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Special Thanks to Nolan Smith for design and layout.



**VOYAGEUR COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13**



One Path, Tonnes of Adventure



VALLEY HIGHLANDS AREA

Valley enjoyed another successful Scouting year. We maintained a strong presence in our communities providing the youth with programme and events that keeps them coming back year after year.

Again this year Valley Highlands held a number of outdoor events, many of which were organized and overseen by the Youth. The year got off to a strong start in Sept with a skills camp and followed up closely with JOTA and our annual nocturnal challenge- Nightvent.

Camps and events were held for all sections encompassing all the seasons including everyone's favourite Winter Camp for Troop. This year we added to the fun with a Klondike Derby for Troop and Pack while the Beavers enjoyed their annual Beaver BRRRRR. Thanks are extended to the Community of Beckwith for providing an excellent venue for all 3 events. Of course the weather was a sunny and crisp providing the ideal winter conditions we all love.

February is the time to celebrate the founding of Scouting and many Groups celebrated during BP week. Banquets with great food and fellowship everywhere, attended by the Area Service team. Springtime events enhanced the programme with Valley Highland's annual Scout 18 Wheelers, Kub Kar and Beaver Buggy race day.

2nd Almonte hosted the event this year under the leadership of Scouter Bill Lawrence. Bill set up his extensive Scouting Museum providing all in attendance, youth and adult with a glimpse of Scouting's past. Included are a number of uniforms and other Scouting memorabilia from around the world. Bill Lawrence was presented with a "Caribou Award" for a very impressive event.

The all section Spring camp and Prep camp for Valley Highlands canoe training were well attended.

This was Valley Highlands 5th annual canoe camp and base camp in Algonquin Park. In excess of 50 youth and adults paddled the Baron Canyon and surrounding lakes. Everyone's most memorable activity was saved for the last- Algonquin's famous natural waterslides on Stratton Lake. On our trip home everyone enjoyed a very unique hike and spectacle- The Baron Canyon from the top looking down.

A special thanks to all the leaders both adult and youth who made an adventure to remember. Michelle Niefer, Allen Sinfield, Sharon Dekart and our AYC Johanne Dekart all helped to bring the OUT back to Scouting.

This year, Valley Highlands through a pilot project under the guidance of Kevin Tetreault initiated the "Chief Scout Club". The pilot project helped 6 senior Scouts earn their Chief Scout Award. Congratulations to all our recipients.-

Finally I would like to thank the entire Service team and Group Commissioners for the great year we have had. A job well done. A special thanks to Johanne Dekart AYC, she is a great example to all the youth in Valley Highlands.

Alex Beelich
Area Commissioner



RIDEAU AREA

The Scouting year in Rideau was a success. Growth in the area was near 100% , however Retention was down with the final numbers not been made available. Several groups showed enormous growth again, and in general most of the groups continue to grow. We saw section growth across the board, with strong programming leading the way.

The year ended with excellent section visit reports, and strong area and group support. Compliance issues were at a minimum and were handled quickly and appropriately. The year also saw a large increase in new Volunteers and another year of growth within the youth leadership of Activity Leaders and Scouters-In-Training. Almost every group in the area had at least one AL or SIT, and in some cases, one in each of the junior sections.

Rideau recognized the excellent work of volunteers at all levels, with numerous Certificates of Commendations being presented on an almost week basis. Council awards were also presented and the youth of the area were also recognized, with both Council Youth Awards and Medals of the Maple. The area saw a large number of Chief Scout Awards and Queens Venture Awards being presented at the annual presentation ceremonies. A special congratulations goes to AYC Devon Staff on her accomplishments both in Scouting and academically.

Area participation was also a success. The area all-sections day saw an increase in participation again of almost 10%. The individual area section events were well attended and the programming for them was excellent.

Training is an ongoing endeavour, with its challenges. We are working to provide as many opportunities for training, be it a Wood Badge 1 in-person, or workshops for both youth and leaders.

To sum up the year in a word, Amazing. Without the volunteers from the sections, thru to the group and area teams, and all those youth involved as participants or in a leadership role, we would not have accomplished so much, and had so much fun.

We are looking forward to another great year, and the continued success and growth of Rideau Area.

Ken Shore
Area Commissioner

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Council Service Team

Jim Peverley - Council Commissioner
John Staff - DCC of Child and Youth Safety
Chris Majka - DCC of Events
Michelle Niefer - DCC of Operations & Administration
Mark Millan - DCC of Program
Garth Jonah - DCC of Recognition
Helen St. Denis - DCC of Volunteer Development
Heather Shore - Council Administrator

Council Youth Service Team

Ian Wilenius - Council Youth Commissioner
Jamie Schaffer - DCYC of Communications
Andrew Ralph - DCYC of Program
Emily Beausoleil - DCYC of Recognition
Kalen Smith - DCYC of Training

Council Key Volunteers

Doug Hall - Treasurer & Chair of Finance Committee
Doug Cody - Popcorn
John Bennet - Popcorn
Rod Wilson - Ontario Incorporated Body Representative

Area Commissioners

Owen Wiseman - Algonquin Hills
Don Bell - Carleton
John Dougherty - Council Groups
Perry Shippers - Heritage
David Parker - Loyalist
Sarah Smith - Nepean
Patrick Wall - Odawa
Ken Shore - Rideau
Brian McAuley - Upper St. Lawrence Valley
Alex Beelich - Valley Highlands

Area Youth Commissioners

Nicolas d'Entremont - Carleton
Ashley Schippers - Heritage
Lisa Serino - Loyalist
Nicholas Landry - Loyalist
Siobhan Ward - Nepean
Devon Staff - Rideau
Aidan Power - Rideau
Alex Griffith-Turtle - Odawa
Alaric Eamon - Upper St Lawrence
Johanne Dekart - Valley Highlands
Matt Doody - Council Groups

