



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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#### CALL TO NOMINATE OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Great cities do not just happen. Everyday, thousands of volunteers work to support non-profit organizations as they strive to make the City of Calgary the strong and vibrant community that it is today. Every now and then, if not always, it is important to acknowledge those who have been consistent in their efforts to work towards improving our city.

Volunteer Calgary's Annual Leadership Awards, held on National Volunteer Week, provides a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions of volunteers and promote the value of volunteerism.

We are looking to recognize outstanding volunteers and advocates of volunteerism in [eight award categories](#) for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Leadership Awards.

- \* **Heart of Calgary**
- \* **Leaders of Tomorrow**
- \* **Leaders in Employee Volunteering**
- \* **Leader in Volunteer Engagement**
- \* **Leader in Volunteer Management**
- \* **Volunteer Family**
- \* **Volunteer in Profile**
- \* **Volunteer Animal**

All nominees will be properly acknowledged and applauded at the nominee announcement event, a gathering of nominees and nominators. If you know someone who might be a good candidate for an award, now is your chance to show them your appreciation by giving them the recognition they deserve.

Send in a nomination today. To begin the nomination process, click [here](#).

Deadline for nominations is on **January 15, 2010**.

#### WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

##### [Helping Youth Through Scholarships \(HYTES\)](#)

Helping Youth Through Educational Scholarships ("HYTES") is a not-for-profit organization that has no affiliation with any government or religion. It exists to support youth in developing nations with educational opportunities to empower themselves, their families and their communities.

#### 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

In Partnership with  
**CTV**  
Volunteer Calgary presents

**September VIP**  
**John Labun**  
A volunteer with  
**Aspen**

Watch it [here](#).

For more information about the Leadership Awards, please click [here](#).

## GIVE A DAY, GET A DISNEY DAY!

On September 29th, 2009, Volunteer Calgary's Zoe Fleming had herself a grand time working to keep the magic of volunteerism alive all the way in Nova Scotia. She was invited to provide support for a unique volunteer opportunity in Nova Scotia in partnership with Volunteer Canada, HandsOnNetwork, the Boys' and Girls' Club of East Dartmouth and Walt Disney Parks.

The Volunteer Calgary Corporate Citizenship Team was honoured to be recognized as leaders in volunteer project management and felt privileged to have had the chance to be a part of this special event. It was a great opportunity to apply Volunteer Calgary's expertise in another city and work with a new non-profit organization, an international organization and Volunteer Canada.

Zoe served as Volunteer Canada's onsite contact for a project that was comprised of more than 80 volunteers, including 8 Disney *VoluntEARS*, 5 Disney staff and the wonderful Jiminy Cricket. The project at the Boys' and Girls' Club's brand new Green building consisted of park and playground cleanup, landscaping a green roof top, building planters, and cooking lunch for 100 staff and volunteers.

The endeavor was a whopping success, which resulted in a cleaner and more secure outdoor space for the Boys' and Girls' Club members to play in. The magical aspect of the event beyond the dedication and passion of the Nova Scotian volunteers was that this was the official launch and announcement of **Disney Parks - Give a Day, Get a Day** campaign for 2010 and it was happening in 9 cities simultaneously from coast to coast in North America.

Over the past years, Disney has asked the world what they would celebrate, and invited them to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and more. But next year, they will be celebrating and promoting volunteerism by giving the first one million volunteers who give a day of service with registered organizations a day at a Disney theme park *for free!*

For more information about how you can register as a volunteer, click [here](#). For more information about how your non profit can become involved - stay tuned to Volunteer Calgary.

There are many amazing ways to involve volunteers in your organizations. For support with Corporate Supported Volunteer activities please contact Susan Wilmot at 403-231-1428 or [swilmot@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:swilmot@volunteercalgary.ab.ca).

## SEEKING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION?

Are you interested in pursuing the CCVA Certification next year? The 2010 Handbook has been released (read it [here](#)).

Volunteer Calgary supports this certification by offering a study group to prepare for the exam in May 2010. If you are interested in joining the study group, please join us for an info session on Monday, November 2nd for a brown bag lunch from 12pm-1pm.

RSVP to Helen Shaver [registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) or 403-231-1435.

