

Winter Edition

February 2011

www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca

WELCOME TO 2011!

Welcome back everyone! We sincerely hope that you all had a relaxing, fruitful and fun holiday season. We're kicking off 2011 with our annual recruitment initiatives, along with some new events that we're really excited about. For anyone who may know someone who'd like to apply for the Class of 2012 or are looking for more information about the program, please refer them to www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/programs. Our application deadline is May 13, and the Annual Recruitment Breakfast will take place on March 17 at Fort Calgary at 730am.

The new year is a time of reflection about the year just passed, and excitement about what the year ahead holds. We're excited to announce our collaboration with Calgary Public Library for the February 17th Blue Water Workshop. More details about this can be found below in the Leadership Calgary News section or by following this link, <http://www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/pdfs/informationscape.pdf>. Please register by February 15 to ensure availability.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our various events and around the city. Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions you may have for events, feedback about the newsletter or just to say hello!

Warm regards,
Buffy & Roopa

UPCOMING LC EVENTS!

[Blue Water Workshop](#)
[Thursday February 17, 2011](#)
[Memorial Park Library @ 3pm](#)

Sages and Intellectual Hunters, join us for an opportunity to explore and navigate the Informationscape. This workshop is presented by Leadership Calgary and the Calgary Public Library.

For more info contact Roopa at rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca or check out the event poster in this issue!

[February Book Club Discussion](#)
[Wednesday February 23, 2011](#)
[Volunteer Calgary Library @ 530pm](#)

Leadership Calgary hosts monthly book club discussions that are open to the participants, alumni and the public. These informal sessions are guided by Ken Low and linked to program curriculum. The suggested readings are available on the LC Events page and are not required for participation.

Contact rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca or call 403.231.1402 for more info!

RECRUITMENT FOR CLASS OF 2012!

As we're beginning recruitment for the Class of 2012, we've updated our application form which can now be submitted online! Check it out at http://www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/pdfs/lc_application2011.pdf . As a new feature of the updated application form, we are also introducing a \$100 application fee that will be put towards the applicant's tuition or refunded if they are not accepted into the program.

With recruitment continuing through until the spring, here are some important dates to make note of:

**Annual Recruitment Breakfast – Thursday March 17, 2011
Fort Calgary @ 730 – 930am**

Check out the invite below or visit

http://www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/programs/news_and_events.aspx

**Introductory Workshop - Wednesday April 27, 2011
McDougall Centre @ 5 – 8pm**

Application Deadline – Friday May 13, 2011

Interviews for Class of 2012 – weeks of May 16 & 23, 2011

**Annual Appreciation Event – June 23, 2011
Further details to come**

If you know anyone who's interested in the program and would like further information, please feel free to send either Buffy or Roopa their contact information so that we can keep them informed about upcoming events. We appreciate alumni spreading the word about Leadership Calgary!

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

We're looking for alumni who would like to participate in the **table facilitation** at the Annual Recruitment Breakfast. You'll be there to answer any questions about the program and the application and interview processes.

Would you like to **participate in the interview** process? As mentioned, interviews for the Class of 2012 will be conducted during the weeks of May 16 and 23, 2011 and we generally like to have a variety of alumni involved. This is a great opportunity to hone your interview skills and share your LC experience! Please contact us if you're able to participate!

Annual Recruitment Breakfast Thursday March 17, 2011 Fort Calgary @ 730am

Know someone who's interested in LC? Encourage them to attend this event and learn more about the program, meet with alumni and find out about the application process. To register contact Roopa at rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca

March Book Club Wednesday, March 23, 2010 Owl's Nest Bookstore @ 530pm

Please join us at the Owl's Nest Bookstore for the March Book Club. Enjoy a cup of coffee and engage in great conversation with current participants and alumni. Bring a friend or anyone you think might be interested in the program.

DONATE NOW!

Would you like to donate to Leadership Calgary?

Click on the



icon and contribute today!

ALUMNI PERKS!

- ✓ **Free** attendance to all book clubs!
- ✓ **The Scape** three times a year!
- ✓ **Opportunities** to volunteer
- ✓ **Network** with over 300 alumni!
- ✓ **Discounted rates** for all LC workshops!

