



It starts with Scouts.

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

**COMMISSIONERS MESSAGE**

Happy Summer!

My thanks to all the leaders out there who have done so much to make a difference in the lives of our youth this past year. Your efforts matter in ways that we can sometimes see immediately and sometimes in ways that may take us years to discover if ever we do. No matter, the impact is real.

Many Groups in the province have embraced early registration for both leaders & youth. This is a great way not only to retain youth but to allow lots of time to get new leaders screened and trained. In case anyone has not yet gotten the message: Leaders will need to be in good standing – fully screened, PRC'ed, and trained – to work in Scouting. With the start of the new year on September 1st, there will be no leaders with a Pending status: you cannot be a leader or work with our youth in any way until you are made Active. Safety comes first and foremost followed by a commitment to deliver high quality and adventurous programming for youth. They deserve no less than our best.

Finally, congratulations to our newest group of Wood Badge II recipients. They all have done a great job and are fully geared up to get the upcoming Scouting year off with a bang. Yee-haw!

Have a great summer and for those attending CJ'13, see you there.

Richard

**DO YOU KNOW THIS CHAIR?**

This chair was spotted a few days ago at the Halifax International Airport by Doug Reid, our Deputy National Commissioner for Program Services. We would love to know which Cub Scout pack put this very cool chair together. Let us know at [office@scouts.ca](mailto:office@scouts.ca).



## **SJ'15 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Planning is well underway for SJ'15 scheduled for July 2015 at Camp Nedooae. The Jamboree Organizing Group (JOG) now has most positions filled but we do have three vacant positions that volunteers are still required for. Please review the following brief job descriptions. If you have any specific questions or would like to put your name forward please contact Herb at [hripley@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:hripley@ns.aliantzinc.ca) or call at 902 576-3229.

OOS Staffing - this volunteer position will help organize and coordinate the Offer of Service (OOS) volunteers who will staff most positions at the jamboree itself. This individual will interact with all jamboree section leaders to determine their staffing needs and will assign OOS volunteers to their jamboree role.

Procurement - a major jamboree such as SJ'15 needs to purchase a large variety of items and must coordinate when these items will be available. As head of Procurement, this volunteer will coordinate with jamboree section leaders to determine their requirements and will help facilitate the purchase and delivery of these items to Camp Nedooae.

Sponsorships - this volunteer position will help lead our search for jamboree sponsorships. Sponsorships will likely range from large corporate sponsors who may make a large cash donation down to small "in-kind" donations or goods and services. This individual will help develop the sponsorship strategy and then take the lead in implementing it.

Please check out the Scotiajamb website at [www.scotiajamb.ca](http://www.scotiajamb.ca)

## **RAVE 2013**

RAVE 2013 date has been determined for the Weekend of October 18-20, 2013. It will be hosted by the 1st Aylesford Venturer Company at Lower Lake 60 (Camp Hiawatha). More information will come out in next newsletter. Venturer Companies and Rover Crews – be sure to save the date for the fall!

## **PROGRAM QUALITY AWARDS**

Don't forget to get your Program Quality Awards into Provincial Office before your group closes for the summer!!!

## **EARLY REGISTRATION**

We would like to remind you that the early registration fee for participants is \$125.00. All participants **MUST** be entered in MyScouts by June 30, 2013, and payment **MUST** be received at the Nova Scotia Council Service Centre by July 15, 2013.

## **DCC-TRAINING REPORT**

### **Training News from Council**

#### 2013 WBII Course

43 participants completed their Wood Badge II at Camp Nedooae this year!

### **Training News from National**

#### Updated Screening Training Video

The training video, 'Volunteer Screening: It's Our Duty' has been update as of May 9, 2013. The video is now available on E-Learning in the Interview Training folder. The information in the video has not changed dramatically from what was in the 1997 version of the video, so there is no need for Scouters to re-take the training. This is very important information, however, and it would not hurt for people to view the video again as a refresher. The primary use for this video is to train new commissioners and other members of the Area Interview Team. Please remember that viewing the video is the first part of the Area Interview Team training. It is to be followed up by conducting interviews with more experienced interviewers.

### New WBI Course for Group Committee Members

National is developing a WBI Group Committee training course (in-person & E-Learning) with a launch time in the 2013/14 Scouting year. More details to follow as they become available.

### Why training matters - a Youtube video

Thanks to Mark Burge, PCC Rover Crew, and Kevin Ward, DCC Training Fraser Valley Council, for creating this video which speaks to the value of in-person training as an option to receiving their training.

### **News**

*Congratulations to the following Scouters who successfully completed the Group Commissioners Wood Badge I Course on Wenesday, June 19, 2013:*

Don Hartlen	1st Uniacke, Halifax Area
Laurel Ross	2nd Wellington, Halifax Area
Ian Hayward	5th Dartmouth, Dartmouth Area
Mary Hughes	2nd Maitland, South Shore Area
Jennifer Newell	2nd Maitland, South Shore Area
Amanda Labrador	2nd Maitland, South Shore Area
Ethel Smith	2nd Maitland, South Shore Area
Claudia Brannen Miller	3rd Barrington, South West Nova Area
Jocelyne Comeau	1er Baie Sainte-Marie, South West Nova Area

### **REGISTRATION**

This note will provide important information that will facilitate the registration process for you - please read it in its entirety, as it contains answers to the most frequently asked questions. I realize that it is long, but it should answer most questions that you have.