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

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

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](#) 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:

-  **Seven turning points: leading through pivotal transitions in organizational life.** Gross, Susan. 2009. *Identifies the pivotal stages when nonprofits must reassess the way they operate and make fundamental changes or risk decline.*
-  **Information gold mine: innovative uses of evaluation.** 2007. *The real-life evaluation stories in this book show very clearly the power of research findings to produce good things for your nonprofit organization.*
-  **Confessions of an event planner: case studies from the real world of events** : how to handle the unexpected and how to be a master of discretion. Allen, Judy. 2009. *An insider's guide to the real world of special events: case studies of what to expect, what can go wrong, and what to do about it.*
-  **Breakthrough fundraising letters** : how to write direct mail donation request appeals that attract more donors, raise more money, and build stronger relationships. Sharpe, Alan. 2007.
-  **Civic engagement and the**

## VOLUNTEER CALGARY FALL TRAINING COURSES

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

[Intergrating 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**

[Engaging Governance Volunteers](#)  
**November 25**

[Youth Volunteers: The Untapped Resource](#)  
**December 3**

[Engaging New Canadians](#)  
**December 16**

Volunteer Calgary offers 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:*



## JOIN THE COMMITTEE TO ENHANCE THE VALUE VC MEMBERSHIP

Volunteer Calgary is seeking individuals to be part of a Membership Committee to help enhance the value of the Volunteer Calgary membership. We will be discussing the criteria, benefits, pricing, expectations of our members and their expectations of us.

If your organization is a member of Volunteer Calgary, this is your time to not only let us know how we can support you better but also to be part of that change. If you would like to participate or have questions about the committee, please contact Zoe Fleming, Community Development Manager, at (403)231-1431 or [zfleming@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:zfleming@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) by October 22, 2009.

**Baby Boomer generation: research, policy, and practice perspectives. 2006.**

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

### 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 our Facebook [group](#).

Become a [fan](#) on Facebook

Follow us on [Twitter](#).

We are up to **701 followers** on Twitter!  
We have **210 group** members and **164 fans** on Facebook.!

### DOSE OF INSPIRATION

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together."

Vesta M. Kelly

## EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERS EXTEND HELP

*When you need help, sometimes all you need to do is ask.* As the concept of employee volunteerism grows and expands, more volunteers from the corporate sector are jumping at the opportunity to make a difference.

Each year, SAP International sets aside the month of October to encourage good corporate citizenship by giving their employees a day off to volunteer. This year, they directed their time and energy towards **LINK-ages Society of Alberta**, a non-profit organization which links the generations -- youth & seniors -- through programming and events, which needed a hand transforming the perimeters of their office.

Employees from SAP left the warmth and comfort of their own offices, flexed their muscles as they trimmed old and overgrown trees and bushes, planted new ones, and installed outdoor lamps as a final touch.

In the spring, LINK-ages had also welcomed the help of more than 65 employees from another employee group, TELUS, who spent a day and a half prepping, priming and painting their newly occupied office space, improving the look and feel of it. TELUS Corporation also donated the money required to cover the costs of paint for the project.

The result of both projects is a fresh, new space for LINK-ages and happy, fulfilled employees from TELUS and SAP. Volunteer Calgary supports such projects through its "Paint the Town" Employee Volunteering program.

If you're a non-profit in need of assistance (like LINK-ages) or if you're a corporate organization (like SAP or TELUS) looking for a team building employee volunteering opportunity and wish to learn more about Volunteer Calgary's Paint the Town Employee Volunteer program, click [here](#) to visit our website. You may also contact Susan Wilmot, Corporate Citizenship Coordinator, at [swilmot@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:swilmot@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) or (403)231-1428. Sue will be more than happy to provide assistance in developing and customizing a project specifically for your group.

## CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY: SHARING THE FLAME!

Congratulations to one of Volunteer Calgary's Member organizations – The Calgary Public Library. The Library's **Reading Advantage volunteer adult literacy program** has been selected by the **Canadian Council on Learning's "Sharing the Flame" program!**

Introduced in 2007, the Sharing the Flame program celebrates innovative and effective practices across the county in five learning categories: Aboriginal learning, adult learning, early childhood learning, health-related learning and work and learning. *Reading Advantage* was selected in the adult learning category. A description of the program will be included in an "Ideas Book" to be posted to the Canadian Council on Learning's [website](#). More evidence that volunteers and volunteer programs designed and managed by trained professionals can achieve amazing results!

## THE CHARITIES FILE: FOR SMALL AND RURAL CHARITIES

Small and rural charities are often overwhelmed by the paperwork and keeping up with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) regulations. As volunteer board members change, transferring the knowledge and the files can be a challenge.

**The Charities File: On Board** has launched a web-site and will be hosting a series of training events throughout Canada to help board members of small and rural charities.

CRA recognizes the dilemmas faced by volunteers of small and rural charities. It has funded The Charities File: On Board, among other projects, to help build capacity and assist with annual compliance reporting by creating training opportunities for the sector.

Training sessions delivered via webinars, tele-learning and local in-person workshops are now being offered around the country. Check out the website for the workshop nearest you.

Visit The Charities File: On Board [www.thecharitiesfile.ca](http://www.thecharitiesfile.ca) for more information or to register.

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### **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!*