

Message from David T. Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor

There is no better time than during National Volunteer Week in Canada to recognize that Manitoba is the heartland of this incredibly valuable activity. Manitobans give their time and their talents to more than 9,000 charities or non-profit organizations.

One need only witness the spirit of co-operation during times of crisis such as the 2011 flood or during celebrations such as our many summer festivals to see that hard work and generosity of spirit are Manitoba's most plentiful renewable resources.

The University of Manitoba and the province it serves are inextricably linked so it is not surprising that people in our community of learning, discovery and engagement have embraced the volunteer spirit of this special place.

We depend upon dedicated volunteers to ensure responsible governance through the Board of Governors. Volunteers are our best advocates and ambassadors either as part of our Alumni Association or by providing time and guidance in a variety of capacities at the University of Manitoba.

Our students learn early that those who volunteer get as much from the experience as they give. They participate in 110 groups focused on everything from dance and the visual arts to environmental issues and social justice.

Our faculty and staff volunteer both on and off our campuses and fulfill key leadership roles in organizations ranging from day care centre boards to the United Way.

On behalf of the University of Manitoba, I want to thank everyone in our community who sits on a committee, shares their expertise with those in need, coaches a team, provides food or helps raise money for the groups and the causes that make our province so great. Your contribution and commitment are priceless.

Sincerely,

David