



MARCH 2011

15th Volunteer Calgary Leadership Awards

On April 13, 2011, indulge your volunteers in a grand celebration of volunteerism. It is, after all, National Volunteer Week (April 10-16, 2011). Treat them to a sumptuous dinner with an ambience filled with inspiration. Join hundreds of volunteers and community members in witnessing the most awaited unveiling of the Volunteer Calgary's Leadership Awards winners.

Now on its 15th year, the Volunteer Calgary Annual Leadership Awards remains the city's premier volunteer recognition

event. Over a hundred nominations are received throughout the year culminating in an official awards ceremony honouring outstanding volunteers for each of the eight award categories.

The Leadership Awards is a reflection of how prevalent and revered the spirit of volunteerism is in the city. It is something that every Calgarian should take pride in, truly another reason to celebrate National Volunteer Week!

Join us for the 15th Annual Leadership

Awards. Reserve your seats or tables now. [Click here.](#)



Volunteers, Passion, Action, Impact!

Canadians have a rich history of volunteering and community involvement. With 12.5 million of them dedicating their time across Canada, volunteers are on the front lines of all our community services—community health care, sports and recreation, heritage and arts, environmental protection & advocacy, disaster relief, international development, and volunteer firefighting—the list is endless. The work of volunteer is essential to maintaining resilient communities at home and around the world.

National Volunteer Week (NVW) pays tribute to the million of Canadian volunteers who graciously donate their time and energy. This year's 68th annual NVW takes place the week of April 10 to 16. It is Canada largest celebration of volunteers, volunteerism, and civic participation. For more ideas and tools on how your organizations can celebrate and recognize your volunteers visit the

[National Volunteer Week website.](#)



Inside this issue:

Leadership Awards	1
Power of Change Luncheon	2
VC Training	2
CVA Exam	3
Passion	4
Corporate Citizenship	5
New at the Library	6

For Members Only

Your **membership** benefits include:

- 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. Order your 2011 copy today!
- Discounted rates for Training sessions.

...and many more! Contact info@volunteercalgary.ab.ca to inquire!

Power of Change Luncheon

Find a moment of inspiration over lunch hour by joining "The Power of Change", the next in the 2011 Enbridge 5 Foundation Speaker Series.

The featured speaker is Mary Tidlund, the founder and president of The Mary A. Tidlund Charitable Foundation. Her vision is to engage individuals in a transformative experience through the foundation's giving model. She established the organization in 1998 and it has since grown to operate in 20 countries with more than 60 different programs engaged in health and wellness, education, medical clinics, sponsorship, school construction, water, and micro credit initiatives.

Join the luncheon on Thursday, April 7, 2011 and hear Mary's story. It will be held from 11:30am - 1:00pm at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel Crystal Ballroom (133 - 9th Avenue S.W.).

Order your tickets now! [Click Here to Order tickets](#) or email register@famous5.ca

I believe in the spirit of sharing and I believe we are what we are because of those around us."

~Maasai tribal sayings

Volunteer Calgary Training Courses

New year, new learning. The year is full of opportunities to enhance your volunteer management knowledge/skills. Check out these unique training courses offered by Volunteer Calgary crafted especially for the non-profit sector.

April 27 – [Risk Management](#)

April 28 – [Employee Volunteerism](#)

Volunteer Calgary offers training courses *year-round*. For the full list of courses, see the [Training website](#).

Workshops are held at the Volunteer

Calgary office. Cost is \$75 (member) and \$85 (non-member) for half day sessions. Elements of Volunteer Engagement cost is \$275 (member) and \$350 (non-member).

To register, email Helen Shaver at registration@volunteercalgary.ab.ca.

Alberta Printmakers Society

Alberta Printmakers Society is a not-for-profit, artist-run organization, founded in 1989 in Calgary, Alberta to increase public awareness of printmaking as a fine art medium, and to provide a resource for printmaking artists. Our membership consists of art lovers from the general public and well known established print artists, instructors, graduates and students from Alberta College of Art + Design and the University of Calgary. The society is run by a board currently consisting of fourteen members and several committees. [More.](#)

City of Calgary - Environmental & Safety Management

Environmental & Safety Management is a business unit in The City of Calgary with a corporate vision on managing The City's impact on the environment and creating leadership in creating an environmentally sustainable city and managing corporate safety policies and programs.

It serves as corporate champion for environmental initiatives at The City by proactively managing risk and leading the integration of environmental factors in The City's policies, practices and strategic plans. It supports citizens' efforts to reduce Calgary's ecological footprint and is responsible for environmental site assessment and identification and notification of contaminated sites.

The business unit also oversees The City of Calgary's corporate safety management system to ensure a safe work environment for staff.

Action Coalition on Human Trafficking (ACT) Calgary

ACT Calgary is a chapter of ACT Alberta, a coalition of government agencies, non-governmental organizations, survivors of trafficking and the general public who are concerned with identifying and responding to human trafficking in our province. ACT is a coalition of government ministries, nongovernmental organizations, survivors of trafficking and citizens concerned with identifying and responding to human trafficking in Alberta. ACT addresses the needs of trafficked men, women and children and addresses both international and domestic trafficking, for labour and sexual exploitation. We protect victims, prevent trafficking through public education and create partnerships for effective response.

