assets and curation. And, then there is the task of putting fingers to keyboard and creating the content as well as curating. And on a regular basis, measure, learn, and improve what you are doing.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Beth's Blog, 19 August 2015

The Most Important Part of your Newsletter isn't in your Newsletter

The most important element of your email newsletter isn't part of your newsletter at all, it's the places you send people after they click.

Nonprofits spend a lot of time thinking about the content and design of their emails, but not enough time thinking about the landing page destinations users arrive at once they take a desired action from your email.

Landing pages are a huge part of the experience of receiving and interacting with an email, but unfortunately, they're not a built-in part of the experience of creating one. Think about it: we obsessively check a newsletter's spelling, images, dates and links, but we rarely check the content and experience on our landing pages because that's not something we can do from within our email marketing platforms.

We create newsletters as if our goal is to get users to a page, but getting them to a destination URL is only half the job. The most important part of the email process is the landing page, because this is where conversions happen.

With each email we send we should be thinking: what are we trying to get our recipients to do, and how does that experience work for them? We need to change our approach to email by measuring success beyond the inbox. But how do we do this?

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 28 August 2015

Facebook's New Donate Button Helps Charities Build Donor Lists

Some 20 months after it began experimenting with the concept, Facebook said this week it is rolling out a "donate now" button for all nonprofits' pages and paid advertisements on the social-media site.

Clicking on the button prompts a pop-up message that reads "Make a donation to show your support," followed by the statement "Not endorsed by or affiliated with Facebook." Users are directed to the websites of the various organizations, where payment information must be entered to make a contribution.

"Now, it's easier than ever for nonprofits to connect with people who care about their causes and encourage them to contribute through the website of their choice," Facebook said in a post explaining the new feature.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 27 August 2015

6 Steps to Make Your Nonprofit's Blog a Must-Read Web Destination

Managing a nonprofit is already more than a full-time job. Often, when operating on shoestring budgets to make a dent in large-scale, intractable problems like poverty or human rights, writing up a few hundred words for a blog post can seem like the least important of the myriad to-dos.

But that couldn't be farther from the truth! For your supporters, your organization's blog is a window into your world. It showcases what matters to you, how you're achieving your mission, and provides insight into the type of organization you are or want to be. Perhaps most importantly, it's a critical marketing tool to spread knowledge of your work and the issues you prioritize to millions of potential supporters.

Yet, too often, nonprofit blogs look like an afterthought, with infrequent posts, poor editing and lack of a unified voice. Rather than give up and let your blog collect digital dust, try a few of these strategies to make sure your blog reaches its full potential:

Define your objective up front

The first step is to determine what you want your blog to do. Is it a place to showcase your research, field projects, and other activities? Are you hoping to use it as a platform to raise the profile of your issues and experts more broadly in the media world? Both? Answering these questions can help you figure out exactly what your blog looks like.

Organizations that rely on gifts may want to show donors what their money has bought, or encourage passive supporters to become active funders. In that case, readers may be your existing audience and the tone may be convivial and community-oriented. The Alameda County Food Bank in California uses its blog to highlight community action and features volunteers and recipients, nurturing both the community of volunteers and the organization's place within the

community.

Groups working on under-the-radar issues or developing large coalitions may strike a more journalistic tone aimed at non-supporters and the general public. The UN Foundation's blog educates readers about their programs and features on-the-ground stories that connect readers with people benefitting from their work.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 21 August 2015

A Strategic Guide to Social Media for Nonprofits

Nonprofit organizations have become increasingly social over the past decade, whether they are cultivating a dedicated Facebook following or blazing a trail on new networks such as Snapchat. While part of social media's initial appeal was the potential to reach your audience without tapping into a limited budget, the growing popularity and changing algorithms of popular networks have made it difficult to keep your cause at the top of supporters' newsfeeds. That said, nonprofit organizations have never been a group to back down from a challenge.

Social media is an opportunity to tell your story, engage with supporters and get results—which means there's no time like the present to create or refresh your social media strategy. We asked five experts to weigh in on how to develop a nonprofit social media strategy and prove the value of social media to your organization. As we outline the steps to craft an effective strategy, their advice will guide the way.