ENOSSC

Barry Hardaker - Council Executive Director
Jeff Benson - Operations Manager
Heather Lee - Area Support Manager
Kelly Banks - Area Support Manager
Pamela Bazinet - Administrative Assistant
Carolyn Pink - Bookkeeper
Lynn Levitan - Registrar
Lyn Williams - Accountant
Corinna Milan - Administrative Clerk
Ute Sack - Camp Administrator
Brent Kaesler - Program Manager COP's
Marilyn Johnson - Properties Manager
Kathryn Brown - Revenue Development Manager



COUNCIL COMMISSIONER

2012 – 2013 saw some challenges for Voyageur Council. For the first time in eight years membership did not grow as much as we hoped. While much of this is due to a correction in the national registration system, which eliminated many duplicate registrations that had been in the system, it does highlight the requirement to find ways to get the Scouting message out into the community. With reduced registration numbers there were inevitable implications for the budget.

Renewed emphasis on compliance with Scouts Canada training requirements, difficulties with our new member management system, MyScouts and some new training requirements kept many of us busy this year. All of these measures are in place to ensure that our children and youth members experience an outstanding Scouting program in a safe environment. Special thanks to all of the commissioners, registrars and trainers who went out of their way to work through the challenges. Of special note is the Webinar for the Group Commissioners Part 1 developed by our trainers, in true Scouting spirit as it was done as much or more for our neighbouring Scout councils as it was for Voyageur. This was a true success.

Programming across the council continued to provide excellent activities for our members. Many Cubs experienced Baloo's World Adventure at the Council Cub Camp. Thanks to the team that put this great event together. Participation in CJ 13 from Voyageur Council was high and congratulations are in order for the Voyageur Contingent CJ13 team that did so much to get all of our Scouts out to Sylvan Lake for this national event as well as to all of the Scouters who made the time to get their Scouts to a jamboree.

Without our approximately 1500 volunteers who week-in week-out bring Scouting to our 5000 youth members there would be no Voyageur Council. Thank you for your continued commitment and energy.

Child and youth safety must be our highest priority in the coming year. We must continue towards ensuring that our youth members can enjoy all that Scouting has to offer in a safe and fun environment. I encourage all members to be aware of the practices that are in place to ensure that we stay safe.

Jim Peverley
Council Commissioner

ODAWA AREA

Once again Odawa Area has had a successful year of Scouting with a varied and active program for youth in the area. Leaders from all groups have been very generous with their time in planning and executing a successful string of Area events for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Youth input and involvement increased greatly with an increase in youth leadership seen throughout the Area with more sections actively engaging Activity Leaders and Scouters-in-Training and an increase in our senior youth's involvement at Council and in the Council Youth Network. Many of our Groups now have a Group Youth Commissioner (GYC) who work directly with our Area Youth Commissioner, Alex Griffith.

Numerous recognition awards were also given to youth in the Area including the Medal of the Maple, a number of Area and Council recognition awards. In addition, nine Scouts achieved their Chief Scout Award. The ceremony was held at our annual Year End Camp at Apple Hill.

The outstanding work of our volunteers has been recognized through the presentation of over 100 National Awards, of these 25 were Certificates of Commendation from the 'Thanks' button. Seven of our own Odawa Awards were also presented, which recognizes outstanding program at the section level.

This spring the 'Eva Bandla' Award was presented for the first time to both 3rd Orleans and 8th Orleans in recognition of achieving the highest retention of their membership. This award was created to honour the dedication and service that Scouter Eva gave to Scouting.

The Area Service Team supported its 18 Scout Groups including service visits, mentoring and provided program material on the Area website. Area Scouters' clubs (Colony, Pack, and Troop) continued and the youth in all sections had a number of opportunities to participate in a number of Area events, which included fall and winter Beaverees, Fall and winter Cuborees, Scouts Medic Alert Camp, Scout Sub-Zero winter camp, Scout-Guide Challenge, Scout Trucks and Kub Kar rallies and a very successful June Area Camp for all sections.

You can follow our Area's activities on our website at www.odawa-scouting.ca

A busy year, with lots of activities that was enjoyed by all. I want to thank all the dedicated volunteers that make up the leadership in Odawa for helping to make scouting a success in Odawa!

Patrick Wall
Area Commissioner

Alex Griffith
Area Youth Commissioner

NEPEAN AREA

Nepean Area is a vibrant community of Scouts that serve everyone from 5 to adulthood. Nepean Area continues to host many events which creates the backbone of our area program:

- RoVent 2012 – An annual tradition, RoVent 2012 was as popular as ever. Many thanks to the members of the 112th Nepean Crew who spearhead this event year after year!
- Nepean Area's Kub Kar Rally saw 76 youth and many leaders attend. Awards were presented for speed and creativity. After presenting the speed awards, we announced the winner of the creative awards. He came up and said, "I already have an award. Pick someone else." So we did. This youth helped present "his" award to another youth. This young man truly understood the Scouting spirit.
- Venture Information night: Nepean's AYC, Siobhan Ward, created an evening where parents and senior Scouts could come once and visit several companies at the same time. The informal nature made it possible for youth to come and go as they pleased while parents could ask their questions.
- Nepean Area Service team presented 2 workshops in February. Doug Mackinnon wowed our new leaders during the Beaver craft workshop. Leather craft and puppets attracted a lot of interest. Several leaders, new and returning, came to learn from Michael Burdo in his seminar "Working with Scouts with Special Needs". Both Scouters have repeatedly offered their time and energy to our leadership and we appreciate it greatly.
- ScouTrees – Nepean Groups planted approximately 1100 trees! 150 people planted 500 trees along the Hunt Club and at Clarkes Field sites. The 19th Nepean planted trees at the Queensway Carleton Hospital (west entrance) as well as the 123rd Ottawa planted at the Holland Estates in Munster. The 27th Nepean Troop planted at Mill Pond Conservation Area. All in all, our groups helped the environment breathe a little easier.
- Night Prowl 2013 –Participants from 5 groups and 2 areas raised flag poles, spiked cannons and crossed ratings rivers to build teamwork and enhance leadership skills.
- Nepean Area Family camp – In June, 80 participants, parents and youth, attended events such as a Movie night, Ropes Course, Pond Study, Leather Crafting, Orienteering, interpretive walk, Canoeing and a Magical Campfire! All seem to have fun despite the ankle deep water EVERYWHERE!

