

TO: Group Commissioners

CC: Group Support Scouters, Resource Team, SRMs

Subject: GC Communication and Updates - Issue 30 (please share with your team)

Good Morning,

Can you believe that Summer is finally here? It feels like only yesterday it was wet, dreary and cold (the joys of living in the West Coast ☹️). Bring on the sun, sand, and travels. Wherever the summer takes you, we wish you a fun, safe, magical and relaxing couple of months. We look forward to hearing about all the international group trips and expeditions taking place this summer. Enjoy and stay safe!

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Volunteer Renewal 2022/2023

Starting July 5th, 2022, Scouters will be able to log into their Myscouts account to renew their membership for the 2022/2023 Scouting year. The deadline for Scouters to complete the “renewal” process is August 31st, 2022. Anyone who does not renew during this time will need to “register as a volunteer”. Please let your Scouters know and encourage them to renew, if they plan on returning for the 2022/2023 Scouting year. An email will be sent to all Scouters on July 4th, notifying them of the renewal process.

Information regarding youth registration is currently being finalized and will be released shortly.

Scouts Canada & HipCamp – Scout Scene article June 2022

In the most recent issue of Scout Scene (June 2022), an article was included introducing a new working relationship with Hipcamp. Scouts Canada would like to apologize for the premature release of this information. Our intention was to consult with our Property stakeholders and team, as we explore a working relationship with Hipcamp. Scouts Canada commits to engaging with all our stakeholders before any partnership is developed.

Currently there is no formal partnership with Hipcamp, only a mutual agreement to promote each other’s services to our like-minded audiences. Hipcamp has offered a discount to our families who may be interested in booking unique outdoor experiences this summer; has agreed to promote registration to their membership base and will be offering five free unique stays to Sections this fall.

In addition, Hipcamp is very interested in how our Scouts Canada properties could potentially be integrated into their property offerings. This is still in the very early stages of discussion, with no formal commitment yet. No commitments will be made without engaging the Property team and stakeholders.

Scouts Canada is committed to prioritizing the promotion and value of our properties and their benefits to our membership and we are eager to collaborate with the various property teams to build marketing plans and materials.

Board of Governor Nominations – Submission Deadline July 11th, 2022

The Nominating Committee of Scouts Canada is seeking applications for candidates for the National Board of Governors. Candidates should be committed to the values and principles of Scouting, should believe firmly that the Scouting movement is of benefit to Canadian society, and should be respected for their honesty, integrity and personal ethics. Youth members are encouraged to apply to join the Board.

What is the Board of Governors?

The Board of Governors is the senior decision-making body in Scouts Canada and is responsible for ensuring that the organization adheres to its Mission and Principles and has a strong strategic direction to guide its activities. The Board ensures that appropriate policies and procedures are in place across Scouts Canada, and that an appropriate management team is in place to direct and oversee all activities.

There are 16 Board members, including the Chair, Vice-Chair Strategic, Vice-Chair Finance, Past Chair and 9 members at large, as well as the National Key 3 (CEO, National Commissioner and National Youth Commissioner).

Scouts Canada's bylaw requires that the Board includes a minimum of three youth members, with at least two members from Ontario/Nunavut and at least one member from each of BC/Yukon, Alberta/NWT, Manitoba/Saskatchewan, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada. Board members serve for a one year term, renewable for up to six years. Board members are expected to attend a minimum of four weekend meetings per year and to participate in Board committees and/or working groups.

Full information on the role and responsibilities of the Board can be found in our bylaw, which is available on www.scouts.ca.

Nominations Process, Skills and Diversity

This year, the Nominating Committee anticipates that a number of positions will become vacant at the end of the current Board term in November, and wishes to compile a slate of candidates for the full Board by reviewing applications from both returning Board members and new candidates. As such, the Committee is soliciting nominations for all Board positions (except the National Key 3 roles). That said, based on current Board composition and terms, we have a particular interest in identifying youth member candidates and Vice-Chair Finance candidates, ideally from western Canada.

Board members will be elected by Scouts Canada's voting members at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, November 19, 2022.

In reviewing applications, the Nominating Committee will consider candidates' experience and skills, including:

- Previous Scouting Experience (including roles as a youth member or Section Scouter)
- Board Skills (including previous membership of other boards or similar bodies)
- Professional or Domain Experience (key areas include finance, digital, marketing, risk management and strategy)
- Soft Skills (including accountability, independence, leadership, maturity, team player, diligence, communication and listening)

Youth members are strongly encouraged to apply to join the Board. The Nominating Committee also strongly encourages applications from diverse candidates from across Canada in line with Scouts Canada's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

To apply:

You may submit your own name or recommend another nominee. Each submission must be accompanied by a resume and a written confirmation from the individual acknowledging that they are willing to serve and have an understanding of the position. Candidates may also include a brief statement (maximum 400 words) that includes any additional information or a view of what they hope to bring to the position. Submissions should be sent to the Chair of the Nominating Committee at (skent@scouts.ca) by July 11, 2022.

Upcoming Camping PR Campaign

Upcoming Survey – Camping Dream Destinations in Canada

If you saw [Scouts Canada's Outdoors Skills & Camping Survey](#), then you know that many Canadians lack the confidence to embark on outdoor adventures, safely.