[Learn More.](#)

The Great Computer Giveaway

Looking for a way to stretch your IT budget then check out this great opportunity from our friends at Cenovus Energy.

Cenovus Energy is giving away 300 used desktop computers to charitable and not for profit organizations in Calgary and their operating areas.

Application forms are available online at the [Cenovus Great Computer Giveaway](#) at. Eligible organizations can apply for up to 3 desktop computers.

Application Deadline March 31, 2011

More information visit the [Cenovus website](#)

Website Update

On Thursday March 17th Volunteer Calgary launched a new and improved version of their website that gives Calgaryans a quick and simple way to find volunteer positions in the community. For our member organizations this upgrade addresses many of the concerns you have shared with us over the past 11 months.

The Volunteer Calgary site now has some great features that will make it easy for would be volunteers to find volunteer positions quickly and even set up their own account that can be updated automatically when an opportunity that meets their needs has been posted!

We will be able to monitor and report back to our members on the search trends we see developing, helping you stay ahead of the curve when it comes to creating and posting your volunteer needs.

All the existing member accounts have been automatically carried over into the new system but in order to access your account on the new system members will be required to log on and update their name and password. You will have received an email from Volunteer Calgary prompting you to access a link to change your username and password, to access the new site and your account with Volunteer Calgary. You will only have to change this once. From there you will be able to change your password as you desire.

Are you taking the CVA exam this year?

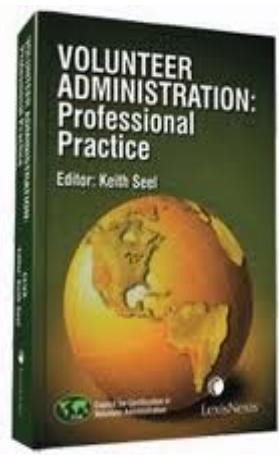
We'd like to help!

Volunteer Calgary would be happy to proctor the exam for you. We'd also love to connect you with other candidates for support, encouragement or last minute study sessions! Email [Diana dpowell@volunteercalgary.ab.ca](mailto:Diana.dpowell@volunteercalgary.ab.ca) with your interest.

Janet Burstall took the exam last year and has this to say, "I LOVED having the support from my peers. Even if you'd prefer to study alone, it's great to compare notes and receive encouragement. I know I appreciated a bit of hand holding, it was a little nerve-racking to take an exam after so many years!"

Don't forget, the CVA Textbook is available in the Volunteer Calgary Library. Contact Valerie to put it on hold @ 403-231-1426.

Interested in certifying? Check out the CVA website: <http://www.cvacert.org/index.htm>



People with Passion and Purpose wanted!

You've made meaningful contributions as a volunteer in our community. Will you share your understanding of volunteerism to help create more meaningful volunteer experiences for others?

For more than 55 years, Volunteer Calgary has been leading, promoting, connecting and strengthening volunteerism and now serves more than 400 non profit member organizations.

- Bring your years of volunteer experience to Volunteer Calgary's [Board of Directors](#). As a VC Board member, you will get to know Volunteer Calgary and take responsibility for best practice and moving the organization forward. You will gain insight into the voluntary sector and have the opportunity to innovate and lead the non-profit sector forward in Calgary.
- Bring your years of volunteer experience to the [Public Committees](#) of Volunteer Calgary's board of directors. Three committees are currently accepting public members.

The Finance and Audit Committee

You know numbers and you're passionate about process and compliance gives you a bit of a tingle. Use your careful attention to detail to liaise between the auditors and staff to ensure accurate and fair reporting.

The Governance Committee

You have a knack for fostering healthy dialogue and hearty participation. Use your skills to develop and review policies and practice which lead exceptional governance at Volunteer Calgary.

The Performance Management Committee

You are a great boss who knows how to give feedback and coach an employee to do their best. Bring your skills to our boardroom. Help us to meet our goals on the committee that conducts the performance management of the President and CEO of Volunteer Calgary

Joining the Volunteer Calgary Board of Directors as a Public Committee Member will provide you with an opportunity to share your skills while gaining insight into the voluntary sector and key community issues.

Please [click here](#) to explore either of these opportunities further.

If you are ready for us we are ready for you!



Corporate Citizenship at Volunteer Calgary

Volunteer Calgary has developed an extensive Corporate Citizenship program with a variety of options to suit the needs of Corporate Calgary.

All companies are free to search Volunteer Calgary's database for an employee volunteer opportunity. The database contains over 650 of current volunteer opportunities from our approximately 400 non-profit member organizations. If you require more assistance to set up your corporate citizenship program or create more specialized volunteer projects we can help with that as well:

Paint the Town Projects and Community Connect Projects

The Volunteer Calgary Corporate Citizenship program has developed an extensive Corporate Citizenship program with a variety of options to suit the needs of Corporate Calgary.

