



EMERGING
LEADERS

Arts & Culture

Community Development

Philanthropy

THINK TANK II: Arts & Culture, Community Development and Philanthropy

“How can we help improve London or make it more attractive/competitive in this area?”

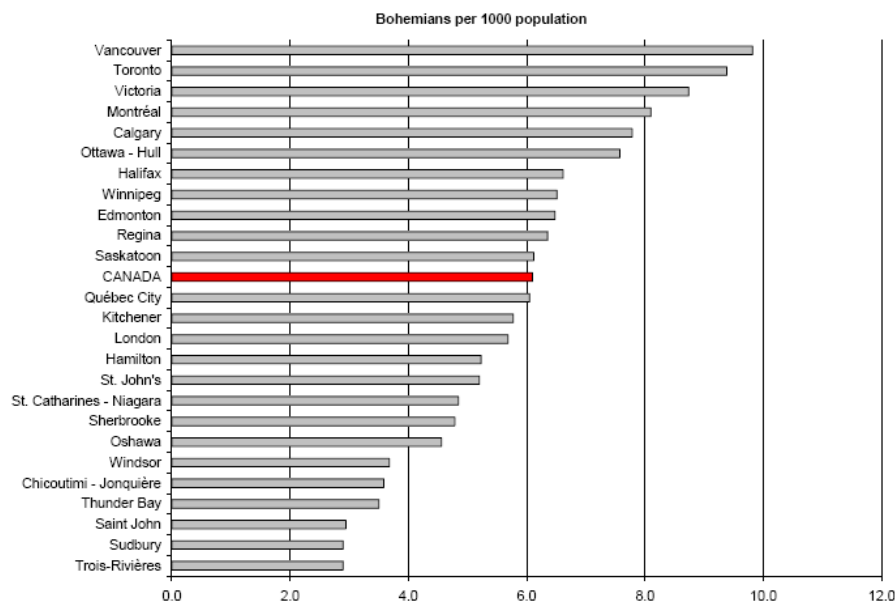
Arts, Culture and Creativity

According to studies like *Competing on Creativity* (see below) and the extensive and widely-read work of Richard Florida, it appears that **city-regions that attract creative and artistic people also attract talented workers.**

From: *Competing on Creativity: A report prepared for the Ontario Ministry of Enterprise, Opportunity and Innovation and the Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity, November 2002*

Creativity has replaced raw materials or natural harbours as the crucial wellspring of economic growth...The most successful city-regions are the ones that have a social environment that is open to creativity and diversity of all sorts. The ability to attract creative people in arts and culture fields and to be open to diverse groups of people of different ethnic, racial and lifestyle groups provides distinct advantages to regions in generating innovations, growing and attracting high technology industries, and spurring economic growth.

Figure 2: Bohemians in Canadian City-Regions



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Bohemian Index – *The Bohemian Index is defined using employment in artistic and creative occupations. It is a location quotient that compares the region's share of the nation's bohemians to the region's share of the nation's population. Canadian data are taken from the 1996 Census of Population.*

Full text at: http://www.creativeclass.org/acrobat/ontario_report.pdf

Community Development

Sound community development includes activities and initiatives that:

- promote active and representative participation toward enabling all community members to meaningfully influence the decisions that affect their lives;
- engage community members in learning about and understanding community issues;
- incorporate the diverse interests and cultures of the community in the community development process; and disengage from support of any effort that is likely to adversely affect the disadvantaged members of a community; and,
- work actively to enhance the leadership capacity of community members, leaders, and groups within the community.

From *What Business Execs Don't Know – but should – About Nonprofits*
Stanford Social Innovation Review
Summer 2006
(Courtesy of the [London Community Foundation](#))

...Everyone has a stake in creating a high-performing nonprofit sector, because the solution of so many of society's problems depends on it.

"It may be hard to compete in the field of consumer packaged goods or electronics or high finance, but it's harder to achieve goals in the nonprofit world because these goals tend to be behavioral. If you set out to do something about breast cancer in this country, or about Social Security solvency, it's a hell of a lot harder to pull that off."

"The true measure of making all this work is to get the talent flowing in both directions. Make not-for-profit managers better so that they can be accepted on the other side of the bridge. And make for-profit people more understanding so they see the value of people from the not-for-profit sector. Not just value them because they know they can run a piece of business, but value them because they understand missions, they understand social change, and they understand social values."

