



The Connector

A Volunteer BC Newsletter

August 2009 Edition

Welcome to this issue of The Connector

Check out this issue of the Connector for new resources - both in print and online. Volunteer BC's premier edition of the BC State of Volunteering Report is now available at www.bcstateofvolunteering.org with full length case studies from participating volunteer centres. New sites are also available for gathering information on corporate volunteering, engaging senior volunteers, and community program listings. With everything from fundraising courses to research studies via the web, keeping in touch is easy!

Provincially Speaking

Updates from Volunteer BC

BC State of Volunteering Report Update

Volunteer BC is pleased to announce our newest addition to the official BC State of Volunteering Report website. The BC State of Volunteering report comprehensively assesses volunteering in BC, giving both a broad view of the health of volunteerism in its many facets, as well as specific experiences and examples from which insights can be drawn from varying local contexts. Individual case studies from volunteer centres around the province are now available for viewing at www.bcstateofvolunteering.org. Read the full contributions from all five participating volunteer centres including Volunteer Prince George, Volunteer Richmond, Volunteer Kootenays, Volunteer Campbell River, and Volunteer Vancouver to see what volunteerism means in each community. Interested in learning more? Copies are available for download from the official website which includes additional links, resources, and online discussion forums.



Centre Stage

News from Volunteer BC Members and Friends

Nonprofits Connecting with Businesses

Want to delve into social networking in a strategic way? Volunteer Canada has launched www.corporatevolunteering.ca to facilitate interaction between the non-profit and business sectors. It allows these sectors to have the ability to login and connect to communities of common interest for discussion, learning, and sharing. The site also showcases the collected best practices of the members of the Corporate Council on Volunteering and will build the foundation to develop further curriculum topics. Check it out!

Rental Opportunity: Office Space with SPARC BC Available in Burnaby

SPARC BC (Social Planning and Research Council) has available space for sub tenants. The space is part of the newly renovated, large ground level offices in Burnaby. The building is fully accessible and has convenient street parking for visitors. Premises include equipped kitchen and break room, board room, training facility and meeting rooms. The building is located at 4445 Norfolk Street, one block away from Willingdon & Canada Way (near BCIT) and is easily accessible to transit. Space A includes 4 office rooms (approximately 110sq ft each) for \$1,200/month, which would involve sharing SPARC BC's office space (and rent includes utilities). Space can be negotiable, according to needs, and office services could also be available. For viewing or more information, please contact SPARC BC at 604-718-8520 or info@sparc.bc.ca.



The Volunteering & Healthy Aging Project launches

www.volunteer50plus.ca - Launched in November 2008, this website features useful information to help voluntary organizations engage senior volunteers more effectively, including the introductory workbook *Baby Boomers - Your New Volunteers*. This site also helps prospective boomer volunteers understand how to get started with volunteering and what to expect when involved.



Volunteers Needed! Place des Arts Fundraising Committee Members



Want to get involved in the community, meet new people, and share your expertise and experiences with others? Place des Arts is looking for you! Place des Arts is seeking community members, parents and retirees to be a part of the Place des Arts' Fundraising Committee to assist in the development of the 2009 Endowment Fund Campaign. Place des Arts is a non-profit multi-disciplinary arts and music school in Coquitlam. The Fundraising Committee will work with the Place des

Arts' Resource Development Coordinator to brainstorm fundraising initiatives, plan and implement fundraising campaigns and assist in event coordination. The Fundraising Committee will have monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. Desirable candidates will have fundraising or events experience, a desire to make a difference in the community, and an interest in the arts. Visit the website at www.placedesarts.ca for more information about the organization's programs and services, and contact the Volunteer Coordinator at **604.664.1636** or alam@placedesarts.ca if you are interested in joining this committee.

Volunteers Needed! Volunteer Grandparents

Volunteer Grandparents is a non profit organization with a mandate to establish and support intergenerational programs. The Society, established as Volunteer Grandparents Society in 1973, has been "bridging and enriching generations" ever since. VIP currently operates programs primarily in Vancouver and Burnaby. Volunteers over 50 are needed for the "Volunteer Grandparent Program" that connects screened volunteers with children and families without accessible grandparents. Volunteers must be comfortable with children, patient, kind, and have a good sense of humour. Visits between seniors and families will be arranged at a mutual agreed upon time. To volunteer, contact Veronica Grossi at **604-736-8271** or email info@volunteergrandparents.ca.

In Print/Audio

Books, Publications and Other Learning Tools for You

New Resource: The Canadian Fundraising & Philanthropy eNEWS

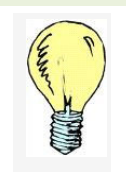
The current issue of Canadian Fundraising & Philanthropy eNEWS profiles the pros and cons of fundraising in each nonprofit/voluntary subsector, offering tips on moving from one to another even without sector expertise. Also discover if your donor tracking software needs a change. Get some free help on other tech issues, decide whether to spend money making your direct mail 'greener,' and learn how to engage youth volunteers in your cause. To learn more, visit <http://www.canadianfundraiser.com/> and click "Current Issue." Or to receive future issues at no charge, visit <http://www.canadianfundraiser.com/subscriptions/index.asp>.

