

Name: **Chelsea Bennie**

Hometown: **Vancouver**

What would you like people to know about you?

I work in an urologist's office, at Blockbuster Video, and on the Drop Zone at Playland. I also dabble in disease research here or there.

I always sneeze in sixes so don't be alarmed when you hear it happen.

I love movies and my favourite Hollywood smiles belong to Christopher Walken and Don Cheadle. I also volunteer with a few other organizations, including REACH, my local community health centre; VGH Banfield Pavillion, in recreational activities with the residents; WISH Drop-in Women's Centre; Big Brothers and St. John Ambulance Brigade.

What volunteer position do you hold?

I am the Volunteer Coordinator of SOBC – Vancouver.

When did you start with Special Olympics and how did you get involved?

I started with SOBC – Vancouver in June 2006. It was a combination of my experience in volunteer recruitment, training, and appreciation as well as my chance encounter with a friendly and welcoming position posting from Natalie D'Angelo that brought me to SOBC. Ankle injuries prevent me from participating in most sports, so this is my way of keeping 'connected.' What keeps me excited about being involved with SOBC is all of the generous, big-hearted, and dedicated volunteers that I have come to know and befriend.

What is your most memorable Special Olympics experience?

This past year with SOBC—my first—has been busy and unforgettable. A memorable experience for me was our Volunteer Appreciation picnic. Not only was the event a phenomenal opportunity to see the entire set of our program volunteers meet and chat about their experiences with SOBC, but we also had the honour of a touching thank-you speech presented by one of our most active athletes, Nellie-Joe.