



MARCH 2006  
NEWSLETTER

# ALTRUVEST LINK

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## MESSAGE FROM ROB FOLLOWS

**FOUNDER & CHAIR, ALTRUVEST CHARITABLE SERVICES**

As you may know, Sol Kasimer, Altruvest's CEO during the past 3 ½ years, has completed his term with us and has moved onto new endeavors in the charitable sector. We thank him for his valuable contribution to Altruvest and wish him the best of luck in the future!

Over the course of several months, we conducted an extensive search to find Altruvest's next CEO, and as one of the charter contributors to Altruvest, it is my pleasure to announce that the Board and staff of Altruvest have officially welcomed Mr. Kal Tobias into the leadership role as of January 2, 2006.

Kal comes to Altruvest after a successful career in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. Kal was the President and Chief Executive Officer with DHL Canada for over nineteen years. In an effort to give back to the community and support the charitable sector, Kal became the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Childhood Cancer Foundation-Candlelighters Canada. He then moved onto VoicePrint Canada as their Managing Director. VoicePrint is Canada's only National reading service providing twenty-four hour programming for those who are blind or visually restricted.

Out of the eighty applicants that applied for the Altruvest CEO position, Kal was uniquely positioned to help Altruvest and its stakeholders, in both the corporate and charitable sectors, leverage the value that Altruvest and its programs deliver. With his experience in both sectors, our Selection Committee felt that Kal was the best equipped to lead Altruvest in continuing to build a strong bridge focused on capacity-building between our corporate and charitable communities.

On behalf of the entire Board and staff at Altruvest, we thank you for your support of and contribution to our programs, and for helping us build valuable tools to enhance our charitable organizations' capacity to give more. We are continuing to focus on expanding and improving the BoardMatch® Fundamentals, BoardMatch Leaders and BoardWorx Executive Director programs.

We look forward to working with all of you for many years to come and to continue making this world a better place for more of us. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on improving Altruvest's programs, please feel free to contact myself at [rob@stscapital.com](mailto:rob@stscapital.com) or Kal at [ktobias@altruvest.org](mailto:ktobias@altruvest.org) anytime.

Rob Follows  
Founder and Chair  
Altruvest Charitable Services



[www.altruvest.org](http://www.altruvest.org)



## UPCOMING BOARDMATCH FUNDAMENTALS SESSIONS:

### FOR CANDIDATES

March 23, 2006 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
at 55 John Street,  
Toronto Metro Hall in Room 313

### FOR CHARITIES

March 28, 2006 from 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
at 55 John Street,  
Toronto Metro Hall in Room 314

## SOME AVAILABLE BOARD OPENINGS

**Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights (CLAHR)** is a non-profit, non-governmental organization, established to promote human rights globally through legal education, advocacy, and law reform.

Seeking 2 general board members with fundraising and marketing skills

**Camp Quality** provides a year-round support program for children with cancer and their families.

Seeking a general board member with fundraising and management skills

**The Bruce Trail Association** is a charitable organization committed to securing, for a public footpath and long-term conservation, an unbroken natural corridor along the Niagara Escarpment from Niagara to Tobermory.

Seeking a general board member with fundraising skills in Toronto

## PROGRAM UPDATES!



## BoardMatch Fundamentals National Expansion

Altruvest is pleased to announce that the National Expansion of the BoardMatch Fundamentals program is well underway! In addition to BoardMatch Fundamentals being available in the Greater Toronto and Greater Vancouver areas, it is also now available in Calgary, Fredericton, and Thunder Bay. We welcome our local co-operators of the program - Volunteer Calgary and Volunteer Thunder Bay! Please share this community resource and your BoardMatch experience with your sector colleagues in these new locations! *You will notice our new BoardMatch Fundamentals Canada logo!*



Altruvest's BOARDMATCH LEADERS now has in excess of 250 high potential individuals employed from over 35 corporations in the GTA go through this program. Altruvest is currently exploring additional delivery models and future expansion for BOARDMATCH LEADERS.

Our new BOARDMATCH LEADERS Network successfully debuted on October 26, 2005 at the Renaissance Hotel Downtown at Rogers Centre, and was sponsored by Scotiabank. The networking breakfast featured governance expert Mel Gill who spoke about 'Board-Staff Relations'.

Our second BOARDMATCH LEADERS Network breakfast was recently held on February 22, 2006 at the Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre hotel, and was sponsored by Deloitte. The keynote speaker was Lynda Bowles, Senior Audit Partner at Deloitte who spoke about effective governance and the not-for-profit board. The networking breakfasts included table discussions, which were facilitated by experienced board mentors.

The Deloitte logo, consisting of the word 'Deloitte' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a small yellow dot at the end of the 'e'.

The next BoardMatch Leaders Network breakfast will be held on June 6th at the Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre hotel. For more information, please contact Lynn Chambers at (905)696-5138 or email her at [boardmatchleaders@altruvest.org](mailto:boardmatchleaders@altruvest.org).

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR INAUGURAL BREAKFAST PRESS RELEASE](#)

## IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS TO REPORT!

The number of board matches to date is growing rapidly!

