

Scouts Canada Fee Increase

Fee History

Scouts Canada, Voyageur Region, has raised the registration fee to \$110 per person for the 2005/2006 Scouting year. This is an increase of 11% over last years' fee of \$99.

The registration fee is going in the wrong direction. It was \$50 in 2001. This is a 120% increase, or 30% per year. This is entirely unacceptable. The fee needs to be dropping, not rising!

Scouts Canada Staff Salaries

2004	\$11,969,000	94,230	kids registered	\$127/kid
2001	\$8,985,000	133,884	kids registered	\$67/kid

Staff salaries have risen by 33% while the number of kids registered has dropped by 30%!!!

Insurance

That last figures released, showed that \$15 of the registration fee went to cover insurance, while the rest was wasted on administrative expenses.

Scouts Canada no longer carries child abuse insurance. Leaders need to hope that Scouts Canada will defend them if they are ever accused.

Family Registration Cost

For a family with three kids in the program, their registration fee is \$330 + their portion of the leader's registration costs (\$25 per family in our case). So the family has to fork over \$355 without getting anything in return.

A Typical Year

5 weekend camps @ \$25 =	\$125 (fall+winter+spring+spring+summer)
37 weeks of dues @ \$1 =	\$37
1/3 of uniform @ \$50 =	\$16 (assume new uniform every three years)
Kub Kar/Truck =	\$7 (average of the two)
Hobbies & Wheels =	\$5

So we have a total program cost of \$190 and an administrative cost of \$135 (\$110+\$25). Administration is 42% of the total cost. Am I the only one who sees a problem with this picture? For our family of three, the total cost is \$925 for the year. Care to calculate that in before tax dollars?

Baden-Powell Scout Association (BPSA)

The BPSA fee is still only \$45-\$65 per person. This is all for insurance except \$0-\$5 of administration

The BPSA Scout shirt is \$18 compared to Scouts Canada's \$30 shirt, and they don't even have the volume purchasing power of Scouts Canada. The BPSA shirt is also at least a cotton/polyester blend.

Alternatives

If Scouts Canada removed the paid staff, a kids registration cost would drop to about \$20 per year.

If people registered with National rather than with Voyageur Region, registration would be about \$40 (the National portion of the \$110) per year.

A family of three moving from Scouts Canada to BPSA would save \$140 to \$210 per year.

Growth

If Scouts Canada wants their share of Scouting in Canada to grow, this is definitely not the path they should be on.