

Why People Volunteer for MC Positions

Many of the Presidents and VPs had not acknowledged why people volunteer.

But the MC Members list of reasons for volunteering included:

- gaining new skills, knowledge and experience;
- developing existing skills and knowledge;
- using one's professional skills and knowledge to benefit others;
- meeting new people and making new friends;
- a chance to socialize;
- getting to know the local community;
- and most powerful:
- getting to know the club members better.

More powerful reasons for volunteering were:

- give something back to an organization that has impacted on a person's life, either directly or indirectly;
- make a difference to the lives of others;
- help others less fortunate or without a voice;
- feel valued and part of a team;
- spend quality time away from work or a busy lifestyle;
- and
- gain confidence and self-esteem.

The Presidents are encouraged to 'Sell the Job' – emphasize the WIFM (What's in It for Me) – not the tasks.

The benefits of being on the MC had been articulated as:

- getting to know all of the members and being part of a team;
- I gained greater computer skills;
- I have built up a wealth of knowledge about Probus and gained many close friends...;
- just the pleasure of working with the MC group;
- I was able to get to know my fellow Probians much better and more quickly;
- having the opportunity to impact on the health of the club and the enjoyment of its members;
- the satisfaction of contributing.

and

- a feeling of belonging.