

Venturer Program Quality Standards and Awards Application

Scouts Canada is committed to quality programs. This checklist will help you meet program standards. Upon successful completion, forward this form to your Group Commissioner (GC) for submission to your Area Commissioner (AC). Your Section will be recognized with the Program Quality Award.

Program Planning

The Company has:

- Short-range (one month)
- Medium-range (three months)
- Long-range (one year) program plans which will reflect the program goals, as outlined in the B.P. &P.
- Weekly programs that are typically conducted as described in the Venturer Advisor's Handbook, and incorporate appropriate safety precautions.

Outdoors

Opportunities are provided for Venturers to participate in outdoor activities as often as possible. All activities follow Policies and Accepted Practices, as outlined by Camping/Outdoor Activities, Section 10000, B.P. &P.

Venturer minimum standards require:

- One regular meeting per month outdoors
- One weekend outing every two months
- Six nights at camp annually.

Youth Input

- Venturers actively plan and operate the Company program
- The interests, skills and abilities of all youth members are polled and considered
- The youth seek the Advisor's input
- Youth are actively engaged in the creation of their Section's Code of Conduct.

Community Service

Opportunities are provided for Venturers to participate in community service projects/ events.

- Minimum standard: three held annually.

Environmental Awareness

Opportunities are provided for Venturers to participate in activities which increase their understanding and awareness of their role in preserving the environment. All activities are conducted in a manner that reflects appropriate environmental awareness and "leave no trace" principles.

- Minimum standard: one project annually.

Spiritual Emphasis

Spiritual emphasis is regularly incorporated throughout the program. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Use of Promise, Law and Motto, Scouts Own and Scouter's Five
- Religion in Life Award or Spirituality Award programs.



It starts with Scouts.

Family/Parent Involvement

Opportunities are provided for family/parent involvement with adherence to National Screening Guidelines for Parental Involvement.

- Minimum standard: one event annually
- Regular communication occurs to inform parents of program plans through contacts such as meetings, phone calls, emails, calendars and newsletters, etc.

Membership/Retention/Growth

- No youth who is willing to subscribe to the Promise and Law is denied membership (i.e. Scouts Canada does not want any waiting lists or youth turned away due to financial constraints).
- The Company President (or designate) personally invites Venturers back at the beginning or each year
- Those not returning at any time of the year are contacted by the Advisor (or designate) to determine the reason why
- One activity per year focuses on increasing membership.

Linking

Unless distance/isolation prohibits, opportunities are provided for Venturers to interact with Scouts and Rovers, with the minimum standard being:

- One regular meeting and one other activity with a Scout Troop annually
- One regular meeting and one other activity with a Rover Crew annually
- Senior Venturers of advancement age have at least one other opportunity to interact with a Rover Crew.

Badge/Award Program

- The program provides individual Venturers with regular opportunities to engage in and complete requirements of the Venturer badge/award system, including the Queen's Venturer Award, the Amory Adventure Award, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Training/Leadership

- All Advisors to achieve Wood Badge Part I level during the first year
- At least one Advisor to have Wood Badge Part II (Venturers)
- Scouts Canada expects at least one member of the leadership team or the Venturer Company to hold a current, recognized first aid qualification and be present at meetings/events
- The leadership team has the necessary attitude, skills, knowledge and/or training required to conduct programs, or has recruited a skilled resource person(s) with such knowledge to attend the outing/activity
- Youth members (activity leaders, Scouters-in-Training, etc.) are included as part of the leadership team.

Administration

The following are performed to administer the Company:

- Maintain current and accurate Company records, including attendance and Venturer progress records
- Submit a plan and related budget to the Group Committee for a year's activities
- Maintain appropriate financial records, and submit proper financial statements to the Group Committee
- Provide an annual inventory of all equipment and property controlled by the Company to the Group Committee
- Ensure a representative from the Section leadership team attends at least 90 percent of Group Committee meetings.

Name of Group _____

Area _____

Date _____

Leader Signature _____

GC Signature _____

AC Signature _____