



It starts with Scouts.

Scouts Canada - Nova Scotia Council
Newsletter # 2 – March 2011

OFFICE:

Membership

Our current membership, as of March 21st is as follows:

Youth -	3481
Leaders-	1042
Total Membership -	4523

Compared to the same time last year, we have 42 leaders and 234 youth over last year. This is great news but we still have a lot of work to do to increase members to our target of 5100 members this year. Let's get out there and tell our story.

New Bring A Friend Promotion

We are pleased to announce a promising new Rewards promotion designed to put even greater strength behind the Bring A Friend Promotion. Here's how it works:

- Each time a Scout brings a friend to a group meeting, the Scout will receive a \$5.00 Scout Shop coupon (redeemable for any Scout Shop purchase, no minimum purchase required).
- If the friend registers as a new member, he or she will also receive a \$5.00 Scout Shop coupon, while the Scout who brought friend receives an additional \$5.00 coupon.

The new Bring A Friend Promotion is now available to all members and takes effect immediately, running through August 31, 2011. For more information contact, Judy Matheson at jmatheson@scouts.ca

Prepared Programming

Scouts Canada has developed a set of program tools to help leaders prepare, both new leaders and leaders with experience, with tools that provides a good structure in planning meetings and activities. Visit www.scouts.ca/vstk for more information.

New Scouter Welcome Kits

The new Scouter Welcome Kits will be shipped in early April. Each group commissioner will be sent a kit directly from National. Click on <http://www.scouts.ca/nswk/new/welcome-e.html> for more information.

Changes to Drug and Alcohol and Property Policies – BP&P 1010 and 1011- (pertaining to third-party rentals)

I wish to advise you of the following changes to the above policies, which were approved and ratified by the Board of Governors at its meeting of January 22, 2011.

As you know, BP&P has historically prohibited the use of alcohol on all Scouts Canada properties, and restricted third party rentals of our properties to other "like-minded organizations." Based on substantive and lengthy discussions between senior volunteers and staff, it is clear that these limitations are now somewhat out dated. They significantly restrict our ability to attract potential partners for both fundraising and program development, and limit our opportunities for raising revenue through facilities rentals. The Board recognizes that generating strong new partnerships for Scouts Canada in today's climate is essential to our ongoing efforts to increase membership.

To this end, it has been resolved and changes will be made in BP&P to reflect the following:

1. Policy 1010 (formerly the Drug and Alcohol Policy) will be split into two parts:

(a) Drug Policy and (b) Alcohol Policy. The wording of the Drug Policy will be slightly altered and drug use continues to be strictly prohibited.

2. Alcohol licences may now be sought for Scouts' sites and properties for adult events and 3rd party rentals. Alcohol use remains prohibited at all Scouts Canada youth program activities, at events where minors are present and at those venues and events where prohibited by law. The CEO or Chief Commissioner may give prior written approval to a request for an exception.

3. Policy 1011 (Property Policy) - Rental of Scouts Canada sites, facilities and equipment is no longer restricted to 'like-minded' organizations. While we will remain vigilant in our management of rentals and screening of potential clients, this change will increase the potential for commercial revenue, ensure more frequent and prudent use of venues where we clearly have excess capacity, and serve to enhance and promote our public image as a contemporary organization.

I trust you will agree that these substantive changes will positively impact our primary goal to increase our membership. The changes to Policy 1010 are indicated below, and the changes to Policy 1011 forthcoming. Contact Jimmy Khatri at the Nova Scotia Council Office if you have any questions.

PROGRAM – Howard Donohoe:

Lodges and Lairs – June 10 – 12, 2011

Lodges and Lairs, our Provincial Beaver / Cub Event, will take place again this year at Camp Nedooae on June 10 – 12, 2011. This year's theme is "Monsters." We are also in need of "Offers of Service" for this event. Contact the Nova Scotia Council Office for applications or additional information.

TRAINING – Gary Thurston:

Wood Badge II Course

There will be a Wood Badge II Course held at Camp Nedooae September 16 – 18, 2011, and September 30, October 1 – 2, 2011. For more information or an application, please check the website or contact the Nova Scotia Council Office.

St. John Ambulance Health and Safety Award

St. John Ambulance is once again offering a \$500.00 award to a Scout Group that has exhibited outstanding dedication to Health & Safety through First Aid training and related activities. The award will be presented at the St. John Ambulance AGM and Annual Dinner to be held on May 13th at Mount Saint Vincent University. The deadline for application is April 15, 2011. If you would like more information on this, please contact the Scout Office.

