

VECTor Conference 2018 Call for Presenters

November 7th, 2018 – Yorkville Conference Centre, Toronto

Volunteer Toronto's mission is to increase the positive impact that volunteering has on the City of Toronto through innovative initiatives that inspire, inform and connect volunteers and the organizations that need them. We strengthen the non-profit sector through volunteer recruitment support, as well as training and networking opportunities for volunteer managers and other services to help build the capacity of volunteer programs.

The VECTor Conference is a signature component of Volunteer Toronto's work to help enhance the work of volunteer managers across Toronto. The Conference provides a day of learning, networking and connection for people who manage and work with volunteers from a range of organizations. VECTor is split into two focus areas: the morning session highlights **Innovations in Volunteer Management** and the afternoon session looks at **Research in Volunteering and Volunteer Management Trends**.

For the 5th edition of the Conference taking place on November 7th, 2018 at the Yorkville Conference Centre, Volunteer Toronto is inviting proposals from speakers to provide 20-minute presentations during one of the two sessions. *Two 20-minute presentations, followed by a 20-minute Question and Answer period, make up each of the Innovations and Research session. A total of four (4) speakers are needed.*

Conference attendees are volunteer engagement professionals and most are employees of non-profit organizations ranging in size, scope and sector. Presentations should reflect cutting edge innovation and research, stimulate and provoke discussion and audience engagement, and explore issues important to a Toronto audience. Speakers will be given a pre-determined presentation structure and slide deck template to work from.

Speaker Qualifications:

- Presenters will provide a (no more than) 20-minute presentation following the guidelines detailed for their chosen session
- At the end of their session, presenters will take part in a moderated Question and Answer period with conference attendees
- Presentations should relate to your own work and cannot be sales pitches
- Knowledge of your chosen topic is expected to be strong, but it is not essential to have previous speaking experience as long as you have a desire to share your insights and ideas

Innovations in Volunteer Management Session

Your volunteer program or an element of your volunteer program is innovative, unique and making an impact – this is your opportunity to share it with the volunteer management community! Consider how your program is innovative, and how it's different from what other organizations are doing.

The session must include:

- A summary of your program and how it is innovative
- The background of where the idea came from and what led you to execute it
- Details on the innovation itself – what are you doing? Why do you consider it innovative? What's unique about this program or this aspect of your program? How is it different from what your organization was doing before? How is it different from what other organizations are doing now?
- The impact this innovation has had on clients, volunteers, and/or volunteer managers

Research in Volunteering/Volunteer Management Trends

You have completed or are in the process of conducting exciting new research examining volunteerism in Toronto and/or new ways of looking at volunteer management. Your research could help volunteer managers make a big impact and improve their programs. Consider how this research could be applied broadly and help volunteer managers make positive change.

This session must include:

- Purpose of the research and where the idea came from
- Your research questions/goals and methodology
- Findings and results: What did you discover? What does it tell you? What are the applications of the findings?
- Next steps for your research or how it can be used now

Interested in applying? First, you can read about past Innovations and Research topics in our [2016](#) and [2017 VECTor Reports](#).

To apply, please submit:

- Your chosen topic: Innovations or Research
- A presentation title
- A one-paragraph description
- Three takeaways or learning outcomes from what you'll share
- A brief biography

We invite you to submit your proposal to present at VECTor by **May 18th, 2018**. If you are selected to present, you will receive a full conference pass and a small

honourarium. Please submit your proposal to Sammy Feilchenfeld,
sfeilchenfeld@volunteertoronto.ca

Should you have questions regarding this Call for Presenters, please contact Sammy Feilchenfeld at the above address or Melina Condren, Director of Services for Non-Profits at mcondren@volunteertoronto.ca, or call 416-961-6888.

Final selection of speakers will be made on or before June 15th, 2018.