As many know, I like handing out awards. In June, Nepean Area was pleased to see 11 Nepean youth earn their "Pathfinder Scouts, holder of the Chief Scout's Award" as well as one receive her Queen's Venturer Award. Amongst the leaders, Nepean presented 68 warrants, 18 5-year pins, 9 Long Service Awards (10 year pins), 7 15-year pins, 4 20-year pins, 3 25-year and 4 30-year pins. We even managed to have a Beaver Scout, with his father a Beaver leader, present his grandfather with a 30-year service pin in front of his group. 3 generations in one group – wow! Nepean also boasts 15 Program Quality awards that celebrated teams and what they have accomplished for their youth. Lastly 2 Silver Acorns were awarded to Susie James and Doug Mackinnon. Congratulations to all!

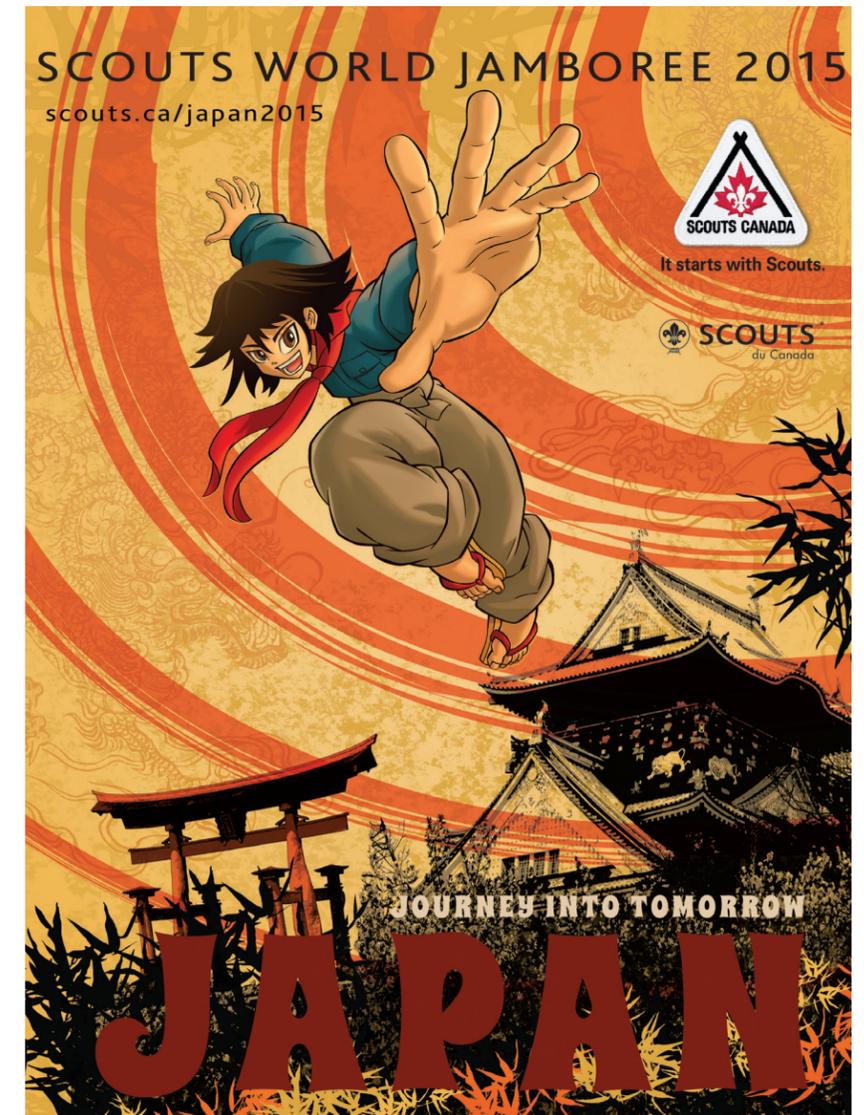
Yours in Scouting,

Sarah F.H. Smith
Area Commissioner

COUNCIL YOUTH COMMISSIONER

This year saw incredible growth in the Council Youth Network. We now have 7 of 8 service areas covered by Area Youth Commissioners, which is among the best rates across the country. The Council Youth Network hosted a number of events this year including: a FOCUS training course for Venturers and Rovers; and RSVP, a senior sections camp that saw 150 participants, many of whom attended the Council Youth Forum held the same weekend. The annual Chief Scout and Queen's Venturer Award ceremony topped off the year as we recognized over 60 youth for their work in developing themselves and their communities. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year a successful one for youth leadership and engagement, and a big thank you to all Area Youth Commissioners and Group Youth Commissioners for your continuing work in representing and motivating the youth in Voyageur Council.

Ian Wilenius
Council Youth Commissioner



OPERATIONS MANAGER

Where to begin? In September 1, 2012 we welcomed Northern Ontario Council as a partner within the newly renamed Eastern and Northern Ontario Scouting Service Centre (ENOSSC) joining Voyageur and White Pine Councils. Under this newly formed tri-Council operation each Council was able to share the costs and maintain the previous year's fee structure.

Introduction of the new Myscouts registration system and Volunteer Screening/Compliance matters were the main focus last year, which presented all members with many challenges; however like good Scouts we all did our best to make it work. Throughout the year your Council office took every opportunity to address concerns and fix issues, but with any new systems and processes they take time to work out the kinks. We are already seeing progress in the new Scouting year.

