



It starts with Scouts.

**Scouts Canada - Nova Scotia Council  
Newsletter – October 2013**

**COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE**

Thanks to all the Scouters who are doing great work around the province making a difference to our youth. Operation Alert went off really well, thanks to Peter Comeau and team and to the sun gods: It never rains at Nedoaae!

The NS Council is working with the NS Property Society to figure out how to best manage our many Scouting properties. There should be some good discussion at the time of the Annual Meeting / Scouters Conference about the direction we will take to make this work effectively.

We have also been working hard with the Scouters in the old Halifax Area. We are in the process of creating three smaller & mightier areas from the one big one. This will help local Scout groups that naturally work together to do so as their own Area. It will also make the role of the Area Commissioner and Deputy Area Commissioners much less demanding and hopefully even more fun. If you are interested in talking about how you can help out the new areas, please give me a call or drop me an email ([rdyke@scouts.ca](mailto:rdyke@scouts.ca)).

Finally, we are looking for new members of the service team in South West Nova. If you are interested in exploring this and you are from the Digby-Yarmouth-Shelburne area, please give me a call or drop me an email ([rdyke@scouts.ca](mailto:rdyke@scouts.ca)).

**DCC-TRAINING REPORT** - George Mawko ([scoutergeorge@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:scoutergeorge@ns.sympatico.ca) or evenings: 435-6244)

**In-person Wood Badge I Training**

Well the new Scouting year has finally arrived and signs of area in-person Wood Badge I training courses are beginning to surface. I can report that Kings is organizing section WBI training courses to be held in late November and Cape Breton Island is organizing a Group Commissioners WBI training course for early 2014. Out-of-area leaders are welcome to attend these courses. Stay tuned to this newsletter for more information or you can contact me directly.

**Invite to Training Review Session at Scouters Conference**

At next month's Scouters Conference, I will be hosting a session called "*Scouts Canada's Wood Badge Training Scheme - how is it working out for you?*" Other questions to be addressed: "Are we meeting the development needs of our Scouters? How do I support the training of Scouters in my group? How can I get involved in training?" If you are at Conference and interested in training issues, then please join me for answers to these and other questions you may wish to raise.

**2-3 Volunteers Needed to Help with Trainer List Update**

I am planning to update the Council's Trainer List and need two to three volunteers to help me contact trainers to confirm their contact information, training interests and availability, as well as, to catch anyone who may have recently fallen off the list. Project time commitment: a total of 8-10 hours per volunteer for phoning, e-mailing and team meetings (on the phone). This project will start in mid-November and, with volunteer help, should be completed by the end of January. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me.

### **HOLIDAY RECEPTION - December 11, 2013**

You are cordially invited to join us at your Scouts Canada Nova Scotia Council Service Centre for a reception to celebrate the 'Holiday Season.'

We hope you can drop by and join us for Light Fare -Soup, Cheese & Crackers, Sweets, Punch, Tea & Coffee.

**When:** December 11th, 2013  
**Time:** Between 4 PM – 8 PM  
**Location:** 84 Thorne Ave. Dartmouth NS  
**Dress:** **Casual** (uniform NOT required)

### **POPCORN CAMPAIGN 2013**

**Our Annual Scout Popcorn Campaign** is underway – having kicked off on September 21st and running through until the October 26th. Please support our biggest fundraiser!

### **SCOUTERS' CONFERENCE AND AGM 2013**

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend our annual conference being held in Bridgewater, NS November 1-3, 2013. We hope to see you at the Days Inn and Conference Centre in Bridgewater!

The Scouters' Conference booking form is available on our website [www.ns.scouts.ca](http://www.ns.scouts.ca) or contact the NS Council Service Centre at 423-9227 / 1-800-557-7268. Complete the form ASAP and return to Scouts Canada, 84 Thorne Ave. Dartmouth NS B3B 1Y5 or fax to 423-7989. Please don't delay - order your meals now. The hotel needs to be advised of our meal numbers.

The session schedule offers training opportunities for leaders and group committee members alike. Our trainers are enthusiastic and look forward to sharing their experiences with you - it is fun, stimulating and rewarding.

#### **Sessions being offered are:**

Revitalization / STEM - All Sections  
What's 'New' In No Trace? – Section Campers  
Making Your Section Work – All Sections  
Recognition - How Do We Make It Work? – Group Committee  
PR- What Is Available & 'Getting the Word Out' – All Sections  
Scouts Canada WB Training Scheme; How Is It Working For You? – Trainers & Scouters

### **MOOSEHEAD HOCKEY GAME**

The Moosehead Hockey Game will be held February 8, 2014, at 7:00 PM. The Halifax Mooseheads are playing Rimouski Oceanic. Tickets will be available soon and the cost of the tickets including a crest will be \$9.50 each.

### **BANNERS AVAILABLE FOR LOAN**

We have some exciting NEW tools available to our groups and areas to promote Scouting in your communities. Please call for more details. See attached for photos of these banners.

### **PROVINCIAL EVENTS\* 2013-2014:**

Scouters' Conference.....November 1 – 3, 2013

Nova Scotia Council AGM.....November 3, 2013

Moosehead Hockey Game.....February 8, 2014

Chief Scout's / Queen's Venturer / Medal of the Maple Ceremony.....TBA

Scoutrees .....May 3, 2014

Lodges and Lairs.....June 6 – 8, 2014

If you would like to share something in the newsletter, please send submissions to the Nova Scotia Council Office care of Peter Biddle ([pbiddle@scouts.ca](mailto:pbiddle@scouts.ca)).