#### **First Things First**

Please verify your contact and medical information in your profile once you log in to MyScouts, and update as applicable. If you have not been able to access MyScouts yet, please go to [www.myscouts.ca](http://www.myscouts.ca) and click Request New Password or log in for the first time, and follow the prompts.

\*\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE: if your PRC is due to expire, please renew it immediately - the system will automatically not allow you to access group information once your PRC is expired.

#### **Registration Processing:**

What follows will be information designed to facilitate the registration process for you, so that your youth will be properly registered and your volunteers will be activated. Please follow these directions as written to avoid future difficulty in the registration process.

#### **A. Setting Group Fees: You must set up the fees for the 2013-2014 Scouting Year!**

The group fee is **only** what the group charges in addition to the Council. Please do not re-enter the \$125.00 fee. National and Council have already set aside their portions - i.e. right now the fee will show \$125 when you register participants.

**If your group does not charge an additional fee, or if your group subsidizes the cost of registration, please make this number \$0 for participants, as well as for volunteers.**

#### **B. Registering Participants**

There are two ways to register participants - the renew-transfer feature, and the "Register a Participant option in Org Options.

Before registering any participants, please ensure that each section - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, etc. - that is running this year has a value in "Max Participants" and "Max Volunteers." This can be updated by going to Org Options, Edit Meeting Details. If no value is there, the system will think the section is full and will not allow you to register anyone manually.

The Renew/Transfer feature is quite handy if your participants' contact or parent information has not changed over the course of the year. There is a renew/transfer participants tab in each section, so you can renew your Beavers and renew Beavers who have swum up to Cubs at the same time. In the drop-down boxes for each youth, there is an Action box and a Section Box. If you are registering your youth whose roles are Not Renewed, you are renewing them and can do so into any section by using the drop-down box. Then click Submit. Each members contact and medical information should then be updated by clicking on the green man beside their name and clicking Member Options - from there, the different parts of the form can be modified, with the notable exception of parent/guardian information.

If members have moved or phone numbers for parents have changed, it might be more advantageous to register a youth by the Register a Participant feature.

Go into the section you wish to register your participant in, click Org Options, and Register a Participant. Please note the pop-up box that appears so that you can do a name search. This will enable you to register members who have a history in Scouting, and their record can stay with them. If they are listed as Active, please contact the Council office for a transfer. Please note the required fields that are listed with a red star beside them.

With the tick boxes on the bottom for the medical release agreement, etc., if the parents sign the form, you as a GC or registrar can tick them on the parents' behalf.

### **C. Registering volunteers**

There is no quick way to register volunteers. This will have to be done by going into the section you wish to register them (or group committee if applicable), clicking Org Options, and Register a Volunteer.

Note the pop-up box as well. If someone was registered last year, you can use this to transfer them for 2013-14 into your group.

\*\*\*NOTE: Many of the default roles for sections and group committee have cause confusion. Activity Leader, Scouter in Training, Venturer President, etc., are ALL youth roles. Please do not register members over 18 with these roles, and be very vigilant when assigning roles to members. You can only assign group committee roles to members when you are actually in the group committee registering them - if they are to be a Beaver leader, you will need to be in the Beaver colony to register them.

### **D. Screening/Activating Volunteers**

Group Registrars and Commissioners can activate section-level volunteers - Beaver leader, Cub leader, etc., by clicking on their Group Committee, and then the Screening tab. Members should only be activated if their screening (interview, references, and PRC) and training is complete and the code of conduct signed.

NOTE: Group Registrars can view and edit Screening Details; group commissioners can add and edit Screening Checklists (this is especially crucial for new volunteers). If a checklist is entered online, it does not need to be submitted in hard-copy to the office.

If a member has completed all the screening and training requirements, their status can now be changed to Active.

\*\*NOTE: Group committee volunteers can only be activated by area commissioners or Council.

### **E. Adding roles to volunteers**

If a volunteer has more than one role, they need to be active before a second role can be added. Please do not register them again, but use the Admin Options portion of an active member's profile to add roles to them. Alternatively, you can go into the group or section they are to be volunteering in, clicking Org Options, and then add an Existing Volunteer.

Thank you for your patience during this time of transition. I hope this email clarifies any questions that you have. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance.

### **LODGES & LAIRS – 2013**

Whoever would have thought that it would RAIN at Camp Nedooae! On behalf of the Lodges & Lairs Organizing Committee, I would like to pass along a big thank you to all those who were registered to attend for your understanding as to why we needed to cancel the event. We are due to have better weather for Lodges & Lairs 2014. Collector crests are available at a cost of \$5.00. Contact the Nova Scotia Service Centre, if you are interested.

