



It starts with Scouts.

**Scouts Canada - Nova Scotia Council
Newsletter – May 2012**

GREETINGS:

Hello everyone,

I hope that your spring is progressing well with Scouting in full bloom. As your Council service team meets with Scouters from around the province, we have to be impressed by the high quality and commitment so many volunteers bring to improving the lives of our youth.

Child & Youth Safety continues to be a prime focus for Council. We are inviting NS Scouters with particular skills and commitment to this area to apply for a new role on Council:

Deputy Council Commissioner – Child & Youth Safety

We are looking for someone to champion and guide our local efforts on this important issue. We expect the time commitment to be roughly 4 to 6 hours per week. If you would like to explore this, please write us at NSapplications@scouts.ca

Our push for Spring Registration has met with a lot of enthusiasm around the province. It has many benefits for youth retention and leadership planning, as well as, financial rewards for parents and groups. It also helps with our Child & Youth Safety initiatives by ensuring that our new and returning leaders have lots of time to complete screening interviews, PRCs and training prior to September. See the “Quick Guide” on the next page for details, especially as regards Child & Youth Safety training.

We are looking for volunteers to step up as commissioners in the areas of Dartmouth, Kings, and North East. We are considering advertising these positions in local grocery stores for community members who are not currently in Scouting but are committed to its success. If you are presently a Scouter in the area and are at all interested in serving in another way, please contact me at rdyke@scouts.ca

A special note of congratulations is extended to all our recent recipients of the Chief Scout Award, Queen’s Venturer Award, and Medal of the Maple Award. It was terrific that His Honour Brigadier-General, The Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret’d) Lt. Governor of NS, was able to attend this year’s awards ceremony to do the presentations.

We are also pleased to announce and congratulate Adam Barnett of 4th Yarmouth, Emily Horner of 36th Halifax, and Marissa West of 2nd Cole Harbour as winners of NS Council’s 2012 scholarships. We received many applications from well qualified Scouts and only regret we cannot give scholarships to them all.

As always, your service team is here to help. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours in Scouting,
Richard Dyke
NS Council Commissioner
rdyke@scouts.ca

OFFICE:

2012-2013 Volunteer Registration Requirements – Quick Guide

This “Quick Guide” is an easy reference for training and registration requirements for “New” and “Returning” volunteers as part of our ongoing Child & Youth Safety initiatives. These are the same requirements adopted all across Canada for the upcoming Scouting year.

Registration Steps	New	Returning
1. Completed Registration Form	Required	Required
2. Valid & Clean PRC & VSS	Required	Required (should already be on file ... but watch for expiry dates)
3. Interview & Reference Checks	Required	Required if moving between organizational units (e.g. to a different Area, Group to Area, etc.)
4. Accessibility for the Disabled Training (AODA) https://www.myscouts.ca/	Required	Required
5. Child & Youth Safety Training (available very soon at https://www.myscouts.ca/)	Required	Required
6. Module 1 Wood Badge Part 1 for Primary Role https://www.myscouts.ca/ or in-person	Required	Required by Sept. 1, 2012 (should already have been completed)
7. Modules 2 to 5 Wood Badge Part 1 for Primary Role https://www.myscouts.ca/ or in-person	Required within first year *	Required by Sept. 1, 2012 if not changing sections (should already have been completed) <i>Or</i> Required within first year* if changing sections (e.g. Colony to Pack, etc.) <i>And</i> Recommended by Sept. 1, 2012 if taking on a section leadership role **

Please note: All members will be required to have the training before they hit the floor on September 1, 2012. Our youth are just too important to do otherwise.

If it has been three or more years since you took your Wood Badge, we encourage you to review Module 1 of the current Wood Badge I program. There have been a number of changes in the past few years that will help ensure your success in operating a successful Section or Group.

* As noted in the New Scouter Welcome Kit: “Within three months a Scouter is expected to develop basic knowledge and skills to confidently participate with the leadership team”

** It is Strongly Suggested that if you are changing sections and taking on the Team Leadership role as Colony Contact, Akela, Troop Scouter or Venturer Advisor that you complete the WB I module 2 to 5 by Sept. 1, 2012.