Book Review: Management of Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations in Canada, By Vic Murray



Canadian non-profit educational materials are a rare find. *Management of Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations in Canada*, a book edited by Vic Murray of Victoria, is one of those rare resources. Published in July 2006 with support from the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy (now Imagine Canada) the book provides a comprehensive Canadian perspective of the nonprofit sector. As Murray states in the book's preface, research in the sector is still sparse, courses in nonprofit management have increased steadily since 2000, but the availability of Canadian educational materials has not kept pace. The BC Centre for Non Profit Development has several copies of the book available in their lending library so visit www.bccnnpd.bc.ca to borrow a copy today!

Did You Know? Research on Volunteers May Improve Physical and Mental Health



Professor Ben Gottlieb at the University of Guelph's department of psychology states "a number of studies suggest that volunteers live longer, but there is no rigorous, controlled research to prove this. The volunteer sector has been largely neglected as a focus for research." He will be conducting research with funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, following 160 volunteers aged 60 and up to find out the differences in physical and cognitive fitness between volunteers and non-volunteers. Stay tuned for updates on this hot topic, and [read 'Prof out to prove health benefits of volunteering' to find out more.](#)

Opportunities

Funding, Capacity-Development and More



New Resource: The Community Program Directory is Available Online

The link below leads to a listing of over 200 community programs that are searchable by category, sector, and organization. The site, recently updated, is the result of a partnership between the BC Rural Team, BC Rural Network, BC Healthy Communities, Canadian Cancer Society's Community Capacity Building Strategy, Fraser Basin Council/Smart Planning for Communities, and Community Futures of Greater Trail. These pages provide information on sources of funding and support for community development in BC. The primary focus is support for social, economic, and environmental community development initiatives in rural areas, however the programs are not necessarily exclusive to rural. Contact information for each program is provided to facilitate direct access to current and updated program information. Visit http://www.communityfutures.com/cms/Funding_Sources.2.0.html to view all listings.

Nominations Needed! Recognize Someone for a Children and Youth Award of Excellence

Nominations for the Representative for Children and Youth Awards of Excellence are now open.

The Representative for Children and Youth's second annual awards recognize and encourage excellence in British Columbia's child and youth serving system, and reflect the established goals of the Representative's Office. In particular, these awards profile and recognize best practices in program and service delivery to children and youth, and by youth; support initiatives to improve outcomes for all children with respect for their place, culture and community; and lessons learned to promote prevention initiatives and best practices.

These awards recognize and honour people and organizations whose work with children and Youth who exemplify innovation, respect, and a commitment to improving outcomes and professional excellence. A panel of qualified individuals will assist the Representative in selecting the winners.

Winners will be recognized and honoured at award ceremonies in October 2009. Be sure to visit www.rcybc.ca/Content/AboutRCY/Awards.asp to place your nominations before September 4th.



Back to the Classroom

Learning Opportunities to Build a Stronger Sector



SFU Expands Education Programming

Simon Fraser University's Certificate Program for Community Economic Development Professionals is now available in Dawson Creek, Houston, Mission, Vanderhoof and Williams Lake. Reduced tuition fees, a lower carbon footprint and no travel costs! Also, the program can be completed in nine months. For more information contact Nicole Chaland at certced@sfu.ca

Learn to Fundraise Online!

Two new On-line courses in fundraising are now offered through BCIT - Essentials of Fundraising <http://www.bcit.ca/study/courses/fund1215>, and Grant and Proposal Writing <http://www.bcit.ca/study/courses/fund2316> are now open for admissions.

The Grant Program provides a practical introduction to the elements of proposal and grant writing: the purpose and responsibility, research, mechanics of preparation, outline of a formal proposal/grant, presentation, follow-up, accepting the answer graciously and post-grant reporting. Gain skills in hands-on practice developing the case statement and grant writing. The Essentials of Fundraising provides a grounding of fundraising in philanthropy; the principles and strategic issues of fundraising in nonprofit organizations; and the role of the development officer and fundraising. Students develop an understanding of annual fund and capital campaign methodologies, working with volunteer boards, and developing career planning strategies. Enrol today and advance your career from home!

A banner for Volunteer BC. On the left is a stylized sun icon. Below it are silhouettes of four people in blue, red, and blue. The text "Excellence In Volunteerism To Build A Better British Columbia" is centered. On the right is the Volunteer BC logo, which is a blue square with a white sun and the text "Volunteer BC".

Excellence In Volunteerism To Build A Better British Columbia

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