



Volunteer Calgary's update of resources and activities within the voluntary sector

[www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca](http://www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca)

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## AN INVITATION TO VOLUNTEER CALGARY'S ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Volunteer Calgary is pleased to invite all members to a very special Annual Members Meeting on November 26, 2009. Join us in welcoming guest speaker, **Erin R Spink**.

Spink is one of the few people in Canada who have done academic research on volunteer engagement, work that is highly relevant given the current economic climate and its impact on the non-profit sector.

Learn how your organization can:

- *Create vision and strategic direction for your organization*
- *Move beyond managing volunteers and start to really engage them*
- *Think beyond your current volunteer engagement strategy to maximize volunteer impact*

Members may register one representative at no cost courtesy of the FCSS and the Bruce & Mary Dunlop Foundation. A second representative may be eligible for an additional bursary. A fee of \$150 per additional guest will apply.

**Date:** November 26, 2009  
**Time:** 9:00am – 3:30pm  
**Venue:** FCJ Christian Life Centre  
**Address:** 219 19th Ave SW

Seating is limited and registration is mandatory. Please note this is a full day session, a breakfast, lunch and coffee breaks are included with your registration.

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

### [Community Development Society of Calgary and Area \(CDSCA\)](#)

CDSCA ensures there is a welcoming structure and framework for interest in pursuing community development through its activities.

### [Kinsmen Club of Calgary](#)

Helps the community's greatest need through service work. Kinsmen is a place to grow and learn through service work and fellowship.

### [Literacy for Life Foundation](#)

A community-based network that facilitates and delivers literacy resources in the Municipal District of Foothills #31. Vision: People's lives enriched through literacy.

### [Open Arms Patient Advocacy Society](#)

An Alberta based non-profit society committed to providing assistance and support to patients and their families so that they can obtain the answers they deserve in response to adverse medical ordeals they have experienced.

## FOR MEMBERS ONLY

*Take advantage of your membership benefits!*

- ✓ **Free** ad posting on [VC website!](#)
- ✓ **Free** 1-hour consultation with VC staff.
- ✓ **Free** membership to [VC Library](#).
- ✓ **Free** inclusion in [Weekly Volunteer Highlights!](#)
- ✓ **Discounted rate** for the annual [Media Guide](#).
- ✓ **Discounted rates** for [Training sessions](#).

...and many more!  
Contact [info@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:info@volunteercalgary.ab.ca)  
to inquire!

## VOLUNTEER IN PROFILE

Don't miss this one-time opportunity. **Register today!**

For inquiries and registration, contact [registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) or (403)231-1435.

## VOLUNTEER CALGARY FALL TRAINING COURSES

### *Considering professional certification?*

Build up or strengthen your core competencies by gaining the skills and knowledge you need for excellence in Volunteer Management. Watch out for Council for Certification of Volunteer Administration (CCVA) Sessions this coming fall. For more information, contact Janet Burstall at [jbustall@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:jbustall@volunteercalgary.ab.ca).

Check out the following workshops to begin your professional development journey:

### Recruitment 2.0

**October 7**

### Engaging Governance Volunteers

**October 14**

### Integrating Volunteers in Your Organization; Strategic Volunteer Engagement

**October 21**

### 3R's: Recruitment, Retention, Recognition

**October 29**

### Engaging Short Term Volunteers

**November 5**

### Elements of Volunteer Engagement

**November 18 - 19**

### Youth Volunteers: The Untapped Resource

**December 3**

### Engaging New Canadians

**December 16**

Volunteer Calgary offers numerous training courses year-round designed to aid in your pursuit of professional knowledge. Check out all our available training programs [here](#).

To register, email Helen Shaver at [registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca).

*The Volunteer Calgary Training program is supported by:*



In Partnership with  
**CTV**  
Volunteer Calgary presents

## August VIP Wes Harper

A volunteer with  
**The Mustard Seed**

Watch it [here](#).

