



ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



Photo credit: Habitat for Humanity

BUILDING COMMUNITY, BUILDING CAPACITY

PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please take a moment to read through our Annual Report for 2020/21 and learn about all of the work being done to support organizations, volunteers, and to help build community and capacity across Manitoba!

Rob Albo, BOARD PRESIDENT
Jackie Hunt, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year has not gone according to plan, for any of us, and we've seen the impact this pandemic has had on the non-profit sector and volunteerism.

But we have also seen the resilience of the human spirit, and how communities have come together to support each other during a year no one could have predicted.

Volunteer Manitoba began the year by shifting our programs and services for what we thought would be a short-term period,

but it was not long before we realized that the COVID-19 pandemic was going to go on longer than expected and we would have to make some permanent decisions moving forward. Thanks to the support of our funders and partners, we have been able to create opportunities out of the challenges.

In 2020-21, we moved to a complete work-from-home model and learned that we could still do almost all our work without being in the same physical space. We wrapped up the MB 150 Youth Ambassador program with an incredible showcase of each project, which we celebrated virtually. We delivered all of our training remotely and online, and discovered that participants could still be engaged and learn in this format. We went virtual with our annual volunteer awards celebration, and created a beautiful video tapestry of the recipients in their home communities, sharing their reasons for

giving back. And, after the pandemic highlighted the need for the service provided by 211 Manitoba, additional funding meant Manitobans were provided a centralized information and referral service that could be accessed from anywhere in the province by calling 2-1-1.

Our Programs and Services:

- Community Outreach, Volunteer Referral Services & Board Connect
- Training (for groups & individuals)
- Annual Volunteer Awards
- VM Youth Program

Our priority was pivoting our training department to online delivery. One of the most impacted programs due to the pandemic, our training department never lost focus for one moment. When we realized it was unknown how long it would be until we could offer our training in-person, we successfully converted all our in-house workshops to an online format.

Within the first month of the pandemic, we offered a series of pandemic-related webinars to support the sector and created a special section of our website dedicated to pandemic resources. By June, we were once again offering those workshops we had deferred at the start of the pandemic, only now they were online.



WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD TO HAVE SUCH A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND DEDICATED TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS ON STAFF, AND ON OUR BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES, AT VOLUNTEER MANITOBA."



Though training was impacted by COVID, the amazing work of the training department meant we offered meaningful and relevant training and webinars AND our reach was widened as people from across Manitoba, and Canada, were able to participate in our courses thanks to technology.

To capitalize on this momentum in training we created a series of resources and supports in board governance, capacity building, and volunteer management. These tools are now available for purchase on our website, and have been invaluable to the sector.

Shortly after the initial onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, InterGroup Consultants Ltd. reached out to Volunteer Manitoba to get a better understanding of the needs of non-profit organizations and volunteers during the pandemic. Through facilitated online discussions over the course of four weeks in the summer of 2020, InterGroup and Volunteer Manitoba brought together volunteer administrators and volunteers from various organizations to discuss what volunteering looked like pre-pandemic and the issues and gaps that have occurred within their organizations since the start of the pandemic.

These discussions led to the creation of the Volunteering Now! Volunteerism in Manitoba during a Pandemic survey. The survey went out during the fall of 2020 and you can learn more about the results on page 9 of this report.

The pandemic has had the greatest impact on older adult volunteers, and most of these volunteers are largely concerned over the inability to return to their previous in-person volunteering. Older adults are also a vulnerable population for COVID-19 exposure. These two things combined meant a large decrease in volunteer numbers for seniors. This is not something Volunteer Manitoba has ever needed to worry about in the past, with most volunteer hours always being donated by those over 65. But again, the pandemic has changed that, and we are now working closely with several organizations to increase our support for older volunteers, and identify ways we can help them get back to the work they love doing.

Our Youth Program was also drastically impacted this past year, and though we were not able to deliver classroom presentations or participate in community outreach, we were still able to participate in virtual events that gave us an opportunity to connect with young people about volunteering. We continued to offer our volunteer referral service online and over the phone, and we piloted a virtual student recruitment fair in the fall which was very successful and received a lot of positive feedback.

