



VOLUNTEER AIRDRIE GOALS

- To promote lifelong volunteerism and raise awareness of the power of service.
- To educate and inform people about opportunities to serve through volunteerism.
- To build capacity for effective local volunteering through resources and training in volunteer management.
- To provide leadership and facilitate action on issues relating to volunteerism.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS



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PASSION
ACTION
IMPACT

Message from the Chair

PASSION, ACTION, IMPACT

This past year has been full of wonderful experiences and new opportunities. In April of 2012 we were excited and pleasantly surprised by how much this wonderful city of ours embraced our brand new event Cheers for Volunteers. This event was created to personally thank all of the volunteers in Airdrie and Rockyview County for their wonderful efforts. This event saw dignitaries, rodeo royalty, music, entertainment and a cornucopia of food. Airdrie stepped up and gave a pat on the back to our volunteers. Well done Airdrie.

MISSION: VOLUNTEER AIRDRIE IS COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING AIRDRIE AND SURROUNDING AREAS THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

As I write this, we're in the midst of organizing this year's events, and we are trying hard to make it bigger and better than last year. Keep your fingers crossed and I hope to see twice as many there on April 21, 2013. The National Volunteer Week is April 21-27 and there seems to be more recognition of volunteerism in the city. I'd like to think the Volunteer Airdrie Society and Cheers for Volunteers committee have something to do with it.

We attended the 2012 Airdrie Home and Lifestyle Show and handed out fistfuls of ribbons and continued to thank everyone for their efforts. We also provided insight into what our Society does.

I'm pleased to see our awareness campaign and training is taking affect in helping our member groups in attracting their volunteers and enabling them to offer their goals.

I would again like to thank our Board of Directors, member organizations, donors, supporters and the community for the support we received throughout 2012.

Sincerely,
Tim Elliott
Chair Volunteer Airdrie

HISTORY OF VOLUNTEER AIRDRIE

THE CONCEPT FOR VOLUNTEER AIRDRIE EMERGED OUT OF DISCUSSIONS ON VOLUNTEERISM WITH SEVERAL NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT RAN ESTABLISHED VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS. THESE DISCUSSIONS BEGAN FOUR YEARS AGO. SINCE THEN, A COMMITTEE WAS FORMED, WHICH INCLUDED COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION. THAT COMMITTEE EVOLVED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT GOVERNS VOLUNTEER AIRDRIE TODAY. THE CONCEPT FIRST STARTED AS A PROGRAM HOSTED BY NORTH ROCKY VIEW COMMUNITY LINKS AND EVLOVED INTO A CHARITABLE, REGISTERED NOT-FOR-PROFIT SOCIETY IN 2010.



ACHIEVMENTS IN 2012

- Online listing of volunteer opportunities for member organizations.
- Monthly newspaper ads in the Echo and Times weekly.
- Volunteer Management Support Group
- Provided information and resources on volunteerism to community groups.
- First Cheers for Volunteers Event @ the Royal Canadian Legion.
- Community Awareness – Airdrie Home and Lifestyle Show, Airdrie Fest, Seniors Resource Fair and increased website visitors.

Creative solutions for our community's volunteer needs

CHALLENGES IN 2012

- Awareness of Volunteerism in Airdrie and Rockyview County.
- Providing more training to enable our member groups.
- Creating new ways of communicating with all area residents to engage them in our mandate.
- Continuing to conduct business while cycling new board members and volunteer coordinator.

MEMBER LISTING

Volunteer Airdrie's website houses a listing of member organizations accessible to all residents. It provides a central location for information on local volunteer opportunities and the ability to contact organizations directly through the listings.



65 volunteer opportunities were posted to the Member listing by 55 member organizations

13 member organizations also serve residents in Rocky View County

200 Volunteers attended first annual Cheers for Volunteers event in April 2012 at the Royal Canadian Legion.



WEBSITE

Volunteer Airdrie's website provides community residents and organizations easy access to information and resources on volunteer opportunities and volunteerism. In 2012, the Volunteer Airdrie website received 3,600 hits with 45% of them being new visitors.

