YOUTH CENTRAL

our stories

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

NANDAN NATH • ALEXANDRA WADEY • RICHARD GATIP • REBECCA YANG • KENDALL RIFE
SHELIZA KASSAM • AUDREY NIKSIC • WENTAO LI • SHAHEER TARIQ • ANNIE WU
ANDY TO • JOHN CABAYAO • BRYANNE BARLOW • MICHAEL CHRIST • JULIE MOYSIUK
CHRISTINE MAGSOMBOL • CARISSA BACKUS • MALIKA DAYA • MAGDALENA MUELLER
LAURIE LEE-GLOVER • MANDY LI • AILIN LI • PAULA NGO • LAUREN MORRIS
PAUL HONG • ALEX WONG • WAFA ANAM • RAJ SHAH • SONIA DHAWAN
ALI RAMAZANI • MELISSA LEHNER
AND 3000 MORE

about youth central

We are a dynamic and creative organization with over 20 years of experience in engaging youth in the community.

We **provide** a place for youth to find meaningful volunteer experiences. We **help** youth make a difference and be active caring citizens. We **support** youth in building valuable skills for future employment. We **give** youth a voice. We **grow** young people's understanding of their community. We **build** Calgary's leaders of today and tomorrow.

These are their stories.

3,100 youth supported

200 at-risk youth

9 programs

6,000 people engaged on social media

144 school presentations

40,000 youth volunteer hours given to the community

75 Youth Week events

260 nominations for the ConocoPhillips Youth of Distinction Awards

922 volunteer projects

3,500 blogs written by youth on youthareawesome.com

100 Mayor for a Day submissions

message from the board chair

The past year has been particularly memorable for Calgary. While our city is known for variable weather, 2013 brought unforgettable flooding. Calgary citizens, including Youth Central volunteers, stepped up to help their community and share their stories. Besides assisting during the flood, our volunteers worked tirelessly to make a difference throughout the year. Youth Central volunteers contributed over 40,000 hours to their community, helping agencies at 922 projects.

The Alberta flood wreaked havoc in the province, resulting in significant shortfalls to many non-profit organizations, with many funders experiencing donor fatigue as they opted to support flood relief efforts. In spite of these challenges, Youth Central staff removed the "im" from impossible to support all community partners. Youth Central was successful at delivering on all its programs and commitments. This was made possible with the support of the funders who came through and new funders who joined the Youth Central family. Youth Central is grateful for the generosity of its funders and partners. Youth Central programs continued to grow in size, as did our social media presence. There were also new and exciting projects at Youth Central including: The Trade Off, where youth bid volunteer time in exchange for exclusive experiences; and TEDxYouth@MemorialDrive, the first local TEDx event open to Calgary's youth.

At the board level, changes in the directors created the opportunity for fresh ideas and commitment to Youth Central. A new strategic plan was created to better reflect the vision of Youth Central. Renewed effort is being directed to the areas of communication, sustainability, community and engagement. We are proud to have a strong and committed Board of Directors.

As we enter the new year in 2014, we believe Youth Central will continue to bring great diversity and excitement to its programs, and more importantly, to our community. Inspiring youth have made Youth Central the volunteer organization of choice in this great city we call Calgary. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful staff, board members and volunteers for their amazing commitment and passion.

Suzy Moutinho, Board Chair

kendall rife

One poor decision after another led Kendall Rife down the wrong path.

At the age of 15, she was dating a gang member. She was involved in a grow operation break and enter with her boyfriend and was arrested.

Though she didn't go to jail, probation was strict and difficult. After a semester of home supported leave, Kendall returned to school. Struggling with initiating and maintaining healthy, positive relationships with her peers, she became addicted to ecstasy, cocaine and MDA. She had fallen and overcoming it seemed impossible.

Then, finding support from her teachers, Kendall joined the Youth Council at her school, which is run by Youth Central's Outreach program. She realized that she needed to change, and that life should be so much more than what she was experiencing.

In the past two years, the Youth Council motivated her to reach out to others and give back to the community. In addition to organizing several school events, Kendall helped to run a bake sale that raised over $1,300 to support Teen Angels and an all girl's school in Africa.

"I changed my life around completely," Kendall says. "I never had a great outlook on life. I never cared for anyone else, let alone myself. I went from a defiant, rebellious girl to a mature young woman who is capable of dealing with any situation.

"Now, I have a purpose, a reason to give back, and I realized that's what I should do."

Kendall is on track to graduate from high school this year. Although she is not sure what career path she wants to take, she will continue to volunteer in the community and work with organizations like Youth Central in the future.