**Give your shining volunteers their  
5 minutes of fame!**

[Click](#)  
to nominate  
the next VIP

## IMPORTANT DATES

**NOVEMBER 26, 2009**  
ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Check out the [Community Event Calendar](#)  
for more important dates

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

Here are some new titles on the shelves:

- Freedom writers diary: how a teacher and 150 teens used writing to change themselves and the world around them.*
- Home: a stunning visual portrayal of earth. (DVD)*
- Nudge: improving decisions about health, wealth, and happiness.*
- Starfish and the spider: the unstoppable power of leaderless organizations.*

Click [here](#) to view more new titles.  
ALL materials on the list are available at  
the VC Library!

## BOOK REVIEWS

### **Meeting, and Exceeding Expectations, A Guide to Successful Nonprofit Board Meetings**

The book suggests tools, and even gives hints how to put a little fun in the board meetings. It also provides examples of agendas, what your board binder should contain, etc. I recommend this book to members of a board, CEO's/Ex. Directors, anyone who is struggling with board meetings.

– Sandra Penny, VC Executive Assistant to  
CEO/Board Meeting Secretary

## CALGARY NONPROFIT TECHNOLOGY NETWORK MEETUP!

The Calgary Nonprofit Technology Network (CNTN) is an informal network of local non-profit employees, volunteers and other individuals who are directly or indirectly responsible for supporting and developing the IT departments within their organizations spearheaded by IT staff from *Volunteer Calgary*, *IT Focus Solution*, and *CentrePoint*. This network will be involved in regular meetings and online discussion around some of the leading edge technologies that are shaping the non-profit sector right here in Calgary.

The next meeting is on October 9, 2009 at 8:30 am at the Volunteer Calgary Boardroom. If you are eager to learn and share knowledge with other IT colleagues, you are welcome to join.

Interested technology managers, accidental techies, CIO's and anyone else whose job maybe closely related to IT are invited to contact Aden Hirtle at [ahirtle@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:ahirtle@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) or call 403-231-1432 for more information.

## GIVE YOUR VOLUNTEERS THEIR CLAIM TO FAME

A partnership between Volunteer Calgary and CTV allows member organizations to nominate their volunteers to be the next Volunteer in Profile.

As CTV's VIP of the month, the lucky volunteer will get some well-deserved air time. Tell the tale of your amazing volunteers!

Click [here](#).

## MOBILIZE YOUR BOARD!

For EDs who want to engage boards in more consequential and meaningful governance. Harvard Kennedy School is offering an on-line **Governance as Leadership Program** to non-profit Executives.

The course offers conceptual frameworks and practical tools to help boards deliberate the truly significant issues facing their organizations. It also focuses on how EDs can exercise the type of leadership needed to sustain effective engagement of their boards, and to avoid board meddling in the process. It provides both governing and leadership development.

The course is suitable for EDs at a variety of career stages and in a variety of organizational situations, including:

- New EDs facing the challenge of working with and developing a board for the first time;
- Experienced EDs who are frustrated that their high-potential boards are not sufficiently engaged in supporting the organization;
- New or experienced EDs who recognize the value of a more engaged board but are apprehensive about the risks, including the possibility that the board will intrude on their management work or, for lack of knowledge, press for misguided strategies; and

## On becoming fearless...in love, work and life by Arrianna Huffington

After reading this book, it gave me confidence to apply what I learned to other aspects of my job.

- Helen Shaver, VC Events Coordinator

## Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell

"Outliers" should be on the reading list of every parent, teacher or coach. Gladwell takes our ideas about success and the systems that create that success, and gives a radically altered picture of what really happens. Chapter one, "The Matthew Effect", with his revelation about hockey players and a single factor that divides the pros from the house-league players, will guarantee continued reading of the book.

- Alex White, Volunteer with VC

## WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Send a brief review on your recent read and we'll add it on to the book list! Email [library@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:library@volunteercalgary.ab.ca)

## VC ONLINE

Join us on [Facebook](#).

