

Subject: GC Communication and Updates - Issue 25 (please share with your team)

Good Morning,

We continue to look for ways to simplify and streamline processes and improve as a Council, and more importantly, develop and grow 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!

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Upcoming Spring PR Campaign

This spring, Scouts Canada will be launching a new and humorous campaign aimed at understanding Canadian's camping skill levels. It's designed to let people know that you don't have to have mad camping skills to volunteer with Scouts. Once launched, it will be a terrific opportunity to connect with potential parents who may be interested (but hesitant) to volunteer with Scouts. Watch for it on social media and elsewhere this April.

Open Positions at Scouts Canada – Summer Jobs

The summer season is fast approaching and that means many of our properties will be opening up to welcome back Scouting groups and summer day camp program participants. There are many open positions still available for jobs at our camps this summer. Positions are available at: Adventureland/Woodland Trails (ON), Camp Samac (ON), Camp Opemikon (ON) and Camp McLean (BC). Most positions are 18+, but there are some that are 16+ so spread the word!



Find open positions here: <https://www.scouts.ca/about/careers/summer-camps.html>

Council Voting Representatives – Nomination for Elections is now Open

It's that time again – for Councils to elect their Council Voting Representatives (CVR). Each Council is asked to nominate/acclaim/appoint/elect three Council Voting Representatives, one of which must be a youth member (born in 2008 or earlier). These representatives will vote on behalf of Fraser Valley Council at Scouts Canada's next AGM in November 2022.

Council Voting Representatives represent the interest of the members of their Council, and have a genuinely meaningful role in the democratic governance of Scouts Canada. They are encouraged to be actively involved in local Scouting so that they can fulfill their duties and represent their Council's members appropriately. The time commitment required is minimal – sporadic emails, and being available on the day of the AGM - which typically takes place on the second or third Saturday in November.

If you know of any youth members or Scouters that you would like to represent Fraser Valley Council, please encourage them to apply before May 3, 2022.

Click on [Nomination Form](#) or [Council Voting FAQs](#) for more information.

Safe Scouting Update – Injuries and New Activities

Nearly 40% of injuries in the month of March were sustained by youth who lacked experience in an activity. These occurrences were most often seen within Scout and Cub Scout sections. Recent reports include the following where many of the youth were new to the activity:

- Cut sustained when learning to use a hatchet
- Cut sustained when cutting vegetables
- Pinch/cuts sustained when loading pellet guns
- Burn sustained when using a glue gun
- Cuts sustained during knife skills activity

Relevant to all activity types, youth who are learning a new skill may be more prone to injury due to improper handling/training with a tool or situation, and more supervision may be necessary.

What can you do to help prevent injuries? Speak to your Groups and Sections about teaching new activities and skills. Do they have a development plan to build up skills, is it age appropriate, do they include training time and a higher level of supervision/instruction during those times practice sessions. What are their best practices, and can they share them with others to enable continuous learning?

Please also see the latest [Safe Scouting Report](#), ending March 30.

Inclusion + Reconciliation: Journey Update Email

As announced at Scouts Canada's Annual General Meeting in 2021, our Board of Governors dedicated a pillar in our Strategic Plan to be inclusive and pursue Indigenous Reconciliation. We are excited to share that a Diversity, Inclusion, and Reconciliation Journey Update will be distributed to members later this week.

Our path towards this has begun by first listening to our members on what their current perspectives, needs, and suggestions are for this journey. The Journey Update will follow-up on actions Scouts Canada has taken so far, such as onboarding Internal and External Reconciliation advisors, our planned Systemic audit of the organization and insights learned from our Listening Sessions.

We encourage you to read this update once released and please share it with your team.

Meet Chief Scout, Survivor Man Les Stroud

As you may be aware, in December 2021, Survivorman Les Stroud was officially invested as Scouts Canada's Chief Scout. The ultimate adventurer, Les brings expertise in outdoor survival skills with a genuine connection and respect for nature. Through the year, the Chief Scout meets with Scouters & youth at Group meetings, ScoutCons, camps and award ceremonies.