"When I volunteer, it doesn't matter what's going on in my life. It just feels right."

board of directors

Board Chair Suzy Moutinho
Vice Chair Lynn Rafter
Secretary Ashley Cormier
Treasurer Bob Yarish
Directors
Dean Allatt
Mathew Burpee (Interim Treasurer)
Zaheed Damani
Elisea De Somma
Rob Gray
Sairose Kassam
Mike Kellner
Steve Leitl
Jeff Lowe

staff

Executive Director Penny Hume
Assistant Director Lisa Kindree
Program Director Ros Doi
Director of Special Projects Andrew Phung
Youth Volunteer Corps Program Manager Hodon Abdi
Communications Coordinator Jennifer Atkinson
Program Coordinator Sylvia Galica
Program Coordinator Michelle Kemball
Program Coordinator Tony Tran
Program Coordinator Giang Trinh

programs

Calgary Youth Foundation
ConocoPhillips Youth of Distinction Awards
Mayor's Youth Council
Outreach
TD Youth Earth Ambassadors
Youth Are Awesome
Youth Volunteer Corps
Youth Volunteer Corps in Schools
Youth Week Calgary

special projects

National Philanthropy Day
Pay It Forward
The Trade Off
Youth Can Vote
Youth Engagement Workshops
Youth Vital Signs

If Youth Central volunteers were getting paid minimum wage, they would have made

$404,905

combined this year

nandan nath

When Nandan Nath and his family left their home country of Bangladesh six years ago, they chose Calgary as their sanctuary.

Nandan's parents, both doctors in Bangladesh, sacrificed their jobs in an unstable country to ensure Nandan and his brothers had a chance at a positive future.

"My parents are very selfless," Nandan says. "They made so many sacrifices for me and my brothers. I knew I had to make some sacrifices myself.

"Calgary has accepted me so wholly. It just felt right to find a way to give back to a city that has given me so much."

Since being in Canada, his father has obtained Canadian certification and is working as a pediatrician at Peter Lougheed Hospital, and his mother is working towards finishing her tests to get certification to continue her career as a gynecologist.

Nandan has volunteered with Youth Central for two years, first joining the Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) and then the Mayor's Youth Council, YVC committee and the Calgary Youth Foundation steering committees. He says his favourite experiences have to do with planning fundraisers and humanitarian projects.

Nandan says, "Youth Central has helped solidify the spirit of philanthropy in me. It's more than I could have ever expected. Volunteering keeps me morally and emotionally healthy. Making sure someone else's life is a little brighter makes my life better too. It has made me a better citizen overall, for my city, country and world."

After high school, Nandan plans to become a doctor, like his parents. His goal is to set up hospitals in impoverished areas in Southeast Asia and Africa.

partners

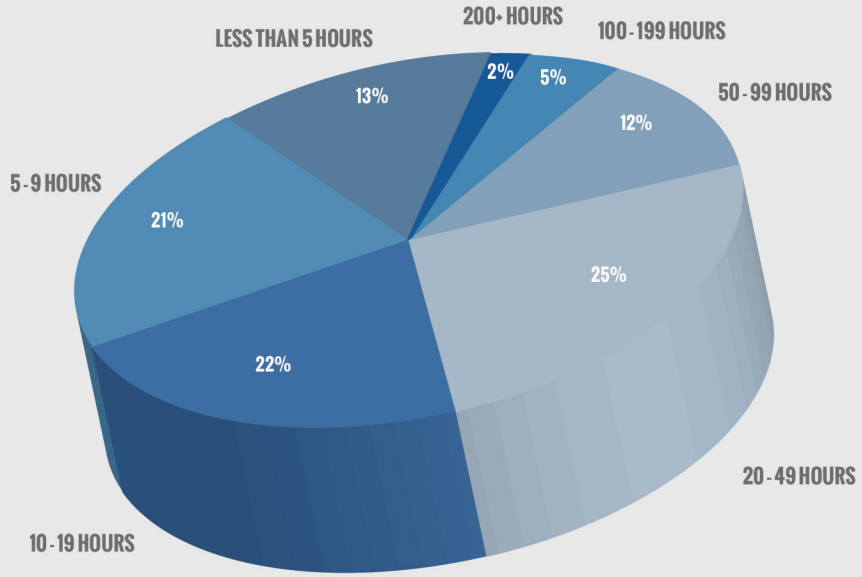
This year, Youth Central introduced an official partnership structure. Partner organizations can submit volunteer requests through the Youth Volunteer Corps, and have access to consulting services and workshops. Here are Youth Central's official partners this year:

Aerospace Museum Of Calgary; Alberta Ballet; Alberta Cancer Foundation; Alberta Theatre Projects; Alzheimer Society of Calgary; Autism Calgary; Beakerhead; Bethany Care Society; Between Friends; Bishop O'Byrne Housing for Seniors; C.A.R.E. Society - Nurture Yourself Program; Calgary Public Library; Calgary Zoo; Cranston Community Association; Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alberta; Distress Centre; Doors Open YYC; Elizabeth House; Festival of Animated Objects; First Book Canada; Food for Peace; Forest Lawn Community Association; Fort Calgary; Heritage Park; HIV Community Link (formerly AIDS Calgary); Inn from the Cold; Intercare Corporate Group; International Avenue Arts and Culture Centre; Kidney Foundation of Canada; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Lunchbox Theatre; National Music Centre; Parkinson Alberta; Pulse Studios; Richmond Knob Hill Community Association; Salvation Army; Silvera for Seniors; Southwood Community Association; TELUS Spark; Vertigo Theatre; Weaselhead Glenmore Preservation Society; WinSport

volunteer projects by category

- 2% working with animals
- 39% community & special events
- 1% involving technology
- 24% social issues
- 13% working with elderly persons
- 14% working with children
- 2% environmental
- 5% sports-related

volunteers by hours given to the community



average number of hours per YVC volunteer: 35

rebecca yang

Although Rebecca Yang is still in Grade 11, she is an advocate for youth volunteerism on a global scale.

She sits on the International Youth Advisory Board, representing approximately 1,100 young people in Youth Central's Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC). As an ambassador for Calgary, which boasts the largest YVC in North America, she shares her knowledge every month with members in Canada and the United States.

"I'm honoured to be a part of Youth Central and in turn, the International Youth Advisory Board, which has changed the course of my future," says Rebecca.

"I'm inspired to reach further, do more and see what I can accomplish. I've learned how powerful youth are and what we can achieve."

Rebecca has been volunteering with Youth Central for four years. Last year, she attended the YVC Summit in Kansas City, where she connected with other YVC affiliates and shared ideas on how to engage youth and make more of an impact in the community. She takes pride in using Youth Central's achievements to teach other organizations how to connect more youth to service.

In addition to her participation in YVC, Rebecca is a Junior Editor with Youth Central's blogging program Youth Are Awesome and sits on the Youth Week Calgary steering committee.

"Youth Central is so special and unique," she says. "It really gives us the initiative to get involved within our communities, and gives us vital skills to go out in the world. I am way more open to new opportunities because of it. Without Youth Central, I wouldn't have been comfortable leaving Calgary. Now, I've overcome that fear and I'm ready to take on the world."

significant events

New Projects

- Youth Central brought community agencies and youth together at a new event called The Trade Off, where youth used their volunteer hours as currency to bid on prizes
- Youth Central was an organizing sponsor of TEDxYouth@MemorialDrive, where six speakers shared their ideas on rebuilding community
- Youth Central developed workshops for partner organizations, including "Engaging Youth Through Marketing," and "Developing Youth Councils"
- In partnership with Kids Up Front, Youth Central developed the Pay It Forward project, where youth are recognized and rewarded for their "pay it forward" attitude

Awards

- The Youth Volunteer Corps received the Volunteer Calgary Leader in Volunteer Engagement award
- Youth Central won third place in FFWD Calgary's Best of Calgary Awards in the Best Kept Secret category
- Youth Central received the "You Rock" award from the Calgary Youth Justice Society at their annual general meeting
- Sixty-four of Youth Central's youth volunteers received awards from the Youth Volunteer Corps of America for contributing over 100 hours to the Calgary community in one year
- Youth volunteer Cassidy Robertson received the Volunteer Calgary Leader of Tomorrow award, senior high
- Youth volunteer Sarthak Sinha was part of Avenue Calgary's Top 40 Under 40
- Youth volunteer Sheliza Kassam received the Calgary Award, Stars of Alberta Award, YMCA Peace Medal, and National Philanthropy Day Outstanding Youth Philanthropist
- Youth volunteer Zeeyaan Somani was the first-ever recipient of the Don and Jean Sloan Scholarship, a new scholarship from YVC of America
- Board member Sairose Kassam received the Role Mothers Award, a community initiative of Market Mall
- Volunteer alumni David Hall was selected as a Canadian Down Syndrome Hero by the Canadian Down Syndrome Society
- Volunteer alumni Jasmine Kassam won the Free the Children Youth Award

