

Working with volunteers

Best Practice 9

Making volunteers feel they belong

Do your volunteers feel like they're part of the team?

Have you ever heard one of your volunteers say "I'm just a volunteer!" or "They expect too much for free!" If so, they probably feel like they're not an equal member of your team.

To help volunteers feel like they belong on your team, show them you want their input and involvement. Invite your volunteers to staff meetings. Send them emails about developments in the organization. Invite them to provide input into your planning processes. Invite them to the staff Christmas party.

Efforts like these show volunteers you value them for much more than the time they put in. And if they feel valued and engaged in their work, they are more likely to hang around. As recruiting and training new volunteers takes time and energy, it is worth spending the effort to make your volunteers feel they belong.



This is one of a series of ten best practices on volunteer management based on the Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement (CCVI).

Call 456-4304 or email info@volunteerbureau.yk.ca for more information.