Number of matches = 1430

Number of charitable organizations = 692

## UPCOMING BOARDMATCH LEADERS SESSION DATES

### Part I - FULL DAY SESSION DATES

Wednesday, May 10 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Part II - HALF DAY SESSION DATES

Wednesday, March 29 / Wednesday, June 14 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

For registration details please contact: [admin@altruvest.org](mailto:admin@altruvest.org)



In our last newsletter, we announced the new **BoardWorx**<sup>®</sup> stream of Altruvest programs, which will focus on enhancing the skill sets of senior staff in the charitable sector in the area of governance. The **BoardWorx Executive Director** program (**BWED**) is the first initiative under this new program stream, and was developed as part of Altruvest's 'toolkit' for charitable organizations. BWED focuses on the staff side of the board equation to help Executive Directors have a deeper understanding of their boards, how to work with them more effectively and encourages Executive Directors to view their boards as strategic assets.

The **BoardWorx Executive Director** successfully debuted during the Fall and Winter with three sessions that took place in the City of Toronto, and in both Peel and York Regions. All three sessions were completely filled to capacity with 39 Executive Directors from local charities. Each session consists of two consecutive half-days of classroom training facilitated by Michelle Martinez, Altruvest's Director of Programs, and is complimented by six monthly-facilitated peer-learning circles and mentoring by experienced Executive Directors.

Registrations for upcoming session dates are currently being accepted, however space is limited and filling up quickly.

The next session dates scheduled are:

April 26th/27th – Durham Region

May 16/17 – City of Toronto

June 13th/14th – Cambridge and surrounding area

For more information or to register, please contact the BWED Program Coordinator at 905-696-4990 or by email at [BWED@altruvest.org](mailto:BWED@altruvest.org).



## Everest for Altruvest

Rob Follows and his wife, Katrina Sandling will be trekking back to Mt. Everest in April 2006 as part of their goal to summit the tallest mountains on all seven continents to raise awareness and money in support of the *Everest for Altruvest* campaign.

As we previously reported on their trek to Mt. Everest in 2005, poor weather conditions made it too dangerous for them to summit to the top of so they had to turn back at 26,000 feet last year. They will attempt Mt. Everest again in April and trek to the top in order to continue the 'Everest for Altruvest' fundraising campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to create a long-term Endowment Fund so that Altruvest can continue helping charities in the years to come by providing the tools that they need in order to be stronger and more effective.

To date, Rob and Katrina have successfully reached six of the seven summits as in December 2005 they summited Mt.

Kosciuszko in Australia. Weather permitting if they reach the top of Mt. Everest then they will be the first North American couple to successfully summit the tallest mountains on all seven continents! We wish them a safe journey and look forward to their live updates from the mountain!

So far, the campaign has reached one-third of the \$1,000,000 goal with pledges made for every foot that they climb. No pledge is too small- whether it is \$.25 or \$25 per foot, any amount helps so that Altruvest can continue assisting all the organizations involved with us!

For more information, or to contribute to this campaign, please contact William Pace, Chief Development Officer at 905-696-5140 or [wpace@altruvest.org](mailto:wpace@altruvest.org) via email or log onto [www.altruvest.org/EverestforAltruvest.html](http://www.altruvest.org/EverestforAltruvest.html).



## WHAT'S NEW

### Directors & Officers Liability Insurance Requirement for charitable organizations registered with BoardMatch programs

#### NEW MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR USE OF BOARDMATCH FUNDAMENTALS

As we shared with you in our Fall 2005 Altruvest newsletter, the board of directors of Altruvest has determined that Directors & Officers liability insurance is a 'best practice' in today's governance environment and has mandated that all participating organizations in BoardMatch Fundamentals across Canada must carry such insurance before the organization can post board needs and secure a candidate match. An e-mail has been sent directly to your organization's BMF 'contact person' that outlines this new requirement in more detail.

#### How does this new requirement affect your organization?

**As of April 3, 2006** all organizations that participate in BoardMatch Fundamentals (BMF) in the Greater Toronto Area and surrounding Regions must carry current Directors' and Officers' liability insurance for the benefit of their volunteer board of directors. Such insurance is separate and distinct from general liability insurance that your organization may carry. You will be required to acknowledge its existence in your BMF 'organization portal'.

Organizations that began or completed their registration with BMF as of April 3, 2006 will have until **April 3, 2007** to obtain and confirm the purchase of this insurance with BMF online. Any organization that begins registration after April 3, 2006 will have to obtain and confirm such insurance before they can post board needs.

For further information on obtaining this insurance, please contact your organization's insurance company/broker to explore the options that best suit your organization's needs. You can also access more information about this at the following:  
Volunteer Canada at

<http://www.volunteer.ca/volcan/eng/content/board/program.php?display=4,0>)

Voluntary Sector Initiative at <http://www.vsf-fsbc.ca/eng/liability/index.cfm>

If you have questions related to Altruvest's requirements, please contact the BoardMatch Fundamentals Program Manager at 905-696-5139 or [boardmatchfundamentals@altruvest.org](mailto:boardmatchfundamentals@altruvest.org)

## STAFF UPDATES

We have several new people that have joined the Altruvest team recently! Aside from welcoming Kal Tobias as Altruvest's new CEO, we would also like to welcome William Pace into the position of Chief Development Officer. William has taken over the position that Jennifer McPherson held as Director of Marketing & Development as she has left on maternity leave. We would like to welcome Kim Thorne into the position of Program Coordinator supporting both BoardMatch Leaders and BoardWorx Executive Director programs.

