

WINTER 2021/2022

# VOLUNTEER KAMLOOPS

The official e-newsletter of Volunteer Kamloops



@volkamloops



@VolKamloops



@Volunteerkamloops1

[www.volunteerkamloops.org](http://www.volunteerkamloops.org)



CLOSED

*for the holidays*



OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
DEC 17 - JAN 3

## IMPORTANT DATES:



Dec.5-  
International  
Volunteer Day



Dec. 25- Merry  
Christmas



Jan. 1- Happy  
New Year



Feb 14-  
Valentines Day



Feb.22- Family  
Day

## LINK PROGRAM UPDATE

The Link Program has continued to provide referrals and recruitment to our member agencies. Fall brought an increase in volunteer opportunities and we welcomed the following new/returning members: Brocklehurst Gemstone Care Center, Operation Red Nose, Kamloops Performing Arts Festival and Thompson Valley Orchestra Society.

Our office currently remains closed to the public due to Covid 19 but is accessible by appointment on an as needed basis. The Link Program continues to offer virtual meetings with volunteers to assist them with volunteer placement. All current and new volunteer postings can be found at <https://www.volunteerkamloops.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

Starting in January 2022 we are excited to announce that memberships will now be offered with **NO yearly fee for non-profits!** We understand Covid-19 has been a challenge for volunteer programs and we believe this is a step we can take to help programs recover and have robust volunteer programs. We will still graciously accept donations!

If your organization is in need of volunteers please contact our **Link Coordinator Ainsley at [program@volunteerkamloops.org](mailto:program@volunteerkamloops.org)** to find out all the ways Volunteer Kamloops can help recruit volunteers.

We would like to wish all our volunteers and agencies a Happy Holiday Season!



## FEATURED LINK MEMBER: Adaptive Sports at Sun Peaks

**Adaptive Sports at Sun Peaks (ASSP)** was born in 2008 out of a need for schools to offer inclusive programming as part of their local learn to ski program. The vision, by our Founder, Dick Taylor, was that “no children be left behind.” Over the years, demand for the program has grown to over 400 lessons per season, providing children with new-found health and wellness activities, skills and confidence that spill into everyday life. The domino effects of learning to ski or ride are infinite. Today, 83% of ASSP students are under the age of 21.

Presently, ASSP offers the following options for people with a disability who are 6 years of age and older to:

1. Learn to ski/snowboard/sit ski including adaptations for amputees, spinal cord injuries, sight and hearing impairment, and intellectual and cognitive disabilities, including spectral disorder and PTSD.
2. School program to support inclusion of students with a disability in school sponsored programs.

We are also actively working on developing summertime recreation programming consisting of adaptive biking, hiking, and water sports at MacGillivray Lake canoeing and potentially stand up paddle boarding.

ASSP delivers ongoing professional development training for our growing pool of 55 volunteer instructors. Our Course Conductors and Trainers provide nationally certified Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Instructor certification courses. They also promote the development of volunteer instructors to deliver these front-line programs and facilitate a positive and safe experience for all participants.

## FEATURED LINK VOLUNTEER POSTINGS:



**Festival Volunteers (Various Roles)- Kamloops Festival of the Performing Arts**  
Volunteers are needed for various festival roles such as door, cashier and backstage. Contact [volunteers@kfpa.ca](mailto:volunteers@kfpa.ca)



**Radio Station Volunteers- CFBX Radio**  
Volunteers assist with on air programming and various off air tasks. Contact **Steve Marlow at [radio@thex.ca](mailto:radio@thex.ca)**



**Snow Angel Volunteer- Volunteer Kamloops**  
Volunteers assist seniors and individuals with mobility challenges with snow shoveling. Contact **Anita Jacobsen at [snowangels@volunteerkamloops.org](mailto:snowangels@volunteerkamloops.org)**





We endeavour to keep our returning instructors to be at least 65% of our volunteer base. This season we have a 45% return rate (25 returning instructors). Many live in Kamloops and car pool to Sun Peaks on weekends when most of the lessons are held. According to Stats Canada the volunteer pool contributing to sports in Kamloops is 12% of the population aged 15 and over. Thankfully, within the volunteer pool, most contribute over 100 hours. ASSP largely relies on a 100hr commitment from volunteers with, the Resort providing a limited number of season lift passes. According to ski Canada, 14.2% of Canadians ski or snowboard. These figures suggest that the pool of volunteers in Kamloops is approximately 1538 volunteers who ski or snowboard, a significant pool.

Our ASSP Volunteers continue to uphold the Program's Vision of 'Making the Mountain Experience Accessible to All' with the Program welcoming any strong skier or snowboarder wishing to share the joy of the snowsports, to join our teaching team. Check out the website at <http://www.adaptivesportsatsunpeaks.org> or email the team at [adaptivesportsatsunpeaks@gmail.com](mailto:adaptivesportsatsunpeaks@gmail.com)



## SNOW ANGELS PROGRAM UPDATE

Welcome back to our returning Snow Angels and welcome to the team to our new ones!

This season is shaping up to be a busy one and once again, we need more volunteers to help out our seniors and those with mobility issues. Snow Angels are a big part of our seniors being able to retain their independence in their own homes and are so appreciated.

This season we will have a couple monthly draws! Every volunteer will get their name in the draw for a Family Meal from Pizza Now which includes: two 12" three topping pizza's, cheesy Sticks and four cans of pop.

Also, we will have a Refer-A-Friend draw for anyone who refers a friend or family member as a volunteer to the Snow Angels Program. Once that person has applied and completed their background check, both names will go into a draw for a \$50 gift certificate to Aberdeen Mall that can be used in any stores in the mall. Our volunteer application can be found at

<http://www.volunteerkamloops.org>

We once again have Pizza Now sponsoring our program. Every time you clear someone's driveway, you can pop into Pizza Now for a free 8" one topping pizza within 24 hours. Please make sure you say hi to Rocky at Pizza Now and thank him for his great support.

And lastly, thank you so much for giving of your time and helping our your community. You truly are amazing. Happy Holidays everyone. Any questions regarding the Snow Angels Program please contact **Anita Jacobsen at** [snowangels@volunteerkamloops.org](mailto:snowangels@volunteerkamloops.org)



# Happy Holidays

From the  
Focus Program  
at Volunteer Kamloops

Thank you to...

- our generous funder  
Interior Health
- the amazing team at  
MHSU
- all the great agencies  
who supported our  
volunteers this year
- and to all of the Focus  
Program participants  
who worked so hard on  
their own goals and  
provided the  
community with  
valuable volunteer  
hours.