

Subject: GC Communication and Updates - Issue 13 (please share with your team)

There's a reason why there's a smile on everyone's face after they've come back from an adventure – because they're happier for it! With the return of some of our favourite events this fall including Scout Kick Off, Mardi Gras, and Scouter Skills, and hearing about all the great camps and activities you are all planning, it's already shaping up to be a great year! We are so excited to see all the adventures and smiles this new Scouting year will bring!

Included in this issue:

- National Truth & Reconciliation
- Around the World Challenge – Media Opportunity
- Venturer & Rover Programming – Research Initiative
- Strategic Plan Update
- World Scouting Jamboree
- Scout Popcorn and Scout Coffee
- Refund Policy (Reminder)
- BC Community Gaming Grants
- Resources & Ideas – Program Partnerships
- Spotlight
- Upcoming Events & Key Dates

National Truth & Reconciliation

Truth and Reconciliation week (September 27th to October 1st), and the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30th) - invites all Canadians to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. We encourage all Sections to plan an activity to participate in Truth & Reconciliation Week, by incorporating an Indigenous learning or awareness activity. The recently updated [Diversity and Inclusion page of our website](#) includes detailed information on our journey along with a new [Indigenous Program Resource Guide](#), which includes a number of activities and resources that can be done within both Junior and Senior sections.

Please also take note of the upcoming Listening Sessions happening throughout October and November. All of the Sessions can be found on [Trello](#) or on [News & Events](#).

Around the World Challenge – Media Opportunity

We are looking for groups across the country who plan on participating in the Around the World Challenge in the first week (Oct 4-8). Scouts Canada's PR Agency will be pitching major media outlets across the country to promote Scouting and the new Fall Challenge, and as part of this pitch they would like to provide a list of groups the media can meet/film/interview. Groups need to be actively participating in the Challenge, be enthusiastic/fun, have something visually interesting the section is working on (the first challenge is boat building so potentially building/testing the boat they've built!).

If your group would be interested in participating, please forward the following information to Jennifer Thomas at jennifer.thomas@scouts.ca

- Contact Name
- Contact Info (emails and phone)

- Date and Time the Group will be meeting during that week (week of Oct 4-8)

Venturer & Rover Programming – Research Initiative

Scouts Canada is working with a third-party consultant to conduct research on Scouts Canada's senior section programming. They will be surveying volunteers/parents of all members to gain all perspectives. It will focus on 14+ years (vent/rover). A small portion of our members will receive an email from Mission Research to participate in an online survey. It is anticipated that this survey email will go out in early October. Participation is voluntary.

Should you have any questions, please email: jennifer.thomas@scouts.ca

Strategic Plan Update

As many of you may already know, the Board is undertaking a new direction for the Strategic Plan, and this fall will engage internal stakeholders to solicit feedback and introduce the proposed pillars of the plan. An email will be sent on Friday, Sept 24th to all members/parents requesting participation in a short survey and asking if they would also like to participate in a focus group. The focus groups are currently scheduled for Oct 14, Oct 21 and Oct 28th

For more information, please reach out to Jeff Schaffhauser jeff.schaffhauser@scouts.ca.

World Scouting Jamboree

Over the next week, two emails will be sent out to promote the 2023 World Scouting Jamboree in South Korea. The first email will be sent to parents of Scout/Troop-age youth and will be sent this weekend – Sept 26th. The second email will be sent to all Scouters on Monday Sept 27th.

For more information, please reach out to Rubene De Sousa rubene.desousa@scouts.ca

Scout Coffee and Scout Popcorn

Scout Coffee and Scout Popcorn are now open for fundraising registration:

Scout Coffee

Back by popular demand, Scout Coffee will be returning as a year-round campaign starting October 15.

Follow [this link to register](#) your Groups now and get started on your fall fundraising.

For more information on Scout Coffee and on how to fund great adventures through this campaign, [click here](#).

Scout Popcorn

The Scout Popcorn fundraiser is back this fall and will be running from October 1st to November 30th!

Follow [this link to register](#) your Groups now and get started on your fall fundraising.

For more information on Scout Popcorn and on how to fund great adventures through this campaign, [click here](#).

