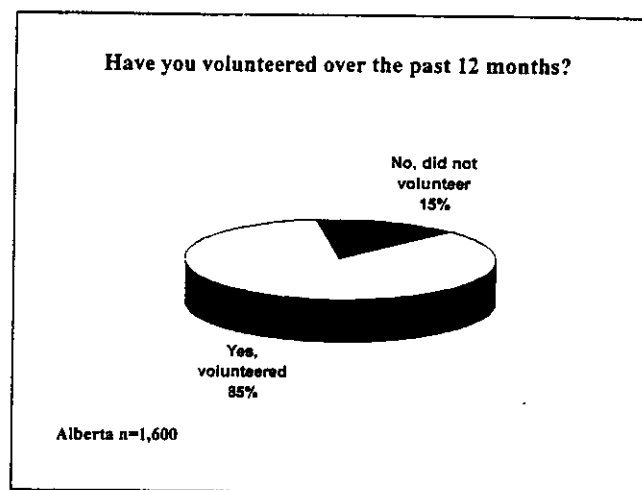


Volunteer Alberta Presents

Volunteerism in Alberta Provincial Survey Highlights

☞ 85% of respondents have volunteered in their communities in the past 12 months.



☞ 90% of female respondents and 80% of male respondents indicated they have volunteered in the last year.

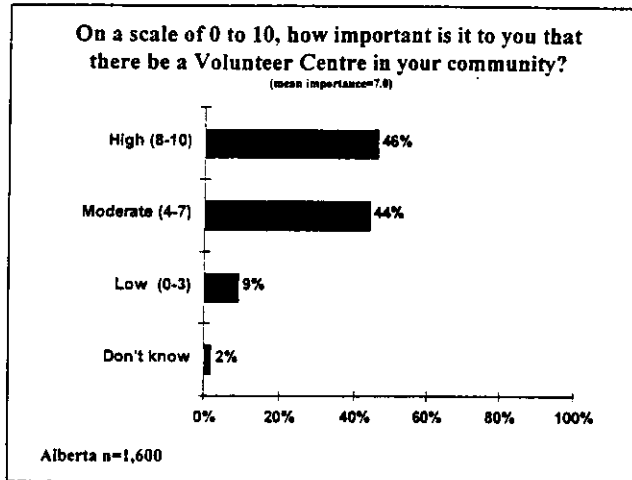
☞ Respondents with university (91%) or college (89%) education are more likely to volunteer compared to those with high school education (82%) or less than high school education (70%).

☞ Fundraising, coordinating events or activities, visiting others, providing counseling to people, educating/provide information about organizations, and performing household tasks including shopping, cleaning, paying bills, shoveling snow or yard maintenance were indicated as some of the most frequent activities performed by volunteers.

☞ The greatest volunteer activities valued in communities include: coaching, fundraising, assistance in schools and places of worship, fire department personnel, girl guide and scouts, neighborhood watch/block watch and community events/get together.

Volunteerism in Alberta Provincial Survey Highlights

☞ 90% of respondents believe that it is highly/moderately important to have a volunteer centre in their community.

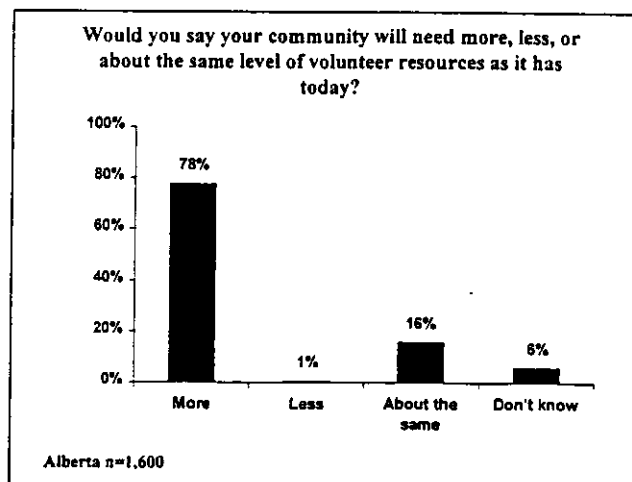


☞ Helping people in need, uniting the community and matching people with suitable volunteer opportunities were cited as some of the benefits of having a local volunteer centre.

☞ 90% of respondents reported that they value the information and resources that are provided to them by their local volunteer centre.

☞ Respondents indicated the following services should be offered by volunteer centres: services to the elderly and children/teenagers including recreational services, services that match volunteers, based on interest and need, hands on care for those in need (ie food clothing), a central contact point for services and a place to go to be a volunteer.

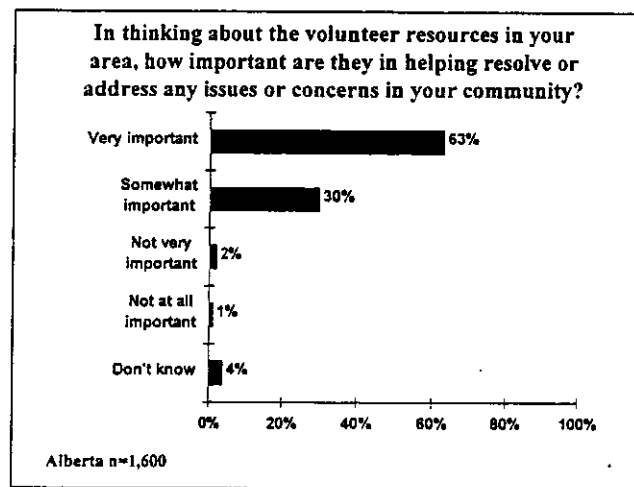
☞ 78% of respondents feel that their community will require more volunteer resources to meet the challenges/issues in the future.



