

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 May Hindsight
- 1 Annual General Meeting
- 2 Vitalize – Volunteers Needed
- 2 Useful Resources
- 3 Facilitation Workshop
- 4 May Board Report

The deadline for the Joyce Howarth Award has been extended to June 9, 2010. Nominate someone today!

In Hindsight...May

Our May program meeting agenda consisted of a facilitated discussion with a panel of representatives from the United Way, Dow Chemical Canada and Telus Corporation. The 3-member panel provided the group with valuable insights in the areas of employee volunteerism, community involvement, and from a corporate perspective, their roles as funders for various community projects.

Some of the questions asked of the representatives included what challenges or concerns they encounter when working with community organizations, what organizations can do to help corporations fulfill their corporate social responsibility and who is the best person to approach when attempting to build new corporate partnerships.

According to the panel members, bringing unique and innovative ideas to a corporation is seen as a benefit and potentially something they can build on when entering a new community or funding a new initiative. In this way, corporations can benefit as much as a nonprofit in these situations.

Please see *May* on page 2

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Volunteer Management Group Society will be held in Edmonton on June 16, 2010, at the Old Timer's Cabin which is located at 9430-99 Street (Scona Road). The meeting will commence at 11:00 am and will be adjourned at 11:45 am. All members in good standing (paid membership for the 2009/2010 year) are invited to attend.

A barbeque lunch will follow at 12:00 pm. Cost is \$15 for members; payment must be made at the door by cash or cheque. Make cheque payable to Volunteer Management Group. RSVP by June 14. See our website for complete details.

Keynote Speaker: Michael Zouhiri – past recipient of the *Stars of Alberta Volunteer Award*, founder of *Action ALS* and recently the youngest person named in *Top 40 Under 40*, celebrating leaders of today and tomorrow.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Check out VAULT, which was developed by Volunteer Alberta with support from the Government of Alberta. It's an online resource & forum for managers of volunteers: <http://www.volunteeralberta.ab.ca/vault/>

Building a relationship with a corporate partner that may not already have a corporate volunteer program? Consider this resource to help you get the conversation started: http://www.volunteertoronto.ca/site/volunteer_toronto/assets/pdf/EVP_-_BUILDING_A_CASE.pdf

United Planet works with groups to take part in rewarding employee engagement and international community service projects. Visit <http://www.unitedplanet.org/corporate-volunteering>

Please note: the websites listed in the Useful Resources section are not endorsements for any company or their products or services.

May from page 1

Some of the key points that were shared with the group:

- Research first before applying for grants or volunteer support from corporations to eliminate negative responses to applications; you may be able to determine before applying that your funding request or corporate volunteering opportunity does not fall within the corporation's guidelines
- Strive to provide meaningful opportunities when looking for corporate volunteers. Typically these types of opportunities are short-term – ensure employees see a 'finished product' within the timeline provided
- Corporations appreciate stories that clearly show the impact of their contribution and that they can share with their own employees and corporate partners
- Partnerships are meant to provide benefits for both parties; show the corporation how your work impacts their employees in the communities they live and how your partnership will provide the corporation with inroads into the community

Resources: *Imagine Canada's Caring Company Leaders Report to Canadians, Partnerships: Profits & Not-for-Profits Together* by Martha Parker (RCVO)

Vitalize Conference

June 10 -12, 2010

This one-of-a-kind conference provides for a unique professional development and training opportunity for those working or volunteering on behalf of non-profit organizations.

VMG will be hosting a booth at Vital Village and we are asking for your help to staff the booth on Friday, June 11. We need 2 volunteers from 8 am – 10 am, 2 volunteers from 10 am – 12 pm, 1 volunteer from 12 pm – 2 pm and 1 volunteer from 2 pm – 4 pm.

This is a great way to show your support for VMG and still network with fellow conference attendees. Please email info@vmgedmonton.ca to sign up!

