

## June 2011

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### Upcoming Events

[Spirit of Volunteerism and AGM: September 2011.](#)  
Location TBA.

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## Registered Charities and the 2011 Federal Budget

by Sheena Carpenter, Treasurer, DCO Board of Directors

The 2011 Federal Budget contains several items of interest to registered charities. One significant change is to the eligibility requirements for individuals in control of registered charities.



The new federal budget proposes measures that restrict who may become officers, directors, or trustees of a registered charity. An individual is considered to be ineligible to be in one of these positions at a registered charity if the individual

- has been found guilty of a relevant criminal offence and not been pardoned;
- has been found guilty of a relevant offence in the last five years;
- was a officer, director or trustee of a charity during a period in which the charity was engaged in activities that constitute a breach of charity status registration requirements and had its registration revoked in the last five years; or
- was a promoter of a tax shelter that involved the gift to a registered charity.

The result of this restriction is that if an individual has been identified as-ineligible and remains in a position of control at the registered charity, the CRA may suspend the charity right to issue official donation receipts or revoke the registered charity status for that organization.

The CRA is currently in the process of developing a detailed plan as to how individual eligibility will be monitored and administered. If a restricted individual is found to be on the board of directors, the registered charity will be contacted to resolve the concerns. If the concerns are not addressed, the CRA will apply the sanctions indicated above. These new rules take affect January 1, 2012.

Additional information on the changes is available on the [Government of Canada website](#).

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## DCO continues its Visioning and Strategy-Setting Process

In May 2011, members of Distress Centres Ontario met in Niagara Falls. The general purpose of the event was to set directions and priorities for the next three years within the context of the accomplishments and shortfalls encountered during implementation of the previous three-year strategic plan.



The Board of Directors met in March 2011 for a planning day that provided the foundation for the May event. There were several specific objectives for that day including:

- Reviewing the current vision, mission and current strategic priorities and achieve consensus regarding any changes;
- Reviewing the current status of projects, as the continued applicability to all member centres;
- Involving the participants in collaborative exercises that enabled them to contribute information and insights and identify Strategic Priorities for the direction of the 'network' over the next three years;
- Confirming the role of DCO over the next three years in support of the networks' vision; and
- Staging a dynamic retreat to benefit all participants and lay the foundation for the development of a new three-year strategic plan later this year.

Participants' reviews of the day were very positive and much was accomplished. The Board will be reviewing the results during the summer and the information will be shared with all attendees in the early fall months.

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## Millennial Engagement: New Ways of Leadership

Original article by Trina Isakson, edited by Leah Morrigan

*Young people, Millennials, are our next generation of community leaders, philanthropists, staff, and board members, the people that will be running the future. They self-identify as passionate, connected, and optimistic people who want to make an impact in the world.*



Historically, leadership was described to be wrapped up in people with important titles and specific characteristics. Researchers used language like "Great Man Theory" and "Trait Theory" to describe how leaders led.

Now, leadership - especially as viewed by Millennials - is changing from something connected to a formal title to that of a set of actions accessible to anyone, no matter what his or her position in an organization.

This new leadership, often referred to as "transformational leadership", has been referred to in CharityVillage® articles before. In an [interview from 2009](#), Al Hatton, president and CEO of [United Way of Canada - Centraide Canada](#) argued that "transformational leadership would resonate with young people, but I don't think we're very advanced in that."

Transformational leaders communicate clear vision and values, are responsible role models, consider the individual interests of the people around them, and create environments that invite new ideas and constructive feedback.

When the Millennials in our communities ignore organizational charts, reporting protocol and formal structures, it's because they are attracted to people that act in ways consistent with transformational leadership.

All of us can develop our transformational leadership by setting behaviour-based goals and implementing these actions in regular intervals. Examples of these goals could be:

- I will thank one person per day;
- I will discuss career aspirations with individual staff;
- I will follow through on time with action items I have been assigned in meetings;
- I will encourage staff to challenge the status quo (of processes, events, etc.);
- I will find opportunities for staff to work outside of their role description when it fits with their learning goals.

Take a moment to think about the best leaders you've worked with. Were they transformational leaders? When Millennial staff turnover is high, a gap in transformational leadership is likely one of the reasons, and here we have

an opportunity to lose that gap.

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## Distress Centre Durham's Annual Walk for Suicide Awareness

Distress Centre Durham's 7th Annual Walk for Suicide Awareness is being held on Saturday, September 10, 2011 at Heydenshore Park, Whitby.



*"helping those in distress to cope..."*

Please consider becoming a sponsor and donate on the [Canada Helps website](#) and thank you for your support!

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## Happy Canada Day!

All DCO staff and support people wish everyone in our network and association a wonderful CANADA DAY weekend. We hope you have an opportunity to get out in the warm weather and celebrate our wonderful nation. Enjoy!!



Happy Canada Day!

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## Spirit of Volunteerism and AGM 2011



Remember that we will be celebrating our Spirit of Volunteerism nominees and recipients in September. You will receive notification of the date and location in July and hopefully everyone will be available to attend. The DCO AGM will occur immediately before the celebratory dinner.

**distress  
centres**  
ontario

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