



## Annual General Report 2014

### **Vision:**

Volunteer Lethbridge strengthens and sustains a healthy, vibrant community through support and advancement of volunteer excellence.

### **Mission:**

Volunteer Lethbridge builds connections and empowers individuals and organizations to enhance volunteerism and grow volunteer capacity.



Volunteers make a visible difference through Project Paintbrush

## VOLUNTEER LETHBRIDGE BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by: **Chris Burton**

Volunteer Lethbridge = Volunteer Excellence

Volunteerism is essential and a highly regarded community value.

Volunteer Lethbridge completed its first full year with a new Executive Director, staff and Strategic Plan. It has been an exciting year with numerous new initiatives that have supported and enhanced volunteer excellence throughout our community. We are grateful for the work, commitment and dedication of our Volunteer Lethbridge Board Directors, Executive Director, staff, many volunteers and Member Agencies who continue to influence volunteerism in our community and highlight Volunteer Lethbridge as the hub connecting volunteers and agencies to grow volunteer capacity.

Volunteer Lethbridge builds connections and empowers individuals and organizations to enhance volunteerism and grow volunteer capacity:

### *DIVERSITY ...*

- ◆ Growing membership base
- ◆ Social engagement and inclusion of seniors

### *PROGRAMMING ...*

- ◆ Refreshed Leaders of Tomorrow recognition
- ◆ Enhanced Project Paintbrush outreach
- ◆ Stronger National Volunteer Week focus

### *FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY ...*

- ◆ Implementation of evaluating and reporting process for Strategic Plan
- ◆ Updating of financial, governance and human resources policies
- ◆ Defined orientation process and Board recruitment process

### *ACCESSIBILITY ...*

- ◆ Interagency collaborations
- ◆ Support for fund development research
- ◆ Initiated social media presence

### *ADVOCACY ...*

- ◆ Voices of Change
- ◆ Fine Options
- ◆ Provision of services to community networks

### *PARTNERSHIPS ...*

- ◆ University of Lethbridge
- ◆ Park Place Shopping Centre
- ◆ Yollipops
- ◆ Front Row Pub



### **Volunteer Lethbridge Association**

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University of Lethbridge  
Dr. Foster James Penny Building

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**Follow us on:**



## Board of Directors

President— Chris Burton

Vice-President— Leslie Vaala

Treasurer— Marianne Bohmer

Secretary— Marnie Brown

Directors:

Bob Dyer

Becky Little

Joyce D'Andrea

Aaron Roth

## Staff 2013

Diana Sim—Executive Director (start April 2012)

Lynn McLennan—Bookkeeper (start February 2012)

Kerry Milder—Outreach Coordinator (August 2012-December 2013)

Lynn MacFadyen-Volunteer Coordinator (October 2012-June 2013)

Whitney Tamayose— Volunteer Coordinator ( start June 2013)

Shelley Ducheminsky— Administrative Assistant (start July 2013)

Scott Weber—Project Paintbrush Coordinator (May-October)

Chris Vokey—Project Paintbrush Assistant (June-August)

Kirsten Rosler—Outreach Coordinator ( October-November)

At Servus Credit Union, we're about more than building bank accounts, we're about building lives. So when we volunteer as a group, we see it as more than just a chance to help. It is a chance to grow.

I have been fortunate enough to be involved with Volunteer Lethbridge for over six years and it has been a rewarding experience every step of the way. Being involved with Volunteer Lethbridge has given me a chance to see different strengths and abilities in myself and my team and has allowed us to grow while doing something that's extremely worthwhile. It has built a sense of pride in our team and has let us help the community in ways we might not otherwise be able to.

It pays to have your  
mortgage with us.  
Literally.



## Executive Director's Report by Diana Sim

Volunteerism changes people's lives, strengthening the community along the way.

*"I highly recommend you contact Volunteer Lethbridge and see what you can do for your community. The life you end up helping could be your own." - Too tough to tell ya!*

With special thanks we acknowledge Family and Community Support Services City of Lethbridge and the Government of Alberta – Enhanced Capacity Advancement Program for the funding they provided to Volunteer Lethbridge to make it possible to serve this community. This year has been an exciting year of growth through the creation of new programs and the development of seasoned programs with the focus of building capacity within the Voluntary Sector.

