

Strengthening Volunteerism in Ontario

Volunteers are the heart of Ontario's communities. Volunteering is vital for sustaining healthy communities, and plays an important role in contributing to the quality and vibrancy of life in Ontario.

Everyone benefits from volunteering. But the number of Ontarians who volunteer is decreasing.

As a result, Ontario is taking action.

Through **Ontario's Volunteer Action Plan**, we will work with government, not-for-profit and corporate sectors to strengthen volunteerism across the province. Highlights include:

INCREASING AWARENESS OF VOLUNTEERING

through a public engagement campaign encouraging Ontarians to find their spark in volunteering.



PROMOTING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

by encouraging use of SPARK Ontario's one-stop volunteer database, www.findmyspark.ca, and encouraging employee volunteer programs.

The Ontario Public Service will lead by example by renewing its employee volunteer program, the Community Learning Program, to encourage staff to volunteer.

ENHANCING THE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE



by promoting consistent standards for volunteer work, raising the profile of volunteer management practices, and supporting efforts to recognize volunteers for their contributions – such as through PREB-Ontario volunteer recognition certificates.

REDUCING BARRIERS TO VOLUNTEERING

by supporting research to identify trends and issues facing volunteers in Ontario.



Our goal:

To strengthen and energize Ontario's vital volunteer base.

Together, we'll ensure that our diverse and valued volunteer base remains the cornerstone of Ontario's vibrant communities.