

The Connector

A Volunteer BC Newsletter

July 2007 Edition

Welcome to this issue of The Connector

Who says the summer is for holidays and lounging around at the beach? Not for BC's voluntary sector! Our members are as active as ever, demonstrating the strength and vibrancy of the sector in flying colours. June, July and August will feature a vast array of trainings, conferences and other events taking place within the sector, across the province. Read on for more details and remember to regularly check our Provincial Training Calendar for other events and opportunities.

Provincially Speaking

Updates from Volunteer BC

Reminder: Volunteer BC AGM - September 14th, 2007

Remember to mark your calendars and get registered for Volunteer BC's Annual General Meeting, to take place on Friday September 14th at 1:00PM at the Vancouver Aquarium. Besides our stellar venue, we will also be featuring a Canada Revenue Agency training session for non-profits as part of the day's events. Stay tuned for other training opportunities featured during the AGM. All members are welcome to attend the AGM. Please contact our Coordinator, Lauryn Oates, to RSVP: volbc@vcn.bc.ca. We look forward to seeing you there!

Back to the Classroom

Learning opportunities to build a stronger sector

Higher Education for the Non-Profit Sector

BC post-secondary institutions are gradually developing more and more programming targeted at those working within the non-profit sector. We currently have details on some courses offered through Simon Fraser University in various parts of the province in our Provincial Training Calendar on-line. The Centre for Sustainability has recently highlighted BCIT's Fall 2007 Part-time Studies courses in their last e-newsletter. For example, this Fall check out BCIT's Certificate in Nonprofit Management: *Essentials of Fundraising, Nonprofit Leadership, Managing People in Nonprofit Organizations, Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations and Law and Governance*. For more information, see <http://www.bcit.ca/study/programs/6310acert>

Opportunities

Funding, Capacity-Development and More

Telus Community Grants Program

The Telus Community Grants Program focuses on initiatives that benefit young Canadians through the innovative use of technology in arts and culture, education and sport, health and well being-initiatives. Funding requests must: demonstrate general support in the community and be consistent with community needs and our strategic business focus in communications; Demonstrate leadership, innovation and collaboration; Demonstrate a significant and unique contribution to community life; Demonstrate clearly defined and measurable goals and objectives; Be financially well-administered; Provide services and activities without regard to race, religion creed, sex or sexual orientation.

http://about.telus.com/community/community_boards/en/community_funding/funding_guidelines.html



In Print / Audio

Books, Publications and Other Learning Tools for You

New Imagine Canada Library Resources for BC

Imagine Canada has announced a wealth of new resources available in their on-line library, the John Hodgson Library, including highlights from BC of the report, Giving, Volunteering, and Participating in British Columbia. Check it out at www.nonprofitscan.ca

The BC Rural Network Seeking Community Capacity Building Projects for Report



Every year the BCRN produces a research report called *Lessons Learned from BC Projects*. This report builds on initial research compiled in 2002, highlighting community capacity building projects

around rural BC. That report is available on the BCRN website at <http://www.bcruralnetwork.ca/node/93> The purpose of this research is to share what has worked across a range of interests and sectors, and share that information with other communities. Each report follows up on previously documented projects, as well as introducing profiles and information from newly selected projects. The BCRN then tracks them all over time to identify approaches that contribute to strength and longevity in projects and rural community organizations. If you/your organization/your community is aware of a project or initiative that you think has experiences and “lessons learned” to share, please forward contact information to Maureen LeBourdais

Coordinator, BC Rural Network at info@bcruralnetwork.ca

Linking Business-based Volunteering with Youth Entrepreneurship

Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC) has recently launched a new program for students from different schools to meet together to form a business club. With the guidance of teachers and volunteer advisors from the local business community, students create and organize an enterprise where their own ideas and real money bring the challenges of entrepreneurship into focus. JABC relies heavily on the support of local business to ensure this program is a success. For example, Accenture is one Company supporting the program. Every year approximately 250 Accenture employees participate in JA programs. Accenture has significantly stepped-up their level of involvement with Junior Achievement in BC this year, doubling the number of volunteers and increasing almost six-fold the number of volunteer hours delivering programs in the classroom. With the help of the advisors, the students in Vancouver developed a business plan, elected an executive team, defined, developed, and brought their product to market, and finally liquidated their company. The students ran a custom design t-shirt business called 'Runway'. The end result was a profit that provided a 13.3% return to shareholders and salaries for all “employees”. They sold 89 of the 100 shirts produced and donated all shirts that did not sell to the Salvation Army. For more information about JABC, contact Barb Jones, Manager of High School Programs, at barb.jones@jabc.org.

Plugging In

Navigating what's new or hot on-line and in technology

Featured Website: Walking the Talk BC

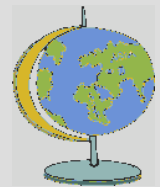
Walking the talk is an on-line gathering place for people from all over British Columbia with an interest in sustainability education. It's all about sharing resources, finding out what people are doing in other parts of the province, and learning from one another. Check it out: <http://www.walkingthetalk.bc.ca/>

Going Global

News from civil society beyond our borders

Featured Organization: VolunteerInternational.org

Volunteerinternational.org is a continuously updated repository of information on international volunteer opportunities, exchange programs and internships. In addition to a free database of international volunteering opportunities searchable by country, region, type of work or duration of project, the website also has practical tips and advice about international volunteering and how to get started volunteering abroad, free resources for download and a helpful links section.



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