1. Define Social's Role in Your Communications Strategy

"Social media shouldn't be out there alone; it should be integrated and aligned with your strategic goals and target audiences," said Beth Kanter, Nonprofit Consultant and Author of Beth's Blog, one of the longest running and most popular blogs about nonprofits and social media. "The role that it can play really well is engagement, especially donor engagement and donor retention, getting people to pay attention—capturing their attention."

The actions you will take and the content you will create on social should tie back to your overall communications and digital strategy. Consider how you will connect your organization's social media efforts to your website and blog, email marketing, event promotions and any other content you share online.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 11 August 2015

The Quick and Dirty Guide to A/B Testing Your Donation Page

Your landing pages are important, and your donation pages are no exception. Do you ever wish you could know which messages, suggested donation amounts, or photos are the best at inspiring your donors to give?

Enter A/B testing.

Although testing might seem a little scary if you've not done it, there are simple tests you can perform to ensure you're getting the most out of your online donation pages. Basic A/B testing helps you decide which images, calls to action, and suggested donation amounts perform best by comparing the effectiveness of two versions of your donation page.

Here's how it works: a randomly selected half of your audience is served one form (the control), and the other half gets another form (the test). The test version has just one variable changed: the layout, image, copy, or headings.

Over time, monitor which donation page has the higher completion rate, calculated as follows: number of donations divided by the number of people who landed on your page.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Nonprofit Newswire, Imagine Canada, 5 August 2015

Nonprofits: Let's Put a Final End to the PDF Newsletter

Does your nonprofit still send your newsletter as a PDF attached to an email? If you ditched PDF newsletters long ago, this question might seem ridiculous, but some nonprofits are still sending pdf newsletters, and that's a problem. Sending PDF newsletters wastes resources, time and opportunities to improve and fine tune your electronic communications.

As Marnie Grona previously explained for the Nonprofit MarCommunity blog, misusing PDFs puts your nonprofit communications at risk, so it's important to carefully choose the right tool for the job.

The problems with pdf newsletters

Isaac Shalev, of Sage 70 recently wrote an excellent post describing the problems and limitations of PDF newsletters and kindly gave me permission to republish the core points here for moflow blog readers:

Poor Deliverability

Many spam filters or attachment filters will block PDF file attachments, especially if they're sent from personal accounts to many recipients. And that's often what you're reduced to, since major e-newsletter services like Mailchimp and Constant Contact won't allow you to attach PDFs. Additionally, PDFs require additional clicks to access, which means fewer readers are going to bother.

[Read More](#)

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

5 Tips for Creating a Successful Fundraising Email

Creating a fundraising email that makes a big impact with your supporters isn't always easy. You're competing with super full inboxes and other demands on your readers' attention, and of

course, you've got to compel them to open their wallet.

We've put together five tips that we think will knock your fundraising goals out of the ballpark.

1. Keep Your Emails Succinct

According to Marketing Sherpa, the average person spends 10-15 seconds on each email they open. That's not just reading time, it also includes time spent looking at graphics and wrapping their heads around your calls-to-action. Bottom line, your supporters only give you a few seconds to convince them to act on your donation request.

As a rule of thumb, aim for between 180 and 250 words at most for your fundraising emails. For your e-newsletters, aim for no more than 500 words (which is the equivalent of a full page of copy in Word—a lot, right?).

[Read More](#)

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

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Training

- [LIVE WEBCAST – BOUNDARIES IN HUMAN SERVICES](#)
- [WEBINAR: FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT](#)
- [WEBINAR: THE POWER OF BLOGGING & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP FOR NONPROFITS](#)
- [WEBINAR: THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS: 10 TIPS AND TRICKS PRACTICES FOR NGOS](#)
- [MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID \(MHFA\) TRAINING COURSE](#)
- [WORKSHOP: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES FOR UPSTREAM ACTION](#)
- [WEBINAR: SUPERCHARGE YOUR YEAR-END FUNDRAISING](#)
- [WEBINAR: GETTING THE BEST OUT OF YOUR VOLUNTEERS WITH THE SAVE APPROACH](#)
- [VOLUNTEER FUTURES – WE ARE COMMUNITY](#)
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- [3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH](#)
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- [OKANAGAN PARENT CONFERENCE – BACK TO BASICS](#)
- [NONPROFIT CENTERS BOOTCAMP](#)
- [2015 CONFERENCE ON VOLUNTEERING AND SERVICE](#)