Follow us on [Twitter](#).

## DOSE OF INSPIRATION

*When you are kind to someone in trouble,  
you hope they'll remember and be kind to  
someone else,  
and it'll become like a wildfire.*

- Whoopi Goldberg

- Experienced EDs who are committed to continuous learning and board improvement.

Harvard is accepting applications until November 27, 2009 and will launch the program in January 2010.

Click [here](#) for more information.

## **HELP FOR THE ALBERTA NON-PROFIT SECTOR**

Alberta's Board Development Program is seeking volunteers to train as workshop instructors. Successful applicants receive specialized training in board governance and are expected to conduct 10 workshops with boards of not-for-profit organizations over a period of 2-1/2 years. Travel expenses are covered.

Preferred applicants: Those who have experience in the not-for-profit sector as board members or senior staff, and a background in facilitating adult groups.

To receive an application package, email [BDP@gov.ab.ca](mailto:BDP@gov.ab.ca). Application deadline is October 2, 2009.

Visit [www.albertadbpc.ca](http://www.albertadbpc.ca) for more details.

## **LIVE A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE: ECOLIVING FAIR**

Want to learn how to have a sustainable lifestyle? Learn about environmentally-friendly building practices, urban environmental solutions, alternative energy sources, energy and water conservation, and energy efficient devices.

Stop by at the EcoLiving Fair from September 26 -27, 2009 at the Mount Royal College Centre for Continuous Learning Building.

For more information, email [info@ecolivingfair.ca](mailto:info@ecolivingfair.ca) or visit [www.ecolivingfair.ca](http://www.ecolivingfair.ca).

## **LINDA GRAFF ON RURAL VOLUNTEERISM**

Join the town of Didsbury and hear Linda Graff talk about volunteerism in rural communities on October 7-9, 2009. Learn about rural labour pool, trends, changes, recruitment and retention, and risk management. For more on Linda Graff, visit [www.lindagraff.ca](http://www.lindagraff.ca).

For more information about the session, contact Jolene Leutschaft at (403)335-3719 or Teree.Hokanson at [teree.hokanson@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:teree.hokanson@albertahealthservices.ca).

## **CONNECT TO LOCAL MEDIA**

*How do you get media to cover your event? Should you send a press release or media advisory? How many local radio stations are there? Who is that magazine's new editor? How do you write a PSA? More importantly, what is a PSA?*

Find answers to these questions and get access to a list of the local media contacts in Calgary on the Volunteer Calgary Media Guide 2009.

Click [here](#) to find out more or to buy your own copy!

## ONLINE TOOLS TO HELP MANAGE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Tons of volunteers, too little time? Here are some low-cost online tools to help you with volunteer scheduling and management.

[WhenToHelp.com](#) is free for qualified charities!

[ChurchDirector.com](#)'s free basic account allows for a single team, up to a maximum of 10 total users (team members); upgrades start at \$5.95/month.

[Famundo.com](#) offers unlimited free online calendars to all community organizations; file storage for sharing documents is included.

[MyCharityManager.com](#) is a feature-rich free web tool that lets you track volunteers, events, and donations all in one place.

[MyVolunteer.com](#) starts at \$4.95/month, and they're currently offering a time-limited special where you can get 3 months service free.

[VolunteerSpot.com](#) is a new arrival in web-based software for volunteer scheduling and communication: free.



### Engaging more people, more effectively to volunteer in the community

*Volunteer Voice is a membership benefit sent to all Volunteer Calgary members. If you would like to comment on this issue, or unsubscribe, please email Amy Baquir at [communications@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:communications@volunteercalgary.ab.ca).*

*Volunteer Calgary is funded by the United Way of Calgary and Area, City of Calgary Family and Community Support Services, and donations from foundations, corporations and individual supporters. As a registered charity, Volunteer Calgary is happy to provide a tax receipt for all contributions greater than \$10. We thank you for your support!*