



CIOC IDEA SESSIONS: VOLUNTEER SOFTWARE PLANNING

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INTRODUCTION: VOLUNTEER PLANNING SESSION

The purpose of this discussion is to discuss user priorities for enhancements to the Volunteer Software in 2016

KCL intends to allocated time equivalent to 100% of the Volunteer portion of 2016 and 2017 service and hosting fees towards Volunteer Software feature development; this should be enough for 2-3 more significant features per year or several smaller ones

Additional features may be funded through contributions from participating organizations or co-operative development (cost sharing)

HOW WILL FEATURES BE CHOSEN?

Features will be prioritized considering the following factors:

1. Budget – Emphasis on value for cost
2. User Priority – Input from this session and feature database rankings
3. Funding Availability – Emphasis on features not likely to be funded in other ways, such as contributions from user organizations

FOLLOW-UP AND INFO AFTER THE SESSION

Like all general discussion sessions, the recording of this session will not be posted on YouTube so that participants feel comfortable freely discussing topics

Comments will continue to be welcome after the session, by email or through <https://features.cioc.ca>

This presentation will be updated with comments and suggestions and the slides made available for sharing and review.

Chosen items for 2016 will be announced during the presentation at the CIOC AGM and also available from the CIOC Features Database

WHERE DO WE START?

This presentation has some ideas for several larger-scale changes based on CIOC user comments, research of other sites, and ideas from the Community Information part of the software

<https://features.cioc.ca/> includes other items not listed here, and is a useful ongoing resource for submitting requests, and reviewing / ranking existing requests

Browsing a website and see a great idea? Submit it!

SOFTWARE IDEAS: DATA MANAGEMENT

Multiple locations / contacts in a single Opportunity posting

Find & replace tools (change multiple records at once)

Aligning position descriptions / categories with PREB, Volunteer Canada standards

Make checkboxes available on the Feedback / Suggestion Forms

Create updated standardized help file samples to assist staff and the public in providing consistent and searchable content

Add alerts about required fields on Feedback / Suggestion forms

Simple formatting tools to help people create attractive descriptions

SOFTWARE IDEAS: SEARCHING

Mapping Volunteer Opportunities

Calendars for limited-time events

Primary and Secondary Categories / Interests for better matching

Graphical (icon-based) topic-driven searching

Search refinements / faceted searching

Improve design and configurability of search results page

Field and Search for “Virtual” Opportunities

SOFTWARE IDEAS: REVIEWING DETAILS

Customizable Org/Agency section on the Record Details page

Display Agency Logo / Allow Position Logo or Image

Create tabbed Agency section: About / Listings

Display Organization and Opportunity Location Maps

SOFTWARE IDEAS: COMMUNICATION, ENGAGEMENT, CONTACT MANAGEMENT

Portal for Posting Organizations to review / manage their Opportunities and review past Applications

Add clear ways for the Potential Volunteers or Posting Organization to engage with the Volunteer Centre with comments or questions

Ability to generate email lists / integration with mailing list services such as [MailChimp](#) / [SendGrid](#)

HTML Email templates for “prettier” / branded communications

Create shared resource material / help documentation (target audience Potential Volunteers and/or Posting Agencies) for Volunteer Centres to freely use and modify to create their own help and information documents