-William Novelli, CEO, Association for the Advancement of Retired Persons (AARP)

Full text at:
http://www.ssireview.org/articles/entry/what_business_execs_dont_know_but_should_about_nonprofits/

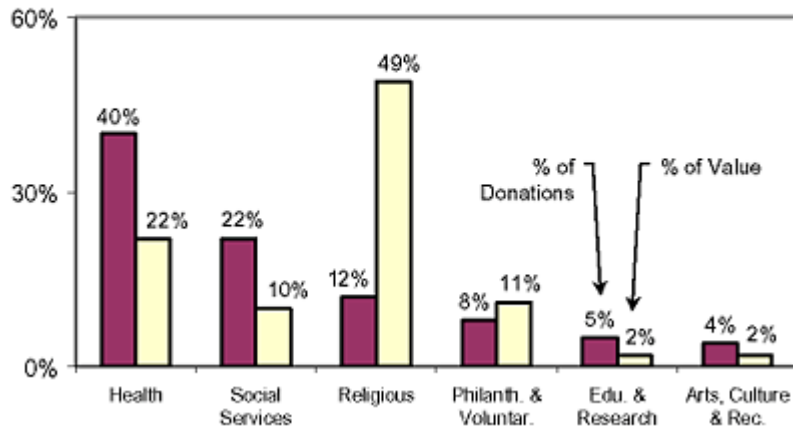
Philanthropy

Philanthropy is a word that can mean different things to different people, but for the purpose of this session, we see philanthropy as the way people give back to their community - whether that giving back is in the form of money or of time.

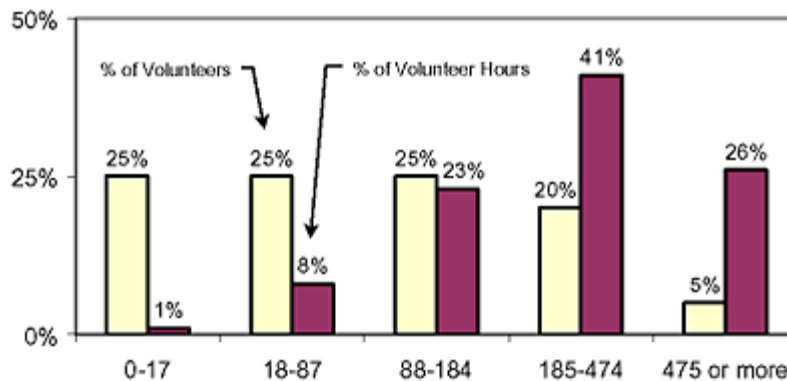
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In London, Ontario more than 76% (3 out of 4) people made financial donations and more than 35% (1 in 3) volunteered for charitable and nonprofit organizations. Donors gave a total of \$403 each to charitable donations totaling approximately \$103.8 million while volunteers contributed a total of 138 hours each during the year, for a total of 16.3 million hours. However, nearly half (48%) of the total dollar value of all donations comes from just 5% of donors. This statistic is also reflected similarly in London's volunteering community. (*London statistics are represented by the pink bars and Ontario averages by the white.*)

Percentage of Donations and Percentage of the Value of Donations Received by Type of Organization



Percentage of Volunteers and Total Hours Volunteered by Number of Hours Volunteered



From the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating

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So, what do YOU think?

The following is a list of questions meant to spark discussion. You do not necessarily have to answer all questions and you are invited to tackle any topic under the general theme of **Arts & Culture, Community Development and Philanthropy, as well as additional issues from Think Tank I.** Use any of the feedback mechanisms at the THINK TANK session to provide your input. You may also prepare your feedback ahead of time and simply submit the information in any form that makes you comfortable. Emerging Leaders is hungry for information from the demographic it represents, and we are looking forward to helping give you a voice. **Please remember, we are looking for action-oriented dialogue and solutions. We want to hear WHAT you think we should do, but we also need to know HOW you would do it.**

During the last Think Tank, participants suggested that we needed to find ways to support, encourage and grow the number -- and diversity-- of arts and entertainment opportunities in our city. How can our demographic make this happen?

What can our demographic do to facilitate greater involvement in all of the events, venues and opportunities that currently exist in London?

How can we build on what London already has to create an even stronger and more supportive community? (For example, welcoming diversity.)

Are there things that your organization/business/institution is currently doing to support our community that others could learn from? What could you be doing even better?

How can our demographic encourage greater levels of volunteerism and philanthropy in our community?

Emerging Leaders Think Tanks: What to Expect

Recognizing the power of dialogue and the cross-pollination of ideas from different people, Emerging Leaders Think Tanks will resemble the increasingly popular *conversational cafés*. Think Tanks will be designed to encourage an open, creative conversation, with the aim of identifying the issues involved while **developing creative solutions** to address them.

Participants are expected to come prepared, having read the brief on this topic. A number of brainstorming stations will be set up utilizing various mediums (i.e. white boards, post-it walls, video corners etc) with facilitators and volunteers helping stimulate dialogue and ensuring your voice is heard. Information collected after each event will be consolidated with highlights posted to the web

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site immediately following each session. A more formal progress report will be posted shortly thereafter.

Come to the THINK TANK sessions with all of your ideas and positive suggestions to help build the London community. But most of all, come to these sessions ready to work! Ideas from each Think Tank will be recorded by facilitators and, within a year's time, the most promising of these ideas, as determined by the group, will be brought forward in a symposium format to the city's current business and community leaders, with the intent of facilitating action-oriented dialogue and positive evolution in the city.

For more on the vision and objectives of Emerging Leaders, please visit www.emergingleaders.ca.