We would like to give a special thank you to Canada Life, the Winnipeg Foundation and RBC Foundation for your continued support of our youth programming.

As the pandemic continued, 211 Manitoba saw a huge spike in requests for information and that led to an injection of federal funding that allowed for the shift from a web-based service to a full-service call centre. However, housing this program under one organization's umbrella would ensure its long-term success, so the decision was made to move the program over to United Way of Winnipeg, ending the decades long partnership over 211 Manitoba. This transition also meant that we said farewell to two of our staff members, Philip Wolfart and Alanna Palmer, who moved over to the United Way and continue the work of bringing information and referrals to Manitobans. We miss them both so much, but we are thrilled to see this growth happening for both them, and 211 Manitoba.

This, and so much more was accomplished this past year, and you can read all about it in this annual report. We want to take a moment to thank our board, and the dedicated staff at Volunteer Manitoba, for the unwavering belief in the work we do. We cannot wait until we can all gather again together in person. Until then, be well.

Rob Albo and Jackie Hunt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rob Albo PRESIDENT	Colin Ward DIRECTOR
Terri Scott VICE-PRESIDENT	Theresa Cannon DIRECTOR
Phillip Dunphy TREASURER	Tracy Hegg Penner DIRECTOR
Marg Braid SECRETARY	Denise Maitan DIRECTOR
Nancy Wheatley DIRECTOR	Shaun Leonoff DIRECTOR
	Mark Alward DIRECTOR

STAFF



Jackie Hunt EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Tracy Douglass TRAINING COORDINATOR
Dawn Bourbonnais MANAGER, COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH	Corinne Napper TRAINING ASSISTANT
Kamillah El-Giadaa YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR	Philip Wolfart MANAGER, 211 MANITOBA
Sarah Chan COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR	Alanna Palmer INFORMATION & REFERRAL SPECIALIST



OUR MISSION

Volunteer Manitoba promotes and recognizes volunteerism across the province, connects Manitobans, and builds capacity to meet community needs.

OUR VISION

Volunteer Manitoba is the leader and catalyst for engaging all Manitobans in volunteerism.

OUR WORK

We monitor trends, gather knowledge, build capacity, and share information.
 We recognize successes, challenges, and opportunities in the non-profit sector - and we provide solutions.
 We represent volunteers and reflect the collective voice of Manitoba non-profits, charities and community groups.

We encourage and celebrate volunteerism - and understand the value of giving back to communities in Manitoba.

WE SUPPORT

groups and individuals in the voluntary sector to develop and enhance their capacity to anticipate, understand, celebrate, and meet community needs in Manitoba.

OUR VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

to the community include connecting people with volunteer opportunities, promoting volunteerism, and providing leadership and support in the non-profit and voluntary sector.

Harvey Yu -U of M Faculty of Kinesiology & Recreation Management, Student Fieldwork Placement

In the fall of 2020, we once again welcomed a student from the University of Manitoba for their fieldwork placement. Harvey Yu worked as our Programs Assistant from September through to December, and during his time with us he networked with various organizations, presented at our first virtual student recruitment fair, and assisted with the production of the Annual Volunteer Awards celebration.

Harvey's dedication and commitment to helping deliver our programs and services to organizations was invaluable. Even in a pandemic, Harvey's ability to multi-task and his attention to detail, was so impressive we offered him a full time job this spring!

Thank you, Harvey, for all your hard work. We are excited to see what else you can accomplish as Volunteer Manitoba's newest Community Relations Coordinator!



Manitoba[®]

In 1978, Volunteer Manitoba began offering information and referral to Manitobans through CONTACT Community Information. The mandate of CONTACT was to connect individuals and social service providers with the best available information to provide strong information and referral in Manitoba, and help citizens and agencies become better informed about the services that can help them.

