



**APATHY|BORING**  
**VOLUNTEER MANUAL**



STUDENT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA  
APATHY|BORING  
HAVING A GREAT TIME  
IS THE POINT  
OF THE ENTIRE  
EXPERIENCE

# VOLUNTEER MANUAL

## WELCOME!

Thanks for getting in touch with Apathy is Boring. Volunteers are integral to our organization – from helping out at events to working in our offices, volunteers help us spread the word that ‘democracy is sexy’, and ‘apathy is boring’.

Us in a nutshell: The Apathy is Boring Project is a national non-partisan project that uses art and technology to educate young Canadians about democracy.

You + Us = By volunteering with Apathy is Boring, you can contribute to the cause of educating youth about the democratic process and encouraging them to become active citizens and community members. We understand the value of the important work that our volunteers do, and strive to provide quality individualized experiences that are rewarding for both US at Apathy is Boring and YOU, the volunteer.

This guide will give you a short breakdown of “the volunteer experience” at Apathy is Boring: what to expect, what you can do, and how to do it. Enjoy!



# I. APATHY IS BORING

## a. Mission

The Apathy is Boring Project use art & technology to educate youth about democracy.

## b. “Youth in Democracy” Goals

Apathy is Boring aims to:

1. Increase youth voting rates
2. Increase youth engagement in their communities
3. Build a sustainable dialogue between youth and elected officials

## c. Program Areas

Apathy is Boring accomplishes its goals through:

1. Concerts & Events that encourage youth to get involved in their communities and create an opportunity for dialogue between elected officials and youth.
2. A Youth Friendly Program where we give workshops and share tools and resources about engaging youth in decision-making.
3. [www.apathyisboring.com](http://www.apathyisboring.com) which gives youth info and ‘how tos’ about getting involved in democracy, and offers them a space for dialogue.
4. Election Campaigns that reach out to youth and give them the info they need to make an informed vote.



## II. VOLUNTEERING AND YOU

One of Apathy is Boring's goals is to increase youth volunteerism. Why not help us reach that goal and volunteer with us? Apathy Is Boring started as a completely volunteer-run effort, and volunteers still are an essential part of what we do, in fact we couldn't do it without YOU!

Volunteering with us has tons of perks, not to mention the benefits of gaining work experience, meeting new people, and making a difference. Because volunteering is so important to us, we make sure to recognize and reward all volunteer efforts, big and small.



GET STARTED NOW

1

**First:** Sign up for user profile at [www.apathyisboring.com](http://www.apathyisboring.com). You can't miss it – just go to the home page and fill out the fields under “Don't be boring. Register now.”

2

**Second:** You'll receive an email verification for your profile. Just confirm your email address and then go ahead and edit your profile – you can add in contact information, a brief bio, anything at all! Don't worry – any or all of this information can be kept private; just make sure to indicate which profile fields you'd like to be public.

3

**Third:** Email your newly created Apathy is Boring user profile name to [info@apathyisboring.com](mailto:info@apathyisboring.com) and let us know that you're interested in volunteering. Include any relevant information that can help us match you with a task – your experiences, interests, or if there's something you'd like to learn.

4

**Fourth:** We'll get in touch with you to schedule a meeting (in person or by phone / Skype) and to talk more about getting started!

# III. VOLUNTEER TASKS

## Your mission, should you choose to accept it...

As a national organization with a web-based community, Apathy is Boring works with volunteers in all places and at all levels – physically at our head office in Montreal and remotely with people across the country, doing tasks ranging from promotion at events to helping us with the inner workings at the office.

After you've registered for your free user profile and emailed us your user name, check out the following volunteer tasks and job descriptions. We'll work with you to find the best fit depending on your interests, skills, and time commitment.

### Translation

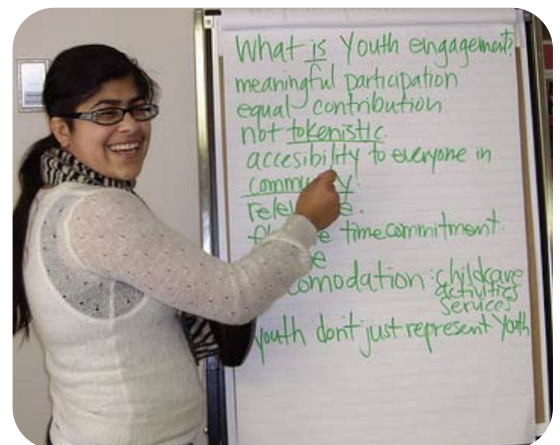
Apathy is Boring operates bilingual services – our website, programming, and materials are translated by volunteers like you. While the majority of translation work is English to French, we are also always on the lookout for people to write content in French and to further develop the French side of the site.

### Graphic / Multimedia Design

Got a knack for design? Want to build your portfolio? Apathy is Boring has a strong and edgy brand, and we need all our materials to reflect that image. Past volunteers have designed everything from promotional flyers to contest logos. We also need volunteers interested in creating videos, touching up photos, and helping us with all sorts of design tasks. If you're creative and are interested in helping out, let us know.