...and many more!

Contact

*rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca
to inquire!*

CONTACT US!

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WANTED

Caring individuals to support a hazardous but important journey. Must be able to play a variety of roles: observer, map maker, lore keeper, cheerleader, connector, influencer and critical friend. High tolerance for complexity and uncertainty important. People skills critical. Must be passionate about creating positive social change.


INTERESTED? JOIN US:

Leadership Calgary's Annual Recruitment Breakfast
Thursday, March 17, 2011
Fort Calgary (750 – 9th Ave SE)
730am-930am

Engage with community leaders, program alumni and current participants to learn more about the program and how you can apply.

Are you ready for an adventure?

To register, please contact Roopa Khanna at rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca or 403.231.1402. Free parking available onsite. Continental breakfast will be provided.



Leadership calgary
A program of Volunteer Calgary

WARNING: This journey is challenging and long hours are likely, but you'll never be bored. And you'll have the satisfaction of working on the edge of your capacities, pushing yourself and others to think, care, learn and act in increasingly effective and significant ways.

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 17, 2011
BLUE WATER WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 26, 2011
BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

MARCH 17, 2011
ANNUAL RECRUITMENT BREAKFAST

MARCH 23, 2011
BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

APRIL 27, 2011
INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

MAY 18, 2011
BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

JUNE 23, 2011
ALUMNI APPRECIATION EVENT

DOSE OF INSPIRATION

The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on.
– Walter Lippman

Everything that we see is a shadow cast by that which we don't see.
– Martin Luther King, Jr.

**VOLUNTEER CALGARY
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Please visit :
www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/volunteer_opportunities/html
to learn about the many wonderful volunteer opportunities available within Calgary and area !

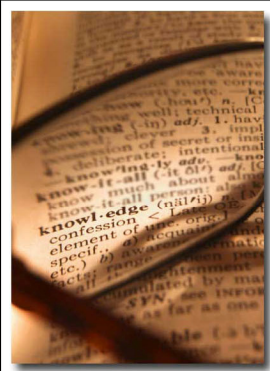
Our new searchable database allows you to search by area of interest, organization name or type !

If you have any questions about this, or require assistance with your search, please contact Cherie at cboqh@volunteercalgary.ab.ca or (403) 231.1427

LEADERSHIP CALGARY NEWS

Another exciting initiative that we'd like to share is our collaboration with the Calgary Public Library to present the February Blue Water workshop. This will take place on Thursday February 17 from 3-7pm and the speakers include Jamie Niessen (LC Class of 2007) and Ken Low. We hope to see you there! Further details are below.

Sages & Intellectual Hunters:
Join us for an opportunity to explore & navigate the
INFORMATIONSCAPE





Leadership Calgary and the Calgary Public Library present...
An introduction to navigating the vast territory of recorded human thought and experience. Become an information hunter!

Thursday, February 17, 2011
Memorial Park Library (1221 2nd St SW)
3pm - 7pm

Speakers: **Jamie Niessen**, Calgary Public Library Board Chair
Ken Low, Action Studies Institute & Leadership Calgary Curriculum Consultant

Cost: \$25 (Leadership Calgary) /\$35 (public) /\$20 (each for a group of 5 from the same organization)
*Pizza & refreshments will be provided.

To register, contact Roopa Khanna
rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca
403-231-1402



Surfing the internet, browsing a well stocked bookstore, searching through the stacks of a large library, or sorting through your own growing pile of unread books can be overwhelming and humbling. This is good. It means that you are awake and aware of the vast territory of recorded human thought and experience - the informationscape - how little you know of it, and how little time and ability you have to explore and learn from it.

Exploring and navigating the informationscape requires the skills, initiative, patience and persistence of an intellectual hunter and the existential concerns of a sage.

HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT LEADERSHIP CALGARY ALUMNI ARE UP TO?

Chris Hsiung recently started, among other ventures, Hidden Story Productions, a small company seeking meaningful stories to explore, capture and share through online video. Visit hiddenstory.ca for more information.