In 2015, Volunteer Manitoba and United Way Winnipeg worked in partnership to transition the CONTACT Community Information Database into 211 Manitoba.

211 Manitoba is a searchable online database of

SERVICES ARE GROUPED TOGETHER INTO CATEGORIES THAT INCLUDE:

food and clothing, housing and homelessness, nursing homes, health, mental health, employment, newcomers, children and parenting, and youth.

**www.mb.211.ca
or Dial 2-1-1**

government, health, and social services that are available across the province. When the pandemic began, 211 MB saw a dramatic increase in requests for services, which led to an influx of federal funding that meant Manitobans were provided a centralized information and referral service that could be accessed from anywhere in the province by calling 2-1-1.

Thanks to increased awareness and usage, we soon came to realize that housing this program under one organization's umbrella would ensure its long-term success, so the decision was made to move the program over to United Way of Winnipeg, ending the partnership over 211 Manitoba.

Two long term staff members who were dedicated solely to the management of the information in the 211 Manitoba database moved over to the United Way of Winnipeg.

We would like to thank Philip Wolfart and Alanna Palmer for their years of service at Volunteer Manitoba, and for their dedication and commitment to providing valuable, relevant, and important information to people across Manitoba during their time with us. We wish them all the best as they continue their work over at the United Way of Winnipeg.

VOLUNTEERISM and COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Volunteering is a powerful force for good and the number of people who donate their time here in Manitoba, is incredible. To put it in perspective, one out of every two people in the province volunteer their time. Though, what is truly amazing about Manitoba's volunteers is how those hours are spent. All things from coaching youth, feeding houseless individuals, visiting the sick, cleaning up parks, teaching literacy, sitting on boards and committees, running festivals, to maintaining frontline services.

As the only volunteer centre in our province, it is our job to foster and develop volunteerism in the community for the 7000 non-profits and charities in Manitoba.

For over 40 years, Volunteer Manitoba has promoted and celebrated volunteers and volunteerism across the province. We do this by encouraging people to volunteer their time through community outreach and referring fitting volunteer opportunities to individuals. We also work with groups and organizations to help enhance and promote their recruitment of volunteers through outreach, social media, and the Winnipeg Free Press.

Our team loves the work we do as we know volunteering opens many opportunities to connect with your community, explore career options, share your passion with others and create change in the world.

Every year, over 24 million Canadians contributed approximately 5 billion volunteer hours and here in Manitoba we have the second highest rate of volunteerism in Canada at 44%.

TESTIMONIAL

the great extensive information in your email! I spent several hours checking the websites of all these organizations and I found a lot of things that I didn't know before"



Photo credit: Manitoba Riding for the Disabled



Photo credit: Harvest Manitoba



Photo credit: Habitat for Humanity

VOLUNTEER REFERRALS

To help connect individuals looking for volunteer opportunities, we developed a volunteer referral service to recommend available positions with organizations that best suite volunteers needs and interest.

To refer volunteers to these openings, organizations across the province have the ability to register through our website and upload available positions. As a result, everyday we see new volunteer positions uploaded to our website, giving eager individuals a wide selection of opportunities. Individuals also have the ability to apply to these opportunities through our website directly to the organization.

Too, information passed along to our team by organizations are uploaded to our social media pages and in a weekly column with the Winnipeg Free Press.

Photo credit: Waterways Recreation



**THIS PAST YEAR,
WWW.VOLUNTEERMANITOBA.CA
REACHED ALMOST
500,000
PAGE VIEWS!**

**Volunteer positions are posted
by HUNDREDS of organizations
across Manitoba every year!**

**13
COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
EVENTS**

**SPOKE TO
5757
PEOPLE ABOUT
VOLUNTEERISM**

**344
VOLUNTEER
REFERRALS**

**COMMUNITY
OUTREACH** **ATTENDED
21
COMMUNITY
PRESENTATIONS**

Through our Community Outreach we connect with Manitobans to share the benefits of volunteerism.