### Office Admin

Want to hang out in the A is B office and learn by osmosis? We always need a hand around the office, so by committing to volunteering with us a half-day or day a week you can work closely with our amazing staff, and learn handy skills that will help you in any job. This can include tasks like data entry, translation, or website maintenance and uploading. For example, you could be responsible for helping us track rates of participation among youth. All the data we collect is entered into our system – from workshop evaluations to survey results – and used to tailor future resources to needs identified by Canadian youth.



## III. VOLUNTEER TASKS cont.



### Promotion

So you want to volunteer without logging out of Facebook? As long as you have a will, we have a way for you to spread the word about Apathy is Boring. We'll help you kick start your very own Promotions action plan - from determining a strategy to providing relevant materials, we'll help you spread the word either virally or on the streets. Talk about a little work going a long way!

### Website Uploading / Web Programming

In order to make sure everyone who wants to receive our newsletter, volunteer opportunities, and other A is B communication does, we need to continually upload contacts into the back end of our website. It doesn't stop there – from new articles, poll questions, images, and more, we need reliable and tech-savvy volunteers to help our website coordinator maintain Apathy is Boring's online presence, and keep Apathy is Boring external profiles cutting edge.



### Events / Surveying

Volunteers are always needed at events, whether A is B shows or venues where A is B is invited to table. By working the event – passing out flyers, surveying audience members, selling gear, taking pictures – you also get to check out the show for free!

### Research

How many youth aged 18 – 24 in Alberta voted in the last federal election? What is the most important issue affecting Canadian youth today? Statistics like these help inform the services Apathy is Boring delivers, so it's important for us to stay up to date on a variety of topics. Help us compile the essentials, and learn a thing or two in the process.



# IV. VOLUNTEER

## Commitment and Rewards

### Volunteer Commitment

At Apathy is Boring we want your volunteer time with us to work for you! So that you really get to know about us and learn as much as possible, we recommend that you make one of the following volunteer commitments:

1. A block of hours (i.e. you are willing to do translation work for 10 hours over the next month for example).
2. A specific time every week (i.e. you are ok with coming by the office every Tuesday afternoon).
3. Or you can keep it flexible, and let us know that you will be in touch when you have time to help us out.

Let us know what works for you, and we can make sure to give you volunteer tasks to suit your time commitment!

### Volunteer Rewards

Apart from the obvious – getting to hang with the amazing Apathy is Boring team and making Canadian democracy sexy – volunteers benefit from other various perks. In appreciation and recognition of all the hard work and long hours our volunteers contribute, we always offer rewards. From free concert tickets to gift certificates to the chance to attend once-in-a-lifetime events (hanging out with K'naan, Raine Maida, or attending a Governor General's Youth Dialogue, anyone?), Apathy is Boring volunteers are treated right.



## V. VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS

“Apathy is Boring is the the type of environment that you walk into feeling inspired because of their mission statement and leave feeling a sense of true progress because of the multitude of projects continuously emerging. After volunteering with them for over a year I am certain the people and their enthusiasm are responsible for this environment which is why I am confident in the future achievements of this organization and so proud of the past endeavors as well. I look forward to see what the coming years bring for Apathy is Boring and find it thrilling to know that one day my kids will have the opportunity to be part of such a important impact. “

– **Jennifer, Apathy is Boring volunteer for 2 years**

“ I am a fourth year student at St. Francis Xavier University. I am completing my major in Development Studies and hope to find a job with a development agency when I am done school. Being a development studies student I have been exposed to global and domestic issues that affect our everyday lives; and of particular interest to me is the political side of it all. When I first heard about Apathy is Boring I couldn't wait to sign my name up to be a volunteer. The first event that I worked for was in Halifax and it was the most amazing experience and I got to share it with the Apathy staff who are amazing and determined individuals. I love what this organization promotes and I know how much of an effect it has had on my life and the ways in which I approach political issues with our youth. Thanks Apathy is Boring for allowing me to contribute to such a worthwhile cause!”

– **Kelly, Apathy is Boring volunteer for 6 months**



“My proudest moment was a Raine Maida show where AisB tabled: Justin Trudeau was attending and he enthusiastically supports the work AisB is doing, so much so that when I asked “If I give you a t-shirt, will you actually wear it ever?” he ripped off the shirt he was wearing and put on the AisB one! The best part of the evening was after the show, with the AisB team and volunteers waiting in the alley next to the tour bus ... After asking Justin if he could let Raine know that the volunteers really wanted to meet him, they both jumped off the bus to say hi to the AisB team! Ilona got a big hug from Raine and the volunteers left that night with stars in their eyes.”

- **Danny, Apathy is Boring volunteer for 3 years**

## VII. Contact Information

### **Apathy is Boring**

3831 St. Denis

Montreal (QC)

H2W 2M4

**Phone:** 514-844-2472 or toll free at 1-877-744-2472

**Email:** [volunteer@apathyisboring.com](mailto:volunteer@apathyisboring.com)

