

Volunteer Edmonton News Update – February 17, 2009

This month's news update is longer than usual because of all the amazing things happening in our community. We hope you'll take a few moments of your precious time to review all the exciting things that are going on.

Mark Your Calendars – Linda Graff is Coming Back!

On Tuesday, April 6 popular presenter Linda Graff will be doing two, half-day community workshops for Volunteer Edmonton—one on *Emerging Trends and Best Practice in Volunteer Management* and one on *Volunteer Job Design - It's a Privilege to Volunteer Here*. Advertising and registration for these two workshops will begin in March. If anyone is interested in connecting directly with Linda to see if they could "tie in" to her trip to Edmonton in some way (and possibly share travel/accommodation costs if appropriate) please contact her directly at ll.graff@sympatico.ca so discuss her availability, costs, etc.

Board Leadership Conference Registration Open

New and established board members from the nonprofit sector are invited to register for this day-long program of engaging and informative workshops happening on Saturday, March 21. Participants can choose to register for a variety of sessions that explore issues related to board members. To view a list of the program schedule, FAQs or to register, click [here](#).

Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement – Sessions Now Available

Hosted by Volunteer Alberta, the CCVI sessions will explore how organizations can use the code to engage and integrate volunteers successfully, and learn about screening strategies that makes volunteers feel welcomed. Register for the March 4 session in Stony Plain or March 11 in St. Albert by visiting volunteeralberta.ab.ca.

High School Students Seeking Volunteer Opportunities

Students at J. Percy Page High School enrolled in IB (International Baccalaureate) program are seeking both short and long-term volunteer opportunities in order to earn their IB diploma. If you'd like to learn more about this program, and how to engage skilled and motivated youth as volunteers in your organization, contact Bruce Irwin at (780) 462-3322 ext. 241 for more information.

Recruit Youth Volunteers

Alberta's YouthVOLUNTEER! Society's recently revamped website is a great opportunity for organizations across Alberta to post their youth-friendly volunteer opportunities—free-of-charge! If you are interested in targeting youth ages 14 to 24, get started by visiting www.youthvolunteer.ca.

Course for Foreign Trained Professional Women

Jewish Family Services is taking applicants for a new course. *TASIS* (Transforming Acculturative Stress Into Success) is designed to minimize culture shock and the sense of displacement experienced by foreign-trained, professional immigrant women in Edmonton. This six week course of two sessions per week, will help small groups of women grow through this transition called "immigration" and emerge better equipped for success in a Canadian context. If you know of any women who could benefit from this free course, please contact Svetlana Pavlenko, Project Coordinator at (780) 454 1194 ext. 402.

More Workshops From RCVO

Visit [RCVO](#) to check out the two new workshops they are hosting—*Strengthening Boards* and *Fund Raising Success* happening on Saturday, February 21 and Saturday, February 28 respectively.

Students at the University of Alberta Seeking Senior Volunteers for Study

Occupational therapy graduate students from the University of Alberta are developing a presentation on the challenges of volunteering for seniors. Senior volunteers are welcome to participate by sharing their thoughts, opinions and comments on the subject via email or mail. If you are a senior volunteer or a volunteer manager interested in sharing this information to your senior volunteers, contact Neilin Jaffer at neilin@ualberta.ca or call (780) 292-4976.

Call for Workshop Proposals

Literacy Alberta and the Community Learning Network are seeking workshop proposals for their 2009 Inspiring Leadership symposium taking place from October 21 to 24 in Red Deer. Visit [Literacy Alberta](#) to download the application. The deadline for proposals is February 27.

ANVSI Survey

The Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector Initiative wants to know how the current economic climate is impacting Alberta's charitable and nonprofit organizations. Please take a moment to share your experiences in their short survey [here](#). The deadline to send your responses is Friday, February 20.

Are You Using Volgistics? Send Your Comments

Finding a good volunteer database often relies on word of mouth. Fran Lucas, volunteer manager for Northlands is hoping you can help her out! If you've ever used Volgistics, please connect with Fran at flucas@northlands.com to share your thoughts and experiences using this database.

Article Explores Impact of Poor Volunteer Management

The Stanford Social Innovation Review released a new report that looks at the value of volunteerism, how to capitalize on a volunteer workforce and what nonprofits could stand to lose if they do not manage volunteers strategically. Read it [here](#).

2009 Minister's Seniors Service Awards

This award recognizes Albertans who provide direct service to seniors in their community. Send your nomination for an outstanding individual or organization by February 27. The award guidelines and nomination form is available on the Alberta Seniors and Community Supports website at www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/awards.