Refund Policy Reminder

Scouts Canada will be offering the same refund policy as last year with regards to early registration (before Jan 1, 2022). Parents who register their children in Scouting this fall for the 2022 Scouting Year will have until January 30th to request a refund. The information below will be added to the JOIN and FAQ sections of Scouts.ca

[Refund Terms](#)

A parent may apply for a refund by selecting the “Request a Refund” option from their MyScouts account.

Refunds will be issued for 2022 registrations completed:

- On or before 1 January 2022, if refund request is received on or before 31 January 2022
- After 1 January 2022, if request is received within 30 days of registration completion date

No refunds will be available outside of the above stated time-frame.

Refunds will be issued in the manner in which the original payment was made.

BC Community Gaming Grants

All Human and Social Services not-for-profit organizations can apply to the Community Gaming Grant program for funding to support program delivery from June 1-November 30.

More information about how to apply for the program, including updated COVID-related FAQs, is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/gambling-fundraising/gaming-grants/community-gaming-grants>

In conjunction with the BC Association for Charitable Gaming, BC Gaming will be holding a live webinar on Wednesday, September 29th, 2:00-4:00pm. This webinar will provide an overview of the CGG program, updates for the 2021 Grant year and will also conclude with a question and answer period.

To register for the session, please visit the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4356673403827329291>

If you are unable to make the webinar, a recorded webinar that covers the same information can be viewed anytime at: [Community Gaming Grant Webinar | Recorded on Feb 9, 2021 | BCACG – YouTube](#)

Any questions, please feel free to email the Branch at: CommunityGamingGrants@gov.bc.ca, or call program staff during business hours at: 250-356-1081

Resources & Ideas

Scouts Canada is working with a number of partner organizations to collaborate on delivering great programming initiatives. We encourage you to take the time to check out some of our partners to learn what they are doing that might be of interest to Scouts at a local level – [Partners List](#). If you would like more details, please feel free to connect with the Program Team at programdesign@scouts.ca.

Around the World in 60 Days challenge – Only 2 weeks away

Scouts Canada will be releasing an updated Scouter’s Guide shortly – the challenges remain the same, there is just an update to one of the participating countries. A Parent’s Guide will also be released soon. The guide will provide parents with a little bit of insight into what fun and exciting activities the youth are up to each week.

Both guides can be downloaded at <https://www.scouts.ca/around-the-world/home.html>

Spotlight

We've all had those big, inspiring, a-ha moments that remind us why we do what we do in Scouting. Often though it's all the little things that really make an impact on the youth and families we work with, even without us realizing. A GC recently shared an email they received from a family, that we would like

to share. It's a lovely testimonial that speaks to the impact that each and everyone of you have on your community.

"After much debate and thought, I do not think joining scouts can happen for us this year. As much as we love the program, we have limited availability for activities this fall.

Our experience in Beavers and Scouts has been nothing short of remarkable. I am so grateful for all the volunteers time, and in my case, the men that step forward as healthy role models for not only my son, but my daughter, whom was welcomed by all with open arms even though she was an unofficial underage beaver. I am chocked up in writing this; we have loved being a part of this community for the past 3 years. I had my first camping trip with you all and felt so supported. I was very unsure setting up a tent and am proud to say I now have my own camping equipment, and we head out a few times a year. We developed reliable friendships in our community thanks to Scouting, learned the importance of team work and embraced all of the outdoor activities (rain or shine here on the west coast). I will miss the crazies of getting lost in a corn maze with 50 people all going in the wrong direction year after year, and will treasure all our beaver cars. My new family heirlooms. We worked on these together as a family and I looked forward to their creations each year."

As we head into this new Scouting year, we ask each of you to think about one inspiring moment where you were reminded of the impact you had on the youth and families in your community. We challenge you to find one thing that you can do this year that will inspire more moments like this for you and for your community of Scouters.

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- September 24-26 - Mardi Gras
- September 25 – Scouter Skills Day
- September 30 - National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
- September 30 - STEM Challenge Submissions are Due
- October 14 – Listening Session: Our Reconciliation Journey
- October 15-17 – Scout Kickoff

For a listing of all the upcoming Section Scouter Skill sessions and Group Committee Sessions, please visit the [Explorers Needed Calendar](#).

Thank you for everything that you do and for all the adventures that you and your community provides. Your efforts are more impactful than you may realize. Kids need opportunities to get out and just be kids, and you make that possible! Thank you!