If you would like to invite Les Stroud to attend an event in the 2022nd year, please fill in the form [here](#). Only events taking place after June 1st will be considered to allow time for coordination. Depending on the Chief Scouts' travel schedule, virtual attendance may be the only option.

Hyack Camp 2022 – May 27-29th

Hyack 2022 – Back In Tents!

Friday, May 27 - Sunday, May 29, 2022

Troop Section Camp

After two virtual events, we're beyond thrilled to welcome Scout Troops from across the Lower Mainland back to Queens Park for Hyack Camp! Hosted by 12th New Westminster, Hyack Camp takes place on the weekend of May 27-29, 2022.

We've got an awesome weekend planned with tons of traditional Hyack Camp activities:

- Bubble soccer
- Human fooseball
- Foam sword jousting
- And more!

One of the highlights of the weekend is the annual Hyack Festival Parade. We will take part in the parade as a marching unit, and will be looking for a couple of volunteer Scouts from each group to help carry signs and banners for the parade organizers. Bring your troop flag and fly it proudly!

Lunch will be provided by the camp after the parade.

Another Hyack Camp favourite is back: the Saturday night cooking competition. Troops will be provided with a secret ingredient, which must be incorporated into your meal. Entries will be judged on presentation, creativity, teamwork, and integration of the secret ingredient. Up for grabs is your troop's name on the coveted Hyack cooking competition trophy.

Finally, what would camp be without a campfire? At Hyack Camp, we don't mess around when it comes to campfire, so be prepared with your songs, skits, and cheers, and don't forget your campfire blanket

Location: Queens Park, New Westminster. The Hyack campsite is located at the corner of 1st Street and Vancouver Street (Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/V4JPdvFNjXf4QGEu7>)

Camp Fee: \$20 per person, includes a Hyack Camp badge. Extra badges are available for \$5 each. Make cheques payable to Scouts Canada 12th New Westminster.

Who: Scout Troops. If you have Cub Scouts moving up, this is a great opportunity for their first Troop camp. Troops are self-contained; you must have the appropriate Scouter ratio for your own Troop, and follow the Two Scouter Rule, as well as first aid requirements.

Potable water and toilets will be available on-site.

Note that we will not have swimming available this year as Canada Games Pool has closed due to construction.

To register, please visit <http://hyackcamp.newwestscouts.ca>. If you have any questions, please email hyack@newwestscouts.ca.

Resources & Ideas

Conflict in Ukraine – Resources for Discussing with Youth

With the conflict happening in Ukraine, it can be hard to answer when your youth may have questions around what is happening. Here are some resources that can help you talk to your youth in an age-appropriate way.

<https://www.cbc.ca/parents/learning/view/talking-to-kids-about-whats-happening-in-ukraine>

<https://www.apa.org/news/apa/2022/children-teens-war-ukraine>

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/emergencies/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-conflict-in-ukraine/>

For older youth check out the WOSM resource:

https://www.scout.org/sites/default/files/library_files/How_to_talk_to_children_about_war_0.pdf

Canadian Wildlife Federation

Help contribute to wildlife conservation! Participate in the 2022 City Nature Challenge April 29th to May 2nd.

Join people in hundreds of cities across Canada and around the world in a friendly challenge to upload the most observations of wildlife using iNaturalist Canada. It's a fun, easy, family-friendly opportunity to get outside and connect with nature by documenting local biodiversity.

Head out on your own, in small groups or an organized event! Simply by taking photos and uploading them on iNaturalist.ca or using the iNaturalist app, you can help experts understand where wildlife is found.

Be part of a national initiative and help Canada compete globally. Find out more about the City Nature Challenge, including if your city is participating, [here](#). Those who are not in a participating city can still help by identifying wildlife observations until May 8th. The City Nature Challenge is organized by the California Academy of Sciences and the Los Angeles Natural History Museum.

World Fish Migration Foundation

Only 8 weeks left to celebrate World Fish Migration Day (May 21)! We invite you to join us!