We accomplish this by attending events across Manitoba including visiting classrooms, community groups, universities, and organizations. Though, this year we delivered our presentations virtually on community engagement and how to spot the right volunteer opportunity.

This year, we experienced an increase in meeting with organizations to speak about our services and information from our website. Although COVID affected how we present our services, we pivoted through online communication to continue serving communities across the province.



Photo credit: Harvest Manitoba

78

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

58

PARTICIPANTS

42

SUCCESSFUL MATCHES



Connecting Talent with Purpose!

Presented by the Winnipeg Foundation, Board Connect is an avenue for boards and standing committees to recruit engaged and motivated individuals to help serve the non-profit sector.

The Board Connect program aims to achieve the following outcomes;

- Provide participants with the opportunity to expand their skills and contribute leadership to a community organization.
• Engage the next generation of leaders to ensure continuous capacity building and long-term sustainability.
• Create a network of talented and resourceful emerging leaders who will establish strong and lasting relationships that are personally and professionally beneficial.
• Connect non-profit leaders with professionals who have the skills, experience and social capital to help them be successful.
• Serve the community's need for effective, highly skilled, and energized leadership.
• Increase awareness of non-profit agencies and develop a sustained commitment among emerging leaders to their communities.

TESTIMONIALS

IT WAS A REALLY GOOD EXPERIENCE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A CONNECTION WITH A BOARD THAT MATCHED MY INTERESTS!

- JENNIFER KEITH MATCHED MAY 2020

For over a decade, The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and Volunteer Manitoba have partnered together to offer Leadership Winnipeg, a 10-session leadership program (plus class project), which runs from September through June.



At Volunteer Manitoba, we recognize that regardless of the number of volunteers, there is a person at each organization, charity or community group whose job it is to recruit, supervise, support and recognize volunteers.

NEW SUPPORTS FOR VOLUNTEER ADMINISTRATORS!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THREE FOR PROVIDING ADVICE, GUIDANCE AND EXPERTISE TO VOLUNTEER MANITOBA OVER THE PAST YEAR!

Volunteer Management Advisory Committee

Suzie McLeod, CVA, Manager of Volunteer Services, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

Shaun Leonoff, Manager of Volunteer Resources, Assiniboine Park Conservancy

Denise Bukowski, CVA, Manager of Volunteer Services, Canadian Museum for Human Rights

VM LEADERS OF VOLUNTEERS GROUP

In the last year, over 120 volunteer administrators in Manitoba joined the new VM Leaders of Volunteers Group. This group provides an opportunity for networking and collaboration among volunteer managers, and has been a valuable source of support for the profession during the pandemic.

Once a month, VM hosts a coffee chat for volunteer administrators and there is also a Facebook group to facilitate the exchange of ideas, information, and new trends in volunteer management.



THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT; IT HELPED OUR ORGANIZATION IMMENSELY. I HAVE BEEN SINGING YOUR PRAISES.

- ACTIVE AGING IN MANITOBA

VOLUNTEERING NOW!

To help organizations understand the needs and concerns of volunteers across the province, Volunteer Manitoba launched the Volunteering Now! Volunteerism in Manitoba during a Pandemic survey. The survey went out during the fall of 2020 to 280 volunteer programs in Manitoba and close to 700 volunteers responded.

What did we learn? Check out our blog post to find out

www.volunteermanitoba.ca/blog_details.php?blog_id=22



TESTIMONIALS

“The course gave me more confidence about how to do things correctly.”



TRAINING

Throughout the year, Volunteer Manitoba delivers effective, relevant and engaging training for boards, staff and volunteers. Our training is designed to help increase skills, build confidence, and provide opportunities to network with others in the non-profit sector.

Leveraging a network of facilitators across the province, and increasing our reach by using technology to offer our workshops online, our [training](#) helps those working in our sector come up with new ideas, understand best practices, and access the tools and resources needed to build capacity.

Training Highlights from 2020-21

Pandemic Specific Training

This year, our team developed pandemic-specific webinars and saw participants attend from across Canada, the US, and Europe.