Accolades

- Youth Central received recognition from Fort Calgary, the Calgary Food Bank and Salvation Army for 10 years of service at each organization
- Youth Central was featured in both the Globe and Mail and the Calgary Herald in supplement sections about philanthropy
- Three of Youth Central's volunteers sit on the new YVC International Youth Advisory Board

mission

Inspiring, engaging and celebrating youth through community participation

vision

All youth participate in shaping a vibrant community

values

- We believe that youth are awesome!
- We honour the power of the youth voice and the importance of youth in our society
- We value a community in which all youth are respected and encouraged to be active citizens
- We value the diversity, skills, creativity and talents of our volunteers, participants and staff
- We value community partnerships that align with our vision and mission

richard gatip

Richard Gatip has emerged as a leader among his peers, breaking through stereotypes about youth.

Over the past two years, Richard has volunteered with the Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC), spreading the message of philanthropy and changing opinions that youth don't contribute to his community.

"My family motivated me to rise up over adversity," Richard says. "I represent a minority [at the projects I volunteer at], because I live in a lower income part of the city. But I think it's vitally important to branch out."

When Richard first started volunteering, he was amazed at the difference he was making. He could see how he was on the front line, helping to fight social issues like homelessness and poverty on a local level. His experiences with YVC inspired him to take more of a leadership role. Richard joined the YVC steering committee, where he approved volunteer projects to ensure they are meaningful for youth and found new causes for YVC volunteer projects.

He now is serving on the ConocoPhillips Youth of Distinction Awards steering committee, recognizing other inspirational youth for the way they choose to live.

"Before I found Youth Central, I didn't know much about volunteering. I didn't even know that youth like me could volunteer.

"I've learned a lot about myself and my abilities, especially in regards to teamwork and communication. I used to be very introverted, and through my volunteer experiences with Youth Central, I've become more outgoing. I can speak to people I don't know and spread the message of volunteerism."

funders

$50,000+

THE CALGARY FOUNDATION
FOR CALGARY FOREVER

fcss
family & community support services

$25,000 - $49,999

ALLIANCE pipeline

cenovus ENERGY

ConocoPhillips Canada

United Way Calgary and Area

$10,000 - $24,999

Alberta Culture: Community Spirit Program; Burns Memorial Fund; The City of Calgary; Government of Alberta: Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission; Government of Canada - Canada Summer Jobs; Great-West Life, London Life, and Canada Life; Norton Rose Fulbright - Ride for Kids, RBC Foundation; Social Venture Partners Calgary; Starbucks Canada Charitable Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation; Suncor Energy Foundation; TD Bank Group; TELUS

$5,000 - $9,999

CIBC; George Fink; Imperial Oil; Rotary Club of Calgary East

$1 - $4,999

Agnieszka Galica-DaBreo; Aixia Wang; Alan and Geri Moon; Andrew Burpee; Andrew Phung; Anthony Casuncad; The Art of Progress - Change Management Consulting; Ashley Cormier; Association of Fundraising Professionals; Auburn Bay Residents Association; Barry Worbets; BBQ on the Bow Society; Benjamin Carmona; Byong-Jun Min; Calgary 2012; Calgary Arts Development; Calgary Comic & Entertainment Expo; Carewest; Cas Morel; CBI Home Health Ltd.; Charles Fischer; Cheryl Starr Design Group; Christopher Morris; The Cindy Johnson Fund at The Calgary Foundation; Connor Hodgins; Courtney Bunney; The Cranston Residents' Association; Danielle Bezeau; Dave and Paula Morris; David and Carolyn Atkinson; David Swann, MD, MLA; Dean Allatt and Donna Dixon; Elisea De Somma; Eric and Connie Morris; Eric Smith; Ernest Fong; Filsan Abdi; First Calgary Financial; Francis Jimenez; Gerald Patwell; Giang Trinh; Greg Quinn; Halliburton Giving Choices; Hodon Abdi; Howard Mackichan; Jack Leslie Family; Jamie Leong-Huxley; Janica Fisher; Jemison Jackson; Jennifer and Christopher Atkinson; Jennifer England; Jerilynn Daniels; Joanne Cuthbertson; Joe Koster (Inline Towing Group Inc.); John and Sandra Hodgins; Jude Wilner; Kait Dinunzio; Lane Quinn Benefit Consultants Ltd.; Larry Kemball; Laurel Hodgins; Linda Macnamara; Lindsay Reyes; Linna Morgan; Lisa Kindree; Lou Zaganelli; Louise Kindree; Lynn & Thomas Rafter; Magda Galica-Huot; Maike Kemball; Marnie Worbets; Mark Parekh; Martha Parker; Mathew Burpee; Maureen Devolin; Munira Nagji; Murlyne Fong; Myanmar Buddist Temple; Nasra Abdul; Natasha Hoa; Nickle Family Foundation; Our Lady of Assumption Elementary and Junior High School; Patti Phelps; Penny Hume; Planet Foods; Rhonda Doi; Rita Bovon; Rob Gray; Rosalynd Doi; Sairose Kassam; Sarah Alonso; Scott Decksheimer; Scott Walter; Shaw TV; Shelly and Raymond Tsuen; Shelley Hedin; The Society for Canadian Studies & Youth Enrichment; Sonja Elarco; Spruce Meadows Ltd.; Stephanie Lim; Stephen Murphy; Steve Leitl; Suqin Ma; Susan Levy; Susan Stobo; Suzy Moutinho; Sylvia Galica; Talisman Energy Inc.; TD Friends of the Environment Foundation; Terri Pickard; Terry Bullick; Todd Crawford; Tony Tran; Tricia Winslow; Twyla Moon; United Way - Donor Choice; Val Hilliker; Val Robertson; Varsity Community Association; Vermilion Energy Inc.; Vernon Rubiano; Wayne Hui; Wayne and Martha Stewart; Wickenheiser International Women's Hockey Festival; X92.9; YOLO Holdings Inc.; Zaheed Damani

