

The Changing Face of Canada

Volunteerism



Volunteer
calgary
THE VALUE OF one....
THE POWER OF many.

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Just what is volunteerism?

- Offering time, energy and skills of one's own free will
 - Extension of being a good neighbour
 - People getting involved in the improvement of their surroundings and choosing to help others
 - Caring and contributing to change – by improving the lives of others and enhancing your own
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Who Volunteers? Canadian Demographics

More than one in four Canadians over the age of 15 (27% or 6.5 million) volunteered through a charitable or nonprofit organization

7% of all Canadians gave 73% of all volunteer hours

Who Volunteers? Canadian Demographics

- 28% of Canadian women volunteer
 - 25% of Canadian men volunteer
 - Over 7% of volunteers said they were required to do so by their school, employer or the government
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Who Volunteers? Canadian Demographics

- Nearly half (44%) of all volunteers were between the ages of 35 – 54 years old
 - Just over half (53%) of all volunteers held a post-secondary degree or diploma or a university degree
 - Most volunteers (67%) were employed. 77% of these held full-time jobs
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Who Volunteers?

Canadian Demographics

- Almost two thirds (65%) were married or in common-law relationships
 - Canadians with household incomes of more than \$60,000 annually accounted for 38% of the population, but 49% of all volunteers
 - Almost four in ten (37%) of all volunteers attended weekly religious services
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The New Volunteer

- Older adults
 - New Canadians
 - Youth
 - Disabilities
 - Families
 - Employer Supported Volunteerism
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Other Trends

- Risk Management
 - Best Practices
 - Professional volunteer management
 - Board governance
 - Volunteer Development
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Why Do People Volunteer?

- Volunteerism is a self-directed activity, therefore, motivation is the key...
 - Most people volunteered because they cared about the cause supported by an organization (95%)
 - 81 % were looking to use their skills and experience
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Why Do People Volunteer?

- Other factors influencing motivation
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Time
 - Level of commitment
 - Being asked
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What if I want to volunteer?

- What are the issues in the community that you see as important (e.g. poverty, education, environment, or the arts)?
 - How you would like to make a difference? (e.g. through an organization or by creating your own opportunity)
 - What kind of time you can commit?
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Values for Volunteer Involvement

- Volunteer involvement
 - Is vital to a just and democratic society
 - Strengthens communities
 - Mutually benefits both the volunteer and the organization
 - Is based on relationships
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Volunteers Will Get Involved If...

- Positions/tasks are clearly defined
 - You provide volunteers with
 - Resources and training
 - Feedback
 - Support and back up
 - Appropriate recognition
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Volunteers Will Get Involved If...

- They feel a sense of belonging and “team” among co-workers
 - They are involved in the administrative process (i.e. problem solving, decision making, objective setting)
 - Their personal needs are being met
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Volunteers Will Get Involved If...

- They feel appreciated
 - They can see the results of their actions
 - They feel there is a chance for advancement, personal growth
 - They feel capable of handling the tasks offered
 - They receive private and public recognition
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