Throughout any given Scouting year the Council office is responsible for dealing with administrative duties and interactions with approximately 240 Groups and 4000 volunteers. The compliment of staff at the Council office assist with everything from: registration, Myscouts, training, recognition, subsidy assistance, website maintenance, finance, fundraising, donations, tax receipts, membership reporting and a host of other odd jobs (covered under "other duties as required"). In short, it is a very busy place.

I would like to thank the administrative staff who are the rock upon which the foundation of the office is built: Pamela (Insurance, Contracts, Popcorn), Corinna (Training, Recognition and Program support), Lynn L. and Ladka (Registration/Myscouts support), Lyn W. and Carolyn (accounting and bookkeeping). Carolyn Pink has moved on for the new year to explore new challenges outside of Scouting and I would like to thank her for her three years of dedicated service and wish her well.

There's a Group of dedicated volunteers who we have leaned on heavily for administrative support with everything from sorting and alphabetizing files to preparing packages and mail-outs for a variety of special projects. So a big "THANK YOU" to the 7th BP Guild and "Team Judd" for all your help this year! (missing from the picture - Bill Fettes (Gone Home), and Dick Williams)



Jeff Benson
Operations Manager

LOYALIST AREA

This past year has been one of transition for Loyalist Area. The previous Area Commissioner resigned his post after relocating to take a new job. I took on the post at the end of January. Several Area events were well attended in the second half of the year – most notably our winter Camp Chilly, Kub Kar and Scout Truck Rally and Bridge Breaking. Following the success of the Rally, the Colonies came together for a "Beaver Buggy Bash" - a great morning of games that the youth and parents want repeated next year.

The Area continued to forge relationships with the community by organizing and running a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper for one of our churches, helping the local Food Bank with one of its Drives, and encouraging recycling by collecting used bicycles and offering them for resale.

As with other Areas in the Council, Loyalist participated in the recognition 'catch-up' program culminating in an Awards Banquet held in April. In May and June, we hosted a Wood Badge 2 session at Otter Lake, well-attended by scouters from all over the Council.

One of the priorities as we head into the 2013/2014 Scouting year is property. To that end, a committee has been working on a business plan all summer which will likely be completed sometime late this fall.

Loyalist Area is blessed with many dedicated volunteers and we all look forward to an exciting fall.

Dave Cunningham
Area Commissioner

HERITAGE AREA

Heritage Area had another overall outstanding 2012-2013 Scouting year, even considering the various challenges which had to be overcome with the implementation of the MyScouts, the Training, and the Mandatory Requirements. The true grit and character of the Area's Volunteers was evident with meeting the challenges. The Heritage Area membership increased slightly this year, and many groups initiated additional and new recruitment activities throughout the year. While the Area has a strong, skilled team that makes delivery of Area level responsibilities easier, we are always looking for new faces.

Training: In order to help volunteers meet the new Mandatory requirements, the Area was busy at the onset of the year offering numerous training events, and then following up throughout the season. I tip my hat to those many Volunteers who overcame the various challenges of last year to complete the Mandatory Requirements and maintain their compliance throughout the year, and I especially thank the Group Commissioners and Committee members who found various ways to get their volunteers compliant.

Event Participation: Many of the Area's Groups had Sections attended various Area, Council, National, and International events, and even the World Moot. Thanks to the strong Area Program Teams and the many Volunteers involved, each section had successful Area level events. An excellent example are the Scout Truck and the Area's Scout Klondike events as both leverage not only the Program Team, but the groups' Leaders, and the senior youth where possible. This same team structure has proven very successful with all of the Area's various Section level events (Beaverie, Urban Conquest, KubKars, etc.). The Heritage Area Rover Crew (HARC) conceived, organized and ran the Area's first Senior Section Kick-off Camp, which was well attended by Groups from across the Council. Thank you and well done to the youth of the HARC for organizing and 2nd Gatineau Venturers and Rover for supporting. Kudos to ALL who pull together to deliver outstanding events, and allow the senior youth the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and potential!

Camp Otter Lake: Camp usage was up again. The camp lost a number of trees due to storms and beavers this year, the overall condition of the property is good. A new management committee has been stood up.

Committees: In addition to re-starting the Group Commissioner and Group Committee role meetings, the Area stood-up the Otter Lake Scout Camp Management Committee. The committee is charged with the management and development of the Camp Otter Lake Property. The Committee is making steady progress.

Perry Schippers
Area Commissioner

COUNCIL OPERATED PROGRAMS

This year was the first year with a manager in charge of all Council Operated Programs. The manager was under contract from March to September and was able to primarily focus on two areas in Voyageur Council: Schools and Scouting and Summer Camp Operations.

Schools and Scouting

This year we were able to invite both Alta Vista and Stonecrest Elementary Schools to return to Camp Opemikon once more. Both schools were thrilled about this last minute opportunity once the teacher's job action had ended and both schools increased the number of students attending. Their willingness to return is a tribute to the reputation built by the past manager of this program, Kelly Banks, as well as the youth leaders that continue to run an exceptional program.

This year 135 students and 24 parents and teachers attended the program during the second week of June, a 28% increase in participation from last year. This provided a surplus of \$11,970 that will help offset the deficit of the summer camp program.

We are looking at ways to build on this year's success and expand this program for additional weeks in 2014.

Summer Camp Operations

The timing of the Program Manager's hiring (early March) presented some challenges as we missed the opportunity to advertise our programs in the widely circulated Summer Activity Guides that are distributed in the spring. To mitigate this we tried to leverage the MyScouts database and email blast members of Voyageur Council to increase attendance from registered members. This resulted in some success as 65% of cub age registrations were from active members of Scouts Canada. The majority of Scout age members were not active members of Scouting. Increased Group and Area support in promoting our Council Camp is needed to ensure the success of this excellent summer program.