All companies are free to search Volunteer Calgary's database for an employee volunteer opportunity. The database contains over 650 of current volunteer opportunities from our approximately 400 non-profit member organizations. If you require more assistance to set up your corporate citizenship program or create more specialized volunteer projects we can help with that as well.

Paint the Town Projects and Community Connect Projects

The Volunteer Calgary Corporate Citizenship Coordinator will work closely with your company and our non-profit members to develop a customized project for your team and provide project management services to ensure a meaningful, successful, and, most importantly, stress-free volunteer experience.

Sponsorship Fee: Ranges between \$1500 - \$2500, depending on the scope and size of the project

Calgary Corporate Volunteer Council (CCVC) Connect - Engage - Strengthen

The Calgary Corporate Volunteer Council (CCVC) is a collaborative body of individuals from businesses throughout Calgary working collectively to respond to the critical needs of our city by actively developing and advocating workplace volunteerism as a key community building strategy.

Recognizing that workplace volunteerism is a large part of the community investment landscape, the CCVC aims to create and utilize a system of sharing information and

expertise relating to community investment with a focus on workplace volunteerism.

Consultation Services

Does your company want to start an employee volunteer program or develop ideas to enhance the one you already have? Our staff will design an interactive research and information gathering process that works for you and your company.

Services are offered in the following categories. If you do not see what you are looking for here, please contact us to find out more.

- Where to begin? How to start effectively engaging your employees
- Complete audit of your Employee Volunteer Program
- Develop a business case for Employee Volunteering
- Map out where your company is on the Volunteer Engagement Continuum
- How to engage in long term non-profit and corporate partnerships
- Increase participation in and success of your employee volunteer program by aligning your employee's interests with your business goals

Access to Research and [Resources](#)

Volunteer Calgary can direct you to research and resources that can assist your company in developing and/or enhancing an employee volunteer program.

For more information contact us:

Buffy St-Amand
Manager, Community Development (Leadership)
403-231-1425
bstamand@volunteercalgary.ab.ca

Janet Kerrigan
Coordinator, Corporate Citizenship
403-231-1428
jkerrigan@volunteercalgary.ab.ca

Online Communities

Be a part of our ever growing virtual communities of volunteers and advocates of volunteerism. Click and join!

facebook

twitter

Dose of Inspiration

The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal them to their own.

--Benjamin Disraeli

Volunteer in Profile

CTV & Volunteer Calgary present..

February 2011 VIP

Teresa Acchione

volunteer with

[Click here to see the VIP on CTV!](#)

Your volunteer can be the next VIP!

Don't miss the opportunity to give your exceptional volunteers (and your organization) their five minutes of fame! Nominating someone is simple. Click [here](#) for more details or contact

communications@volunteercalgary.ab.ca.

What's New on the Library Shelves

Bridging the gap: enriching the volunteer experience to build a better future for our communities; summary of findings of a Pan-Canadian research study. Volunteer Canada. 2010.

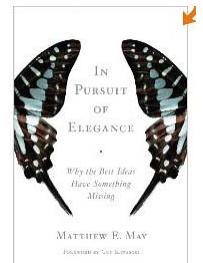
A research study conducted on behalf of Volunteer Canada in the summer of 2010 provides current national data about the changing culture of Canada's voluntary sector and the perspectives of four key groups: youth, baby boomers, families, and employer supported volunteers.



The results offer practical information that non-profit and charitable organizations can use to improve the way they involve volunteers by exploring the characteristics, motivations, and experiences of current volunteers, past volunteers, and those who have yet to try volunteering.

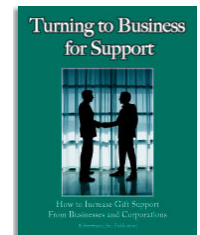
In pursuit of elegance: why the best ideas have something missing. May, Matthew E. 2010.

The author explores why certain events, products, and people capture our attention and imaginations...the cause, in his mind is "elegance". Elegance is characterized by four key elements—seduction, subtraction, symmetry, and sustainability.



Turning to business for support: how to increase gift support from businesses and corporations. 2010.

This concise handbook includes topics such as: how to get a business solicitation program up and running; advice for securing first-time gifts from businesses; techniques used to forge relationships with businesses; creative examples for approaching and soliciting businesses, corporations; ways to secure sponsorships as viable options for support; and various ways to



Spring Forward—Plan Ahead!

Take Advantage of the Kahanoff Conference Centre's spring promotion on all NEW April and May bookings. We will remove the 18% service/coordination fee from your meeting package which includes: full day room rate, LCD projector and flip cart with paper. See website for package prices.



Leading, promoting, connecting and strengthening volunteerism.

www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca

e-Volunteer Voice is published monthly for the benefit of Volunteer Calgary members.

For comments or to inquire about submitting content, email communications@volunteercalgary.ab.ca.

Volunteer Calgary is funded by the United Way of Calgary and Area, Family and Community Support Services, and donations from foundations, corporations, and individuals. Find out how you can support Volunteer Calgary [here](#).