Topics included were:

- Pandemic Planning
- HR Pandemic Essentials
- Managing Virtual Meetings and AGMs
- Getting the Word Out Using Social Media
- Volunteer Screening During Times of Urgency
- Wellness for Service Providers (a partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association)

Volunteer Management Hybrid Conference

In October, we hosted The Future is Now, a volunteer management conference presented by ALIVE, Better Impact, and Volunteer Management Professionals of Canada. In its fifth year, this year’s topic explored how leaders of volunteers can shift from managing to leading.

This streaming event consisted of a keynote presentation followed by a moderated discussion with other presenters and a Q&A with the audience. As the host site for the conference, Volunteer Manitoba facilitated discussions around each topic to connect volunteer administrators in Manitoba.

VM’s Emerging Leaders Program

To help support the sector prepare for a post-pandemic world, Volunteer Manitoba has created the Emerging Leaders Program to help develop the skills, the adaptability and the resilience of non-profit staff who are leading a team or a program.

In the non-profit sector, organizations are figuring out how they can adapt their programs and services to rapidly changing conditions, and also how to make sure their staff are ready for these new roles and activities. We know that this is bigger than being able to work from home, or the role that technology can play to help us achieve our missions. Leaders of non-profits need to invest in the professional development of their workforces in order to continue delivering programs and services in the post-pandemic era.

TESTIMONIAL

“Used the course to create the entire volunteer program at our organization. Now, there will be structure for our volunteers.”



The four courses in the program, including Management Fundamentals, were offered online.

Management Fundamentals

Because the Manitoba Federation of Non-Profit Organizations closed, we thought offering the Management Fundamentals training would be a helpful substitute for non-profits. The course is designed to provide HR management knowledge and skills by sharing the foundations to hire, develop, and supervise non-profit staff all in accordance with Manitoban employment and safety legislation.

Volunteer Management Webinars – Take your Volunteer Program to the Next Level

In partnership with Recreation Connections, we offered a series of six webinars on volunteer management. These webinars covered the following topics; how to say no to a volunteer, creating job descriptions, volunteer intake (application forms, interviews and reference

checks), recruitment strategies, and how to create connections to build retention.

New Supports and Resources

We also supported non-profits across Manitoba by developing a series of online resources that are available for free, or for a small fee. These board governance, volunteer management and capacity building resources are available on our website.

We have also developed a distance Board Governance course, to help those who are looking to learn more on the subject.

TESTIMONIAL

“Yes, thank you! I loved the course series. Looked forward to it every week!”

Thank you to our **TRAINERS**, whose expertise and experience helped us achieve an incredible year in our Training department!

ANGELA HILLAND
 CHERYL BALDWIN
 FLORENCE CAREY
 FAIZA VENZANT
 KEVIN FREEDMAN
 JANICE GOLDSBOROUGH
 SHAUN LEONOFF
 DENISE BUKOWSKI
 ANDRE KUSSY
 CATE FRIESEN
 WENDY BULLOCH
 MONICA SCHROEDER
 TRACY DOUGLASS
 DAWN BOURBONNAIS
 JACKIE HUNT

GROUP TRAINING

This year, we partnered with the following organizations to bring our training workshops to communities across Manitoba:

RECREATION MANITOBA
 RAT RIVER RECREATION COMMISSION
 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR MANITOBA
 BILINGUAL MUNICIPALITIES (CDEM)
 DYKES ON BIKES
 FOOTBALL MANITOBA
 MANITOBA YOUTH SERVICES
 Q MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION NETWORK
 MANITOBA CHIROPRACTORS ASSOCIATION
 SHAWENIM ABINOOJII
 RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTRE



PARTNERSHIPS

- We partnered with Volunteer Ottawa to offer a business continuity workshop.
- Together with the Canadian Mental Health Association Manitoba, we offered two wellness webinars for service providers.
- We worked with the Manitoba Association of Senior Centres to develop a workshop for staff to re-engage their volunteers and keep them feeling connected. To help recruit future volunteers, we created a video for MASC on the safety fundamentals and how to volunteer.
- The Council for Certification in Volunteer Administration provided an information session to Manitoba's volunteer administrators on CVA (certification in volunteer administration).



ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS
 RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PIPESTONE
 FOOD MATTERS
 CARMAN AREA FOUNDATION
 FOOD MATTERS MANITOBA
 FILM TRAINING MANITOBA
 INSPIRE COMMUNITY OUTREACH
 CENTRAL PARK FOOD PATROL
 NATIVE CLAN
 DANIEL MCINTYRE/ST. MATTHEWS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
 ABORIGINAL SENIOR RESOURCE CENTRE
 MCDONALD YOUTH SERVICES
 BRANDON WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE
 MANITOBA HARM REDUCTION NETWORK
 NON-PROFIT YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK
 CONTACT HAMILTON
 GRUNTHAL FOOD BANK
 WINNIPEG ASSOCIATION OF

PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICERS
 HEALTHY CHILD COALITION - EASTERN MANITOBA
 INDIA ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA
 MANITOBA BAND ASSOCIATION
 SCLERODERMA MANITOBA

TESTIMONIAL

"I have to tell you that the Roles and Responsibilities course that Jackie Hunt put on was absolutely wonderful, she is so informative. The information that we have taken away from the material presented will be so helpful for the community boards we work with."

TESTIMONIAL

"Completely changed the way I write proposals. I've seen an increase in approvals"

Some of the COURSES we offered in 2020-21

- 3 Rs of Volunteer Management: Recruitment, Retention & Recognition
- Board Strategic Planning
- Board Succession planning
- Bookkeeping Basics
- Budgeting 101
- Business Continuity
- Creating Connections to Build Retention
- CVA - What you need to know
- Decoding the Code: Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement
- Designing Volunteer Training and Orientation
- Engaging Volunteers During Covid
- Financial Responsibilities of a Non-Profit Board
- Foundations of Applying for Charitable Status
- Getting the Word Out Using Social Media
- HR Pandemic Essentials
- Volunteer Screening: Managing Risk in Times of Urgency
- Fundraising Basics
- Hybrid Conference
- It's All in the Pitch
- It's Ok to Turn Them Away - How to Say No to a Volunteer
- Introduction to Volunteer Management
- Volunteer Job Descriptions
- Leadership Fundamentals
- Management Fundamentals
- Meeting Management and Minute Taking
- Roles and Responsibilities of a Non-Profit Board
- The Power of Story
- Strategies for Building Partnerships
- Virtual Volunteer Job Design
- Volunteer Intake
- WellBeing 101
- Writing Persuasive Proposals
- Writing Board Policies

TESTIMONIAL

"Used the course to create the entire volunteer program at our organization. Now, there will be structure for our volunteers."





The Annual Volunteer Awards Celebration will be held on **SEPTEMBER 23, 2021**

AWARD CATEGORIES:

This year, we present the following awards:

MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES FAMILY VOLUNTEER AWARD



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE COMMUNITY AWARDS



PREMIER'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD



MAYOR'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD



ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES (AMM) COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD



CTV CHAMPION OF MENTAL HEALTH VOLUNTEER AWARD



INVESTORS GROUP FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE CHAMPION AWARD



RBC BRIGHT FUTURE AWARD



WILLIAM NORRIE ARTS AND CULTURE VOLUNTEER AWARD



SPARK OUTSTANDING PRO BONO CONSULTANT AWARD



BARB GEMMELL CATALYST AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT



Congratulations TO THE NOMINEES OF THE 38TH ANNUAL Volunteer Awards



Together with Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries, we honour these volunteer contributions through the Annual Volunteer Awards celebration! This year we received a record number of nominations for the volunteer award proving that in spite of a pandemic, Manitobans are passionate about the well-being of their communities and committed to helping their fellow neighbours. The recipients of the 38th Annual Volunteer Awards will be announced in late June, and the celebration will be broadcast via Facebook on September 23rd, 2021.