Live Webcast – Boundaries in Human Services

Date: Wednesday, September 9th, 9:00 am – 10:00 am PDT

[Register Now](#)

Some boundaries (like not having romantic relationships with a client) are easy and obvious, but most are more challenging and difficult to navigate. The most successful providers of services find ways to truly connect with, honor, and support clients while remaining professional, safe, and clear about their role. During this hour-long webcast, Ayala Livny will explore these challenges and offer tools to successfully navigate the more nuanced areas. Attendees will leave feeling more confident in their abilities to identify when a boundary may have been crossed, disclose information about themselves appropriately, and ultimately provide the highest quality services to clients.

-Source: Newsletter, t3, 1 September 2015

Webinar: Foundations for Successful Volunteer Engagement

Date: Wednesday, September 9th, 11:00 am PDT

[Register Now](#)

Effective and strategic engagement of volunteers is built on a foundation of leading practices that are informed by research and demonstrated by experience. Best practices around developing strategic volunteer roles, cultivating volunteers, and ongoing professional development and training are all vital to aligning volunteer contributions with your mission and nurturing successful partnerships between staff and volunteers. Through current information about leading practices, real-life case studies, and tools you can begin to use immediately, we will introduce the leading practices and metrics for success around: cultivation, professional development and training, and acknowledgment and recognition. This is a great opportunity to

be inspired by successful innovations, learn from others' lessons and advice, and even share some of your own successful innovations during the discussion period at the end.

-Source: e-newsletter, Innovative Volunteer Strategies, 19 August 2015

Webinar: The Power of Blogging & Thought Leadership for Nonprofits

Date: Wednesday, September 9th, 9:30 am PDT

[Register Now](#)

In this educational session, you will learn how to increase your constituency base and donations to your organization by using blogging and social media tools.

You will learn:

- The importance of an engaging website as the foundation of your online efforts
- How to use Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn to create awareness for your organization
- Why relevant content is so vital to being found online and engaging supporters
- Who should blog and who shouldn't
- Steps to creating a blog for your nonprofit, including how to maintain a blog long-term

Participants will leave the session with practical tips, and action steps that can be implemented right away. You won't want to miss this engaging and informative session led by Jay Wilkinson, one of America's top-rated speakers.

-Source: Newsletter, Nonprofit Hub, 3 September 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

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training Course

Dates: September 17, October 22, November 19, December 3 (Must attend all sessions), 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Location: Portable #2, #760, Hwy 33, Kelowna

Cost: \$115

The Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training course was developed to help people provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

MHFA Canada teaches mental health first aid skills. The course does not train people to be therapists, counselors or mental health professionals. The philosophy behind MHFA Canada is that mental health crisis, such as suicidal and self-harming actions, may be avoided through early intervention. If crisis do arise, then members of the public can take action that may reduce the harm that could result.

MHFA Canada: For Adults Who Interact with Youth focuses on mental health problems and first aid for youth ages 12 to 24. Mental health problems often first develop during adolescence or early adulthood, with half of all mental disorders beginning by age 14, and 75 percent beginning by age 24.

Most mental disorders develop gradually. The early signs and symptoms of developing mental health problems will be different from the more established clinical profiles which are reflected later in life. The social, educational and family environments in which mental disorders occur in young people are also different from those later in life. Therefore, the information in this course is designed to be sensitive to the unique aspects of mental health problems in young people. It is meant to assist education professionals, health providers, parents and other adults in the identification of mental health problems and appropriate first aid intervention strategies.

The following mental health problems are covered:

- Mood Disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Psychosis
- Substance Use Disorder
- Eating disorders
- Deliberate self-injury

The following mental health crisis situations are covered:

- Suicidal behaviour
- Overdoses
- Panic Attacks
- Reactions to traumatic events
- Psychotic episodes

For more details contact The Bridge Youth & Family Services at 250.763.0456 or [check their website](#).