We were able to hire 45 university and high school student leaders to staff the program and this year we saw 422 campers come through the gates of Camp Opemikon. This is below the 503 campers that were targeted. Although the camp came in under our approved budget, this year's program ran a deficit. This can be contributed primarily to declining camper numbers and a budgeted reliance on outside grants.

Next year's budget will be built independent of grant funding in order to be financially sound. We are also planning to reinstate the travelling recruitment campaign directed at our local groups to further increase the enrollment of core members. We will market the premier facilities at camp (rock wall, high ropes, etc.) and will promote the fact that youth who attend will be able to achieve a large number of badge requirements. These achievements will be documented and certified by the camp director by the end of each week-long program.

I would like to give a special thanks to Marilyn Johnson, Kathryn Brown, Corinna Milan, Theresa Strickland, Ian Wilenius and the rest of the Ope Staff for going above and beyond your roles this year!

Brent Kaesler
Program Manager of Council Operated Programs

PROPERTIES MANAGER

COUNCIL-WIDE PROPERTIES

- Property wardens/rangers providing quarterly and year-end compliance reports.
- Camps maintaining and reporting on annual usage statistics.
- Incident reports brought the safety of bunkbeds into the spotlight. All camps advised to ensure guardrails are in place for all upper bunks.
- National has created a country-wide camps directory. Accessible through tab on MyScouts.
- National Property Committee (NPC) has been formed as working committee reporting to the National Board of Governors (BoG). Two-fold mandate: 1) review property transactions and recommendation to BoG and 2) provide bank of subject matter experts to assist in advancing major property projects. NPC is developing a Property Tool Kit. Info can be found on Scouts Canada website, <http://www.scouts.ca/ca/national-property-committee>.
- National Camping Strategy is in place to support usage of our numerous properties.
- Areas reviewing property needs/usage with membership, developing business plans to support future development.

CHALLENGES FOR 2012-13 SCOUTING YEAR INCLUDE:

- Securing sufficient revenues through user fees to cover increasing expenses.
- Limitation of not renting to Third Party entities results in limited client base. BoG expanded usage to Non-Scouting entities providing the usage did jeopardize our charitable or tax exemption status. In Ontario, our tax exemption status is affected. Brief for submission to the Ontario Provincial Legislature is being prepared by OIB, to support the request for an amendment to the provincial law.
- Private use of Scouting properties is considered "third party" usage. This is not permitted under current conditions.

COUNCIL CAMP – CAMP OPEMIKON HIGHLIGHTS

- Camp hosted annual events including RoVent, Medic Alert Camp, RSVP Camp, Joint Council Spring Camp, EOGR, Area-wide Girl Guide Event, Schools and Scouting, Camp Adonai, and Council summer camp program.
- Betty Shillington retired as our Camp Warden. We wish her and Moe many wonderful adventures.
- Welcome Theresa Strickland as our new Warden. She and husband Keith have settled into camp.
- Sadness came to the OPE staff at the death of our Ranger Czeslaw Kwak. Ranger Aaron Strickland, constructed a cabinet to display souvenirs and it is dedicated in Czeslaw's memory. Thanks Aaron, welcome to OPE.
- Annual spring Work Weekend with 200 youth and advisors providing 2,000 volunteer hours. Thanks to Tim Taylor, Theresa and Aaron for all the work related to this annual event.
- Major upgrade of dining hall floor and support bracing underneath. Thanks to Danielle Strickland for creation of SC crest in floor centre.
- Completion of Business/Capital Plan to guide efforts at the camp for next 5+ years.
- Creation of guidelines for withdrawal of funds invested under Dick Cowan Estate for maintenance at camp.
- Construction of bouldering wall by Dave McOnie as legacy project, funds donated by 7th Canadian BP Guild.
- Booking stats show 155 calendar days, Category A with 4,686 campers for 16,375 camper days. Category B with 623 campers for 3,032 camper days. Total campers was 5,309, staying as total of 19,407 camper days. This is relatively same as previous 3 years.
- September celebration of 75th Anniversary under Arnold Smith. Great afternoon and banquet. Many thanks to all.

Great THANKS to the many people who support our Council camp: Friends of Opemikon who provide financial donations to support projects or program equipment purchases; the Ontario Incorporated Body; Rideau Valley Conservation Authority; Ministry of Environment Inspector; Christie Lake Association, local businesses who provide emergency assistance at all hours and in all weather conditions; our neighbours; our Health and Fire Inspectors for helping to keep us safe; Venturer Advisors' Forum (VAF); numerous Groups who annually support our Work Weekends, ALL our user Groups for making OPE your camp of choice; our Warden and husband for countless hours of service, our Ranger, members of the Opemikon Camp Committee and OPE Crew for outstanding **DEDICATION; AND TO OUR STAFF BEHIND THE SCENES.**

Marilyn Johnson
Properties Manager

COUNCIL AREA

Council sponsored Groups saw a couple of changes this year.

This year was the first with a dedicated Area Commissioner, the position being split off from the DCC Program role. It has been a learning experience discovering what the exact role and responsibilities are and it continues to evolve.

In the Voyageur Council Service Alliance, Police Venturers had a turnover of Police Advisors from the Ottawa Police Services and they are learning the program. Support from the past advisors has been a great help. The Police Venturers section continues to run successfully at capacity and is beginning to participate in more Scouting activities including Winterlude. They continue to have more requests for Police HQ visits than they have dates available indicating the popularity of this program.

The Medical Venturers (MedVents) are looking to increase their capacity as they now have the resources to do so. Their new trailer and equipment have aided them in their ability to service requests for first aid services at Council and Area events. The MedVents also have more requests for Paramedic HQ visits than dates available and will be asking sections to leave at least one year between visits to accommodate a larger variety of Groups.