Chris has been busy recording the learning days and workshops for Leadership Calgary and we greatly appreciate his dedication and efforts.

STAY CONNECTED !

Join our group on
[Facebook](#)

Follow us on [Twitter](#)

Join us on [LinkedIn](#)

We are up to **1387 followers** on Twitter!
We have **161 group** members on Facebook!
We have **178 fans** on Facebook!
We have **60 Alumni** on LinkedIn!

JOIN THE SCAPE MAILING LIST !

Are you on our electronic mailing list?

If not, sign up to receive notices of upcoming events, such as our book club discussions, Blue Water Workshops and other special events!

Contact Roopa Khanna at
rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca or
403.231.1402 to sign up today!

These capacities are rare, and have never been systematically developed in any culture. Scattered individuals throughout history have developed some of these skills, but their efforts have been actively suppressed or degraded by conventional forces and narrow governing interests.

There is nothing particularly mysterious about intellectual hunting skills or the existential concerns that guide sage paths. The disciplines are discoverable, and they can be learned. This is a good thing because the 21st century survival challenges we face as a species cannot be met without them. Learning these disciplines is neither quick nor easy, and there is much resistance, but like all mastery paths, it gets easier with practice, and soon becomes natural.

This session will provide an introduction to navigating the informationscape, becoming an intellectual hunter and the existential disciplines of sage paths.

WINTER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

On a cold winter evening, why not spend some time with a great book? Below are the book club selections made by Ken Low for February and March. We hope you'll join us at the book clubs and happy reading!

February Book Club Recommendations:

- "Extraordinary Evil: a Brief History of Genocide" by Barbara Coloroso; Viking Canada, Toronto 2007
- "Shake Hands with The Devil; the Failure of Humanity in Rwanda" by L. Gen. Romeo Dallaire, Random House Canada, 2003
- "They Fight Like Soldiers, They Die Like Children: The Global Quest to Eradicate the Use of Child Soldiers" by Romeo Dallaire; Random House Canada
- "Mobilizing the Will to Intervene: Leadership to Prevent Mass Atrocities" by Frank Chalk, Kyle Matthews and Carla Barqueiro; McGill-Queen's University Press
- "The Cunning of History: The Holocaust and the American Future" by Richard Rubenstein; Perennial, Harper-Collins, 1978, 2001

March Book Club Recommendations:

- "The Last Child in the Woods-Revised: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder" by Richard Louv; Algonquin Books
- "Teach With Your Heart: Lessons Learned From the Freedom Writers" by Erin Gruwell; Broadway books, 2007
- "The Great Derangement: A Terrifying True Story of War, Politics, and Religion" by Matt Taibbi; Spiegel and Grau, New York, 2009
- "Common Nonsense: Glenn Beck and the Triumph of Ignorance" by Alexander Zaitchik; John Wiley and Sons, 2010
- "Deer Hunting With Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War" by Joe Bageant; Random House, New York, 2007

LEADERSHIP CALGARY SPONSORS

Founding Sponsors:

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The Calgary Foundation
Enbridge Inc.
The Kahanoff Foundation
The J.W. McConnell Family
Foundation
Petro-Canada
Suncor Energy Inc.
United Way of Calgary and Area

Current Sponsors:

Action Studies
Alliance Pipeline Ltd.
Enbridge Inc.
The Muttart Foundation
The United Way of Calgary and Area
Donors to the LC Alumni Campaign

We thank our generous sponsors for your continued support of the Leadership Calgary Program! Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

We also thank all of the alumni sponsors who have graciously contributed to the program!

A warm thank you to all of the committee members who freely donate their own time to help facilitate, shape and present the curriculum for the LC Program. Your continued dedication is applauded!

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE SCAPE?

As always, we welcome and appreciate your thoughts and suggestions for content within the scape.

Is there a particular topic that you'd like to learn more about? An issue that you'd like to see addressed? A suggestion for a section of the newsletter?

As we continue to fine tune our newsletter, we hope that you – the alumni - are enjoying reading it!