-Source: The Bridge Youth & Family Services, 18 August 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 story-telling 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

Webinar: Supercharge Your Year-End Fundraising

Date: Thursday, September 17th, 11:00 am PDT

The average nonprofit raises 30-40% of its income during the last three months of the calendar year.* Don't you wish your nonprofit could raise more during this time of year but without added stress and hassle? We thought so.

Join Joe Garecht, founder of The Fundraising Authority, for a one-hour webinar where you'll learn everything you need to know to supercharge your year-end fundraising, including:

- How to create amazing year-end appeal letters that get results
- A step-by-step strategy for raising money from major donors during November and December
- How to boost online, social media, and e-mail giving during the year-end season
- And much, much more!

Join us for this webinar and learn how to increase your year-end fundraising by 15%, 20% or more!

[Register Now](#) *-Source: Newsletter, Blackbaud, 3 September 2015*

Webinar: Getting the Best out of your Volunteers with the SAVE Approach

Date: Thursday, September 24th, 10:00 am

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

[Register Now](#)

The relationship between a volunteer and an organization is based on many variables, with one

of the biggest being trust. As managers of volunteers, we rely on a variety of factors when placing volunteers into roles and it is our responsibility to support and manage a volunteer's time with us in a meaningful way. A key question for managers of volunteers is, how do we support our volunteers in a meaningful way, while at the same time creating structure and accountability so that we don't find ourselves dealing with a difficult volunteer? And how do we avoid that painful "firing" conversation?

Our upcoming webinar, presented by Lori Gotlieb, will give you the tools and resources you need to better deal with difficult volunteers.

By the end of this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the life cycle of the volunteer and when and to provide support and tools so that the volunteer stays within their appropriate role.
- Learn the SAVE approach to developing a structure to successfully manage and support your volunteers.
- Build an appropriate performance management program for volunteers and understand the volunteers' role in this process.
- Handle the "difficult volunteer" with the tools & tips provided in the session.
- Manage difficult conversations and, if necessary, know how to fire a volunteer.

-Source: Village Vibes, Charity Village, 31 August 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

Free Access to Charity Village's Event Planning eLearning Course

CharityVillage's Event Planning eLearning course will help you plan your next nonprofit event from start to finish. Complete with 17 downloadable resources, the course takes about 2 hours to complete but can be taken entirely at your own pace. You'll have **FREE** access to the course materials until September 27th, 2015!

After taking our Event Planning eLearning course, you'll be able to:

- Develop an event plan
- List the nine essential steps in event planning
- Create an event budget
- Manage the myriad of details involved in event planning
- Identify and plan for possible risks
- Produce an event evaluation plan

This course is on-demand, meaning that you can take it anytime, at your own pace. The course takes approximately 2 hours to complete from start to finish, but you have free access until September 27, 2015. Take it all at once. Take it in 15-minute bites. Take breaks between each module. It's entirely flexible and up to you!

[Read More](#)

-Source: Village Vibes, Charity Village, 31 August 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

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

Okanagan Parent Conference – Back to Basics

Date: Saturday, October 17th, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Sensisysten School, 1920 Quail Lane, Westbank, BC

Register now at www.okanaganparentconference.com

Conference Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 Check-in and Childminding drop-off

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome

9:15 – 10:30 Keynote Address with Adele Diamond

10:30 – 10:45 Morning Break
10:45 – 12:00 Morning Workshop of Your Choice
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch
1:15 – 2:30 Afternoon Workshop of Your Choice
2:45 – 3:00 Wrap up and Door Prizes

The basics of raising children who thrive, who are happy, healthy, strong, kind and capable – have not changed... the world has. What children need now is what they have always needed. Aside from food, water and shelter, the primary need of all young children is to feel a loving connection. Without some of the basics in the early years our children can struggle.

The Okanagan Parent Conference is focusing on going Back to Basics; bringing back the knowledge, skills, and strategies into our parenting and family life that will ensure all children have the basics they need to thrive. The conference promises speakers and topics that are sure to support and enhance your journey through parenthood.