This year was the first full year of operation for the SARVents (Search and Rescue Company) albeit with limited numbers. There are the usual growing pains with new advisors and a new program partner, but integrated training went well and increased numbers are expected. There is interest as well in adding a Crew for those Venturers that age out but wish to continue with SARGlobal1 in an advanced role.

The Service Corps has re-established its partnership with the NCC and provided services at Winterlude, Canada Day and Teddy Bears Picnic as well as Remembrance Day and related Veterans activities. They continue to look for support from outside Groups and sections to provide increased manpower at these large events.

2013-2014 will see a reversal of roles with Marc Couturier becoming head advisor for the Service Corps and Phil Edens taking on the Group Commissioner role.

The Opemikon Scouting Group continues providing outstanding service to Camp Opemikon. The Company and Crew worked well and the difficulties of the initial year of all Rovers becoming full adult members are slowly being overcome. The bugs in the screening and training records in MyScouts are being worked out and this year the numbers will not be so cumbersome. The Group continues its fundraising activities by catering outside events such as the Council AGM, training courses and Area events such as the Carleton Area Winter Beaveree/Cuboree. Again demand for their excellent service exceeds availability. This year saw an increased presence of Company and Crew members in the kitchen over the summer program period. The continuity of kitchen staff for the full year has had a positive impact on training and service.

It is important to remember that Council, Area and Group requests for help from the various Council Area Groups and sections need to be submitted a minimum of six weeks prior to the event. Not all requests can be met due to prior commitments of the youth – other events, school, family, etc. Plan early and communicate your needs clearly.

The Venturer Advisors Forum and Joint Council are also under the auspices of the Area Commissioner Council Area. Cal Clupp continues as the chair of VAF. VAF sponsored events are continually evaluated with some being reduced in frequency while some are increased based on interest. The Forum continues to operate successfully providing events that benefit small Companies and oversight to larger activities.

The Joint Council continues to show its value with monthly events providing for the interaction of Guides and Scouts. Alan Clapp is the Advisor for 2013-2014 to this youth forum.

John Dougherty
Area Commissioner

CARLETON AREA

Carleton Area and its groups had a great 2012-2013 Scouting year! We enrolled 1,191 members, retained 63.3% of last year's membership, and recruited 339 new members. We started a new Rover section, under the auspices of the Carleton Area, to support Rover-aged youth from across several groups in the area.

The Groups within Carleton Area provided active programs for their youth and continued to participate in local community events including; Remembrance Day, Santa Claus Parades, Canada Day in Stittsville and Kanata, Community parades, the Kanata Food Drive and Scoutrees – including a Scoutrees display at Hazeldean Mall.

In addition to numerous Section, Group linking camps and other activities; one Council-wide and four Area-wide program activities were carried out:

- The White-tail Beaver Sleepover at the Museum of Science and Technology in November 2012, with participants over 3 nights from Colonies across Council;
- The Winter Beaveree/Cuboree at the Carp Fairgrounds in February 2013 with participants;
- The 9th annual Klondike Derby at the in February 2013 with participants from Carleton and other Areas,
- Carleton's annual Camporee at Fitzroy Provincial Park in May 2013, with over 1000 participants.
- This year, the third Carleton Badge trading event was held for senior youth.

A number of Scouts achieved their Chief Scout Award, and one Venturer achieved the Queen's Venturer award. Numerous recognition awards were also given to volunteers and youth in the Area including: 2 Medal of the Maple, a number of Order of the Caribou, Bar to the Order of the Caribou, Medals of Merit and Good Service awards and a number of Area and Council recognition awards.

The Area Service Team supported its 11 Scout Groups including service visits, mentoring and provided program material on the Area website, plus provided a 3-section (C/P/T) WB 1 course for Area leaders needing WB1. With the option of on-line WB1 training, the Area saw a decrease in attendance at the in-person WB1 courses.

Area finances are in good order with the Area's cash reserves having decreased slightly per the objective of reducing some of the Area surplus. Area committee has continued to use some of these surplus reserves to offset costs for WB 1 and First Aid Training and to help promote registration through advertising. Area event fees were held to last years' price or reduced. Area purchased additional snowshoes and portable radio units to support program. (Financial report available).

Prepared by: Jeffrey Jobb – Area Deputy Commissioner – Pack, Acting Area Commissioner 16 Aug-8 Sep 2013.

Don Bell
Area Commissioner

AREA SUPPORT MANAGERS

The focus for 2012-13 Scouting year was In-person Support, Child and Youth Safety and the Screening, Orientation and Training of our new and returning Scouters. Working with the Area Key-3, ASM's focused on engaging directly with Sections, Group Committees and Area Teams with the long term focus of supporting the Area Commissioner, building Area Service Team capacity and conducting succession planning for key positions.

With inception of the new membership database – myscouts.ca – a large part of Fall 2012 was devoted to the challenges, learning curves and mentoring of Group Commissioners and Registrars in the use of the new system. New reports available through myscouts.ca (i.e., Active – Not Compliant, Pending Members Report and Compliance reports) enabled us to see the bigger picture so that our efforts in ensuring compliance and training could be concentrated where needed through direct support.

Working with the Area Key- 3 – we built a culture focused foremost on Child and Youth Safety within Voyageur using the continued promotion of Child and Youth Safety training and resources (i.e., CYS Jumpstarts, CYS training etc.).

As well, we assisted in the promotion of Scouting to the general public through the implementation of the 2012-13 Marketing plan which included: the School Flyer program, print-ad campaigns, the promotion of the use of the Recruitment Toolkits, Area PR Kits and Bring A Friend Incentive programs.

Kelly Banks
Area Support Manager

Heather Lee
Area Support Manager

Annual Membership Numbers

	2011-1	2012-13	(+/-) Diff	%age
Full-time* Participants	565	5366	- 290	- 5.1%
Full-time* Volunteers	186	2110	+ 243	+13.0%
Part-time** Participants	25	307	+ 51	+19.9%
Totals	777	7783	+4	+0.01%

* "Full-time" is defined as the traditional, annual core programs (e.g. Beaver Scouts, Scouts, etc.)

