

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT EMPLOYER SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERING

Q. What do employee volunteers actually do?

A. Just about everything, from serving hot meals to building a trail.

Q. What will it cost to run an Employer Supported Volunteering Program?

A. That's up to you. Supporting employee volunteers can range from allowing the occasional use of company resources to providing paid time off for volunteering.

Q. Why is the concept of Employer Supported Volunteering growing so rapidly?

A. Because everyone benefits from this activity – the employer, the employee, the organization where the employee volunteers, and the broader community.

Q. As an employer, how can I ensure that my ESVP is fair but not abused?

A. Clear policies and guidelines will help to ensure that employees understand the parameters of your program. Sample ESVP templates are available to assist you in developing your policies.

Q. What are some statistics on employer supported volunteering?

A. In 2007, a national survey found that 71% of businesses in Canada either encourage or accommodate employee volunteering.
Almost half of all businesses (49%) encourage employees to volunteer on their own time.
Over one third of businesses (35%) accommodate employee volunteer activities during regular working hours.

Q. Where can I get more information about employer supported volunteering?

A. Links to other resources have been provided on the ESV web page. Resources are also available in our library at Volunteer Victoria.

Q. Are there other employers that I can talk to about developing an ESVP?

A. Yes. A number of local companies have employee volunteer programs, as do local branches of national / international companies. Volunteer Victoria can provide you with information about other ESVP's. Call us at 250.386.2269.