PREPARED PROGRAMING:

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.

PROPERTIES:

Do you have a Scout camp that you love and use ... but have some niggling concerns about safety or maintenance? Please let your local property manager know right away. If you don't know who this is or if you ARE the local property manager but aren't quite sure what to do next, please give us a call (Peter at 902-423-9227). We are here to help. Once again, we will be hiring students to visit our camp locations to file the compliance reports required annually.

DCC PROGRAM – Tommy Oickle:

Lodges and Lairs 2012

Lodges and Lairs, our Provincial Beaver / Cub Event, will take place again this year at Camp Nedooae on June 8 – 10, 2012. This year's theme is "Wet & Wild."

ScotiaJamb – 2015

We want to offer a high quality ScotiaJamb for our local youth. In order to "do it right" and to work well with the timing of CJs in 2013 and 2017, we will hold the ScotiaJamb in the summer of 2015. We are looking for volunteers to help with the organizing. Please contact oickletm@gmail.com if you are excited by this challenge.

DCC TRAINING - George Mawko: (scoutergeorge@ns.sympatico.ca)

Mandatory Training:

A recommendation will be made to the Board that mandatory training be completed by all volunteers prior to working with youth. This training will include:

- Orientation (Module 1 of WB1),
- Accessibility training (e.g. how to interact with people who have various disabilities), and
- Child & Youth Safety training.

Scouts Canada will be introducing basic Child & Youth Safety and Accessibility training programs over the next couple of weeks. It is our expectation that all volunteers will complete this training prior to volunteering in the next Scouting year (this includes both new and returning volunteers).

The initial training will be available online, and there will be an accompanying facilitator guide that will assist Support Scouters to share the training with small groups of volunteers in person.

More details to follow once the training is available. If you have any specific questions, please let me know.

DCC MEDIA – Christine Madill:

SPREAD THE WORD!

In an effort to raise awareness of Scouting in Nova Scotia, a news release template was sent out to all group commissioners who had youth receiving the Chief Scout, Queen's Venturer and Medal of the Maple awards. For those who were successful in having pictures or articles published, please scan the items and email them to Christine at cmadill@eastlink.ca

Thank you to those who responded to broadcasts and who attended Queen's Jubilee event in February at the legislature and the Titanic anniversary event in April.



DCC RECOGNITION: Don Sanford

How do we say "Thank You"?

Too often we neglect to say "Thank You" to our Leaders for a terrific job, well done. This can be as simple as saying Thank You in person to that Scouter. Or it may take the form of a more formal recognition. I would briefly like to talk about some of these more formal ways to show recognition.

Certificate of Appreciation

This is a certificate that anyone can originate and print off and present. The link is www2.scouts.ca/dnn/Recognition/VolunteerAppreciationCertificates/tabid/2519/Default.aspx

Click on the link and when the certificate comes up, simply fill in the council name and the recipient's name. Then print the certificate and put it in a document holder and present it at an appropriate time.

New Outstanding Service Awards Process

Go to the web site: www.scouts.ca/thanks/

When the site comes up, click on the "Thanks" button and when the form comes up fill in all the details of yourself and the person you wish to recognize for an outstanding task. You will be asked to write 3 or 4 lines saying why this is an outstanding job that was done. When you are finished filling in on form, click on the "Done" button and your nomination is on its way. Take time to read up on the new OSA process while you are in the web site.

Any one may nominate a Leader, Leader in Training, or Activity Leader for an award. This would also include the youth in a section sending in nominations.

Old Recognition Process

This is still a valid process for the next year. Go to www.scouts.ca and click on "Scouters" Then click on Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures and go to Section 9000 for the Honours and Awards Policy.

Go to "Recognition" and click on "Honours and Awards Forms". Select the appropriate form and fill it in, then send it electronically to ndouglas@scouts.ca at the Provincial Council Scout Office.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to share something in the newsletter, please send submissions to the council office care of Peter Biddle (pbiddle@scouts.ca).