"Social policy determines the kind of society that Albertans want for themselves, their families, and their communities. It expresses how we care for (and about) one another, and it influences our development as people and a society. As a result, social policy extends beyond a narrow definition of social services and supports: it is about how we work, live, and spend our time, and it helps determine how we come together to meet human needs like housing, employment, education, recreation, leisure, health, safety, and the care of children." – taken from Alberta's Social Policy Framework – February 2013, page 4

The work within the Voluntary Sector is one means through which our community is strengthened.

**Membership numbers** grew from **64 to 103**. As membership grows, our awareness of volunteer capacity development increases. Understanding the work of the diverse agencies increases the support that Volunteer Lethbridge is able to provide, both to agencies and to community volunteers seeking volunteer engagement. Working together with the agencies strengthens and sustains a healthy, vibrant community through support and advancement of the voluntary sector.

This last year Agencies were featured on a weekly basis through the Lethbridge Herald, The Lethbridge Journal, The Sun Times, at Reeves College, Lethbridge College and at the University of Lethbridge. Presentations to promote the work of agencies was made at **5** various community groups and at **10** community fairs, reaching over **2600** attendees and making **642** referrals. Referrals made through the office, via phone, walk-ins and emails totaled **1343**.

We have been working on the development of a new website, which we await with anticipation for its launch in the upcoming weeks. Our goal is to bring increased awareness to our member agencies.

A new, exciting partnership has been created with the University of Lethbridge. Volunteer Lethbridge moved into the U of L Dr. Foster James Penny Building on November 30, 2013. A committee will be formed to strategize as we move forward to develop this partnership. We are excited about the opportunities that it presents.

Some of the work we have been involved in this past year includes:

**Leaders of Tomorrow 2013** recognizes youth between ages 5-24 years who have made outstanding contributions to their community through volunteerism.



- 92 youth recognized
- 7 excellence awards presented
- 2 U of L scholarships awarded

**Project Paintbrush** is a donation-driven, volunteer program aimed at helping seniors and disadvantaged people in our community, giving them the opportunity to rejuvenate their property by having their fence, house or garage painted by a team of dedicated volunteers! This year we were able to exceed our goal of 20 projects and saw a 100% increase in completed projects, increasing from 11 projects in 2012 to 22 in 2013! The success of our program this year is in large part a result of our ability to extend our paint season (from May to September) due to the generous Home Depot grant. This grant made it possible to purchase supplies necessary to reach so many deserving community members. In addition, we were able to reach not only Lethbridge, but also the town of Fort MacLeod, our first rural community visit!



### **Thanking Our Funders and Donors**

- 107.7 The River
- 2 Guys & a Pizza Place
- 94.1 CJOC
- ALCOA
- Alpenland
- Arbonne International Inc.
- Melanie Daniels
- Best Choice Entertainment
- Drew Smith
- Beverly Burton
- Blackbridge
- Booster Juice
- Cactus Pub, Grill & Pizza-
- Greg & Judy Hoffarth
- Canadian Tire
- Christine Burton
- City of Lethbridge - FCSS
- CKVN 98.1FM
- Cloverdale Paints
- CTV
- David Bartel
- Destination Dentistry
- Diana Sim
- Downtown-Merle Norman
- Dulux Paints
- Elizabeth Allen
- FritoLay
- Front Row Pub
- Galko Homes-Marylin Eyre
- General Paint
- Global Lethbridge
- Government of Alberta
- Government of Canada
- Graphcom Printers
- H2O To Go
- Home Depot
- Ida Wills & Stanley Wills
- Janaya Skretting
- Jean & Ron Eyre
- Jebel Consulting
- Jockey P2P-Robin Reiter
- Johanna Anderson
- Karran Thorpe
- Kay McGregor
- Kenegdo Salon Spa
- Kopiko & More
- Kristine & Dennis Cassie
- Lash Pro-Carly Higgans
- Leslie Vaala
- Lethbridge Fitness Club
- Lethbridge Herald
- Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association
- Lethbridge Sun Times
- Lia Sophia
- LW Dennis Contracting
- McDonald's
- Mustang Trailers-Don & Carolyn Kloot
- MVDJ Entertainment
- Myrtle & George High
- Nicole Bosh
- No Frills
- Oasis Tanning, Hair & Body –Rhonda
- Organic Tan-Brandi Tindall
- Pahulje Enterprises
- Park Place Shopping Centre
- Picture Butte Ladies Golf League
- Princess Auto-Lisa Plausteiner
- Ray & Marilyn Bosh
- Real Canadian Wholesale Club
- Rice & Rollingson Dentistry—
- Dr. Robert W. Rice
- Rock 106 FM
- Rocky Mountain Equipment-
- Brenda Cleghorn
- Round St. Café
- Runners Soul
- Save-on-Foods
- Scentsy-Angela Wooley
- Scotiabank
- Sears
- Simply Irresistible-Kelly Areshenko
- Spark Plug Consulting-Bernadette Lyons
- Sylvan Learning Centre
- Telus
- The Engravers
- The Lethbridge Journal
- The Regent
- The Snack Factory
- To Bead Or Not To Bead-Karen Enman
- Toby Hamilton
- Top Pizza
- Tracy Burton
- Tropical Breeze-Lindsay Mckee
- Western One Rentals & Sales
- Westminster Liquor Store-
- Ken & Mike Rollag
- Wholesale Club
- Young Living-Lina McNab
- YWCA
- and all our Anonymous Donors....