Join us for a day full of learning, activities, sharing, and inspiration.

If you are an organisation that supports the healthy development of children and families, join us on October 17, 2015 to provide free information to parents in the Okanagan. No product or service sales at this event.

For more information call Myrna Kalmakoff 250.878.8713 or email myrna@catchcoalition.ca

-Source: Amanda Turner, Success by 6 Coordinator, 26 August 2015

Nonprofit Centers Bootcamp

Bring Collaboration to Life – The Fundamentals to Develop & Operate a Shared Space

Date: October 21-22, 2015

Location: Denver, Colorado

[Register Now](#)

NCN's two-day Nonprofit Centers Boot Camp is designed to bring your shared space to life by fusing the basics of real estate management with organizational collaboration. This training will provide you with a roadmap. Learn the nuts and bolts of setting up a mission-driven business model. Gain insights into collaborative governance structures. Better understand the physical elements that make a shared work environment thrive. Be inspired to cultivate and care for your shared space community. At the close of this two-day intensive, walk away prepared to fulfill your vision.

Early registration ends on Sep 30, 2015

-Source: Newsletter, The Nonprofit Centers Network, 3 September 2015

2015 Conference on Volunteering and Service

This year's Conference on Volunteering and Service is sure to be enlightening and meaningful. We at JFFixler Group have once again been helping to plan the Strategic Volunteer Engagement track, which is packed with sessions featuring cutting edge research, proven strategies, useful case studies, and great networking opportunities.

Join us in Houston for this tremendous opportunity to learn, develop professionally, and connect with peers. JFFixler Group's sessions include Best Practices in Volunteer Engagement; Leveraging Volunteer Talent for Organizational Change; Volunteer Engagement 2.0: Ideas and Insights from Today's Leaders; and Volunteer Engagement Networking Session 2: Mentoring.

[Read More](#)

-Source: e-newsletter, Innovative Volunteer Strategies, 19 August 2015

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Volunteerism

- [HOW TO FIND SUPERSTAR VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT](#)
- [VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION: JUST SAY NO TO YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS](#)

How to Find Superstar Volunteers for Your Next Event

Recruiting quality volunteers plays a major role in the success of your events. Finding volunteers who are dedicated to your organization and the mission of your event can be a challenge, but using the following tips will lead you towards recruiting and retaining excellent event volunteers.

Recruiting Locations

Everyone longs to find the volunteers that best fit their event. The people who actually “get it” and will work hard to help your event succeed are out there, but where exactly should you look for that elusive “perfect” volunteer?

Start out by looking within your organization or the organization putting on the event. Oftentimes people who are directly connected to an organization or event are the most willing to help the event succeed.

Another method of recruiting is online postings. There are many different websites for volunteer postings that can be beneficial to your group. Try to find volunteer boards through local college websites or community groups. Many times these individuals are looking for volunteer opportunities that can provide event management, operations or customer service learning opportunities.

Large scale events, such as conferences and concerts, oftentimes recruit volunteers from within their attendee pool. This can be a mutually beneficial experience for both you as the planner and the attendee/volunteer. Providing a discounted event rate for your guests who are willing to volunteer, and you may have a line of people jumping to sign-up and help out. They will already be at the event, so if they can help with any projects before, during or after, don't let these opportunities go to waste.

[Read More](#)

-Source: Media Monitoring Newsletter, Volunteer Canada, 27 August 2015

Volunteer Recognition: Just say No to Years of Service Awards

In this month's podcast, Carol Dixon, Director, Mission Services & Volunteer Resources at Providence Health Care, joins me to share tips and perspective on the topic: Volunteer Recognition: Just say No to Years of Service Awards.

Drawing on over 35 years in volunteer engagement (and a healthy sense-of-humour!), Carol provides us with a number of examples of high-impact volunteer recognition that won't break the

bank. From Carol's vantage point, the key is to invest in thoughtful, individualized volunteer recognition.

[Listen to the Audio](#)

-Source: Village Vibes, Charity Villages, 24 August 2015

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