

## Community Information & Volunteer Centre

### Capital News: Volunteer Centre Column 2012 June 28

#### Visit website to volunteer

A new feature of KCR's website, [www.kcr.ca](http://www.kcr.ca), is the Calendar of Community Events under Community Services. You can view it either as a calendar or as a list.

I know, I know, another calendar of events. In our defense, we are offering this for three reasons.

First, we want to make this calendar as complete as possible for community event planners and volunteers.

In addition to nonprofit organizations submitting their events, we are also taking the initiative to seek out events. This supports smaller organizations that might not have staff to promote online.

We are also adding the national days dedicated to specific causes.

The second reason we are committed to preparing community event calendars is to support event planning. Nonprofit organizations will have one place to do an 'environmental scan'.

This scan helps event planners find out what other events were held last year on that weekday or weekend. Planners can link events to nationally recognized themes.

Thought can be given to partnering with other special events to expand or to add a fresh twist for a good cause.

Event planners and volunteers can subscribe in Google Calendar. This adds the KCR Calendar of Community Events as a parallel calendar to your own online calendar.

I think this is such a cool feature. The information comes to me.

Thirdly, we hope that our calendar of events will encourage people to volunteer. Each event requires many hands to make the work light.

As you scan upcoming events, think about the volunteer profile you have created. What activities have you checked in the special event category?

You can select concessions, coordination, greeter, parking lot, security, or ticket sales to name a few.

Use the calendar of community events and your volunteer profile to bring opportunities directly to you online.

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