



The Connector

Volunteer BC Newsletter – January 2006 Edition

It is the start of an almost certainly busy and rewarding year. There will be challenges, but most definitely rewards. Information about both (well, mainly rewards!) is found in this month's edition of The Connector. Enjoy the read!

Provincially Speaking

updates from Volunteer BC

Working on our behalf ...

We are pleased to announce that **Elizabeth Specht** is our new representative on the Volunteer Canada Advisory Council of Volunteer Centres. Although on maternity leave from her position as Executive Director of Richmond Volunteer Connections, Elizabeth has managed to find some time to take on this role on behalf of Volunteer BC. Our thanks to her for filling this important position.

Also working on our behalf, **Rita Morin** has been completing the report from the "What We Know" VOCBC event, helping with strategic planning and consultations and beginning preparation for our next VOCBC event (now expected to be in the spring). Rita has a strong background of leadership in the non-profit sector and although she is only with us for a short time, we are delighted that she agreed to help us out on our current projects.

Back to the Classroom

learning opportunities to build a stronger sector

Will They Have Varsity Jackets?

CharityVillage.com has launched an exciting new e-learning service. CharityVillage Campus is their new partnership with Judi Angel and Serebra Learning Corporation. So far three courses are available specifically for people who are interested in fundraising and nonprofit management: Proposal Writing, Grantseeking, and How Fundraising Works. Sign up for a course and get three months of access to the materials and resources. Learn at your own pace. Courses are \$97 or \$37 each. Visit the campus today at www.charityvillagecampus.com

Helping the Helper

Once again, the Centre for Non Profit Management, a member of VOCBC, is proud to announce the **Helping the Helper Workshop Series 2006**. These development workshops will run monthly between January and June 2006 to support non profit organizations in developing valuable skills and building their capacity in areas such as social enterprise readiness, coaching employees for success and branding your organization to build public support. The first workshop is Tuesday, January 17th so register now!

For more information you can also go to www.cnpm.ca.

Centre Stage

news from the volunteer centre movement

Order Your Posters Now! National Volunteer 2006 Material Launched

Volunteer Canada has released its 2006 National Volunteer Week (NVW) campaign material. This year, NVW is from **April 23 to April 29**. Volunteers Grow Community remains the theme for the year due to the overwhelming feedback on its appropriateness for a spring time celebration. Volunteer Canada's focus again is on celebratory events. Visit the NVW website (www.volunteer.ca/nvw) to register your events and to order your campaign material.

Inside the Invisible Infrastructure

news from across the sector

These are Important Statistics. Memorize Them!

The second edition of the "Satellite Account of Nonprofit Institutions and Volunteering: Economic Contribution" is now available! Economic activity in the nonprofit sector, as measured by gross domestic product (GDP), recorded solid growth during the late 1990s and early 2000s, according to data on the economic contribution of both non profit institutions and volunteering. Between 1997 and 2001, GDP for the core non profit sector increased at an annual average rate of 7.1%, slightly faster than the average of 6.1% for the economy as a whole. At the same time, economic activity generated by hospitals, universities and colleges grew at a slower pace of 5.4%. For more information and to access the full report visit www.vsi-isbc.ca/eng/knowledge/satellite.cfm.

Some Paperwork Relief May Be Coming

Many nonprofits receive funding from Service Canada (formerly HRSDC). You'll be happy to know that the final report and recommendations from the Joint Service Canada / Voluntary Sector Working Group, entitled "Developing New Approaches to Funding Results," has been released and ministry staff are looking to implement report recommendations that outline concrete ways of streamlining the administration of funding agreements with Service Canada. If you'd like to read the report, it is available at www1.servicecanada.gc.ca/en/epb/sid/cia/CCSB/Report.shtml.

Celebrating 10 Years with Flare [DEADLINE SOON!]

Flare Magazine is committed to acknowledging, celebrating and publicizing the importance of volunteerism in Canada. The Flare Volunteer Awards are presented each year to six outstanding Canadian women volunteers aged 18 and up whose volunteer achievements have made a difference to the lives of the people in their communities. The 2006 awards mark the 10th Anniversary of the FLARE Volunteer Awards. Do you know an outstanding female volunteer who deserves to be recognized? Nominate her today! Download nomination forms at www.flare.com/volunteer. The deadline for nominations is **February 3rd at 4pm (EST)**.

Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award [DEADLINE SOONER!]

Social Development Canada has launched the 2006 call for nominations for the Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award. The Government of Canada established this award in 2001 to commemorate the work of Thérèse Casgrain and honour those who have demonstrated a lifelong commitment of volunteering. The award consists of a bronze medallion bearing the

likeness of Thérèse Casgrain, a lapel pin and a certificate of recognition; and \$5000 to be awarded to a registered Canadian voluntary organization designated by the recipient. Nominations must be received by **February 1**. For more information please visit http://www.sdc.gc.ca/en/hip/sd/ThereseCasgrain/contact/contact_us.shtml or call 1 866-468-4377.

The 21st Century Volunteer – in the UK At Least

nfpSynergy (out of the United Kingdom) has released a new report on the 21st Century Volunteer sponsored by the Scout Association. The report looks at the current state of volunteering, the socio-economic trends that may influence volunteering, and what they believe will be the key trends. In particular, they note the rise of what we call the selfish or self-interested volunteer (who wants to know as much about what they will get out of volunteering as about what they will put in) and what this means for non profits. Sound familiar? To download the whole report, [click here](#) or [click here](#) to download the executive conclusion.

Plugging In

navigating what's new or hot online and in technology

No Dust on These Books

The John Hodgson Library is a virtual library chock full of resources from Imagine Canada. Get a taste of what's available by using this link to the library's latest acquisitions: www.nonprofitscan.ca/new_acquisitions.asp.

Membership Renewal – Stay Connected!

Thanks to all of you who have already renewed your memberships with Volunteer BC. To those of you who haven't - now's the time! The new membership year is for the period January 1 to December 31, 2006. Membership with Volunteer BC is open, upon application being accepted, to individuals, volunteer centres, non profit organizations, community associations, business and other supporters who value the purposes of Volunteer BC and quality volunteerism in the Province. Contact us (volbc@vcn.bc.ca) for a renewal form, or download the form online at www.volunteerbc.bc.ca/volbc/member.html. Be sure to include payment when you mail in your completed form.

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