

March, 2010

Volume 10
Issue 2



What's the Buzz?

NEW HORIZONS FOR SENIORS: COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & LEADERSHIP



New Horizons for Seniors has opened a call for proposals, and will be accepting applications for the **Community Participation and Leadership** funding until **April 16, 2010**. Community Participation and Leadership is a federal government program that provides up to \$25,000.00 to non profit organizations for projects that encourage seniors to contribute to their communities by sharing skills, wisdom and experience.

General information about the program may be found at <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/seniors> and application forms may be downloaded there as well. Specific questions about the program may be directed to Jackie Aiken, Program Consultant, New Horizons for Seniors, phone: 902-426-9410, or jackie.aiken@servicecanada.gc.ca

If your group would like assistance with the application, contact Heather Cook, Community Development Coordinator at the Region of Queens Municipality, to set up a time to meet and discuss what you would like to do.

RESOURCES FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS



Workinnonprofits.ca is a website that connects nonprofit organizations with companies that provide products and services — and there are some amazing deals! The site is free of charge, and provides groups with links to companies that offer non profits lower prices on everything from software to grant writing assistance, from computers to consultants, and more!

To use the site, go to <http://www.workinnonprofits.ca> and click on "Suppliers" in the menu bar; then supply key words for what you are looking for. A number of the organizations providing services are not based in Nova Scotia, but offer services to Nova Scotia and all over the country. For example, Techsoup Stock supplies donated and deeply discounted software and technology products to non profits, charities and public libraries for low administrative fees; to see what software donation program your organization may be able to access, visit: <http://www.techsoup.org/stock/canada>



RQM OFFERS FACILITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS TO INCORPORATED NON PROFIT GROUPS

DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2010 **AMOUNT:** MAJOR CATEGORY - UP TO \$5,000.00, REGULAR CATEGORY - UP TO \$1,500.00

PURPOSE: TO ASSIST COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION OR ACQUISITION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE MATCHING DOLLAR AMOUNT AND/OR IN-KIND.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE REGION OF QUEENS RECREATION DEPARTMENT, PHONE: 354-5741 OR COME TO THE OFFICE AT 249 WHITE POINT ROAD.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

APRIL 18—24, 2010



On behalf of Mayor John Leefe and the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality, thank you to all the volunteers, volunteer groups and voluntary organizations for all the work you do in providing programs and services in our community. Volunteers make Queens County a better place to live, work and play! Thank you for enriching our lives! During National Volunteer Week, take a moment to think about the impact that volunteers make.

Each year, representative volunteers are selected from communities in Nova Scotia and invited to attend the Provincial Volunteer Awards in Halifax. This year, there were eight nominated as representative volunteer for Queens; a common theme of dedication, hard work and dependability was apparent in all nominees.

Nominated by the Winds of Change Society were Rick and Kathy Gilbert, the Queens County Food Bank nominated Brenda Lawrence, Mary Nickerson was nominated by Caledonia United Church, Queens County Seafest nominated Rhonda Perry, Alan Waterman was nominated by the Pleasant River Community Club, Douglas Whynott was nominated by the Anglican parish of South Queens, and the Royal Canadian Legion Mersey Branch #38 nominated Lloyd Wolfe. It was very difficult for Council to select only two to be Queens Representative Volunteers, attending the Provincial Volunteer Awards in Halifax on April 12th; all were outstanding volunteers. Members of the RQM Council cast secret ballots, and Rick and Kathy Gilbert, and Alan Waterman received the most votes.

Congratulations to all who were nominated, and thank you for all you do for the community.

WHAT CAN THE RECREATION DEPT. DO TO HELP VOLUNTEERS?

These are a few of the services the Recreation & Community Facilities Dept. offers non profit community organizations. These services are available between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday from Sept. through June, and 8 a.m.—4 p.m. in July and August. We can help you with information, promotional, and administrative assistance.



- 1,000 free photocopies during the calendar year; you will be notified by letter as you near the limit of 1,000 free copies. An additional 1,500 copies are available at five cents per copy, and will be billed to your organization at the end of the year.
- A 20-foot square circus-style tent and a 12-foot by 16-foot stage are also available to help you put on your event. Please call in advance of your event to book either item, as they are quite popular for festivals and events. *** A \$150.00 deposit is required for each the tent and stage.
- Promote your event! Tickets for fundraisers, as well as posters and brochures may be designed, produced and printed for your organization.
- Four 12-foot banners are also available, simply call ahead to book a date and provide the details for the text. Text limits are 18 characters (including punctuation and spaces) per line, and there are 2-line and 3-line banners to choose from. *** \$75.00 deposit for small banner, \$150.00 deposit for the large banners.
- Spread the word about your event! Community organizations may submit details about their event, activity or service offered, and we will put it on the Region of Queens Municipality's Community Calendar on our website. Email the details to info@regionofqueens.com or mail or fax them to us at the contact information below.



- Play equipment for events, including beach volleyball poles, balls and net; a croquet set, hoola hoops, a class set of 15 Speed Stacks stacking cups, and a parachute are available for a small deposit, refundable upon their return.
- Municipal parks and beaches may be used for a family or community event by contacting Norm Amirault, Director of Recreation & Community Facilities, 354-5741, or by email- namiraul@regionofqueens.com.
- Looking for training for your group? Contact Heather Cook, Community Development Coordinator, with your idea or group's need and it could become a workshop for the community, or personalized training or advice for your group. As well, volunteer training workshops take place each Fall, sponsored by the Region of Queens Municipality, and input from groups on what they would like to see offered is always appreciated.



- Support and knowledge is available as well; in her role as Community Development Coordinator, Heather assists community organizations in seeking out funding opportunities, filling in applications, navigating through incorporation, directing them toward affordable insurance programs, and other challenges that face the volunteer sector in Queens. She would be pleased discuss your organizations opportunities and help you navigate through any issues you may have.



Be sure to check out your Volunteer website for resources for Volunteers in Queens

<http://volunteer.queens.ca>

The benefits of volunteerism go well beyond direct contribution to the community. Volunteers help create healthy communities, and are engaged citizens in our society. According to Health Canada, volunteerism is a key indicator of a "supportive social environment" that can enhance health. There are currently over 5,820 organizations in the province—the second largest number of organizations per capita in Canada. Many Nova Scotians are helping with more than one organization but the large majority devote most of their volunteer hours to a single priority group.

Source: 2004 National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations



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