

JUNE 2020

# VOLUNTEER SUDBURY/ BÉNÉVOLAT SUDBURY

## Quarterly Newsletter



## COVID-19 AND VOLUNTEERISM

Written by: Alanna LaHay

The volunteer landscape has changed tremendously due to COVID-19. As a volunteer resource centre, we have made a commitment to providing resources to both volunteers, and organizations, for continued success of lending a hand safely in our community.

On the VBS website, you can find several new resources that support volunteers and organizations. From hand hygiene, to recommendations for success, there are several tools available to keep volunteering safely during COVID-19.

### FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Find information on the [COVID-19 and Volunteering](#) page for volunteers, or, visit our [COVID-19 Updates Page](#) for updates on our services, and recommendations for succession.

### FOR VOLUNTEERS

Find information related to safe practices, preventative measures, and precautions on our website under [COVID-19 and Volunteering](#).

For more information about the COVID-19 resources, we encourage you to visit the Volunteer Canada website. You can explore resources by [clicking here!](#)

### TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE:

Making the Most of Virtual  
Volunteers

General Updates





# MAKING THE MOST OF VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERS

**Written by Isabella Izumi**

*Virtual Volunteering is on the rise, and having the ability for volunteers to dedicate their time remotely, while making a difference and an impact, is in high demand in our community. Here are five ways to make the most of your Virtual Volunteers:*

## **1) Use Volunteer Sudbury / Bénévolat Sudbury's Online Database.**

Promote your virtual needs! Interested individuals can create a profile and browse volunteering opportunities that match their interests and availability. Users can also use the database to search specifically for virtual positions.

*To visit the database, click [here](#).*

## **2) Use technology creatively.**

Technology can be a great tool to collaborate, work on projects, or provide client support. Stay in contact with volunteers by using email, phone, and video conferencing. Also consider storing documents online via Google Drive or Dropbox, and/or create a shared calendar to ease information sharing.

## **3) Update existing volunteer positions and create new ones.**

Volunteers may not be able to replicate everything that they are normally able to do in person, but there may be some immediate needs or ongoing projects that can be done virtually. Some examples include data entry, graphic design, mentoring and tutoring, social media and marketing, telephone outreach... and more!

## **4) Establish communication norms.**

Do you prefer to be contacted by email or by telephone? When is the best time for volunteers to reach you? Should volunteers expect a delay over the weekend or evening hours? Mitigate communication breakdowns by setting up basic guidelines for frequency and types of communications.

## **5) Explore resources.**

Check out [Volunteer Canada's website](#) for more information on engaging Virtual Volunteers!

*If you have any questions about managing virtual volunteers, please contact [office@volunteersudbury.com](mailto:office@volunteersudbury.com).*



## GENERAL VBS NEWS: 2020 UPDATES AND INSIGHTS!

Written by: Alanna LaHay

### 15TH ANNIVERSARY!

*Did you know that Volunteer Sudbury has been in operation since 2005? Our organization is celebrating its' 15th Anniversary as a charity this year! Watch our social media for upcoming events, and Fun Facts about our history!*

### VELOCITY CONFERENCE!

*Please note that our 2nd Annual Velocity Conference has been cancelled at this time. Due to the effects of COVID-19, we made the decision for the Velocity Conference to be cancelled. We will stay in touch regarding new dates in the future, or a virtual event. Stay tuned by checking our website by [clicking here](#).*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*On May 26, 2020 - we held our 15th Annual General Meeting! Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 15th Annual General Meeting, which was held virtually this year!*

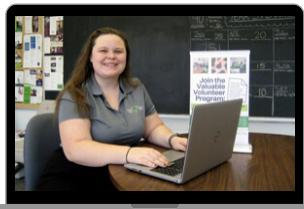
We would like to thank Pamela Patry, who is now taking the role of Past President, for all of her hard work and dedication to the Board of Directors over the last 6 years.

Congratulations to Stephanie Cooke for being named Volunteer Sudbury President on the Board of Directors.

Additionally, we would like to welcome our new Board Directors, Tanaka Chakwesha and Catherine Poulton. We are excited to work with you!

### IN THE MEDIA

Find the latest interviews about volunteerism to local media by visiting our Media Page!



### Important Information

The Canada Student Services Grant was launched to support post-secondary students as they volunteer to serve their communities' COVID-19 response.

Not-for-profit organizations that are interested in participating are encouraged to submit their volunteer opportunity and register on the new I Want to Help platform.

### Contact Us

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