VOLUNTEER CALGARY'S 15TH ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS – APRIL 13, 2011

Volunteer Calgary's Leadership Awards is Calgary's premier, community-focused volunteer recognition event. The awards celebrate the contributions of outstanding volunteers in the community and recognize them through the following award categories: Leaders of Tomorrow (youth), Heart of Calgary (lifetime volunteer), Leaders in Employee Volunteering, Volunteer Family, Volunteer Animal, Volunteer in Profile, Leader in Volunteer Management, and Leader in Volunteer Engagement.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 15th Annual Leadership Awards. If you know an individual or a group who deserves one of these prestigious awards, [nominate them today](#). Deadline for nominations is January 14, 2011.

Award winners will be announced during the gala at the BMO Centre on April 13, 2011. To learn more about the Leadership Awards categories and criteria, visit www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/leadershipawards.



PURCHASE A COPY OF THE LEADERSHIP CALGARY MAPBOOK & HANDBOOK

Are you interested in getting an updated copy of the map book or/and handbook. If you are, please email Roopa Khanna at rkhanna@volunteercalgary.ab.ca and indicate your format preference.

Preference:

- Hardcopy of Map Book and Handbook \$100 (book list included, all within a binder)
- Hardcopy of Map Book only \$50
- Hardcopy of Handbook only \$50
- Access fee to PDF file for both the Map Book and Handbook \$50 (book list included)
- Access fee to PDF file for Map Book only \$25
- Access fee to PDF file for Handbook only \$25

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Many of your fellow alumni are contributing to the Human Venture within Calgary and the world! We'd like to celebrate these wonderful achievements by showcasing two of them in each issue of 'The Scape'. In this issue we hope you enjoy learning more about Adam Legge and Gena Rotstein.



Name: Adam Legge

Program Year: LC Class of 2004

Current Occupation: CEO & President, Calgary Chamber of Commerce

What are your current Volunteer Engagements?

I am the chair of the WordFest Board, I am a member of the TELUS Calgary Community Board, I sit on the Board of Attainable Homes Calgary, am a board member of Sauder Business Club Calgary, and have chaired numerous United Way Poverty Reduction committees.

What is something you've accomplished in the past year that you're really proud of?

Taking the next big step in my career to challenge myself as a leader of an organization.

Is there a particular quote that continues to inspire you?

No specific quotes, but the concepts of purposefulness and excellence. Our future is not predicted but made and we cannot expect to get there by happenstance. I am intrigued and inspired by the notion of doing things 'on purpose' – I give credit to Colin Jackson for planting that phrase and concept in my head 10 years ago. As a guy from a research background my favourite quote is "They've done studies. 60% of the time, it works every time." Brian Fantanna from *Anchorman*

When you hear the term 'Community Leadership', what are the first 3 words that come to mind?

Engagement, betterment, connections.

What is your favourite memory about the LC Program?

The Opening Retreat for sure. I still think that was perhaps 3 of the best days of my life. It was an awakening to ideas and concepts I had wanted to engage in but didn't have the 'space' to do so. It was invigorating.

What was the greatest change in your life (professional or personal) after completing the program?

An appreciation for the inability of humanity to make the changes it needs to and the journey of repetitive failures that we make. Before LC I wouldn't have even clued into that. Now with that awareness I work and try to make better decisions.

How would you describe Leadership Calgary to someone who has not yet participated?

A journey to figure out your potential leadership space in the world and a blueprint to get there.



Name: Gena Rotstein

Program Year: LC Class of 2006

Current Occupation: CEO Dexterity Ventures Inc.

What are your current volunteer engagements?

Chair of the Planning and Allocation's Committee for the Calgary Jewish Community Council

Campaign Cabinet for Nenshi Campaign (until he was sworn in)

Management Consultant with CentrePoint

What is something that you have accomplished over the past year that you're really proud of?

Incorporating Dexterity Consulting into Dexterity Ventures Inc. and launching Canada's only donor-centered charitable search-match-give engine,

Place@Give.com

Is there a particular quote that continues to inspire you?

"Make money by doing good" – Lori Stewart

When you hear the term 'community leadership' what are the 3 words that come to mind?

