

BUSINESS EVENTS VICTORIA

Destination Greater Victoria is committed to promoting destination stewardship within the events industry. Creating positive event impacts and embracing the power of event legacy creates value for both event attendees as well as the host Destination.

Incorporate one of the many local organizations we work with into your next meeting or conference through group volunteer activities focused on providing a positive impact within the community. Whether you choose to provide engagement opportunities at your conference or head out into the community to participate in conservation and restoration efforts, you can be sure to leave a positive impact with your delegates and our destination.

Reach out to our Business Events Victoria team and find how we can help you leave a lasting positive impact on your attendees and our destination through your next event.

Contact us at meetings@tourismvictoria.com



Group Volunteer Opportunities



nurturing faith
hope & love.

Claudi Rezenda

Volunteer Coordinator

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The Mustard Seed Street Church

The Mustard Seed Street Church has been essential in fighting hunger and restoring faith to a large portion of people living in poverty, as well as the working poor, in greater Victoria since 1975. Our operations are nearly 100 percent community funded; these include Vancouver Island's largest Food Bank, a Family Center, Hospitality programs, and addictions recovery at Hope Farm Healing Centre as well as more traditional Church services.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Food distribution - collect, receive, inspect, sort and package food items into hampers
 - Maximum group capacity: 6 people
 - Monday to Friday mornings
- Donations of clothing, food, hygiene products & baby needs

** Please allow 2-3 weeks lead time for all group volunteer inquiries*



ourplace

Rachel Hesketh

Community Relations & Events
Coordinator

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www.ourplacesociety.com

Our Place

Our Place is an inner-city community centre serving Greater Victoria's most vulnerable: working poor, impoverished elderly, mentally and physically challenged, addicted and the homeless. Individuals and businesses provide the majority of financial support for our programs and services. Our Place serves over 1,600 meals per day, and provides hot showers, free clothing, counseling and outreach services, plus 45 transitional housing units. Most importantly, we provide a sense of hope and belonging to our neighbours in need.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Sponsored Meals (great option for smaller groups) option of coming to the community centre and helping the Our Place kitchen team serve the meal.
 - Maximum Group size: 7 people
 - Sponsorships available –
 - » Breakfast (\$600) = 8:30am – 9:30am
 - » Lunch (\$700) = 12:00pm – 1:00pm
 - » Dinner (\$850) = 5:00pm – 6:00pm
- Our Place Kit Packing Program - Through our partnership with Kits For a Cause you can host your own kit packing event and pack kits full of our most needed supplies.
 - Can accommodate groups of all sizes



Zoey Wells

Program Manager

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Laura Milligan

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Wear2Start

The Wear2Start Society is a non-profit organization and registered charity that is reducing barriers for women in need. We help women who have completed a job training program make their best impressions in job interviews and the workplace by providing them with a wardrobe. We also co-ordinate services like haircuts, make-up consultations, dry cleaning and clothing alterations.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Hosting fundraising sales
- Special fundraising event help (inquire within for upcoming opportunities)
- Clothing & product donations

United Way

United Way is committed to identifying and addressing social issues and bringing about change. As a year-round fundraiser and a community funder, our mission is to improve lives and build a strong and caring community.

We aim to address the immediate and emerging needs of the community on an annual basis, while creating long-term strategies to target the root causes of social issues.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Community Investment experiences including:
 - Day of Caring®
 - Speakers Bureau
 - Community Connections Tour
- Fundraising campaigns



Judith Lyn Arney

Ecosystems Director

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PEPÁKEN HÁUTW FOUNDATION

At PEPÁKEN HÁUTW FOUNDATION, caring for the land is at the forefront of what they do. They appreciate the land and its peoples by emphasizing reciprocity in terms of restoring native ecosystems and promoting food security to the W̱SÁNEĆ community and beyond.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Join their Learning on the Land Program for a hands-on restoration experience — join us doing healing work on the land in combination with sharing cultural and ecological teachings.
- Programs take place at SṈIḎEŁ on Tuesdays & Thursdays from March-November, between the hours of 9am-3pm (summer hours may differ).

Come prepared with good work shoes, gloves, weather-appropriate layers, sun protection, and your own food



Emily Harris

Programs Manager

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Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture

The Sandown Centre for Regenerative Agriculture is an 83-acre site consisting of working farms, wetlands, meadow, and forest. They serve as a hub for regenerative agriculture by working with farmers, researchers, and community members towards a more resilient future.

Volunteering at the Sandown Centre means working alongside regenerative growers, soil scientists, and sheep herders, helping them grow food or help move their flock. You'll gain a deep connection to the rhythm of the land and seasons, forge friendships, and get a good workout in. You'll even be able to harvest your own bouquet of flowers!

