



# synergize

collaboration in action

in partnership with



## CALL FOR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

We are excited to announce the call for presenters for **SYNERGIZE! Collaboration in Action**, May 15<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> 2019. Events included are: The National Volunteer Management Conference and the Volunteer Centre leadership Forum, both to take place at the Delta Hotel in Ottawa, ON. This conference provides an opportunity to share your experience and to network with colleagues in the volunteer management profession from across the country. The goal is for people to experience educational, informative, inspirational, and entertaining professional development.

This conference will provide an opportunity for up to 200 participants eager to learn about, and implement: the latest ideas, winning practices, and relevant approaches in volunteer management and related fields.

### Speaker Opportunities

While the schedule is not yet finalized, we are seeking presenters for four blocks of 90-minute concurrent sessions on May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup>. Presentations can take the form of teaching, interactive or experiential learning, group reflection and discussion, sharing of experiences and insights. We ask that all workshops include a designated question period.

Note that there are already plenary discussions scheduled. There are no spaces for additional plenary activities.

## Topics

The theme of this year's conference is: **Collaboration in Action**. The educational program will present a range of topics relevant to managing and leading volunteers or volunteer programs. Many topics will reflect the theme of the conference. We will be providing learning and professional development opportunities to both new and experienced professionals.

### Three topic areas:

#### 1. **Collaboration in Action**

Some examples of collaboration in the field of volunteer management could include: strategic or practical partnerships with other non-profits, developing relationships with municipalities, educational institutions or corporations, joint recruitment campaigns with other non-profit organizations or volunteer centres, developing networks for policy development, and collaborative leadership.

#### 2. **Volunteer Management**

Some examples of workshops in volunteer management could include: screening, aging volunteers, managing virtual volunteers, difficult conversations with volunteers, the revised Canadian Code for Volunteer involvement, new ways of recruiting volunteers, evaluating your volunteer program, strategic planning, volunteer-staff relationships, supporting volunteers in dealing with change, event volunteers, volunteer managers taking care of themselves, and making the most of your strengths/mitigating your limits.

#### 3. **Innovations and Emerging Trends in Volunteer Engagement**

Some examples of innovation and emerging trends in volunteer engagement could include: the use of social media, diversity in all its forms, youth engagement, social marketing, fundraising ideas to support volunteer programs, using technology, addressing shifts in how people want to be engaged in their communities, skills-based volunteering, and storytelling as a recruitment strategy.

## Speaker Recognition

Invited speakers will be recognized through promotion of the Synergize! Collaboration in Action Conference by all three partner organizations (**PAVRO**, **VMPC** and **Volunteer Canada**). All selected content will be published in conference publications and online.

## Speaker Fee

An honorarium of \$100 will be offered to presenters, plus a free full-day pass to the conference for the day of the workshop. This will include meals, attendance at workshops and networking events on that day. Accommodations, if required, will be at the speaker's expense.

Please note that the conference seeks to educate its audience and not promote any specific products. Exhibit space is available for all promotional activity. Presentation selection will be made based upon relevance of topics, flow of content, educational value and understanding of the content.

**Presentation Requirements.**

Speakers are required to provide an electronic copy of their presentation which will be available to conference participants after the conference for a limited time. Should speakers require handouts, they are responsible for providing them. WIFI is available in the conference center and all conference rooms are fully equipped with AV equipment.

**Next Steps:**

Submit a brief proposal via email no longer than two pages in length outlining the following:

- Brief bio on the speaker(s), including websites and social media if applicable. This should be no longer than **50-75 words** and be suitable for printing in the conference program to promote the event and your session.
- Identify key messages that will be delivered and/or learning objectives
- List the session dates and times in order of preference
- A description of the person who would most benefit from your presentation (i.e. years in the field, skill set, previous experience, or stream, etc.)

**Deadline for Proposals: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Presenters who have been selected will be contacted by: February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Please submit proposals electronically or direct any question regarding this RFP to the attention of Monica Ahrens [mahrens@giag.ca](mailto:mahrens@giag.ca)

Please indicate SYNERGIZE! CONFERENCE SPEAKER PROPOSAL in the subject line of the e-mail.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and interest.