

VOLUNTEERISM

Fact Gathering Sheet

Benefits

What it is not

What it is

Rights of volunteers

Volunteer opportunities I can think of

Responsibilities of volunteers

VOLUNTEERISM

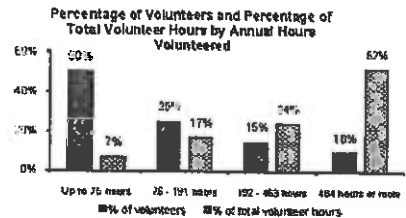
Volunteering in Saskatchewan Data Sheets

Volunteering in SASKATCHEWAN

According to the Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP), 54% of Saskatchewan residents aged 15 and over (428,000 people) volunteered in 2004. Each volunteer contributed an average of 188 hours, for a total of 81 million hours or the equivalent of approximately 42,000 full-time jobs.

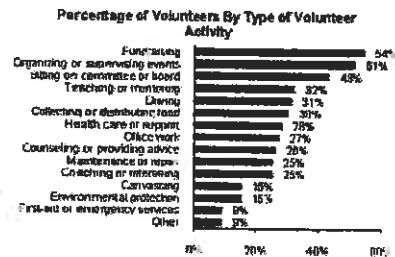
Much comes from the few

Although many Saskatchewanians volunteer, the majority of volunteer hours are contributed by a small minority. One in ten volunteers contributed 52% of all hours. These volunteers contributed 464 hours or more over the course of the year. Another 24% of volunteer hours came from the 15% of volunteers who contributed between 192 and 463 hours. Together, this top 25% of volunteers (representing 13% of all Saskatchewan residents) contributed 76% of total volunteer hours.



What volunteers do

The most common activities performed by Saskatchewan volunteers were fundraising (54% of volunteers did this), organizing or supervising events (51%), and sitting on a committee or board (43%).

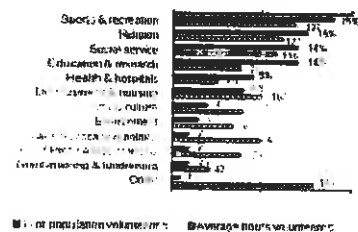


Compared to the rest of Canada, Saskatchewan volunteers were more likely to engage in fundraising (reported by 54% of volunteers in Saskatchewan vs. 46% of volunteers in the rest of Canada), providing health care and support (28% vs. 19%), and driving (31% vs. 19%).

Where they volunteer

Saskatchewan residents were most likely to volunteer with Sports & Recreation organizations (18% volunteered), followed by Religious (15%), Social Service (14%) and Education & Research (14%) organizations. Smaller numbers of Saskatchewanians volunteered with Law, Advocacy & Politics (2%), Business and Professional Associations and Unions (2%) and Grant-making, Fundraising & Volunteerism Promotion (2%) organization.

Percentage of Population Volunteering and Average Annual Volunteer Hours by Type of Organizations

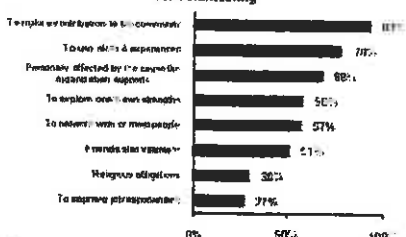


Saskatchewan volunteers tended to contribute the largest number of hours for Sports & Recreation organizations (137), followed by Religious (123) and Social Services (116) organizations. They contributed fewer hours to organizations working in the areas of the Environment (69), Health & Hospitals (50), and Grant-making, Fundraising & Volunteerism promotion (42).

The motivations of volunteers

Saskatchewan volunteers were most likely to say they volunteered because they wanted to make a contribution to the community (93%), wanted to use their skills and experiences (78%), or had been personally affected by the cause (the organization supports) (68%). Comparatively few volunteered in order to fulfill religious beliefs or obligations (30%) or to improve their job opportunities (27%).

Percentage of Volunteers Reporting Motivations for Volunteering



2004 CANADA SURVEY OF Giving, Volunteering and Participating

www.givingandvolunteering.ca

Imagine Canada



Volunteering in SASKATCHEWAN

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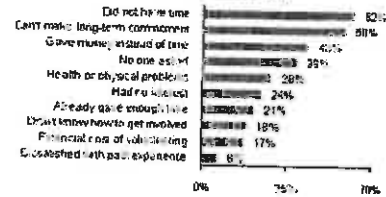
This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships Program



Barriers to volunteering

Saskatchewanians who did not volunteer were most likely to say it was because they did not have the time (62%), were unable to make a long-term commitment (58%), or donated money instead of volunteering (43%). They were much less likely to report not knowing how to become involved (18%), the costs of volunteering (17%) or dissatisfaction with previous volunteer experiences (6%) as reasons for not volunteering.