** "Part-time" is defined as short-term programs (e.g. Summer Camps, Schools in Scouting, etc.)



CJ' 13 TRICERATOPS SUB CAMP

This past summer, from 6 July though to 13 July 2013, over 5,000 participants and 1,700 volunteers gathered together at Camp Woods near Sylvan Lake, Alberta, at the 2013 Canadian Scout Jamboree.

Northern Ontario / Voyageur / White Pine Council was fully represented at the Jamboree, not only because of our Scout Troops who attended, but also because we were responsible for one of the eight sub-camps at CJ. That responsibility was shared with Northern Ontario / Voyageur / White Pine Councils and, collectively, we were Sub Camp Triceratops.

With a team of 27 dedicated scouters from across the three Councils but also from outside our borders, the sub-camp team gathered a couple of days earlier than the participants to get the sub camp ready to house over 600 participants from right across Canada. A lot of time was spent preparing camp sites, but Team Triceratops also had to get it's own Headquarters Area ready to greet participants and respond to their needs.

The Jamboree theme was dinosaurs, and it made sense that Sub Camp Triceratops would "go big or go home" with our thematic camp gate. Two of our team members took a small scale model triceratops kit and enlarged it numerous times, twice, resulting in two 8 ft tall by 20 ft. long purple dinosaurs to frame our camp gate. We adopted the colour purple as it seemed a good fit with the friendly dinosaur theme.

The Sub Camp Team included all 3 Council Commissioners; 2 Council Youth Commissioners; the Deputy National Youth Commissioner for Central Canada; in addition to 3 Scouters from Boy Scouts of America and various others volunteers from Section level through to Area - all bringing tremendous depth of knowledge and experience to the challenge of running a sub camp. To round out the Council representation, the Council Executive Director (Barry Hardaker) was also part of the overall Sub Camps Management Team.

For Northern Ontario Council, the team included Candy Stott (Council Commissioner); Carly Skan (Council Youth Commissioner); Karen Lucsak; Tom McGibbon; Dave Rowlinson; and Chase Matthews

For Voyageur Council, the team included Jim Peverley (Council Commissioner) and Alan Clapp

For White Pine Council, the team included Gord Varey (Council Commissioner); Zachery Prescott (Council Youth Commissioner) as well as Diana Gould; Jason Lutz; Gord Fry; Dave Mizzi; Rick & Cheryl Flanders; David Franklin; Wayne Seddon; and Mat Murchison

Although most of the team was able to meet and train together at the NO/WP Council Pre-CJ Camp, it was only at CJ'13 that the whole team came together for the first time - and they rocked !

From greeting patrols as they arrived on the first day at the main gate; to ensuring food boxes were delivered on time (even when the delivery truck ran off the road!); we made sure that program changes were promptly advised; health & first aid services contacted where necessary; and our guests had fun right on through the whole 8 days until they packed up and left the site to head on back home or on to other adventures. Team Triceratops was actively engaged with all of our participants and we helped make sure that everyone had a great time and gathered lots of great memories of the Jamboree.

Overall, our participants had a great time, Team Triceratops had a tremendously successful and fun time, we made loads of new scouting friends and we all headed home afterwards very tired but very satisfied.

Well done Team Triceratops, you represented your Councils with distinction.

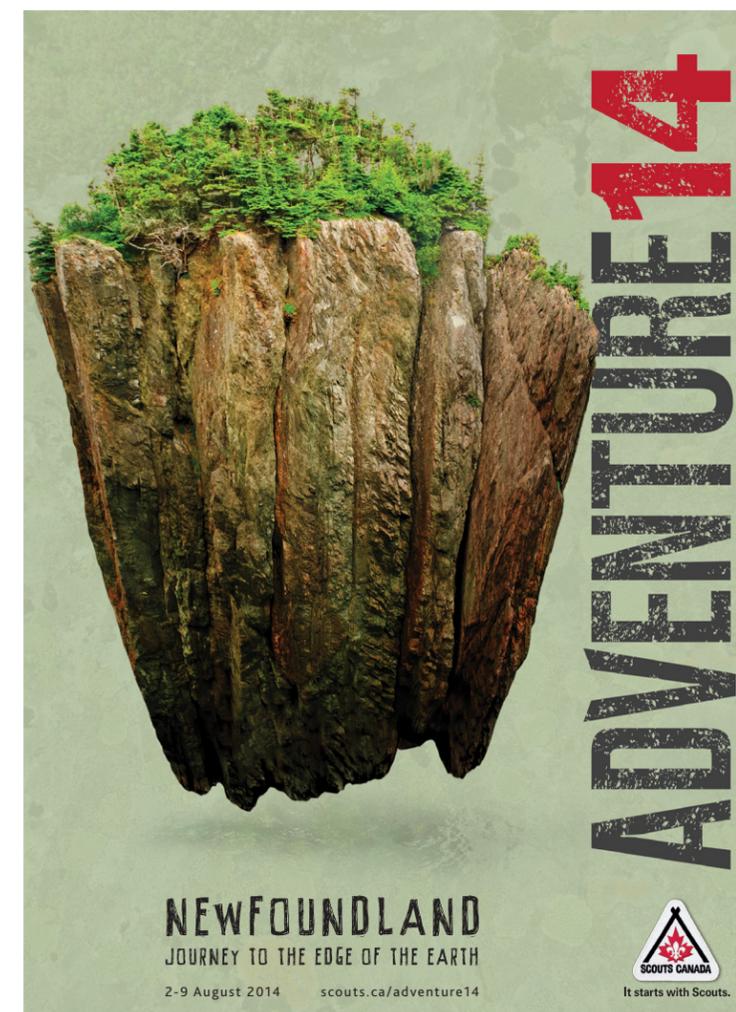
Genesse Walker-Scace
Deputy Sub Camp Chief

