



The Connector

A Volunteer BC Newsletter

January 2007 Edition

Welcome to this issue of The Connector

We've been a bit restless with sharpening our communications these days, and in this issue you'll find a new section to start hearing about global opportunities for learning and networking from your community to your province to your world... Our ears are open to your suggestions as well and our mailbox always welcoming to news from volunteer centres across the province- send us an email, letter, photo or postcard!

Provincially Speaking

Updates from Volunteer BC

Vol BC Salutes Departing Staff

Volunteer BC wishes to convey our deep gratitude to staff who wrapped up their contracts with the organization in December. **Beth Tetzl** of Volunteer Richmond Information Services and **Shonee Mendoza** have each contributed enthusiasm, hard work and a genuine commitment to the goals and mandate of Volunteer BC in the time they've worked with us and we wish them the very best in their continued involvement in the volunteers centre movement.



Remember to Update your VolBC Membership for 2007

VolBC members will have recently received forms to renew their membership for 2007 and update any new contact information. Don't forget about us in the holiday rush- updating your membership helps us keep our records on track and makes sure we can reach you about opportunities for collaboration, upcoming events, useful information... or just to say hi of course! Please send your completed membership forms in by mail, fax or e-mail by January 30th.

Richmond Event: Diversity = People First on February 16th

Vol BC is pleased to partner with Leadership Richmond to hold a *Diversity Readiness* workshop on February 16th to take place at Richmond City Hall, featuring well-known Australian speaker Martin Cowling, a leading management consultant. CEO of One Umbrella Australia Inc and CEO of People First -Total Solutions, Martin works regularly with individuals and organizations in the US, UK and Australia on areas connected with not-for-profit management, staff motivation, effective volunteer management and constructive personal development. The workshop is presented by Leadership Richmond - Coast Capital Savings, Volunteer Richmond, and sponsored by City of Richmond, Administrators of Volunteer Resources BC and Volunteer BC. Join us! To register email by February 9th to info@volunteerrichmond.ca or visit www.volunteerbc.bc.ca for a registration form.

Back to the Classroom

Learning opportunities to build a stronger sector

Volunteer Vancouver Looking for Volunteer Trainers

Volunteer Vancouver is recruiting volunteer trainers for their Leadership Development Program, supported by the United Way. Volunteer Vancouver is seeking to engage volunteers to deliver governance workshops to not-for-profit Boards of Directors, and is looking for individuals from diverse backgrounds. The application deadline for potential candidates is Wednesday, January 24th, 2007. For the complete list of qualifications sought and other information, please contact Volunteer Vancouver directly: afelker@volunteervancouver.ca

Non-Profit Career Fair Comes to Vancouver in March

Action Without Borders, the organization which manages Idealist.org, the website we told you about in our last issue, will be hosting a Non-profit Career Fair in Vancouver. The fair will take place on Langara College's main campus on Wednesday, March 7, from 11:00am to 4:00pm. At the fair your organization can recruit new staff, interns, and volunteers, and share the latest news about your work with hundreds of people looking to work for non-profits. The fair is free for job seekers, while organizations pay a \$50 registration fee, which includes lunch. For more information and to register, please go to: <http://www.idealists.org/fairs.html>

Prince George Takes the Province by Storm!

Volunteer Prince George celebrated its 15th anniversary last year and the fact that Prince George has the province's highest rate of volunteerism- 62%. A growth spurt brought Vol PG up from 30 member agencies four years ago to 95 today, under the capable leadership of Jo Nore. What is the secret to their success? Jo tells us that focusing on visibility in the community has been an important strategy and she takes advantage of any opportunity to have an info table around town- whether at the mall, school events or at a senior's fair. Vol PG gives as many presentations on their work as they can, including holding workshops for employment agencies. They actively circulate information on new volunteer opportunities sorted by category to a large list of potential volunteers by e-mail on a regular basis. This means information comes right to individuals, rather than depending on them to go to a website to seek the information. Finally, Jo credits the Northern spirit in Prince George for the community's dedication to volunteerism.

Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award - 2007 Call for Nominations

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who deserves national recognition for their incredible initiative? This award recognizes the voluntary contributions of men and women from communities across Canada whose pioneering spirit, social commitment and persistent endeavors have contributed significantly to the advancement of a social cause and the well-being of their fellow citizens. The purpose of the award is to commemorate the work of Thérèse Casgrain and honour those who have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to volunteering. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 1st, 2007. To learn more, visit the award website at: http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/sd/ThereseCasgrain/00_home.shtml

Inside the Invisible Infrastructure

POD Grants - Call for Applications in March 2007

The Centre for Sustainability delivers technical assistance grant programs for not-for-profit organizations in BC's health and social services, arts and heritage, and environment fields. Partners in Organizational Development (POD) grants assist organizations that would like to work with an experienced consultant to enhance their organizational effectiveness. The next call for applications for ArtsPOD is March 2nd, 2007. The next call for applications for Social ServicesPOD and EnviroPOD is anticipated for late April 2007. Program guidelines and application forms for each of the three program streams will be posted to the Centre's website early in 2007: www.centreforsustainability.ca/

Developing Your Employment Brand: The Rewards and Challenges of Employer-Supported Volunteerism

On Wednesday January 31st, Volunteer Vancouver and the BC Network for the Canada Volunteerism Initiative (CVI) will host a breakfast panel discussion in Vancouver for employers exploring best practices in employer-supported volunteerism, featuring guest speakers Dan O'Grady (Enbridge, Inc.), Alison van Buuren (Business Objects Community) and Jan Bell-Irving (Junior Achievement of British Columbia). Seating is limited. To reserve a ticket, e-mail Maria Williams at cvibc@volunteervancouver.ca or call 604-875-9144.

Going Global

CIVICUS Hosts 2007 Assembly for Global Civil Society in Scotland

The 7th CIVICUS World Assembly will take place in Glasgow, Scotland from May 23-27, 2007, "one of 2007's biggest and most dynamic events organized for and by civil society". The theme of this year's assembly is "Acting Together for a Just World". CIVICUS is an international alliance dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society throughout the world. To learn more, join e-civicus, CIVICUS' newsletter with over 75,000 subscribers: e-CIVICUS@eLists.civicus.org or visit their website at: www.civicus.org



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

