

Knowledge Philanthropy Spotlight

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At Vantage Point we are advocates of skilled volunteering – which we call knowledge philanthropy. In the spirit of National Volunteer Week, we wanted to revisit what this concept means to us as an organization.

What is Knowledge Philanthropy?

Knowledge philanthropy is the intentional practice of engaging someone’s experience, skills or talent to create a better world – and it’s an incredible way to expand the capacity of not-for-profit work.

Each of our volunteers – or knowledge philanthropists – lends their skills and talents to our mission and we consider them to be truly transformative...

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[How we can better work with the incredible talent in our community?](#)

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Every day I ask the question: “is there a way we can engage a knowledge philanthropist”? or “how we can better work with the incredible talent in our community”? In the not-for-profit sector, there is always more to do than time to do it. As an Executive Director of a small not-for-profit, I knew my knowledge was a mile wide yet also an inch deep...

There was an expectation that I was a Jack (or Jill) of all trades.

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[Knowledge Philanthropy Spotlight: Cheryle Beaumont](#)

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“Cheryle is an incredible facilitator who can skillfully bring out enriched discussion from the group. Her extensive experience in the sector, her passion and her genuine curiosity really set her apart.”

Cheryle Beaumont first brought her time and talent to Vantage Point’s Governance Lab in 2012, after a long career in public education. Joining us as the facilitator for Governance Lab, Cheryle advised on the program’s content and approach, delivered the program curriculum and facilitated the shared learning experience among executive directors, board chairs and vice chairs. When asked why she...

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[Knowledge Philanthropy Spotlight: Charlene Dy Syyong](#)

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“Charlene is thoughtful, and has a solid understanding of the not-for-profit sector. Her passion for collaborative environments and ability to synthesize complex information are what excite me most about welcoming her to our team of facilitators.”

When Charlene Dy Syyong stumbled across the role description for Vantage Point’s Customized Board Governance Facilitator, she couldn’t believe a volunteer position could encapsulate so many of her favourite things. “I have personal expertise in board governance and I really feel I come alive when I facilitate. I wanted to do more facilitation and...

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[Knowledge Philanthropy Spotlight: Glen Jessup](#)

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“Meetings with Glen always involved lots of laughs, and often, Timbits. Glen is a fantastic combination of creativity, strategic thinking and marketing acumen. We’re so lucky to have someone so talented and dynamic as part of our team.”

Glen Jessup has spent the past 10 years as “Head Marketing Guy” (and official taster!) for Sleeman Breweries. Having recently taken a career break to focus on personal development, including a search for a volunteer opportunity, Glen landed at Vantage Point from a simple Google search.

When Glen approached us with his skill set, Vantage Point was about to...

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[Knowledge Philanthropy Spotlight: Martha Sales](#)

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“Martha has an infectious energy and is a joy to be around. She has an amazing ability to draw the best out of people, and challenge their thinking in a creative way.”

Martha Sales is an Executive Coach who first brought her time and talent to Vantage Point’s Executive Lab in 2012, providing coaching and development to the team of seasoned executive director mentors. Coming to us via referral from another knowledge philanthropist, Martha joined Vantage Point because it offered her the opportunity to connect her values of volunteering, community building and leadership development.

Since then...

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