



The Connector

A Volunteer BC Newsletter



October 2006 Edition

In most areas of the province, the colder weather has definitely set in. Whether a good or bad thing, fall is definitely here! However, there is no argument that it's always a good thing when another edition of The Connector lands in your email inbox – especially with our playful new header and footer. Enjoy!

Provincially Speaking

updates from Volunteer BC

Canada Volunteerism Initiative Funding Cut

On September 25th, the federal government announced \$1 billion in cuts, eliminated funding to many programs that directly and indirectly affect the voluntary sector and volunteer-involving organizations across the country, including the elimination of the Canada Volunteerism Initiative (CVI). In response to the announcement, we sent out a number of tools developed by Volunteer Canada and encouraged all members to use them in their own efforts in creating local dialogue around the effects to volunteerism and the voluntary sector. We would appreciate being kept informed of any activities that are going on. Let us know by email at volbc@vcn.bc.ca or by telephone at 604-873-5877.

Getting To Know Your Board

During our Annual General Meeting (AGM) last month, our new board of directors was appointed. In case you were not able to attend, here is the 2006-2007 Volunteer BC board:

- Michael McCoy, President
- Barbara MacLellan, Vice-President
- David Kimpton, Past President
- Justin Ho, Secretary
- Kelina Kwan, Treasurer
- Dave Baspaly
- Ed Gavsie
- Jan Halliday
- Karen Howe
- Gail Joyce
- Jackie Rankel
- Bruce Rozenhart

Exciting Happenings at VolWeb.ca

Also at our AGM, attendees received an update about VolWeb.ca. Volunteers Now Director Mary MacKillop announced an upcoming initiative between VolWeb.ca and the Memorial Cup to pilot an online event volunteer scheduling tool. Also, VolWeb.ca and Volunteer Victoria recently launched a pilot that expands VolWeb.ca to host the volunteer centre's existing database of volunteer opportunities. In addition, VolWeb.ca now has a full-time program manager. Congratulations to Mary and the Volunteers Now team for all the exciting activities. We look forward to our continued partnership with Volunteers Now on the VolWeb.ca initiative. Visit VolWeb.ca today at www.VolWeb.ca.

Back to the Classroom

learning opportunities to build a stronger sector

Training Calendar Has Been Updated!

In recent weeks our own email inbox has been filled with training announcements and course registration information. There are many workshops and seminars happening all across BC. Find something you'd like to register for on our training calendar, which is at www.volunteerbc.bc.ca/events/training.html.

Centre Stage

news from the volunteer centre movement

Volunteer Canada President in Abbotsford

The Fraser Valley Volunteer Support Network is hosting a special – and timely – luncheon with Volunteer Canada President Marlene Deboisbriand on Thursday, November 2nd from 11:30am to 3:00pm. The event, which will include an update on the implications of the recent federal cuts, will take place at the Seven Oaks Alliance Church Community Room in Abbotsford (2575 Gladwin Road). To register (\$10 early bird, \$15 after Oct 25) or for more information, contact Abbotsford Community Services at 604-859-7682 or at abbyes@paralynx.com.

Corporate Canada Builds A Park

Kevin Layden, president of Best Buy Canada, and Garth Issett, vice-president of IBM Canada, recently spent a morning helping to put together a swing set. Kevin Boyce, the chief executive officer of Molson Canada, also spent his morning as part of a team of volunteers – assembling a see-saw horse. This September event at a Toronto park was the first project resulting from the new Corporate Challenge on Volunteering initiative, put together by Volunteer Canada's newly formed Corporate Council on Volunteering, which represents 20 major national companies. The council is co-chaired by Annette Verschuren, president of Home Depot Canada, and Marlene Deboisbriand, president of Volunteer Canada. Find out more about this exciting initiative at www.volunteer.ca.

Momentum Is Building

At our Annual General Meeting, we were pleased to hear of another volunteer centre opening its doors. Congratulations to Valerie Wehrle, Manager of Volunteer and Information Services, and Peace Arch Community Services for their commitment to the volunteer centre movement. Volunteer Peninsula has opened its doors and serves the community of White Rock and South Surrey. Visit them online at www.pacsbc.com, email them at volpen@pacsbc.com or call them at 604-531-6226 ext. 229.

What's In A Name?

Arguably a lot! We're pleased to help spread the word that Comox Valley Volunteer Investment Program has recently changed their name to Volunteer Comox Valley. Visit them online at www.volunteer.iscn.ca or call 250-334-8063.

Inside the Invisible Infrastructure

news from across the voluntary sector

Federal Cuts Cut Deep

As noted above, on September 25 the Treasury Board of Canada released a detailed list of programs and spending cuts in order to meet the Government of Canada's debt reduction targets. There were cuts announced that impact the voluntary sector in BC and across Canada – from CVI to literacy programs to youth employment programs. For a detailed list of the spending decisions, visit www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/media/nr-cp/2006/0925_e.asp.

Something For Your Bookshelf

To serve a growing demand for specialized training in nonprofit management, more and more colleges and universities have been introducing new programs in this area. They compliment the less formal training offered through conferences, newsletters and websites. The problem is that there have not been any books that comprehensively cover the whole field of nonprofit management from a distinctly Canadian perspective. *The Management of Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations in Canada* by Vic Murray (Editor) has just been published to fill this gap and covers an array of topics important for leaders in the field. It is available at www.lexisnexis.ca/bookstore/catalogue.php and costs \$75 (\$60 for members of Imagine Canada).

Plugging In

navigating what's new or hot online and in technology

Online Blog for Responses to Government Cuts Launched

A coalition of community nonprofits have come together to collectively inform the sector of the various responses and initiatives happening across the country after the recent federal spending cuts were announced. Stay connected to what is happening at www.communitiesagenda.wordpress.com.

VoluntaryGateway.ca

The Voluntary Gateway is a portal that makes it easier to locate information, resources and intelligence, and facilitate collaboration to strengthen communities and social enterprise. With all the changes and activities currently taking place in response to the government cuts, it's even more important to stay connected to the sector as a whole and the Gateway is one key tool to do so. Check out the Gateway at www.voluntarygateway.ca.



Excellence In Volunteerism To Build A Better British Columbia

Suite 302 – 207 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 1H7
Tel: 604-873-5877 Fax: 604-279-7038
Email: volbc@vcn.bc.ca
Website: www.volunteerbc.bc.ca