Enter Scouts Canada members—the experts!

We will be distributing a fun survey by email, asking our members to share their favourite campsites (and reasoning) across Canada. Do they know of local hidden gems? What criteria should Canadians look for in choosing the right campsite for their trip?

We encourage everyone to respond. The more responses we receive, the more accurately we can showcase campsites across the country!

Reconciliation Boxes from Raven Reads – Sign up Now

Read Stories from First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Voices

Following our Scouts Canada's [Listening Sessions](#), we have heard the need for resources to support the learning journey we are all on around Reconciliation and healing relationships with Indigenous peoples in Canada. We are excited to be teaming up with the [Raven Reads](#) to provide curated resources for each of your Sections. This is an opportunity to support Indigenous-led businesses and authors!

If you are interested in purchasing a Scouts Canada & Raven Reads Reconciliation Box, you can pre-order by providing a name and email address below, you will receive an email in advance of sales opening up to members (September 2022) to order and purchase for the 2022/23 Scouting year.

[Raven Reads Sign-Up Form](#)

Safe Scouting

Please be reminded for the need to stay vigilant when conducting Scouting activities. There have recently been two incidents ([Safe Scouting Report](#)) that occurred with veteran Scouters present, and while doing an activity they had done before. Fortunately, the youth involved in the two separate incidents are recovering well, but the potential impacts of these two very different incidents were realistically fatal. Some points to keep in mind and discuss with your Scouters:

- Predictable is preventable, know your safety information on each youth
- Supervision is always needed, most vehicle accidents happen closest to home. The same can be said about incidents and regular Scouting activities. Stay vigilant
- In light of a near drowning, discuss the importance of National Drowning Prevention week July 17th-23rd across Canada with your Groups
- Importance of completing an AAF as a safety exercise in prevention and not just an auto fill
- Have fun (and be safe!)

CSA/QVA/CRSA Ceremony and Submission Deadline - Reminder

Over the last 2.5 years we've made many adjustments to accommodate the constantly changing COVID restrictions. One of those adjustments was our Youth Award Ceremony, which for the last 2 years has been happening virtually in

January. Now that things are a bit more predictable, we are working on moving our ceremony back to the end of the Scouting year. During this transition we are holding an awards ceremony October 22, 2022 to ensure all award recipients are recognized in a timely manner.

We have updated the paper form and created an easy to use and track online form: <https://forms.office.com/r/RkKkPSUPN3> Please send it to any youth that have completed their award in the 2021 / 2022 Scouting year. The deadline for submission is **August 31, 2022**.

An email has been sent to all Contact Troop, Venturer, and Rover Scouters about this years CSA/QVA/CRSA ceremony and submission but please pass this information on again, just in case the email was missed.

Resources & Ideas

Uniform Sizing Kits Reminder

A reminder that if you have families that are looking to purchase Scouting uniforms, but are unsure of how the sizing works, there are section uniform sizing kits available for groups to borrow. The uniform sizing kits are available at Camp McLean. To access the kits, please contact Viki at vfanous@scouts.ca; Becca at becca.stephen@scouts.ca or Doug at doug.pearson@scouts.ca.

Spotlight



On Saturday June 18, over 500 youth from Fraser Valley & PCC participated in our very first Transit Day! Translink organized scavenger hunts at Metrotown, Lonsdale Quay, and Coquitlam Central Stations and provided a free crest for every youth and Scouter that participated. In addition they also offered each person over the age of 12 a free day pass, allowing groups to explore Metro Vancouver for the day! We heard that groups did their own scavenger hunts in Vancouver, went to Science World, went for ice cream in North Vancouver and Port Moody, and went out for dinner! Here is just one of the highlights from a group of Beavers:

One highlight was a Transit member speaking to us on the SkyTrain, and then she showed the youth where the 'hidden' horn is at the front of the car, which they like using!

We hope to build on this partnership and offer more events like these in the future!

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

2021-2022 Scouting Year

- July 3rd, 1:00pm, Langley Event Centre – Fraser Valley Bandits vs. Niagara River Lions Basketball. To purchase tickets: <http://show.ps/I/8037a1d6/>. For more information, please contact Coco Suave at csaue@thebandits.ca.

2022-2023 Scouting Year – SAVE THE DATES

- Sept. 10 - Venturer Kick Off (not the official name)
- Sept. 23-25 - CubStart Camp
- Sept 30 – Oct 2 - Troop Kick Off (day and camp options available)
- Oct 8 - Beaver Blast Off
- Oct 15 - Scouting Skills (yes, Scouters and Rovers get a special day too!!)
- Oct 22 – CSA/QVA/CRSA Ceremony
- April 22 – Cuboree
- May 6 - Beaveree

All of the dates are included in ScoutsTracker and can be easily found on the [Fraser Valley Website](#) Council Calendar. Please encourage your Section Scouters to check it out.

Thank you for everything that you do. You are amazing! Scouting would not be possible without you and your teams!

Yours in Scouting,
Tom Waldock – **Council Commissioner**
Viki Fanous – **Council Relationship Manager**

People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel – Maya Angelou