Change management

Obligation

Bridge-builder

What is your favorite memory of the LC program?

The network of friends and business associated that I have made that I would not have come into contact with if I had not taken LC.

What was the greatest change in your life (professional or personal) after completing the program?

Refocusing my career from fundraising to donor management. Applying concepts around adaptive space to philanthropy.

How would you describe Leadership Calgary to someone who has not yet participated?

The way I describe LC is as a year-long course in critical thought and self-discovery. You won't come out the way you went in.

UNCONVENTIONAL THOUGHTS...

REALITY TV KILLED MY BRAIN AND TRUTH

By Chris Hsiung, LC Class of 2004, Program Committee 2011

Reality TV is not all evil. But it certainly has warped our sense of what reality is. Consider Dragon's Den. We see a 30 second pitch followed by a decision made in a minute or two. Someone watching the show religiously might be tempted to think that a judgment about a business idea can be as quick. It's easy to ignore and forget the hours spent interviewing the entrepreneur prior to the show and the hours, possibly days or weeks of due diligence after a deal is struck.

There is very little of reality in reality TV. The edited dialogue, the dramatic turns, the quick images only give us the perception of experiencing reality. We feel that we are experiencing the real thing when in fact we are being fed digestible biscuits. There may be nothing wrong with getting the highlights, but seriously, let's not mistake the news for the whole story or the appetizers for the whole meal.

Then there is the other kind of "reality" TV where every inane pointless detail about people's lives are documented for the public to see. It's like Robert McKee says in his book Story,

The weakest possible excuse to include anything in a story is: "But it actually happened." Everything happens; everything imaginable happens. Indeed, the unimaginable happens. But story is not life in actuality. Mere occurrence brings us nowhere near the truth. What happens is fact, not truth. Truth is what we think about what happens."

Extending that thought, the quality of the thinking will determine the quality of the truth. Not all truths are equal just as some stories are mediocre and other stories

**UNCONVENTIONAL THOUGHTS
CONTRIBUTE TODAY!**

Do you have a Leadership Calgary story to share? Through this section of The Scape; we invite you to submit an article on any topic that pertains to the human venture, leadership and community. These stories are intended to be shared with our alumni and community about how this program is transforming Calgary and our world. If you have something to share, please email Buffy St-Amand at bstamand@volunteercalgary.ab.ca

are masterpieces that transcend time and culture.

The illusion of reality TV – reality as highlights or reality in its minutia – arise from the same fundamental challenge: mortals are not omniscient. Consequently we have to choose what is significant to pay attention to. If we don't choose, we have it chosen for us... by our family, our friends, our society.

Reality TV shows are produced to entertain us. We can gossip about who so and so did or laugh at the dalliances of the rich and famous or go on adventures of ordinary people. Entertainment is fine, but what if it is at the expense of other more significant aspects of reality? What if there are global economic forces at work or growing water shortages or wars resulting indirectly from our lifestyle? These realities have more impact on us than who was kicked out in last night's show, yet we avoid it and deny it. We barely register its knocking at the door while the TV is on.

We have other things to be worried about of course. We have groceries to buy, dinner to cook, work to be done, friends to socialize with, and fun to be had. Unfortunately not being interesting or not caring doesn't eliminate our ignorance.

So what to do?

Part of the answer lies in creating our own "Significant Reality TV Show". Our time is limited. We can't learn everything. We can, however, tap into our deep caring and curiosity of the world and find more meaningful channels to take in. What if we created our own comprehensive basic cable channel that brought into our lives thoughtful, caring, wise authors, journalists, artists, scientists, politicians? It'd be like TED.com on steroids. Imagine how connected we all would be to reality.

Unfortunately, my brain is not yet trained to feed on healthy stories all the time. I like my action movies and occasional CSI episode. I am comfortable in my denial of reality, and society conspires to help me in my denial. Nevertheless, I know it's possible to develop a taste for the significant and the meaningful. Bruce Lee once said,

It's like drinking fine wine; one acquires a taste for it. One does not acquire a taste for watered down wine.



Leading, promoting, connecting and strengthening volunteerism

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!