alexandra wadey

Through Youth Central, Alexandra Wadey has found her voice.

Serving on the Mayor's Youth Council for the past three years, she helps to choose topics relevant to youth and report her findings to the City of Calgary. The Mayor's Youth Council generates positive, meaningful change in the community.

"As youth, we spend six to seven hours a day in a classroom getting talked at," Alexandra says.

"Because of what Youth Central does, there are people interested in what we're saying and actually listening."

The highlight of her experience in the Mayor's Youth Council is meeting with Mayor Nenshi twice a year.

"I'm always so awestruck when we meet with him," she says. "He is so engaged with what we present to him. He cares. Things change in the city because of what we say."

In addition to meeting new friends on the Mayor's Youth Council, Alexandra has also encouraged several friends to join the program, creating a ripple effect in her school.

She says, "I talk about Youth Central all the time, and so do my friends, because it's such a huge part of our lives. I didn't realize that volunteering could be this contagious. Even people I wouldn't expect to want to volunteer hop on board.

"I've learned how awesome it can be for youth to get together. When they actually care, really cool things can happen."

Alexandra says she is motivated to volunteer because she can see the positive outcome. She is also a part of the Youth Week Calgary steering committee, where she is a leader in connecting with businesses and agencies to encourage them to participate in a week-long celebration of youth every April.

financial highlights

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	2013	2012
ASSETS		
Current	$73,256	$143,740
Capital Assets	$3,726	$3,454
	$76,982	**$147,194**
LIABILITIES		
Current	$14,658	$16,499
Deferred Contributions - Restricted	$64,613	$125,226
Deferred Contributions - Capital Assets	$3,726	$3,454
Deferred Contributions - Unrestricted	$14,481	$14,482
	$97,478	**$159,661**
NET ASSETS		
General Fund	($20,496)	($12,467)
	$76,982	**$147,194**

For more details, please see our audited financial statements at www.youthcentral.com or contact us for a mailed copy.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Donations	$313,273	$344,172
Government grants	$199,409	$209,621
Foundation grants	$80,991	$70,635
Fundraising revenue	$79,796	$22,931
Sponsorships and other revenue	$28,216	$34,074
	$701,685	**$681,433**
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries and wages	$501,666	$473,505
Rent	$56,180	$55,103
Program expense	$51,030	$68,380
Consultants	$40,754	$26,998
Office	$9,530	$8,109
Youth foundation grant expenses	$9,185	$5,656
Accounting fees	$6,663	$6,663
Printing expense	$5,367	$3,549
Telephone	$5,158	$7,754
Insurance	$4,755	$4,668
Volunteer expense	$3,671	$1,918
Board of directors expense	$3,397	$1,859
Amortization	$2,726	$2,486
Other expense	$2,490	$6,515
Training	$2,406	$500
Honorarium expenses	$2,366	$4,304
Memberships	$1,819	$1,520
Bank and visa charges	$322	$2,218
Staff transportation	$229	$477
	$709,714	**$682,182**
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	**$(8,029)**	**$(749)**

inspire
engage
celebrate

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