Together, let's celebrate our volunteers and let them know that we appreciate their time and their dedication to the thousands of groups, organizations and charities here in Manitoba!

Over the course of the last year, in the midst of a global pandemic, volunteers across Manitoba have been a beacon of selflessness and optimism. They provided essential services to our most vulnerable citizens, educated and mentored young Manitobans, and supported our frontline healthcare workers. Whether they were able to continue to volunteer in person, or if they made the shift to working virtually, all of our volunteers deserve to be recognized for their exceptional show of solidarity and their commitment to the groups, charities, and non-profit organizations in our province.

248
INDIVIDUALS

31
GROUPS

277
NOMINATIONS
RECEIVED

If we engage youth effectively, we can keep Canada's **voluntary sector STRONG & ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE** to play a **VITAL ROLE** in building *healthy and resilient* communities across Canada.

VM YOUTH PROGRAM

The VM Youth Program engages with young people between the ages of 13 and 30, providing the tools and resources to inspire their involvement in communities through volunteerism.

Since its inception in 2005, the VM Youth Program has proven itself a valuable resource to youth, organizations, educators, parents, and communities throughout the province by:

- Sharing the value of volunteerism as a means of employment exploration and readiness, meaningful life experiences, and deep community connection and commitment
- Educating agencies and communities on the best way to involve youth and young adults to address the need of continuity of volunteer resources in organizations and communities.

WE STRIVE TO ACCOMPLISH THE ABOVE BY:

1. An online [volunteer referral service](#)
2. An effective and engaging [community outreach program](#) like group presentations and career and community fairs across Manitoba.
3. [Training](#) and supports to help educators and organizations engage youth effectively



The VM Youth section of www.volunteermanitoba.ca links to Volunteer Manitoba's database of VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

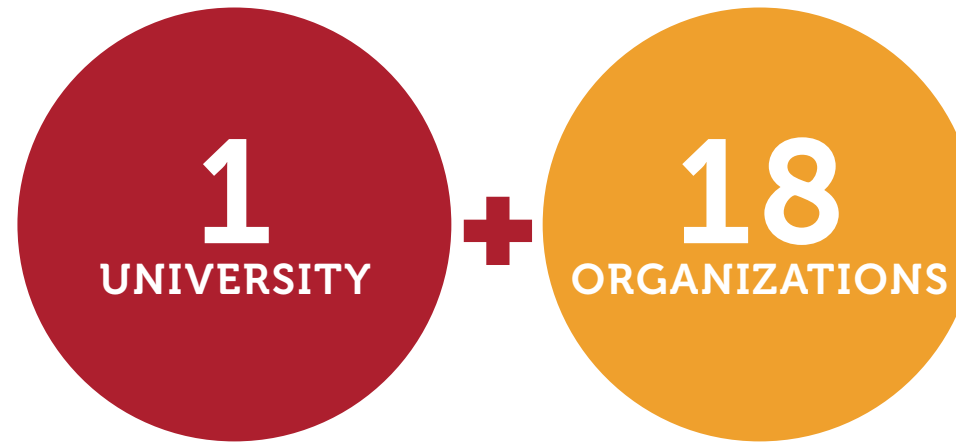
VOLUNTEER REFERRALS FOR YOUTH

Volunteering provides an opportunity for all of us to learn more about ourselves and our community. For students and young adults, volunteering can introduce individuals to different career paths, develop new skills, and expand networks.

Youth can search the listing of volunteer opportunities on www.volunteermanitoba.ca and discover ways to get involved in their communities. Our referral service is also open to youth, to contact us directly to find an opening that best suits their needs and desired outcomes.

[Our website](#) also lists information on how to obtain credit for volunteering, and scholarships available to youth applicants. Too, our website outlines resources for parents, teachers and organizations on how to support and engage youth volunteers.

To help youth continue volunteering when their needs and desired outcomes change, we encourage and support their efforts to find new ways to obtain them through volunteerism.



