Giving Back
By Steve Ricketts

Volunteering your photographic skills and time is a great way to give back, to practise your photography, and also to have fun! Don't be shy; people will truly appreciate your efforts. There are many ways in which you can do this. A few are listed below.

- **Festivals**
  - [Edmonton International Fringe Theatre Festival](#)
  - [Edmonton Folk Music Festival](#).
- **Non-Profits**
  - [Edmonton Humane Society](#). One of our members, Mike Lavoie, has done some wonderful work for them.
- **Fundraisers** (e.g., runs, walks, x-athons)
  - Well-known one is the [Johnson MS Bike Tour](#). The Leduc to Camrose tour is "*one of the longest standing MS Bike events in Canada. All you need is a bike and the passion to end MS*". IACC members have supported this event for many years.
  - The Edmonton [Gorilla Run](#) with a goal to "make a difference to animals, people and children that need our help."
- **Amateur Sports Events**
- **Community Events**
- **Hospitals**
  - [Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep](#): "*Photographers capture special moments of love for parents experiencing the loss of an infant. This precious gift helps provide healing for a family while honouring the baby's legacy.*"

There are organizations that provide information on volunteering (of all types) and will help to connect you with people looking for photographers. If you're interested in volunteering in general, you might want to check them out.

- [Volunteer Alberta](#): "*We are an inclusive member association serving and representing Alberta's diverse non-profit organizations.*"
- [Volunteer Edmonton](#): "*We serve the Edmonton and area community by providing information on volunteering. We can help explain what volunteering is, how to start and where to find the right opportunity for you.*"
- [GozAround](#): "*GozAround is a community dedicated to connecting those in need with those who care.*"
- [Go Volunteer:](#) "*Go Volunteer is a community connector. We provide a platform where not-for-profit organizations can post volunteer positions and volunteers can find the right role.*"
- [iHuman Youth Society](#): "*The iHuman Youth Society is a non-profit organization that engages Edmonton's traumatized youth, who exhibit high-risk lifestyles, to foster positive personal development and social change.*"
- [Volunteer Shutterbugs](#)

Finally, you can consider donating a framed print to fundraisers, such as a silent auction. Often you can get an official donation receipt for the value of print.