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In this issue:

- In Conversation With Lawrence Scanlan live today on the Get Volunteering Facebook page
 - Deadline extended for Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards
 - Aviva Community Fund accepts submissions September 26
 - Become a member of Volunteer Canada
-

In Conversation With Lawrence Scanlan live today on the Get Volunteering Facebook page

A 12-week series of Facebook *Conversations* focused on issues relating to volunteerism kicks off today with a session hosted by author Lawrence Scanlan. The conversation takes place on [the Get Volunteering Facebook page](#).

To join the live interactive talk, [click here now and "Like" Get Volunteering on Facebook](#). Tune in to the Conversation any time after 9 a.m. ET today.

Scanlan, the author of [A Year of Living Generously](#), is responding to readers' questions related to the topic: **Is volunteering in our DNA?** He is fielding comments all day, so visit the [Facebook page](#) to ask a question or share your own thoughts on whether volunteerism is part of Canadians' DNA.

The *In Conversation With ...* volunteerism series kicks off today, and runs every Wednesday for 12 weeks. All sessions begin at 9 a.m. Future conversations will be announced via Volunteer Canada's Facebook and Twitter feeds, and on the Get Volunteering Facebook page.

The *In Conversation With ...* series is in its pilot phase, and is currently led in English. Volunteer Canada and Manulife Financial will assess the pilot campaign to determine the feasibility of hosting the conversations in both official languages in 2012. During the pilot stage, a French-speaking moderator will be available during all conversations to field questions in French.

[Click here](#) to join the conversation now.

Deadline extended for Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards

The deadline for the [Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards](#) has been extended to October 14, 2011. The Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards is a new program created to celebrate Canadians who make a difference in the community.

Do you know an individual or group, a business or not-for-profit organization that is making a difference in your community? Recognize their contributions and show your appreciation by submitting a nomination.

A total of 17 awards will be given at both the regional and national level. Recipients will be granted money to donate to a not-for-profit organization of their choosing.

Award recipients will be recognized at an award ceremony to be held in early 2012.

To learn more about the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards, please visit www.pm.gc.ca/awards or call 1-877-825-0434.

Aviva Community Fund accepts submissions September 26

The Aviva Community Fund begins accepting submissions Monday, September 26. For submission guidelines, [visit the Aviva Community Fund website](#).

The Aviva Community Fund is a competition created to inspire local or national ideas that create positive changes within communities across Canada.

Individual Canadians or charitable organizations can submit an idea for a cause within their community they feel passionate about. Entrants can then become actively involved in promoting the cause to start making community change happen. The top ideas, as chosen by Canadians, will share in \$1,000,000 of funding for their cause. Ruth MacKenzie, President and CEO of Volunteer Canada, is participating on the judging panel.

For further information, please contact Sue Bochner with the Aviva Community Fund at Sue.Bochner@Sympatico.ca.

Become a member of Volunteer Canada

[Check out Volunteer Canada membership benefits here.](#)

Volunteer Canada keeps members informed of breaking news, research, and resources that support their work. Volunteer Canada takes pride in knowing that we can call upon members for reciprocal engagement and information sharing.

Volunteer Canada values the support of its more than 1,100 members and thrives on providing organizations the highest quality service. We put our member organizations first with a variety of quality offerings and exclusive member benefits.