### **LET'S PROMOTE SCOUTING IN NOVA SCOTIA...WE HAVE 'BANNERS' FOR LOAN**

Do you have an Event, Visible Empty Store Front, a Parade or Exhibition in your Area or Group's future... we now have COLOURFUL VINYL BANNERS that you can borrow on a first come, first served basis. These are an excellent way to show the public that Scouts Canada is alive & well and in their community!

We have four Banners size 7' x 2' and two Banners size 8' x 2.5'.

Contact the NS Council Service Centre to book a banner for your event! [ndouglas@scouts.ca](mailto:ndouglas@scouts.ca) or [slewis@scouts.ca](mailto:slewis@scouts.ca)

### **RECRUITMENT KITS**

Earlier this spring, every group in NS was sent a Recruitment Kit direct from Scouts Canada. If, for one reason or another, you are not going to use the information contained in the kit, please turn into the NS Council Service Centre or contact us. We would like to make sure that the pamphlets etc. are not going to waste. We will compile all materials and make them available to areas / groups who are doing a promotion, starting up new groups, etc. We'd love to have any of the Good Turn bracelets that were not used, as well.

### **OPERATION ALERT – SUPER HEROES**

Although many groups are just winding down to allow for a summer filled with other obligations; the new Scouting year will be upon us before we blink and with that comes Operation Alert for Scout and Venturer sections. The theme for this year's event is "Super Heroes" and takes place the weekend of September 27 – 29, 2013.

For those of you who have attended the event in the past, we are very much looking forward to meeting up with you again this fall. If you haven't attended the event before we would love to see you there.

For those less familiar with the event, here is a little background. Operation Alert started in 1963 as a camp to provide challenge to Scouts from across Nova Scotia. It continues today as a competitive challenge for teams of Scouts and Venturers from across the province and occasionally other provinces. Teams are made up of 4 youth participants (although a team of 3 can still compete) with Scout teams having an age range of 11-14 and Venturer teams having an age of 14-17. Teams are scored on completion of projects and their camping skills.

The projects are run by groups of Scouters and Rovers who have worked together for a few years and find Operation Alert a great opportunity to get together for a weekend to work together, have fun, and meet 'new' Scouters. If you are interested in getting a group of Scouters together to run a project or are an individual who might like to come to the event to work with a project we can always find a spot for you. Colony & Pack Scouters are always welcome.

Team applications and Offer of Service forms are available on the NS Council website at [www.ns.scouts.ca](http://www.ns.scouts.ca)

For information on Operation Alert please contact:

Peter Comeau – Games Director [pacomeau@accesswave.ca](mailto:pacomeau@accesswave.ca)

Nanci Douglas – NS Council [ndouglas@scouts.ca](mailto:ndouglas@scouts.ca)

## **POPCORN**

Our Annual Scout Popcorn Campaign will start on September 21<sup>st</sup> and will run through to October 26, 2013. Kick off and campaign details will be forthcoming over the summer months. Mark the dates on your calendar now, so you can support our biggest fundraiser!

## **SCOUTERS' CONFERENCE AND AGM**

This year's Scouters' Conference and AGM are being held November 1-3, 2013, at the totally renovated Days Inn and Conference Centre, Bridgewater. Please note these dates, as you'll want to attend. The Conference Organizing Committee is working on the training sessions and putting the final touches on the menu. Application forms will be available in July and will be posted to the website, [www.ns.scouts.ca](http://www.ns.scouts.ca)

You may contact the hotel directly at 1-902-543-7131 to book your room. Please advise them that you are attending the Scouters' Conference. The room rate per night is \$79.99 plus tax and this includes a hot breakfast. Note – we will still be holding 'Gilwell Breakfast' as we do every year at Conference!

Watch for our Scouters' Conference application form in July!

## **CALLING ALL CAMPERS!!!**

Camp Lone Cloud is still accepting applications for Beaver Day Camps, the Camper Program, the Leadership Program, and the Counselor-in-Training Program. CLC offers six unique summer programs for all youth ages 7-16. Whether it's your first time away from home or the camper that wears their CLC beads year round, we want you to come to camp! Application forms can be found on the website, [www.camplonecloud.ca](http://www.camplonecloud.ca), once they're filled out get them to Shirlene at the Nova Scotia Council Service Centre and we'll sign your youth up for a week of FUN, and lasting friendships and memories!

## **2013 SCOUTS CANADA FOUNDATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Congratulations to the 2013 Scouts Canada Foundation for Scholarship Award Recipients who were awarded \$1000.00 each.  
Kristofer Hardy, 1<sup>st</sup> Five Island Lake Group, Sir John A MacDonald High School  
Morgan Erskine, 1<sup>st</sup> Shubenacadie Group, Musquodoboit Rural High School

## **PROVINCIAL EVENTS\* 2012-2013:**

Operation Alert.....September 27 – 29, 2013

RAVE.....October 18 – 20, 2013

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

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