TECHNOLOGY – David Lincourt:

What's Next?

In the coming months, Scouts Canada will launch the Association Management System (AMS) that will replace our current "MMS." The AMS will provide a more integrated system for managing member information that will extend beyond a simple database of information. This highly personalized system with enhanced capabilities will promote easy registration for leaders and provide unprecedented support to the Scouting community across Canada. Our management system (AMS) will be a comprehensive and highly intuitive tool that will substantially increase the efficiency of the entire Scouts Canada operation.

Here is just a sample of what this tool will provide:

- Intuitive, user-friendly organizational and member setup;
- Online registration and renewal;
- Online payment;
- Event management;

- Group locator;
- Training and awards information;
- Refreshed web designs;
- Online collaboration tools.

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Peter Koskolos:

A great skit I always remembered is the Scouter during inspection asking the Scouts what their good deed of the day was. Each Scout answered “we helped a little old lady across the street.” The Scouter then asks why it took all of you to help her cross the street. The Scouts answered “because she didn’t want to go.”

This year Nova Scotia Council is recommending that our youth membership join in on National Good Turn Week this year. This would be a great opportunity to show our communities that Scouting is alive and willing to help others. We encourage groups to organize themselves to do good turn,s as a group, as well as individuals(visit a senior’s complex, offer members to do something for your meeting hall etc.).

The Good Turn Goes National: Scouts Canada’s second annual National Good Turn Week takes place from March 27 – April 2, 2011

- Over 100,000 Scouts and leaders nationwide will participate.
- Scouting youth and adult volunteers may do any kind of Good Turn, and then give the wristband to the recipient, who in turn does a “Good Turn” and pays the wristband forward again.
- Groups and individuals may post Good Turns live on the Good Turn microsite at www.scouts.ca, on the Scouts Canada Official Facebook Page, or text GOODTURN to 51051.
- Scouting is all about doing good turns and community service.
- Canadian parents are embracing our values of good citizenship and caring for others, which are more relevant than ever.
- Simple acts of kindness will generate others until The Good Turn Goes National, and Canada will become a stronger and better place.

Let’s get good turning

PROPERTIES – Richard Dyke:

Do you have a Scout camp that you love and use ... but have some nagging concerns about safety or maintenance? Please let your local property manager know right away. If you don’t know who the property manager is or if you ARE the local property manager but aren’t quite sure what to do next, please give us a call (Jimmy at 902-423-9227) or email me (richard.dyke@sysprosolutions.com). We are here to help.

CAMP NEDOOAE – Peter Comeau

Operation Alert 2011 - Crest Design Competition

Would you like to be a hero and win a prize for your team?

We are seeking youth participants to submit crest designs for this year's event by June 1. The theme for 2011 is Ninjas vs. Samurai. The prize will be a supper of your choice prepared trailside on Saturday evening by the Alert 2011 Game Director and Chef Patrick!

Text to include on crest:

Alert 2011 Ninjas vs. Samurai

Include with your submission:

Your Name
 Address
 Email address
 Group name
 Section

Send submissions to the Scout Office care of Nanci Douglas at ndouglas@scouts.ca

COUNCIL COMMISSIONER ADVERTISEMENT:

The search is underway for the Nova Scotia Council Commissioner. Currently, Terry Greenham is the Interim Council Commissioner for the Council.

The Council Commissioner is the leading volunteer for Scouting in Nova Scotia. Working closely with a team of volunteers and employees, the Council Commissioner is responsible for supporting more than 106 Scouting groups who serve almost 3500 youth every year. In general, the core of this position requires a motivated and motivating team builder and organization developer.

If this challenge appeals to you, click the link

<http://www.scouts.ca/dnn/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=QPk54PqjaX8%3d&tabid=2815&mid=5371>

WEBSITE

Please visit www.ns.scouts.ca for updates and information on council activities. If you would like to post an event that is happening in your area, please contact Shirlene Lewis at slewis@scouts.ca

Please contact your area commissioner or Council (Key 3) for assistance in carrying out your Scouting objectives in program delivery.

Terry Greenham – Interim Council Commissioner

John deRosenroll – Council Youth Commissioner

Jimmy Khatri – Council Executive Director

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