Percentage of Non-Volunteers Reporting Barriers to Volunteering



Personal and economic characteristics of Saskatchewan volunteers: education level and the presence of children in the household¹

The likelihood of volunteering in Canada increases with level of education. In Saskatchewan, however, residents with some postsecondary education were most likely to volunteer (73% volunteered), followed closely by those with a university degree (71%). Residents who had not completed high school were least likely to volunteer (45%). Volunteers with some postsecondary education tended to contribute the most average hours (229^b).

The likelihood of volunteering in Saskatchewan varied according to whether children were present in the household. Saskatchewanians from households with children present were more likely to volunteer than were those from households without children. Those with both pre-school and school-aged children present were most likely to volunteer (72%), followed by those with only school-aged children

(69%). Although those from households with pre-school and school-aged children were most likely to volunteer, they tended to volunteer fewer hours (161^b on average) than did others.

Saskatchewanians living in households with only school-aged children contributed a disproportionately large percentage of total volunteer hours, given their numbers (they accounted for 25% of the population but contributed 35% of all volunteer hours).

Percentage of Population Who Volunteer and Distribution of Volunteer Hours by Education and Presence of Children in the Household

	% Volunteering	Average Volunteer Hours	% of Pop.	% Volunteer Hours
Education				
Less than high school	45%	195 ^E	23%	19% ^E
Graduated from high school	46%	148	23%	15%
Some postsecondary	73%	229 ^E	6%	10% ^E
Postsecondary diploma	57%	181	34%	34%
University degree	71%	213	15%	21%
Presence of children				
No children in household	48%	186	63%	52%
Pre-school aged children only	59%	180 ^F	5%	5% ^F
Both pre-school and school-aged children	72%	161	7%	8% ^F
School aged children only	69%	201	25%	35%

¹ Volunteering tends to vary with the personal and economic characteristics of the individual. This fact sheet focuses on education and presence of children in the household, but many other characteristics are important. For more information, readers should refer to *Caring Canadians: Involved Canadians: Highlights from the 2004 Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating*, available at http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/pdf/CSGVP_Highlights_2004_en.pdf.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships Program. The opinions and interpretations in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada.

For more information on the 2004 Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating please visit www.givingandvolunteering.ca



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Volunteering in Saskatchewan 2004 Survey

www.givingandvolunteering.ca/factsheets/2004

1. In 2004 _____% of Saskatchewan residents volunteered.
2. The most common tasks that volunteers performed included:

_____ on a committee or _____.
3. 18% of volunteers in Saskatchewan were likely to be involved with _____ and _____ organizations.
4. Those involved in Religion accounted for _____%, Social Service _____% and Education and Research was _____%.
5. Sports and Recreation volunteers averaged about _____ hours.
6. Grant making, fundraising and Volunteerism promotion accounted for about _____ hours.
7. The most likely reason for volunteering was because _____
_____.
8. 27% of volunteers reasoned that volunteering might improve _____
_____.
9. _____% of volunteers felt that they had been affected by the cause of the organization they were volunteering for.
10. _____% of people felt they wanted to use their skill and experience to assist others.

11. The most common reason that was given for not volunteering was _____
12. _____% of people did not know how to become involved in volunteering.
13. The more education you have the _____ likely you are to become a volunteer.
14. Those least likely to volunteer included residents that did _____
15. People from Saskatchewan without children were _____ likely to volunteer. _____% of families with pre-school and school aged children was likely to volunteer.

Reflection

1. After reading this article I was surprised by _____
2. My opinion about volunteering is _____
3. I still wonder if _____

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Steps to Volunteering

Source: www.volunteersaskatoon.com

STEPS

Ask yourself:

1. What skills do you have?

Communication skills (ex. Reading, writing, listening, teaching)

Leadership skills (ex. Decision making, organizing, coaching)

Teamwork skills (ex. Assisting, cooperation, facilitating)

Critical thinking skills (ex. Problem solving, investigating, analyzing)

Numeric skills (ex. Counting, calculating, measuring, estimating)

Problem solving skills (ex. Assessing, adapting, researching)

Organizational skills (ex. Administering, coordinating, planning)

Creative Skills (ex. Designing, performing, drawing/painting, writing)

Self management skills (ex. Using computers, building/repairing, etc)

2. Be Practical

What are my means of **transportation**?

What is the **distance** I am willing to travel to get to my volunteer opportunity?

Can my **family** be involved?

What is the length of **time** I am going to volunteer? What are the required **hours**?

What are my **other commitments**?

3. What are my interests?

What are/were my favorite **classes**?

What **skills** would I like to obtain?

What **organization** or **cause** am I interested in?

There are many areas where you could volunteer...

