

Subject: GC Communication and Updates - Issue 19 (please share with your team)

Happy New Year! We hope you had a safe and restful holiday season, and are keeping well. The winter wonderland was definitely a rarity, and hope that you the opportunity to enjoy the snow while staying safe and warm.

We are always looking for ways to simplify and streamline processes and improve as a Council, and more importantly, as a Community! If you have any thoughts or suggestions for making Scouting even better and stronger in Fraser Valley, we invite you to please reach out to any one of the Council Key 3 members or to your Group Support Scouter. We welcome the feedback!

Included in this issue:

- Youth Recognition Virtual Event
- Volunteer Readiness Report Enhancements
- Registration
- Strategic Plan Implementation
- Scout Seeds – It's Almost Thyme
- Trello – 2022 Editorial Calendar
- Fall 2022 Program
- Media Opportunity
- World Scout Jamboree 2023
- Surrey Eagles Night – Date Change
- Resources & Ideas
- Development Opportunities – virtual and in person
- Spotlight
- Upcoming Events & Key Dates

Youth Recognition Virtual Event

We invite you to join us on **Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 2:00pm** for a very special virtual award ceremony, where we will recognize Chief Scouts, Queen's Venturer, & Canadian Rover Scout Award recipients.

To Join: You can join the event on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

If you are unable to attend, but would like to see the ceremony, now worries; we will be recording the ceremony, and will forward the link.

Volunteer Readiness Report Enhancements

Thanks to some excellent feedback from our members, the MyScouts team has implemented a couple of enhancements to the Volunteer Readiness report.

While vaccination for youth aged 5-11 is not currently required to participate in in-person activities, Groups can now see the "Virtual Scouting Only" status for all members in the Volunteer Readiness

Report. Youth under the age of 12 will be listed as “under 12” so that Groups can quickly spot which youth the vaccine mandate does not currently apply to.



The Volunteer Readiness Report has also been updated with a column for the Group’s Relationship Manager (if listed in MyScouts). This will enable Council and Group Support teams to more easily filter the report data based on who is supporting the Group.

Registration

Registration is now open! Scouting gives kids something fun to look forward to. By getting outside, connecting with their friends, and sharing new experiences, youth build resiliency and are motivated to blaze their own trail.

Even though numbers are reduced right now, we know this is temporary and that Scouts is needed now more than ever. We launched our digital ad campaign on January 10th and will be launching a PR campaign around the Claim the Flame.

If you are looking for resources to attract new members – youth and Scouters – there are plenty of resources available on [Trello](#).

Strategic Plan Implementation

The National Key Three is looking for dedicated volunteers and youth to help implement Scouts Canada’s new **strategic plan**. A plan that aims to engage more people in the Mission in different ways. An email has been distributed to members seeking Volunteers for a “Key 3 leadership model” for a number of different portfolios – Program; Marketing and Communications; Volunteer Support; Property Operations; and Diversity Equity and Inclusion. More details about the [Volunteer opportunities and portfolios](#) can be found on the website. The deadline to apply is **January 24th**.

Scout Seeds – It’s Almost Thyme

Scouts Canada is once again this year partnering with our 100% Canadian supplier, [Make it Sow](#), to offer an excellent variety of seed kits; allowing customers to have fun learning more about growing their own garden while supporting Local Scout Groups and helping our planet! We will have new kit selections this year, such as the community garden kit, and more great new products. More information will be provided over the coming weeks. The [Scout Seed web page](#) and the [Fundraising Trello Board](#) will be updated with all the resources needed for groups to run a successful campaign.

40% of the retail price is retained by groups as profit, and more than 5% will be allocated to the No One Left Behind (NOLB) program. Scout Seeds is a great fundraiser as well as a great opportunity for groups to tie in some of the SDGs (from our [Scouts for Sustainability program](#)) into programming with a very fun and educational project.

Register your Group for the fundraiser today - **please fill out [this online registration form](#)** (which can also be [found here on the Trello Board](#)) to make sure that you are ready to go when the campaign launches!

To find out more about our Scout Seeds fundraiser and all of our products, don't miss our **Townhall session on Monday Jan. 24th @ 5 PM (PDT)**. ([You will find the link to the Zoom meeting and all the info on the Scout Seeds Trello Board – by clicking here.](#))

Trello- 2022 Editorial Calendar

Scouts Canada's Communications team has created a new [2022 Editorial Calendar on Trello](#). This new Trello board outlines all the up-coming activities and initiatives and is updated on an on-going basis throughout the year. In many instances, the Editorial Calendar also links to other Trello boards for more content, such as the Social Media Trello Board, the Fundraising Trello Board and the Marketing Campaigns Trello board. We encourage you to check it out.

Fall 2022 Program

Kate Larkin will be the Program Manager and Integration Lead for the Fall 2022 (est. Oct 2022) Program. She will be reaching out to folks to build an integrated team and start work on the theme and program building off the successful previous programs and current Claim the Flame.

Media Opportunities

Scouts Canada is looking for youth members (Scouts, Venturers, Rovers) and Scouters to **participate in media interviews** taking place in cities across Canada this month and in early February (find the official Press Release [here](#)).

Is your Group participating in the [Claim the Flame](#) challenge? Are you a confident speaker? Is there a youth in your Group who can speak with passion and stay on message?

