

Commissioner's Scoop Edition 22

We would love to hear from 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!

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Live Different Circles

In partnership with [Live Different](#), Scouts Canada is launching a new initiative this spring aimed at Scouts, Venturers & Rovers. This six-week program will allow youth to meet new people, form new bonds and find more purpose in this ever-changing world. Please see the [Live Different document](#) for more detailed information about the program and how youth can participate.

Scouts Canada has also launched a webpage outlining more about the program including, testimonials, what to expect and how youth can sign up as Facilitators and Participants.

<https://www.scouts.ca/circles/home.html>

Vaccine Mandate

Scouts Canada joins all Canadians in the desire to see an end to the pandemic and to let kids get back to being kids again and enjoy all the benefits of Scouting. As we start to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the Feb 8 announcement of the removal of vaccine mandates in Saskatchewan and Alberta, we ask our membership to be patient.

There are NO CHANGES to our current national vaccine mandate for the moment. Scouts Canada will continue to monitor federal and provincial guidelines as well as the response from other organizations

across the country. Consistent with our on-going response to the pandemic, we will continue to balance risk and act prudently and cautiously. We will not act first but learn from others and continue to support and be guided by the direction set by federal and provincial health and civic leaders.

The board reiterates its support for vaccination and the critical role it plays in allowing us to return to a more normal Scouting experience. Amid a rapidly changing landscape, we believe that, consistent with our Guiding Principles, we will continue to review and evaluate our actions and policies to ensure they are aligned with our principles and reflect the most current conditions across the country.

Fraser Valley Summer Day Camp – Volunteer Opportunities

Fraser Valley Council will be running [Summer Day Camp](#) at Camp McLean for 6 weeks, starting July 11th, 2022.

Planning is underway. There are many aspects of the past summer camp program that will continue, along with new program enhancements. If you know of any volunteers (youth or adults) that would be interested in helping to plan a summer day program for youth aged 5-11, the team would love to hear from you.

The team is still looking for a Volunteer Camp Director for each of the weeks, as well as camp staff. If you know of any volunteers who are interested in summer camps, please contact Jim Bryce at jsbryce@shaw.ca.

Scout Truck Rally – Save the Date

Back by popular demand! Fraser Valley Council will be hosting a Scout Truck Tractor Trailer Rally on **April 9th, 2022** at the Baitur Rahman Mosque Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at , located at 9570 River Road, Delta.

Planning of the rally is currently underway, and as soon as the details are finalized (time, entrance fee, registration process, etc), more information will follow. Please also check out Scoutstracker for further updates.

Volunteers are needed for the day of the race. If you are interested, please contact Jonathan Meads at meadsjonathan@gmail.com.

Scout Seeds - Reminder

A gentle reminder: Scout Seeds runs from **Feb 1 – March 31**.

You can find all the resources you need by visiting the [Scout Seeds Website](#) – including the FAQ and [Fundraising FAQ](#). Groups can also [sign up using the form](#) and find additional resources on the [Fundraising Trello Board](#).

Safe Scouting Update

Youth Protection is Everyone's Responsibility – Before COVID 19 restricted Scouting activities, in the 2018/19 Scouting Year, over half of the Youth Protection involving either sexually abusive or harmful behaviours were related to youth peer to peer incidents.

- Though potentially uncomfortable to discuss, include a conversation as a part of Safety Moments to discuss safe tenting practices to empower youth to feel safe and comfortable. For example, if a game of Truth or Dare (peer pressure, anyone?) is making a youth feel uncomfortable, where should they go? Which Scouter can they talk to? Is it appropriate for youth to be playing truth or dare to begin with?
- Peer to peer exploitation and harmful behaviours are preventable with proper supervision, quality program and establishment of safe spaces (safety talks and listening).

Recognize the signs of abuse and report any concerns to Safe Scouting. If you see something, report 1-800-339-6643 & appropriate authorities. [Safe Scouting Feb2022](#) Report.

