

May 2013

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[A Knowledge Philanthropist's Story](#)

Blog

[Kevin](#)

May 3, 2013

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This blog post is the second in a series of success stories featured in our [2012 Annual Report](#).

By Kevin Ronaghan, Vantage Point knowledge philanthropist

Vivian Smith's work as a knowledge philanthropist was not something she sought out; rather, it found her. "It was in the days when Vantage Point was still known as Volunteer Vancouver," she recalls. "I was co-volunteering with one of their employees on a committee of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She told me that her organization was looking for volunteer facilitators for its board development program, and thought I would be..."

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[Unmotivated Volunteers? Up the Intensity.](#)

Blog

[Annastasia](#)

May 7, 2013

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Intensity increases when we apply greater energy over a shorter period of time. That is somewhat counterintuitive. Common sense might suggest that adding intensity would deplete our energy. Yet applied in the right way, intensity actually has the opposite effect.

Think about workouts. For years I tried to regularly hit the gym. My goal was to go four times a week for an hour each time. I was never able to maintain this schedule and therefore never saw results. Then I started working with a trainer who increased the difficulty of my cardio and weight training, while decreasing the amount of...

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[A Knowledge Philanthropist's Story](#)

Blog

[Kevin](#)

May 10, 2013

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This blog post is the third in a series of success stories featured in our [2012 Annual Report](#).

By Kevin Ronaghan, Vantage Point knowledge philanthropist

Randy Schaefer's interest in becoming a knowledge philanthropist grew from his previous experiences in the not-for-profit sector. "Volunteering on boards and in other not-for-profit roles made me aware of how important effective management and stewardship is," he says. "As a result, I've developed the belief that knowledgeable and effective executive directors and board members are essential to achieving the impact each

organization intends...

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[An Interim's Choices - Retreat? Hold the line? Forge ahead?](#)

Blog
[Maria Turnbull](#)
May 14, 2013
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Military strategists spend significant energy and time contemplating the relative value of retreating, holding the battle line, or exploding with unexpected force to secure that next foothold. I've been thinking lately about how someone in an interim role (me, in this case) can apply this analogy to contemplate possible paths for most effectively leading an organization, for a time-limited period, at a specific moment in the organization's life cycle.

I hadn't given it much thought until one of my "knowledge transfer" conversations with our outgoing Executive Director, Colleen Kelly. Colleen...

[Read more about An Interim's Choices - Retreat? Hold the line? Forge ahead?](#)
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[The Story of The Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)

Blog
[Lynda](#)
May 17, 2013
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This blog post is the fourth in a series of success stories featured in our [2012 Annual Report](#).

Like many projects, *The Abundant Not-for-Profit* began as an audacious idea.

We had no budget to support a project of this magnitude. There were many other - more urgent - priorities. Not to mention we'd never undertaken anything of this scope. And yet, we believed a book would spread our message further and faster than ever before. It could reach and inspire forward thinking not-for-profit leaders we might otherwise never meet. Blaze a new path to sustainability for the sector.

It was also a golden...

[Read more about The Story of The Abundant Not-for-Profit](#)
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[Recognizing Your Volunteers - Just Ask!](#)

Blog
[Annastasia](#)
May 23, 2013
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Have you ever just asked your volunteers how they like to be recognized?

I see so many articles and toolkits and workshops with titles such as "50 ways to recognize your volunteers" or "how to run a successful volunteer recognition program". Too often, organizations plan huge volunteer events with awards and recognition gifts - wall art, mugs, t-shirts - which never get used because they aren't meaningful to the people who receive them.

One of the volunteers I work with recently told me she is motivated by the knowledge that her role has had a positive impact on the program participants, so I...

[Read more about Recognizing Your Volunteers - Just Ask!](#)
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[2012 Leaders Forum with Fierce, Inc.](#)

Blog
[Lynda](#)
May 28, 2013
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This blog post is the fifth in a series of success stories featured in our [2012 Annual Report](#).

In October, 140 not-for-profit leaders gathered at Vantage Point's 2012 Leaders Forum, eager to shake up their leadership approach and learn new

skills to transform their organizations and communities.

Bringing Fierce Conversations to Vancouver was a significant milestone in our work to inspire and build leadership in the voluntary sector. Halley Bock, CEO of Fierce, Inc., one of North America's leading experts on leadership development and workplace communication, led an invigorating morning...

[Read more about 2012 Leaders Forum with Fierce, Inc.](#)
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[Setting up for Success: Steps to Executive Director Recruitment](#)

Blog
[Nancy More](#)
May 30, 2013
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In April 2013, Vantage Point launched the search for our next executive director. Follow this blog series to learn about our recruitment process, and tips for leading a process of your own.

Of the many responsibilities of a board, one of the most critical for the success of the organization is the recruitment and selection of a new executive director (ED) or CEO. It is also one that many boards aren't ready for at the time. As we are actively engaged in this right now at Vantage Point, we thought you might be interested in the process we are using.

The critical question is *what does the...*

[Read more about Setting up for Success: Steps to Executive Director Recruitment](#)
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