Facilitation Workshop

Uncovering the Mystique of Facilitation: Skills, Thrills & Group Leadership

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Participants will:

- Have increased knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively and efficiently facilitate small group discussions.
- Learn basic concepts and approaches to facilitation, as well as some basic techniques and tools for facilitating small group discussions.
- Feel more confident and competent in facilitating small group discussions in different settings.

Basic Concepts of Facilitation

- Role of a Facilitator
- Process vs Content
- Outcomes
- Competencies of a Successful Facilitator
- Recording and Group Memory

Designing & Facilitating Sessions

- Planning: People, Process & Things
- Facilitation Tools
- Practice Opportunity

8:30 am a) Welcome; introductions & expectations
b) Review of workshop agenda, objectives & methods
c) Establishing group norms

10:30 am Wrap Up & Farewell

Facilitated by: Terri Potter, Alberta Culture & Community Spirit – Community Development Branch

Register today! Email Leslie at president@vmgedmonton.ca.

Cost: \$20 (includes the book *Facilitation at a Glance*) or \$10 (without book)
Payment by cash or cheque must be made at the door. Make cheques payable to Volunteer Management Group.

Location: Old Timer's Cabin (9430-99 Street)

Government of Alberta ■
Culture and Community Spirit

VMG GOALS

To attract and develop an active, participatory and committed membership

To serve as a unified voice for managers of volunteer programs

To provide a variety of opportunities for the membership including professional development, education and networking

To increase awareness and visibility of managers of volunteer programs as professionals

Board Report

May 2010

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Notice of Annual General Meeting (please see page 1 of newsletter)
3. Partnership with Government of Alberta's Culture & Community Spirit - Community Development Branch for an exciting workshop – Facilitation Training: Uncovering the Mystique of Facilitation: Skills, Thrills & Group Leadership on Wednesday, June 16, 2010 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. Deadline to register is June 11. (please see page 3 of newsletter)
4. Awards – Professional Development Award is now available. Please see Heather Dunn-Kinsman, Professional Development Director, for more details. We have extended the deadline for the Joyce Howarth Award until June 9, 2010. Please see VMG website for more details about this award which is to be presented at our Annual General Meeting on June 16
5. Vitalize 2010 – We need volunteers to work at Vital Village on Friday, June 11, 2010. Shifts are 2 hours each/w people per shift from 8 – 5 pm. Booth will be set up and taken down by the VMG board. Please see Leslie to sign up after the meeting. Thanks for your ongoing participation and support in promoting our organization. VMG 2010/2011 membership drive starts now!! Note: Next year VMG memberships will be \$85/year
6. 2 Member Profiles – Leslie Cleary, President, will introduce those members presenting their organizations and what they do in their position. This is your 5 minutes of fame to inform us of what you do in your volunteer program
7. Next Program Meeting – VMG & Volunteer Alberta are partnering to use technology to connect with Red Deer & Area Volunteer Manager's Network on September 15, 2010. Location: Glenrose Hospital (video conference with the Red Deer Network). Topic: E-Newsletters – let's gather some information and share ideas on how to deliver our newsletters to our volunteers in a timely, economical and fun way. Bring your newsletter samples,, resources, and ideas to share with your fellow colleagues



- The Newfoundland and Labrador Administrators of Volunteer Resources will co-host this year's CAVR Conference May 30 – June 1, 2010. Visit our www.vmgedmonton.ca for more information
- Vitalize 2010 runs June 10 – 12, 2010. Visit <http://culture.alberta.ca/voluntarysector/vitalize> to view the conference guide and register if you haven't already
- The next Volunteer Edmonton Showcase happens on June 15, 2010. The sessions occur monthly and feature a brief presentation, guest speaker and video to inspire Edmontonians to get involved in the community. Visit www.volunteeredmonton.com

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Questions or comments about our newsletter or website? Story ideas for our next newsletter? Email us at info@vmgedmonton.ca.