- health care
- office and administration

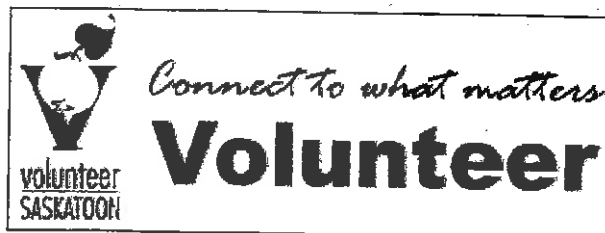
- arts
- computers
- counselling
- daycare
- driving
- educating
- special events
- recreation and sports
- working with the elderly, children, or people with special needs
- religious activities
- and much more

4. Know your Rights and Responsibilities

5. How and Where can I find Volunteer Opportunities

6. **Once you find a volunteer opportunity be prepared: visit Questions of Yours and Questions of the Organization**

7. **Have fun and get ready to learn, grow and connect to what matters**



VOLUNTEERISM

What Volunteer Opportunity is Right For You?

Source: www.volunteersaskatoon.com

What Volunteer Opportunity is Right for You?

What are your skills and interests?
Take this personality quiz to find out!

1. **If you and your friends were planning a trip what job would you take?**
 - A. Help plan the trip.
 - B. Figure out how much the trip is going to cost.
 - C. Organize and assign tasks to people.
 - D. Find out where all the Points of Interest or tourist attractions are.
2. **What do you consider yourself?**
 - A. A thinker
 - B. Creative
 - C. Active
 - D. Out going
3. **What do you enjoy more?**
 - A. Spending time learning about yourself.
 - B. Spending time with other people.
 - C. Spending time outdoors.
 - D. Spending time relaxing alone.
4. **Which classes or courses do you like the most?**
 - A. Psychology/ Health
 - B. Mathematics/ Computers/ Science
 - C. Physical Education/ Gym
 - D. Art
5. **If you were stranded on a deserted island with two other people, what would you probably do first?**
 - A. Hike across the whole island to see if there was any sign of civilization.
 - B. Organize your personal belongings and make sure that you have enough food and water.
 - C. Look for materials on the beach that could be used to create a raft.
 - D. Help others and make sure that they are comfortable.
6. **If someone comes to you with a conflict problem what would you do?**
 - A. Suggest new and different solutions they hadn't thought of.
 - B. Ask for all the exact specific details.
 - C. Drop everything you are doing to help them.
 - D. Give them a few suggestions and tell them to face the problem as quick as possible.
7. **If you were going to work for a newspaper what position would you like to have?**
 - A. Reporter
 - B. Sports person
 - C. Designer
 - D. Assistant editor
8. **If you were on vacation, where would you like to go the most?**
 - A. Hiking on a mountain.
 - B. Theatres, galleries, or museums.
 - C. A guided tour through particular sites you are interested in.
 - D. Visiting at your friends' houses or seeing relatives.
9. **When you come home from school what do you usually do first?**
 - A. Clean or straightening up part or all of your room.
 - B. Play outside.
 - C. Play an instrument or read a book.
 - D. Go hang out with your friends and family.
10. **Out of these 4 items, which one would you like to receive the most as a gift?**
 - A. An electronic day planner.
 - B. A new baseball mitt, basketball, or any other sports equipment.
 - C. A set of oil paints and brushes or your favorite book.
 - D. A sentimental gift that took someone a lot of time and effort.
11. **Out of these four jobs, which one would you want to have the most?**
 - A. A teacher.
 - B. An author or a painter.
 - C. A professional sports player.
 - D. A business executive

Tally Your Score!

Now that you have finished your quiz, find out how you scored! Circle the letter that corresponds with your answer for each question

	sports	clerical	artistic	helper
1	C	B	D	A
2	C	A	B	D
3	C	D	A	B
4	C	B	D	A
5	A	B	C	D
6	D	B	A	C
7	B	A	C	D
8	A	C	B	D
9	B	A	C	D
10	B	A	C	D
11	C	D	B	A

Next, add up all of the circles in each category/column. The column with the most letters circled in it is where you might look for a volunteer job. For example, if I circled the most letters in the artistic category, I might want to look for a volunteer job involving artwork or writing projects

Here is a look at some types of volunteer work you may be interested in according to interest categories.

Sport/outdoor - gardening, grounds keeping, coaching, taking care of animals

Clerical - data entry, office support, phone calling, computers, website creation

Artistic - painting, storytelling, arts & crafts, music, dance

Helper - kitchen, special events, child care, tutor, working with elderly, working with people with special needs



Now, visit the Volunteer Saskatoon website www.volunteersaskatoon.com and click on the link **Be A Volunteer**. Browse through the various current volunteer postings. When you find one of interest, call the contact person listed and they will assist you in getting started.

If you more help, call Volunteer Saskatoon, 975-3477, and we can help you along the way.

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Grade 9 Volunteer Opportunities at School

Think about how your school operates.

Identify five volunteer opportunities in your school where you think you could be helpful! It is okay to invent a new realistic volunteer job.....you could prove to be a real leader!

Look in your student handbook for more ideas or ask someone on staff. (think: clubs, teams, orientation days, tutoring, etc.)

Type of Work: Reasons why it might work for me: 1. 2.
Type of Work: Reasons why it might work for me: 1. 2.
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