

DID YOU KNOW?



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

INVESTING IN VOLUNTEERS

- Competent, committed and consistent volunteer leadership is the cornerstone of high quality program delivery. Developing volunteers ensures they have the skills and training necessary for success!
- Sask Sport Inc. offers a FREE Online Volunteer Training Centre to all Saskatchewan residents involved in the volunteer sector. This education and training opportunity helps volunteers to adapt more easily to their roles. Investing in volunteers shows that your organization values them enough to make that investment, reinforcing volunteer commitment.

Current courses include:

- Volunteer Management and Motivation
- Risk Management and Insurance
- Recruitment and Retention
- Policies and Procedures
- Fundraising
- Communications
- Board Governance
- Finance

Visit www.ovtc.sk.ca to register!

(Source: Sask Sport Inc., www.ovtc.sk.ca)

TESTIMONIALS

"Volunteerism is essential, especially in smaller communities. If you don't have volunteers, you don't have a town"

- Evelyn McCuaig, 2014 recipient of Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism Community Leadership

"When you have kids participating and getting involved in the community, they start to take pride in it and they value it a lot more."

- Elise Hoey, Teacher at Ecole Vickiers



Saskatchewan
Parks and Recreation
Association

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT TIPS

Volunteer Coordinator

A solid volunteer strategy requires that someone is responsible for it. Time is dedicated to supporting and nurturing the volunteers of today, as well as those of tomorrow.

Representation

Volunteers are representatives of the organization and should always conduct themselves in a way that is fitting and respectful to the values and behaviours of the group they represent.

Screening Policy

A mandatory criminal record check or reference review is important, particularly when working with children, youth and the elderly.

Training

Outline the skills that are required to fulfill tasks. Provide training and assistance to ensure volunteers understand and have the knowledge to complete what is asked of them.

Expectations

Explain the do's and the don'ts and communicate with volunteers on a regular basis so they know who to contact should questions arise.

Feedback

Each volunteer should receive relevant, meaningful and timely feedback regarding their work and contributions to the organization.

Recognition

It's important to make each and every volunteer feel appreciated and understand how their work relates to the overall success of the organization.

(Source: Community Recreation Handbook for Northern Saskatchewan, 2010)

HOW CAN SPRA HELP?

■ Advice

SPRA Field Consultants are available to provide support to your recreation or parks organization and offer information on volunteer support.

Visit www.spra.sk.ca/sprastaff to find the Field Consultant nearest to you.

■ Volunteer Awards

SPRA pays tribute annually to individuals and communities who through their efforts and skills have made outstanding and extraordinary contributions to the parks and recreation movement in Saskatchewan.

- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Youth Volunteer of the Year Award

Visit www.spra.sk.ca/awards for more information.

■ Resource Centre

There are many FREE resources available to help you set your ideas in motion, check out titles like:

- 365 Ideas for Recruiting, Retaining, Motivating and Rewarding your Volunteers
- The New Breed: Understanding & Equipping The 21st Century Volunteer
- The Volunteer Management Handbook: Leadership Strategies for Success
- The (Help!) I-Don't-Have-Enough-Time Guide to Volunteer Management

Visit www.spra.sk.ca/information to see what we have to offer!

Investing in volunteers is investing in Saskatchewan!

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For more information, contact the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
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