

## **Volunteer Edmonton News Update – December 15, 2008**

### **Encouraging Volunteer Involvement Course– Sign up Now!**

We still have a few spots left for the three-day course happening on January 16, February 6 and March 13! Registrations are being accepted via [Eventbrite](#). It's a great course for those new to volunteer management or for those interested in brushing up their skills. Learn the basics behind volunteer management strategies, trends and issues, screening, recruitment and retention, and much more. Visit our [website](#) to view the course outline and registration information.

### **Discounted Rate for Nonprofits to Attend Grant MacEwan Career Fair**

Grant MacEwan is extending a discounted rate of \$350 + GST to all nonprofit groups interested in attending its "Get to Work" career fair on January 12, 2009. Exhibitors will have the chance to showcase career opportunities to students entering the workforce. The fair takes place from 10 to 3 pm at the City Centre campus. To register as an exhibitor, visit the [MacEwan website](#).

### **Free Resource to Post Volunteer Opportunities**

Take advantage of the newly re-designed Alberta's YOUTHVolunteer! website now and start posting your youth-friendly volunteer opportunities. This website is a volunteer resource for Alberta's youth ages 14-24 and for organizations in Alberta who wish to engage youth volunteers. To find out how you can post your opportunity, call (780) 429-2987 or toll free outside of Edmonton 1-877-669-6884. Visit [www.youthvolunteer.ca](http://www.youthvolunteer.ca).

### **New Package for Registered Charities**

The Canada Revenue Agency has just released a new Registered Charity Information Return package. Forms from this package will be available on the CRA website in January and mailed to registered charities with fiscal periods ending on or after January 1, 2009. Get the full details from CRA [here](#).

### **Charity Central Needs Assessment Survey**

Charity Central is seeking your input to help them develop services and resources for registered charities. To complete the survey, visit [www.xls.ualberta.ca/CharityCentral](http://www.xls.ualberta.ca/CharityCentral). Have questions or comments? Contact Kim Ireton at (780) 822-7626 or [kimberlyireton@charitycentral.ca](mailto:kimberlyireton@charitycentral.ca).

### **Letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper**

In light of the recent economic downturn, Canada's charities and nonprofits published an open letter to Prime Minister Harper on November 21 urging him to consider the importance of charities and nonprofits in times of hardship. The letter was published in the Calgary Herald, Ottawa Citizen and La Presse, asking the Prime Minister to maintain current levels of funding through its grants and contributions programs. To read the letter, click [here](#).

### **Nominations for 2009 Flare Volunteer Awards**

Flare magazine is seeking nominations of women who have made a difference in the community for their annual Flare Volunteer Awards. If you know someone who deserves this award, nominate her by visiting the [Flare website](#) or [Teen Flare website](#), or by calling 1-877-2-AWARDS. Check out the [Flare Volunteer Awards website](#) to read FAQs.

### **Imagine Canada Releases New Study on Corporate Giving**

Imagine Canada has recently released the first phase of their [Business contributions to Canadian](#)

[Communities research](#). Through a series of roundtable discussions with 47 representatives from Canadian businesses, the findings revealed how and why businesses support charities and nonprofits, and the challenges they encountered.

**[Holiday Reading Courtesy of Charity Village](#)**

Charity Village's November [cover story](#) offers advice on how to engage boomers in volunteering. The article looks at how organizations can make the change to create opportunities for highly skilled volunteers, the importance of understanding the motivations behind volunteering and examines emerging trends in volunteerism.