## 2014 MEMBER AGENCIES (cont.)

Parks Canada-Waterton	St. Therese Villa-Covenant Health
Rehabilitation Society—Ability Resources	Streets Alive Mission
Rehabilitation Society—Joblinks	Ten Thousand Villages
Rotary Club of Lethbridge	The Salvation Army
SALAS-Southern Alberta Language Assessment Services	United Way of Lethbridge & SW Alberta
Schizophrenia Society	University of Lethbridge
Scouts Canada	University of Lethbridge—Pronghorn
Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Center	Booster Club
South Country Treatment Centre	Victim/Witness Services-Lethbridge
Southern Alberta Art Gallery	Regional Police
Southern Alberta Firearms Education Society (SAFE)	Victim/Witness Services-RCMP
Southern Alberta Self Help Association	Wellness Through Living
Southern Alberta Technology Council	Westminster Village Committee ( John Pickles )
Southern Alcare Society & Industries	55 Plus Winter Games
Special Olympics Lethbridge	Womanspace Resource Centre
Spinal Cord Injury ( Alberta ) *Formally Canadian Paraplegic Association	YMCA
St. John Ambulance	YWCA
St. Michael's Health Centre-Covenant Health	

Volunteer Lethbridge has been a great support to our organization, AMI.

Not only have they directed volunteers to our service, but recently Diana Sim helped secure a program with the Government of Alberta and Volunteer Alberta (SCiP) where we can encourage Post-Secondary students in the field of volunteerism and they can earn a \$1000 scholarship/bursary.

It's a win-win. So is our involvement with Volunteer Lethbridge.

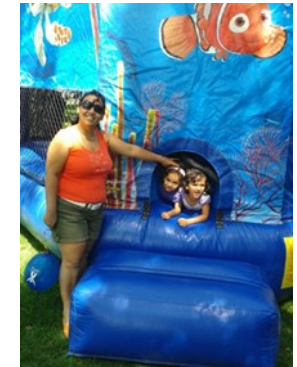


MARC DUFRESNE MANAGER

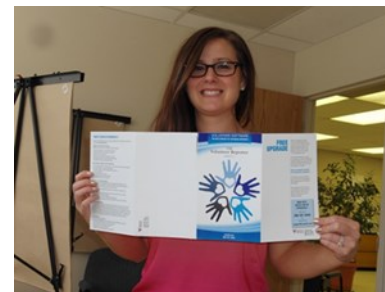


**Volunteer Lethbridge Summer Fun Run and BBQ** was held on **July 27, 2013** to bring awareness to Volunteer Lethbridge and Project Paintbrush. There were **21** participants, support through registration fees, sponsorship and donations in kind totaled **\$4500**. Net proceeds of **\$655.00** supported Project Paintbrush.

**Voices of Change** is the program designed to bring New Canadians together for informal conversation. Topics were chosen as per the interest areas of the group. Conversation generated the opportunity to enhance listening, speaking and writing skills. Volunteerism is an added component to the program. Together, as a group we engaged in volunteer activity that took us out into the community.



*“Volunteering in Lethbridge has made an impact in my life because I have been learning, practicing, and improving new skills. I have had an excellent opportunity to be a member in the Mentorship Program, so it has been an amazing experience for me. I meet different people who respect other people’s values. I would definitely recommend Lethbridge Volunteer Association to others because it is a great organization. It is a privilege for me to be member of this organization.” –Yudith*



Thank you **ALCOA!** A grant made it possible to purchase a computer and software that tracks, records and reports the volunteer involvement through Volunteer Lethbridge. Volunteers have assisted Whitney with the preparation of the program.



