

## **Subject: GC Communication and Updates - Issue 16 (please share with your team)**

Hello November! “November: The last month of autumn, but the beginning of a new adventure; time to take a risk and do the unexpected.” – unknown. What unexpected adventures await you?

We are always looking for ways to simplify and streamline processes and improve as a Council, and more importantly, as a Community! If you have any thoughts or suggestions for making Scouting even better and stronger in Fraser Valley, we invite you to please reach out to any one of the Council Key 3 members or to your Group Support Scouter. We welcome the feedback!

### **Included in this issue:**

- Vaccination Status and Anticipated Announcement on Vaccination for 5-11 year olds.
- Council Website
- Scouts Canada’s Annual General Conference 2021
- Winter is Coming – And so is the next challenge!
- Scout Night with the Surrey Eagles – Star Wars Night
- Development Opportunities – virtual and in person
- Resources & Ideas
- Spotlight
- Upcoming Events & Key Dates

### **Vaccination Status and Anticipated Announcement on Vaccination for 5-11 year olds**

Please be reminded that as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, all Scouters, eligible youth and volunteers need to be fully-vaccinated in order to participate in Scouting activities in-person. Two separate reminders (Oct 27 and Oct 30) have been sent to all members and parents reminding those that have not already done so to update their vaccination status.

An announcement from the Federal Government is expected shortly regarding vaccine guidance for youth aged between 5 and 11. Scouts Canada has previously announced we expect to extend our vaccine mandate for all persons consistent with Federal guidance. We will review the expected announcement and we will monitor closely prior to expanding our approach.

Scouts Canada has consistently used guiding principles to shape our response and requirements. We continue to support the federal government and associated health authorities, and believe that widespread vaccine coverage is our best way to end the pandemic.

As of this time, if vaccination is approved for children aged 5-11 – our November 1 vaccine mandate will not apply to them immediately. We will need an implementation period. Until otherwise noted, there is no change, and children aged 5-11 can continue to participate in Scouting activities in person.

### **Council Website**

Fraser Valley Council is pleased to announce that our new website is now up and running, with general information, resource/ program information; forms, calendar of events..... Check it out! If you have suggestions or items you would like to see included in the website, please let us know.

<https://www.scouts.ca/councils/western/fraser-valley/home.html>

### Scouts Canada's Annual General Conference 2021

Please see the [agenda](#) for Scouts Canada's 2021 Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting taking place Saturday, November 20th to Sunday, November 21st.

At this year's conference, The Board of Governors will launch the new strategic plan which aims to strengthen Scouts Canada's impact and provide access to great, safe scouting adventures to more youth across Canada. There will also be opportunities to participate in workshops over the conference weekend that will provide us with insights on how to implement the plan and support Groups along the way. You are all encouraged to participate.

Lastly, there will be an opportunity to meet the new National Key 3 and a special guest appearance with some exciting news to share!

For any questions, please contact Kayleigh Kanoza, Director, Organizational Planning, [kayleigh.kanoza@scouts.ca](mailto:kayleigh.kanoza@scouts.ca).

### Winter is Coming – And so is the next Challenge

Yup! You guessed right, there's another Challenge in the queue for this winter – and it's going to be a blast!

The program team will be teasing the new Challenge in mid-November, but we have a few details to share:

When: February 2022

How Long: 4 amazing weeks! (Yes, we heard the feedback and shortened the length!)

Focus: The outdoors, winter skills and OAS

Theme: To be announced

### Scout Night with the Surrey Eagles – Star Wars Night

***Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 4:00pm***

Fraser Valley Council Beavers/Cubs/Scouts/Venturers/Rovers/Scouters will be making their way to the 7th Annual Scout Night with the Surrey Eagles Hockey Team. Come out and watch the hockey game and cheering on the Surrey Eagles as they play against the Alberni Valley Bulldogs. This night is also STAR WARS NIGHT with many Star Wars characters walking around during the game. After the game there will be a free skate with some of the players and Star Wars characters. Additional costs would be skate and helmet rental if you don't have your own. Concession will be open to purchase drinks and snacks. Cost is \$5 per youth and \$7 per adult (children 5 years and under are free). All Youth and Scouters should be in uniform and the Group with the largest number of tickets sold will be the Color Party for the singing of O Canada at the beginning of the game.

Contact Barb Taylor at [barb.taylor@scouts.ca](mailto:barb.taylor@scouts.ca) to purchase your "Group" tickets (no individual orders please). Deadline to purchase and pay for tickets is January 16<sup>th</sup>.

More details are available on the Fraser Valley Council website and Scoutstracker Calendar.

### Development Opportunities

Looking to build some new skills, sharpen existing skills, or pick up some new knowledge, check out these upcoming learning opportunities.

### Missed the Youth Sustainability Leadership Panel – Catch it here!

On October 24<sup>th</sup> Scouts Canada hosted an amazing Youth Sustainability Panel with three extremely dedicated and inspiring youth leaders. If you missed it – it's worth a view!

[Youth Sustainability Panel - Recorded Session](#)

### BCY Introductory Winter Scouter Outdoor Skills Day

This Introductory Scouter Skills Day will be a repeat of the recent and successful Introductory Skills Day that was held in September, and will offer up to seven 30-45 minute introductory session opportunities with a winter season focus. The sessions are Ideal for 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> year Colony and Pack Scouters, and is open to all Scouters, potential volunteers and interested parents.

