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Volunteer Canada to launch new skill-building video seminar series

Volunteer Canada is committed to supporting voluntary organizations in their efforts to recognize and thank volunteers. National Volunteer Week highlights and celebrates the vital efforts of volunteers. NVW runs from **April 15 to 21, 2012**. For this year's campaign, Volunteer Canada is offering a series of skill-building video seminars, all set within the context of volunteer recognition. These seminars provide in-depth training in four areas related to NVW planning: government relations, media relations, social media, and event planning. Each video is created and delivered by an expert on the seminar topic.

Government relations – Karen Lynch, Executive Director, [Volunteer Alberta](#)

Media relations – Karen Lynch, Executive Director, [Volunteer Alberta](#) and Lee Rose, Editor, [Charity Village](#)

Social media – Ilona Dougherty, Executive Director, [Apathy is Boring](#)

Event Planning – Anil Patel, Founder and Executive Director, [Framework](#)

The pre-recorded videos will be released on the NVW website throughout the months of January and February.

Send us your NVW ideas and feedback

How will you recognize your volunteers during NVW this year? Volunteer Canada would love to hear your innovative ideas and strategies. Tell us your top tips for volunteer recognition on the [Volunteer Canada Facebook page](#). We'll compile some of the ideas and post them on the NVW website.

[Click here](#) to "Like" Volunteer Canada on Facebook and share your volunteer recognition plans.

Take part in the final Get Volunteering Facebook Conversation today

The 12-week [Get Volunteering Facebook Conversation Series](#) focused on issues related to volunteering comes to a close today, with a final conversation hosted by University of Illinois professor and United Nations Volunteers writer Ben Lough. The conversation takes place on the Get Volunteering Facebook page.

To take part in the live chat, [click here and “Like” Get Volunteering on Facebook](#). Visit the page any time after 9 a.m. ET today to view the conversation and add your own voice to the discussions.

Lough, co-author of the UNV publication *State of the World’s Volunteerism Report* released on December 5, will field questions and comments about the impact and importance of volunteering. The discussion will encapsulate key themes discussed in previous Facebook conversations, and will explore ways of promoting lifelong volunteering.

The *Get Volunteering Conversation 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. A French-speaking moderator will be available during today’s conversation to field questions posed in French.

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

Nominations accepted for Ontario Volunteer Service Awards

The Ontario government is now accepting nominations for the annual [Volunteer Service Awards](#). The deadline for nominating volunteers is January 25, 2012. The award recognizes volunteers who demonstrate a continued commitment to community engagement. Since its establishment in 1986, more than 150,000 volunteers have been recognized through the award program. In 2012, 47 ceremonies will be held throughout the province, recognizing thousands of community volunteers.

[Click here](#) for more information about the awards or to nominate a volunteer.