Volunteerism in Alberta Provincial Survey Highlights

Reasons for an anticipated increase in the need for volunteer resources include: an increase in the population of their community, a direct result of funding or service level cut-backs and the increased demands of an aging population.

93% of respondents believe that the volunteer resources in their area are very/somewhat important in helping resolve or address any issues/concerns in their community.



Information presented herein are the results of the Alberta-wide telephone survey of 1,600 residents conducted between April 27 – May 11, 1998, by Hutchinson Associates and the Advisory Group (a division of TELUS Marketing Services Inc.). The margin of error is +/- 2.5% at the 95% confidence level.

Volunteer Alberta commissioned this survey.

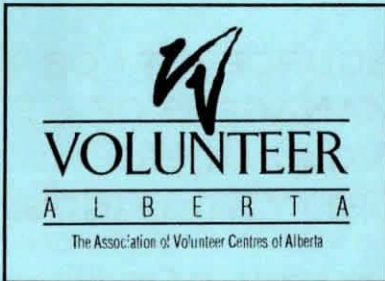
Key information from the survey was applied to the development of a 3 year strategic plan to build the capacity of volunteer centres in Alberta.

This project was funded through a grant from the Wild Rose Foundation.

For further information contact:

Glynis Thomas (403) 459-6666

Shelley Borowski (403) 231-1449



VOLUNTEER ALBERTA

The Association of Volunteer Centres of Alberta

Volunteer Alberta is committed to strengthening and stimulating growth in the voluntary sector in Alberta;

- by supporting organizations which foster volunteerism;
- by influencing the environment in which they operate.

Our association is governed by a Board of Directors representing various areas of the province and voluntary sector. Membership is comprised of volunteer centres, other agencies and individuals with a professional or personal interest in volunteerism.

Volunteer Alberta promotes, supports and facilitates quality volunteer practices among its members. Over the past 8 years, Volunteer Alberta has brought several successful initiatives to communities across the province.

Volunteer Alberta encourages the establishment of volunteer centres in Alberta.

For Further information on Volunteer Alberta contact:
Shelley Borowski, Executive Director
900, 640-8th Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 1G7
(403) 231-1449 Phone (403) 265-8981 Fax

PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEER WEEK



This highly successful initiative boasts over 5 years of record growth and millions of volunteers have been recognized for their significant contributions.

Volunteer Week assisted a record number of communities - 92 to be exact - in recognizing the dedication of volunteers and promoting the value of volunteerism.

The focus of Volunteer Week '98 was to strengthen the level of awareness of volunteers with promotions targeted to specific groups including Members of the Legislative Assembly, municipal libraries, weekly newspapers, radio stations and a provincial magazine.

Approximately \$200,000 was leveraged from \$23,150 of enhancement funding. Enhancement funding was used to assist communities with media promotion and/or subsidize a speaker for their Volunteer week activities.

Volunteer Alberta appreciates the support the Wild Rose Foundation has given to Volunteer Week.

PROVINCIAL LEADERS OF TOMORROW AWARDS PROGRAM



This unique and innovative award-program recognizes young people throughout the

province for volunteer efforts in their communities.

Leaders of Tomorrow is a partnership program with Volunteer Alberta, the Volunteer Centre of Calgary and the Wild Rose Foundation.

Volunteer Alberta is pleased to provide, through our partners, an opportunity for our members to implement an awards program that recognizes and encourages youth volunteerism and helps communities to learn about sponsorship opportunities.

To date, 35 Alberta communities have participated in the Leaders of Tomorrow program in 1998.

VOLUNTEERISM IN ALBERTA A PROVINCIAL SURVEY

In 1997, Volunteer Alberta embarked on a project that involved a three part survey and strategic plan to build the capacity of volunteer centres.

The intent of the project was two fold.

First, to build on Volunteer Alberta's strong foundation by fostering new levels of community involvement and to become even stronger leaders in volunteerism.

Second, to create a three year strategic plan to build the capacity of volunteer centres in Alberta.

Survey Highlights

- 85% of respondents indicated that they had volunteered in the past year.
- 90% of female respondents and 80% of male respondents reported that they had volunteered in the past year.
- 90% of respondents believe that it is highly or moderately important to have a volunteer centre in their community.
- Benefits of having a local volunteer centre include: the ability to help people in need, a place that unites the community and matches people with suitable volunteer activities.

RESOURCE KIT FOR MANAGERS OF VOLUNTEERS BY BETTY STALLINGS

Volunteer Alberta has Canadian editions of this valuable Resource Kit, written by Betty Stallings, available for purchase.

The Resource Kit is designed for new managers of volunteers, volunteer centres, small to medium size organizations with minimal staff time designated to managing volunteers, organizations developing new or expanded volunteer programs and seasoned managers of volunteers.

In this four section kit, valuable information is offered on:

- volunteer program assessment,
- forms and record keeping systems,
- planning and budgeting for volunteer programs,
- designing volunteer jobs
- supervision, evaluation and dismissal of volunteers.

*To purchase your copy of the
Resource Kit contact
Volunteer Alberta.*