

## MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Personalized volunteer matching services turn lives around in St Albert: Just a few of the 345 million hours Alberta Volunteers contribute every year**

*Communities celebrate Volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, 2018*

EDMONTON, AB, April 9, 2018—Instead of recommending just any available volunteer placement to complete court-ordered community service hours, the team at St. Albert CIVC focuses on what volunteers are actually interested in as a career. In the case of one young volunteer, it was cooking!

St. Albert CIVC matched her with a volunteer position as a server at a dinner theatre. Knowing she was interested in the kitchen, the Chef took her under his wing and shared cooking tips and tricks. She enjoyed her experience so much she is now working part-time at an upscale kitchen.

"It's community service done right," says Glennis Kennedy, Director, Volunteer Centre Services, St. Albert CIVC. "It's meant to prevent a criminal record, and it's a second chance to turn life around."

Communities across the province celebrate caring volunteer programs like this during National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, 2018. Each year, nonprofits across Canada host community-wide events to recognize their volunteers and promote the value of volunteerism. Volunteering is as diverse as Canada itself, but one thing remains timeless—volunteerism creates positive impact in all our communities.

Alberta volunteers contribute over **345 million hours** to the provincial economy every year—the equivalent of **189,560 full-time jobs** or upwards of **\$9 billion**. That's over 2% of Alberta's GDP in unpaid, volunteer human resources.

"It's difficult to imagine how our communities and social structures would function without the generosity of those who offer their time and skills," says Jann Beeston, Executive Director of Volunteer Alberta. "So it's important to recognize the immense value volunteers bring to our province, and the country."

Learn more about NVW [events in your community](#) and be inspired by [local volunteer stories!](#)

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