Whether you would like to be considered for interview opportunities, or are submitting on behalf of a youth, connect with us by submitting your form here: [\[SUBMIT FORM\]](#). Once your form is submitted, you will be contacted by Scouts Canada's public relations agency if media opportunities arise in your area. Interviews will appear on some of the following outlets: television, radio, written publications (web).

Surrey Eagles – Date Change

Please be aware that the Surrey Eagles Scout Night has been postponed to **Sunday, February 20th**. Due to capacity restrictions, the Surrey Eagles have decided to move the Star Wars Night to later in the season so that more people can enjoy it (they are also limiting the number of attendees for all their games). If your group is interested in attending, please contact Barb Taylor at barb.taylor@scouts.ca to order tickets before February 6th. Ticket prices: \$5.00/youth; \$7.00/adult.

World Scout Jamboree 2023

The next World Scout Jamboree is confirmed for August 1st to 12th, 2023, and will be held in SaeManGeum, Republic of Korea. More than 50,000 Scouting participants from over 170 countries will gather together for WSJ 2023; and Canada is pleased to be sending a Canadian Contingent comprised of youth and adults from both Scouts Canada and L'Association des Scouts du Canada (ASC).

A Scouter and youth from the 4th Port Coquitlam Scouting Group are looking to build a local patrol for WJ'23 in South Korea. If you know of any youth in your group that are interested in attending, who do not currently have a patrol to attend with and would like the support of a local unit for fundraising, planning and team-building please feel free to reach out to Scouter Chris Baxter at scouts@4thpoco.com.

Resources & Ideas

Claim the Flame

There are just 21 days left before the Claim the Flame challenge kicks off! This 4 week Claim the Flame: Scoutdoor Games winter challenge will focus on Outdoor Adventure Skills.

Skills Nights: Check out the [Calendar on the Claim the Flame page](#) for the list & links for Skills Nights.

Opening Ceremony – January 22 – 4pm PDT – Want to be part of the Opening Ceremony? There is still time to submit your Group/Section's Olympics Games inspired video. It's shaping up to be a lot of fun and we want to make sure we have as many groups from across the country represented! [More details on submissions for Opening Ceremonies here.](#)

Scouting Inspiration

We know that many groups are running a hybrid of virtual and outdoor in person Scouting for the next few weeks. If you are looking for some ideas for programming, we invite you to check out the [Activity Finder](#), where you can find activities that can be done virtually or in person, as well as some of the back issues of our [Scouting at Home](#), which offer an online collection of fun adventures for youth.

Development Opportunities

Looking to build some new skills, sharpen existing skills, or pick up some new knowledge, check out our new upcoming learning opportunities coming soon!

BCY Introductory Virtual Outdoor Skills Scouter Development Day – Saturday, February 5th, 9:30am – 12:30pm.

Amidst the focus on safety and ongoing changes of restrictions with the ongoing pandemic, it is important to continue to find creative ways to stay connected and seek inspiration in developing new skills that can be applied during our “new normal” Scouting adventures and beyond!

This Virtual Introductory Outdoor Skills Session will be held via Zoom and will offer three 45-minute intro level learning session opportunities all from the comfort of your own home!

Introductory Sessions Include:

- Intro to ScoutsTracker (supporting use of the App with “Claim the Flame” Winter Challenge!)
- Intro to preparing Youth for cold season Camping and activities!
- Scouting Traditions:How to run a Formal Scouting Campfire (then participate in a virtual one)!

This virtual Intro Level Skills Development Session is ideal for:

- **1st-3rd Year Colony & Pack** Scouters!
- Other new Section Scouters are welcome to register as well!
- Potential Volunteers and Interested Parents are welcome to register as well!

Registration Fee: Free

Link to Register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYlfu-gqT4tG90X9qe0rSv46icUG359mOgX>

**The session will begin promptly at 9:30am Pacific Time!*

**Please prepare coffee & snacks for yourself. There will be one 10-minute break partway through!*

**We encourage participants to be on-camera if possible, especially during interactive activities!*

For any questions, please reach out to Mariko Zamani - mzamani@scouts.ca

Spotlight

Please join us in welcoming the 5th Muslim Scouts of Canada to our Scouting community!



It's been quite the journey for our new group, the 5th Muslim Scouts of Canada, who originally expressed interest in starting a group in February of 2020. As we all know the last 2 years have been some of the most uncertain times in our history. While many new groups may have given up, 5th Muslim continued to forge ahead towards opening and ensuring that they were well prepared, not only to open a new group, but to open a new group safely during a pandemic of epic proportions. Over the past 2 years, with the support of their Group Support Scouter Geoff, they have recruited and onboarded new Scouters (twice), run a few virtual meetings, participated in trainings, hosted a very successful Open House at Camp McLean, and finally have held a couple of in-person meetings. It's been a rocky start for this group, but with this kind of persistence, we know they're going places!

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- January 15th – Virtual Youth Recognition Event. Emails have been sent to Award Recipients and their Contact Scouters.
- January 19th, 7:00pm – GC Mug Up at Camp McLean (Erickson Fire Pit)
- January 22nd, 4:00pm – Claim the Flame Opening Ceremony
- February 5th, 9:30am – BCY Introductory Virtual Outdoor Skills Development
- February – Skills Night – Check out the [Calendar on the Claim the Flame](#) page for the list and links for Skills Nights.
- February 20th – Surrey Eagles Scout Night – Game to be announced. Contact Barb Taylor at barb.taylor@scouts.ca to purchase your "Group" tickets (no individual orders please). Deadline to purchase and pay for tickets is February 6th.