Session Highlights include:

- Meeting Safety Planning (Adventure Activity Forms and Emergency Response Plans)
- Scouting Traditions
- Intro to Orienteering & Compass Work
- Intro to Winter Camp Planning
- Scoutcraft 101 Pt 1: Intro to Knot Tying and Lashing
- Scoutcraft 101 Pt 2: Intro to Winter Fire Lighting and Fire Safety
- Leave No Trace

Date: November 27, 2021

Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Location: Camp McLean – 20315 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Langley BC

Registration Fee: \$15.00

\*Coffee, tea and individually packaged snacks will be provided. For safety reasons we ask that you provide your own bagged lunch, mug, mask and camping chair for safe distancing.

\*\*\*Please watch for the Registration link coming soon!\*\*\*

For any questions, please reach out to: Mariko Zamani - [mzamani@scouts.ca](mailto:mzamani@scouts.ca)

### Diversity & Inclusion Listening Sessions

As an organization undergoing our own journey to understand our impact on Indigenous communities in Canada, we are encouraging members to build a common base understanding of Canada's broader Reconciliation journey and encourage a personal commitment to learning more. As we begin the process, hearing from our Scouts Canada community is an important ongoing component of our journey. In this early stage, what are your biggest needs, thoughts, and suggestions?

Volunteers – Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm PDT [Register Here](#)

Volunteers – Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm PDT [Register Here](#)

Youth – Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm PDT [Register Here](#)

### Resources & Ideas

#### Partner Webinars

Connected to Around the World in 60 Days Challenge, several partner webinars have been added to the [National Calendar](#).

Earth Ranger's - Nov 7 – 2:00PM ET – [Register Here](#)

Giving Tuesday – Nov 9 – 8:00PM ET – [Register Here](#)

4H – Nov 12 – 8:00PM ET – [Register Here](#)

Canada Learning Code – Nov 16 – 8:00PM ET – [Register Here](#)

### Group Financial Reports

To help with your group's annual financial reporting, a [Group Financial Reporting Guide](#) and an excel [Reporting template](#) is available on the Council website

Please be reminded that all groups must submit an annual financial statement to the Council by November 30. Prior to submission, the summary report, detailed records and supporting documents (example receipts) must be reviewed by two individuals who do not have signing authority on the account(s) and have not been involved in Group financial accounting and financial reporting, together with group inventory (Quartermaster) reports following year end.

Group Financials can be submitted as PDFs by email to [Registration@scouts.ca](mailto:Registration@scouts.ca)

For any questions, please contact [Registration@scouts.ca](mailto:Registration@scouts.ca)

### Spotlight

It's been great to see groups participating in the 60 Days Around the World Challenge. Each week we've been transported to a different country to focus on a different Sustainable Development Goal. Check out what some of our groups have been up to.



For the Making Waves Challenge 1st Glenayre Beavers loved building boats to get to Australia. They experienced what materials float and how to design a boat. They also learned about the continents, oceans, seasons, and climate change!



For the Break the Ice Challenge 1st Albion Scouts enjoyed the challenge of getting the matches out of the ice and trying to get them to strike. They talked about the positives of going green with electric vehicles.



For the Water De-Nile Challenge 12th Coquitlam Cubs worked out how many mugs of water were needed to water a field to grow wheat to feed people. They realized how difficult and time consuming it was. To continue the challenge at home they were also asked to bring back one fun fact about Egypt to the next meeting.

For the Light Up the Night Challenge 1st Central Surrey Beavers & Scouts loved playing "keep the glowing balloon in the air." They learned the challenge of not having proper lighting to do activities. They also did art with one person being blindfolded and providing direction what to draw, giving directions through a maze without being able to see.

Don't forget to submit your challenge each week: <https://www.scouts.ca/around-the-world/submit-your-challenge.html> for your chance to win weekly prizes and to be entered to into the Grand Prize draw of \$2000. Think of the amazing adventures your section can do with that money!

### Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- October 24 – Being a Scouter the FUNdamentals - [Register](#)
- November 12-14 – The New Rainbucket: Back from the Dead. Register at: <https://www.rainbucket.ca/registration>
- November 16, 7:00pm – Fraser Valley Council Pack Scouter Mug Up – [Join](#)
- November 18, 7:00pm – Fraser Valley Council Troop Scouter Mug Up - [Join](#)
- November 18, 8:00pm – Fraser Valley Company and Crew Mug Up (for Venturers, Rovers & Company and Crew Scouters) - [Join](#)
- November 20 - Cub Skills – For more information check out Scoutstracker or contact Peter Scurr at [petergrantscurr@gmail.com](mailto:petergrantscurr@gmail.com)
- November 20, 5:00pm – Vancouver Canucks Scout Night – Vancouver v. Chicago. Purchase tickets and receive your commemorative crest at <https://fevo.me/canucks-scouts21>
- November 20 & 21 - Scouts Canada Annual General Conference and Meeting
- November 27, 9:00am – 4:00pm – FVC/PCC Introductory Scouter Skills Development Day at Camp McLean
- January 15<sup>th</sup> – Virtual Youth Recognition Event. More information to come.
- January 30<sup>th</sup> – Surrey Eagles Scout Night – Surrey Eagles v. Alberni Valley Bulldogs

For a listing of all the upcoming Section Scouter Skill sessions and Group Committee Sessions, please visit the [Explorers Needed Calendar](#).