CIBC and Scouts Canada Banking Options

CIBC is proud to partner with Scouts Canada to provide Scouting Groups and volunteers with bank accounts to manage their banking needs, and to provide volunteers with special pricing on personal accounts for their personal banking needs. For more information, see [CIBC Scouts Canada](#).

Resources & Ideas

Fluor – Engineering Month Challenge

Announcing the 2022 Fluor Engineering Challenge! Build a Paper Ball Run! Participate in a fun & free [2022 Fluor Engineering Challenge](#) for K to 12 youth and chance to win \$1000 while enjoying a STEM activity and competition.

For more information about Fluor and the challenge, check out the [Fluor document](#).

Ocean Wise

Ocean Wise is recruiting youth (18 – 30) for its life-changing Ocean Bridge Classic and Direct Action programs. Recruitment closes on March 11 and applications can be made directly at

bridge.ocean.org. It would be great to see a tidal wave of young Canadians applying for these incredible programs!

Check out the [Ocean Wise](#) document for more information.

Development Opportunities

Looking to build some new skills, sharpen existing skills, or pick up some new knowledge, check out our new upcoming learning opportunities coming soon!

Troop Scouters Gathering – March 10th, 7:00pm, Camp McLean

Calling all Troop Scouters! Rain or Shine, we invite all Troop Scouters to join Scouters Jonathan Meads and Tony Nathan on Thursday March 10th at **Camp McLean** (Ericksen firepit) as they lead a session on how to develop 1st to 4th year Scouts from camping in groups (or with minimal experience) to light weight camping and becoming self sufficient campers in a Scouting environment.

Fraser Valley Council is fortunate to have a number of highly experienced Troop Scouters. We welcome and encourage all Scouters to come out and share their experiences and knowledge.

Spotlight

As Scout Week comes to a close, we want to take a moment to thank each of you for the amazing impact you have on the youth that you work with and the Scouters you support. For over 100 years Scouting has encouraged both youth and adults to learn by doing, to try new things and to learn from their own successes and failures, while in a safe space supported by others. Here is just one example of this in action.

Overheard at Knox Beavers tonight:

Scouter: We are going to sew neck warmers tonight.

Beaver: I can't. I have never done that before and the needles are too sharp.

Scouter: The needles are plastic and they aren't sharp. We will learn to do this together.

Beaver: OK...

Later...

Scouter: Look, you are done.

Beaver: I did it! And I did a good job!

Scouter: How does that make you feel?

Beaver: Great! I am really proud of myself.

Moments like these may feel small, but the impact they have will last a lifetime!

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- March 10th – Troop Scouters Gathering – Camp McLean Ericksen Fire Pit – Developing self-sufficient Campers
- March 13th – Abbotsford Canucks Scout & Guide Night. Abbotsford Canucks vs. Colorado Eagles. Tickets \$22.50/pp – includes game, custom Canucks crest, post game skate (participants need to bring their own skates and helmet) and Q&A with Abbotsford Canucks players via zoom. To purchase group tickets, contact Alex Suprynowicz at alex.suprynowicz@abbotsfordcanucks.ca or 604.743.5071. You can also purchase individual tickets via [Purchase Here - Scouts Tickets](#). In order to coordinate the post skate, we have been asked to please purchase tickets by March 9th.
- March 20th – Surrey Eagles Scout Night – vs. Powell River Kings. Contact Barb Taylor at barb.taylor@scouts.ca to purchase your "Group" tickets (no individual orders please). Deadline to purchase and pay for tickets is March 6th.
- April 9th-10th, 6:00pm- 6:00am – Nite Hike 2022 – Pacific Spirit Park. Nitehike@scouts.ca
- April 23rd – Cuboree – Camp McLean. Barb.taylor@scouts.ca
- May 7th – Beaveree – Camp McLean. Barb.taylor@scouts.ca
- May 14th, 9:30-3:00pm – JOTT 2022 - təmtəmixʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park. To Register: Email Scouter Jim Pound at scouterjimp@gmail.com before March 31, 2022

Thank you for everything that you do and for all the adventures that you and your community provides. You are amazing!