

Culture: People First

[Part Three: Creating a Technology Budget for Your Not-for-Profit](#)

Blog
[Philip Manzano](#)
January 21, 2019
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In the last blog in our not-for-profit technology series, we took a look at [finding right tools](#) for your organization. It's always best to ask as many questions as possible to your technology vendors, to make sure you feel comfortable. Once you find the right tool - here comes the fun part. Finding the budget for it.

Be Realistic

When you start setting a budget for your technology purchase, it's important to be realistic. If you have the benefit of historical perspective, take a look at similar purchases in the past. Look at some of the biggest purchases that your organization has made, and...

[Read more about Part Three: Creating a Technology Budget for Your Not-for-Profit](#)
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[Five resources to start your year!](#)

Blog
[Miranda Maslany](#)
January 9, 2019
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It's the New Year and here at the Vantage Point office we are ready take on 2019! I'd like to share some of our top resources that can support you in to have a dazzling and productive year ahead.

1. [Annual Goal Setting & Development](#) (downloadable resource)

It's the time of year that everyone is making shiny new goals. We sure are! In January each Vantage Point team member creates on their goals for the year and comes up with an action plan. Use this resource as a starting point and modify it to suit the needs of your organization! Also consider planning out one or two [stretch assignments...](#)

[Read more about Five resources to start your year!](#)
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[Community Impact and Culture - Two Sides of the Same Coin?](#)

Blog
[Mark Friesen](#)
August 1, 2017
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Imagine a community service organization with no explicit policy manual on customer communications. Yet somehow, whenever the phone rings or someone walks in the front door, whichever staff member is in the office stops what they're doing to provide immediate assistance, regardless of that person's role in the organization. How does this happen? How does a particular pattern of behaviour become consistent across a diverse team?

[Read more about Community Impact and Culture - Two Sides of the Same Coin?](#)
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[Our Reconciliation Journey Continues](#)

Blog
[Maria Turnbull](#)
June 5, 2017
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In recognition of National Aboriginal History Month we wanted to take a moment to reflect on our reconciliation journey to date. Vantage Point recently established a Reconciliation Task Force with the goal to guide and support our efforts in reconciliation.

[Read more about Our Reconciliation Journey Continues](#)
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[HIGHLIGHTING VOLUNTEERS IN YOUR ANNUAL REPORT](#)

Blog
[Carol Neuman](#)
February 20, 2017
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As a primary tool of communicating impact, your annual report tells an important story about your organization: who you are, what you value, how you impact the community, and who contributes to your success. So, it can serve you well to highlight the role of volunteers in your annual report.

[Read more about HIGHLIGHTING VOLUNTEERS IN YOUR ANNUAL REPORT](#)
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[Reconciliation and Vantage Point: Our Journey Begins](#)

Blog
[Maria Turnbull](#)
June 20, 2016
2



Almost a year ago, staff and board at Vantage Point began to critically consider our organization's Indigenous cultural competency. Our journey began with a (not so simple) question: why, when, and how would we acknowledge that our offices and training space are located on traditional Aboriginal territory? As we endeavoured to make space for this important conversation, we reached out to knowledge-keepers and more informed perspectives to provide guidance and support in the journey. Many talented people in our community responded from both within our own team and outside Vantage Point.

[Read more about Reconciliation and Vantage Point: Our Journey Begins](#)
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[Practicing Gratitude](#)

Blog

[Denise Baker](#)

December 9, 2014

2

Some years ago I was going through a tough time personally and discovered the practice of gratitude. This involved intentionally writing in a journal what I was grateful for every day, and re-reading it every morning. I listed many things, from the mundane - "it was sunny today" to the emotional - "I am grateful for the love of my family." I found that this deliberate focus on the positive improved my outlook and I felt happier.

I know that many of us in the not-for-profit sector can struggle with the enormity of the challenges facing us and the issues we are trying to solve. At times, our...

[Read more about Practicing Gratitude](#)

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[Thank You! And Farewell to 2013](#)

Blog

[Denise Baker](#)

December 23, 2013

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As 2013 winds down, we're reflecting on what an amazing year it has been.

In addition to engaging hundreds of not-for-profit professionals in our learning opportunities and distributing nearly 1,000 copies of *The Abundant Not-for-Profit*, we also welcomed four new employees - myself included! It's been an inspiring and exhilarating few months of getting to know each other, planning for 2014, and of course engaging with many of you.

Thank you for being a part of our community. Whether we've connected with you as a knowledge philanthropist, a reader, a participant in a learning opportunity, a...

[Read more about Thank You! And Farewell to 2013](#)

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[Q&A: Free Labour](#)

Blog

[Lynda](#)

September 26, 2013

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[Our series](#) continues...

This week's question comes from Sarah in Vancouver. She asks, "I'm intrigued by the concept of knowledge philanthropy. However, I feel a little concerned that it's another way of using people for free labour."

Thanks for the honest question, Sarah. We acknowledge that there is a real problem in the not-for-profit sector of people being underpaid and undervalued for their contributions. To be very clear, knowledge philanthropy is not about exploiting people in the name of 'meaning'. Nor do we consider volunteers 'free labour'.

Knowledge philanthropy is about creating roles...

[Read more about Q&A: Free Labour](#)

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[The Cold-Calling Volunteer: Go on, Take the Risk](#)

Blog

[Maria Turnbull](#)

March 28, 2013

2

Two weeks ago, our crew was buzzing about a potential knowledge philanthropist who'd left us a voice message. David is a self-described entrepreneur, innovator, and influencer. Soon after moving to Vancouver he wandered past Vantage Point's offices, noticed a poster about our [new book](#), went home and downloaded it, read it and called us to see how his skills could further our mission. Wow!

The theme of the upcoming [BoardSource Leadership Forum](#) is *Bold Leadership: Taking Risks, Thinking Big!* It has prompted me to think about the kinds of risk I take as a leader. Specifically, I've been...

[Read more about The Cold-Calling Volunteer: Go on, Take the Risk](#)

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Pages

[1](#)

[2](#)

[next »](#)

[last »](#)