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Invasive species pulls
- Rock picking parties
- Hedgerow planting
- Compost turning
- Volunteer directly with a farmer!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Max group size: 100 people
- Advance Planning Time: 2 Weeks



Sea Change Canada

Sea Change Canada works with coastal communities to support environmental leadership and community development. They raise awareness about coastal and marine issues across the globe, telling stories of positive and sustainable change, and identifying coastal initiatives across Canada.

Their Coastal Champions in and around Victoria include:

- [Project Watershed](#)
- [Rugged Coast Research Society](#)
- [Surfrider Foundation and many more.](#)

See how you can get involved with these fantastic organizations, [here!](#)



Power To Be

Power To Be is a non-profit organization that creates access to nature for youth, families, and adults living with cognitive, physical, financial, and social barriers.

Volunteering for this beautiful cause traverses all areas, such as administration, helping a participant kayak a coast, or exploring a trail.

Elizabeth Michaels
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powertobe.ca

- Opportunities for group volunteering vary based on the time of year and site tasks that require support
- Can accommodate groups of up to 25 people and will have a new work party organized specifically for your team
- Groups of less than 6 will be invited to join one of our pre-scheduled work parties available throughout the year.
- Complete their Group Intake Form to inquire about volunteer opportunities during your event



General Inquiries

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Peninsula Streams Society

Since 2002, Peninsula Streams Society has coordinated restoration and habitat conservation projects throughout Greater Victoria. They build healthy aquatic habitat that supports self-sustaining populations of native species in both freshwater and marine environments. This is accomplished through participatory research, restoration, environmental education and land stewardship.

PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Colquitz River
- Songhees Pocket Beach
- Swan Creek
- Millstream Creek and Fishway
- Hahgan-Graham Creeks

ADDITIONAL INFO:

- Max group size: 12-25 people.
 - Beach/stream cleanups can accommodate larger groups 25-50+
**dependant on weather/tide conditions.*
 - Multiple sites/projects can be booked to accommodate larger groups.
- Advanced Planning Time: Minimum time for a small group 2-3 weeks, and larger groups (30+) 3-4 weeks.

[Volunteer Sign-up Sheet](#)



Shannon Whissell

Director of Development

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Threshold Housing

Threshold Housing opens doors for youth and prevents adult homelessness. Threshold serves youth at-risk-of or experiencing homelessness, aging out of care, or fleeing violence in the home. These young adults need a place to call home and people who believe in them. Threshold meets those needs by offering safe housing, community and support to help youth make heal, learn, grow and create brighter futures.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Hosting fundraisers
- Special fundraising event help
- Goods Donations
- Securities Donations
- Gardening, home cleanup & maintenance

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Max Group Size: 10 ppl
- Advance Planning Time: 2 Weeks



Terry Edison-Brown

Volunteer Coordinator

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Soap for Hope Canada

Soap for Hope Canada collects gently used and unused soap, hygiene products, linens, and lost & found items from the hotel industry that would otherwise be discarded. Our volunteers reprocess these items and redistribute to those in need. The program diverts hundreds of thousands of pounds of waste from landfills and meets urgent local community needs for hygiene and linen products.

We serve more than 500 Community Facilities including: shelters, food banks, people fleeing fire & flood, refugees, Indigenous Nations, schools, hospitals, and seniors. Soap for Hope Canada is a non-profit, Canadian registered charity that began on Vancouver Island in 2015.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Filling, washing & labelling hygiene bottles
- Sorting & folding linens
- Sorting incoming hygiene products (shampoo/conditioner/body wash/lotion)
- Assembling kits for outgoing orders

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Max group size: 15-20 people
- Advance Planning Time: 2 Months



Alistair Howes

Manager of Special Projects and Engagement

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FED Urban Farm

FED Urban Farm showcases a model for sustainable urban farming on underutilized land that could be applied to cities across Canada. Employing circular economy principles in its operations, FED uses on-site composting and minimal inputs in its nursery operations (no virgin plastic and eliminating the use peat). We make use of waste products from local breweries and farm operations; any excess food is donated to local organizations to support their food security initiatives. The farm provides an opportunity to learn about the integration of circular economy principles into the urban food landscape.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- 1.5 - 3 hour group activity, though this can easily be modified if there are specific requests.
- Start out with a short farm tour and orientation, and then break out into individual/group tasks, (ie; group harvest activity)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- We can accommodate groups of up to 15-20 people at a time.
- Our season runs from April through October.
- Advance planning time: 1 week