Lastly, Sandra Sorial, who held the position of Program Coordinator for BoardMatch Fundamentals, has transitioned to the position of Marketing & Development Coordinator.

### WHAT IS BEING SAID ABOUT US!

*"All candidates have been extremely professional, dedicated and work very hard for your organizations. We highly recommend that non-profit organizations look into the services provided by BoardMatch."*

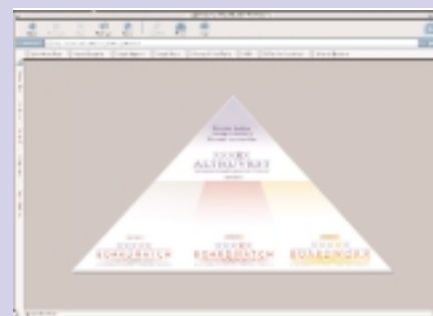
Helen Harakas  
Executive Director - Windfall Clothing

*"I found BoardMatch to be convenient, educational, and extremely useful. Without it I likely wouldn't have found a board whose needs and work matched my interests and skills."*

Cara Wilkie  
Community Outreach Programs in Addiction

*"I thoroughly enjoyed the two half-day sessions with Boardworx. The timing, the experience and the networking was extremely worthwhile. I'm looking forward to the peer groups in the next six months. Thank you for this opportunity!"*

Roxanna Spruyt-Rocks  
Executive Director - Independent Living Residences for the Deafblind in Ontario



### New Altruvest Splash page

Our splash page has been re-designed to incorporate the new BoardWorx Executive Director program!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### National Volunteer Week

**April 23 to April 29**

pays special tribute to Canadian volunteers across the country who give of themselves to better their communities and the lives of others. 'Volunteers Grow Community' remains the theme for National Volunteer Week this year. For more information including a list of events in your area, or to obtain a Campaign kit please log onto [www.volunteer.ca](http://www.volunteer.ca)



### Bay Street Hoops

**March 31- April 3**

Bay Street Hoops is one of Toronto's premier charity sports events with more than 800 players in last year's event from Toronto's leading law and accounting firms,

financial services companies and other corporations, along with hundreds of spectators and volunteers who attended the Tournament and its related events. Since 1995, this event has raised over \$1,000,000 in support of charities in the Toronto area, including \$180,000 in 2005. Altruvest has been very fortunate to be one of the recipients from this event!

Enter a team and help support Altruvest in the process! A new co-ed fun division was added to the mix this year to appeal to all ability levels. For more information, or to register a team please visit [www.baystreethoops.com](http://www.baystreethoops.com)



### 3rd Annual Framework Foundation's Toronto 'Timeraiser'

**April 22, 2006**

The Framework Foundation Timeraiser is an art auction with a twist. Instead of bidding money, you bid your time to organizations like Evergreen, Meal Exchange and more than 40 other volunteer agencies. The Framework Foundation empowers Canadians between 22 and 35 to get in the picture and help build stronger communities through volunteerism. A Timeraiser is part volunteer fair, part silent art auction and part night on the town. It is a celebration with a cause. It is a way for you to get in the picture. For more information, log onto [www.frameworkfoundation.ca](http://www.frameworkfoundation.ca)

## ALTRUVEST IN THE NEWS

'Word of Mouth' is getting around about the good work Altruvest is doing to help strengthen local charitable organizations within our communities through our **BoardMatch® Leaders**, **BoardMatch Fundamentals** and **BoardWorx® Executive Director** programs. Over the past several months, Altruvest has had several articles written up in the following print and electronic publications including:

*Canadian FundRaiser eNews*- An article about Altruvest and the new BoardWorx Executive Director

*Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration 'Non-Profit Notes'* – An article in their eNewsletter 'Using your board as a strategic asset'

*Financial Post Working Section*- An article about Altruvest and the BoardMatch programs

*Great West Life Accountability Report- 'Leaders of Today-Leading By Example'*- An article profiling Great-West Life, London Life, Canada Life's involvement and contribution to the BoardWorx Executive Director program

*Ernst & Young's Alumni News*- An article in their newsletter about the 'Win-Win' Relationship between Ernst & Young & Altruvest

## QUOTABLE QUOTES:

*"In some attempts, it is glorious even to fail."* – Longinus

*"The purpose of life is a life of purpose."* – Robert Byrne

*"Remember you will not always win. Some days, even the most resourceful individual will taste defeat, but there is always tomorrow."* – Maxwell Maltz

*"Hold yourself responsible to a higher standard than anybody expects of you. Never excuse yourself."* – Henry Ward Beecher

## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!



THE J.W. MCCONNELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