The volunteer base at Volunteer Lethbridge has grown to a total of **455** volunteers by the end of December. They contributed **7229.65** hours, with an economic value of **\$173,511.60**. The opportunities ranged from Board members, administrative support, Leaders of Tomorrow, Project Paintbrush,

Human Resources, Graphic Design, quilters, Community event support, giftwrappers, researchers, grant writers, marketing and other opportunities that we were able to create along the way.

Engaging volunteers has enriched the programs and services we are able to provide.



Park Place Shopping Centre partnered with Volunteer Lethbridge for National Volunteer Week. The partnership expanded to Prime Time Club, volunteers serving coffee and donuts to seniors monthly; as well as the Gift Wrap service during November and December.

The Voluntary Sector impacts the community in diverse and complex ways. Volunteer Lethbridge builds connections and empowers individuals and organizations to enhance volunteerism and grow volunteer capacity. Volunteer Lethbridge affirms that volunteerism is an essential and highly regarded community value and strives to maintain and enhance its relevance in the community.

## 2014 MEMBER AGENCIES

- Aboriginal Housing
- Aboriginal Opportunities Employment Center
- Adaptacare
- AHS-Volunteer Resources-Lethbridge
- AHS-Volunteer Resources—  
Taber/Milk River
- AHS-Volunteer Resources –  
Cardston/Fort Macleod
- AHS-Volunteer Resources-  
Coaldale/Raymond
- AHS-Lethbridge Community Health
- Allied Arts Council of Lethbridge
- Alzheimer Society
- Amnesty International
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- Birthright Lethbridge
- Blankets for Canada Society Inc.
- Boys & Girls Club of Lethbridge & District
- Brain Trauma Support Society
- Canadian Blood Services
- Canadian Bhutanese Society
- Canadian Breast cancer Foundation-  
Prairies & NWT
- Canadian Cancer Society
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- Canadian Red Cross Society
- Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation
- Chinook Regional Foundation for  
Career Transitions
- CKXU Radio Society
- City of Lethbridge - Community Services
- City of Lethbridge - Social Housing in  
Action ( SHIA )
- Claesholm & District Foundation
- Coaldale Public Library
- Chrons & Colitis Foundation of Canada
- Elite Volleyball Athletic Association
- Extendicare
- Family Centre Society
- Flexibility Learning Systems
- Galt Museum & Archives
- Girl Guides Canada
- Good Samaritan Society-West Highlands
- Great Canadian Plains Railway Society
- Green Acres Foundation - General
- Green Acres Foundation—  
Alberta Rose Lodge
- Green Acres Foundation—  
Black Rock Terrace
- Green Acres Foundation— Blue Sky
- Green Acres Foundation— Golden Acres
- Green Acres Foundation— Garden View  
Lodge
- Green Acres Foundation— Heritage Lodge
- Green Acres Foundation— Pemmican  
Lodge
- Heart & Stroke Foundation of Alberta,  
NWT & Nunavut
- Helen Schuler Nature Centre
- Interfaith Food Bank
- It's A Blast/Lethbridge Community out of  
School Association
- Kidney Foundation
- Kids Help Phone
- Legacy Lodge—Choices in Community  
living
- Lethbridge & District Exhibition
- Lethbridge & District Humane Society
- Lethbridge Association for  
Community Living
- Lethbridge Downtown BRZ ( Ted Stillson )
- Lethbridge College TLC
- Lethbridge Community Network
- Lethbridge Family Services ( Dacapo )
- Lethbridge Family Services—Immigrant  
Services
- Lethbridge Food Bank
- Lethbridge Fish & Games Association
- Lethbridge HIV Connection Society
- Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association
- Lethbridge Neighbourhood Watch Society
- Lethbridge Public Library
- Lethbridge Shakespeare Performance  
Society
- Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization
- Lethbridge Soccer Association
- Lethbridge Sport Council
- Lethbridge Synchronelles Synchronized  
Swimming Club
- Lethbridge Therapeutic Riding Association
- Lethbridge Twinning Society
- Lethbridge Youth Foundation / 5th on 5th
- Lethbridge Youth Justice Committee
- McGill Music & Arts School
- Mud & Sweat—obstacle Race & Fitness  
Events
- Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada
- New West Theatre
- Nikka Yukko Japanese Garden
- Oldman Watershed Council
- Parks Canada-Waterton