Stewart Bowman
Sub Camp Chief

ALGONQUIN HILLS AREA

With the new standard requiring interviewers to be screened and designated by the Area we were able to certify 7 volunteers as Area Interviewers. Parents attended CYS training as presented by leaders and Area Support Scouters. Information sessions were held by Area Support Scouters with parents for various groups in order to keep them apprised of Scouts Canada Policies and to recruit new leaders. In addition to the training that was required by the leaders to fill their position, Area hosted a Financial/Reports returns workshop for all volunteers. This was very well attended and the participants have asked that it be held again. Thanks to Scouter Paul Totten for his excellent presentation. In person support was a major part of the Area Team goals for this past year. We attended and participated in group and section meetings, promoting the Program Standards Awards and demonstrating to the sections that they are running quality programs. By completing the paperwork 80% of the sections were awarded the Program Quality Awards. Long and Outstanding Service awards were presented to volunteers at year end and awards banquets throughout the area.

Respectfully Submitted
Owen Wiseman
Area Commissioner





COUNCIL CUB SCOUT CAMP

Baloo's World Adventure 2013

The Voyageur Council Cub Scout Camp was held at Apple Hill Scout Reserve, May 31 – June 2, 2013, with 830 Youth and Leaders in Attendance. Jack Busby, a Cub Scout with 1st Aylmer, designed the crest that was used for the camp. Jack was honoured with a plaque, and his Pack performed the Grand Howl at the Opening Ceremonies. Activities were based on the continents of Asia, South America, North America, Europe, Australia and Africa. The Youth built Parade Dragons, played a giant game of Jenga, created Day of the Dead masks, tracked North American wildlife, created their own native dances, learned how to camp in the outback, and created their own scouting stories with the help of a storyteller. Campfire had to be cut short due to a major storm that blew through the area (what is scouting without a little rain), which created its own fun for the Cub Scouts in the water and mud puddles that accumulated. MedVents were on hand to look after any medical issues that occurred, and the Apple Hill Wardens were on hand to aid the Leaders with Parking, Water, and other activities to ensure everyone had lots of free time to enjoy the camp. Michael Burdo attended the camp as Care Corps, and helped ensure that homesick Cubs and Leaders had a great time. The camp was run with only 27 Offers of Service, many of whom were registered Youth. I would like to thank all the Youth, Leaders, Wardens, MedVents and Offers of Service who attended this camp, making it the BEST DARNED COUNCIL CUB SCOUT CAMP EVER!!!!

Heather Shore
Camp Chief
Baloo's World Adventure 2013
Voyageur Council Cub Scout Camp



**OUTSTANDING
SERVICE AWARDS**



COUNCIL RECOGNITION

DCC Recognition Report For The 2013 Voyageur Council Annual Report

The 2012-2013 Scouting Year continued to be an active one with respect to recognizing the members of our Council. This year was the first full year that the new Scouts Canada Thanks Badge Program was in effect while, at the same time, Voyageur completed the last of two Outstanding Service Award (OSA) Catch-up Programs. As a result of these two programs, and as of August 31st, 2013, the following OSA awards were approved for our Members:

Bar to the Silver Acorn – 1
Silver Acorn - 8
Bar to the Medal of Merit – 3
Medal of Merit – 17

Bar to the Medal of Good Service - 5
Medal of Good Service - 60
Certificate of Commendation - 514

9 Members of our Council received the voyageur Council's Order of the Caribou while 7 Members received the Bar to the Order of the Caribou for their extra efforts in supporting Scouting within the Council.

1 member of our Council received the Voyageur Council Legacy Award.

Four youth Members of our Council were awarded Philip Mondor Scholarships to support their attendance at post-secondary education establishments.

Seven Youth members received the Scouts Canada Medal of the Maple.

12 Youth Members received the Council Youth Award.

179 Scouters were approved to receive for Long Service Awards

195 Scouters were approved to receive their Warrants of Appointment.

Based on the above information, 36% of our Scouters received Outstanding Service Award recognition and 57% of our Scouters received Outstanding Service, Long Service or Warrants of Appointment during the 2012-2013 Scouting Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Garth Jonah,
Deputy Council Commissioner for Recognition

REVENUE DEVELOPMENT

Scouts Canada, Voyageur Council is proud to recognize the many Corporations, Foundations, Small Businesses, Service Clubs and Government Agencies that have provided us the necessary funding to operate the programs and projects within Voyageur Council.

The support that these organizations provide is generous and invaluable. It is with sincere thanks that we recognize the support from the following:

- Government of Canada, Human Resources & Skills Development: Through the Student Jobs Summer program wage funding to support the hiring of students for our Summer Camp at Camp Opemikon
- John Howard Society, Ottawa-Carleton Region: Wage subsidy funding to assist the council in operating the Summer Camp Day Camp program held at Camp Opemikon
- Otto's Subaru and Otto's Service Centre Limited: Charitable donations to Voyageur Council
- Rona – Ottawa: Charitable donations based on a rebate program for purchases undertaken by Scouters in the Ottawa area
- Individual Doors: Many thanks to parents, individuals and Scouters for personal contributions. These donations were well spent and contributed to many youth having a valuable opportunity to participate in Scouting programs and summer camps.
- Business Donors: Providing gift in kind and donations to support youth events and fundraising campaigns, such a Trail's End Popcorn through the provision of such things as storage space, transportation and employee support.

In summary, Scouts Canada, Voyageur Council has had a successful year raising funds to operate the needs of local Scouting. Thank you to our many supporters for funding these worthwhile initiatives. We appreciate your assistance.

Kathryn Brown
Manager, Revenue Development

SPONSOR RECOGNITION

Thank you to our many Contributors.