PARTICIPATED IN OUR STUDENT RECRUITMENT FAIRS THIS PAST YEAR.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT FAIRS

For the past 11 years, our organization hosted the annual Student Recruitment Fairs at post-secondary institutions across Manitoba. Non-profit organizations, charities, and community groups join us on campus for a day of volunteer recruitment from each student body. The SR Fairs are an excellent way for students to connect with organizations who are actively recruiting and to gain valuable experience for their future careers.

This year, we piloted a virtual Student Recruitment Fair with University of Manitoba's Career Services and Asper School of Business. We had 128 students and 18 non-profits attend virtually. As a result, non-profits and student alike greatly enjoyed our event and would like to see more virtual volunteer fairs in the future!



Thanks to the generous support of Canada Life we reach thousands of youth each year.



Photo credit: Harvest Manitoba

We engaged with **5,274** YOUTH, through virtual outreach activities!

YOUTH OUTREACH

Throughout the year, our team regularly participates in community events across the province. Though COVID-19 impacted our physical attendance, we were still able to virtually visit classrooms, community groups, and organizations. During these "visits" we delivered engaging presentations designed to motivate and assist youth in their volunteer efforts.

In 2020-21, Volunteer Manitoba participated in eight community outreach events, including Brandon's annual career fair, the Youth Agencies Alliance Conference, Career Trek's Empowering Change Conference, Menno Simons College Social Justice Fair, Let's Get to Work Conference and Youth in Philanthropy Conference. In total, staff delivered 17 presentations to high schools and post secondaries schools in Manitoba.



MB 150 YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

WRAP UP CELEBRATION

Volunteer Manitoba, in partnership with RBC Future Launch, launched a new program in early 2020 giving young Manitobans an opportunity to showcase their community through creative storytelling.



The 17 youth who participated in the MB 150 Youth Ambassador program this past year have showcased their community through storytelling, participated in a 2-day learning experience and workshops on



storytelling, worked with their coaches to develop their individual projects, and came together on August 28, 2020 to share and celebrate their completed projects.

To learn more about the MB 150 Youth Ambassadors, and their unique projects click here!

www.volunteermanitoba.ca/vm-youth-ambassador-program



Youth Hub Report:

Surveying the Quality of Service Distribution in Manitoba's Youth Sector



Youth programs across our province work together to engage youth effectively, and we believe strongly in the power and importance of providing quality programming and services to our youth. We realized there was a need to centralize and gather information on youth programs here in Manitoba, thus the creation of the VM Youth Hub Report.

The report was a result of table discussions from the VM Youth Hub in 2019, and a series of surveys and conversations we had with organizations over the course of 2020. We were delighted to hear about what drives people to work in the sector, what successes they experienced, and the direction they envision for youth programming and services.

It has been our goal to present a thorough overview of sector wide challenges as a way to locate what steps must be taken to work towards a supported, accessible, and inclusive youth sector.

www.volunteermanitoba.ca/blog_details.php?blog_id=19

“I love young people; I think they are passionate, brave, & revolutionary, I endeavour to help them embrace those qualities now, & maintain them as they get older & encounter more & more resistance to their ideas.”

- Youth Hub Report Participant



YOUTH PROGRAM NETWORKING GROUP

As part of the VM Youth Program, we developed the Youth Program Networking Group. This group ensures program leaders and coordinators can discuss their programs together and provide support to one another.

We would like to thank the following individuals for participating in this group:

- Yu Sun - NEEDS Centre
- Aliya Mrochuk - The Winnipeg Foundation
- Samantha Olea - Youth Employment Services & Future Forward
- Hafiz Jatto - Future Forward
- Marie Christian - Manitoba's Youth In Care Empowering Youth
- Cory Klassen - Evermore Gather Grow Lead
- Emily Lints - Non-Profit Youth Leadership Network
- Ashley Adams - Wild Outside
- Robin Merasty - Wayfinders
- Tyler Blashko - Wayfinders
- Amanda Doerksen - Youth Agencies Alliance

Thank You!

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