At this point [180 events have been registered from over 40 countries](#) and we know about 150 more that haven't been uploaded yet. It's truly exciting to see everybody getting ready again. We would love if your organization(s) could join us too. Don't miss this cool opportunity and join the global movement.

Follow this link to: **[REGISTER YOUR EVENT!](#)**

Event ideas

Some events that are coming up: Festival of Mud Spheres in Costa Rica, a conference in Mongolia, a documentary screening in USA, a camp trip in Ghana, a coastal clean-up in Istanbul and... even a Scape Room in French Guyana! There are so many activities that can be organized on May 21st (or other day if it suits you best). You can take a look at [our documentary](#) to get an idea about the WFMD. You can also download our participant guideline by following [this link](#).

Also, the [Fish Flag Art competition](#) with our partner Wildlife Forever is just around the corner!! We hope to see submissions from thousands of young artists around the world this year and encourage them to fly their fish flags on World Fish Migration Day! Take a look at [our promo video made by Zeb Hogan!!](#) **Send this to your home school or art class so they can join too!** 😊 ([Registration Form](#), Deadline April 14th)

Please let our World Fish Migration Day Events Coordinator (Elena, at elena@fishmigration.org) know if you would like to join the 5th WFMD. For questions about the Fish Flag Art Competition please can contact Nicole at nicole@fishmigration.org.

Spotlight

We are happy to announce that Camp Whonnock, situated in Maple Ridge, is now open for bookings!

The Camp includes a main lodge, 7 cabins, fire circle and shelter, wooded tent sites with fire-pit, trails, and canoes for use on one of many nearby lakes (see pictures below).

- **MAIN LODGE** – It includes a main hall with fireplace, industrial kitchen, downstairs rooms (great for indoor sleepovers), washroom facilities with showers, and a covered deck that runs the length of the building. There are several indoor folding tables and chairs (accommodates ~150 people), as well as outdoor tables and chairs on the covered deck.
- **CABINS** – There are 7 cabins with 4 bunks each, accommodating 8 people per cabin (56 between all 7); there is also space in the field for tents if needed. The cabins have electricity but are not heated.
- **TENT SITES** – There is a wooded area with space to accommodate 10-13 tents. There is also a fire-pit.
- **FIRE CIRCLE** – A large fire circle and shelter is available for rent. Firewood is provided.

- **TRAIL** – There is a trail traversing the backwoods behind the camp. There are also thousands of acres of woodland across the street with plenty of trails to keep any Scout Group busy!

For additional information about the Camp's facilities, e-mail: pauldoyle@shaw.ca. To book Camp Whonnock visit <https://scouts.doubleknot.com/facilitysearch/4514> or visit [Scouts Canada Camps](#) to see all the camps available for bookings. For camps in BC, filter by province.

Upcoming Events & Key Dates

- April 9th 8:30am – 1:30pm - Scout Truck Rally - CANCELLED
- April 9th-10th, 6:00pm- 6:00am – Nite Hike 2022 – Pacific Spirit Park. Nitehike@scouts.ca
- April 23rd 9:00am – 4:00pm - Cuboree – Camp McLean. Cost \$10/person. Packs wishing to attend, please mail registration forms to Barb Taylor , 19477 62nd Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3S 7L4, including payment (one cheque made payable to Scouts Canada) by *April 10th, 2022*. Please note that no late or on-site registrations will be accepted. All Packs attending are expected to provide a station for the duration of the day. Please advise Barb at Barb.taylor@scouts.ca of your station and what facilities you require.
- May 7th 9:00am – 4:00pm - Beaverie – Camp McLean. Cost \$10/person. Colonies wishing to attend, please mail registration forms to Barb Taylor , 19477 62nd Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3S 7L4, including payment (one cheque made payable to Scouts Canada) by *April 24th, 2022*. Please note that no late or on site registrations will be accepted. All Colonies attending are expected to provide a station for the duration of the day. Please advise Barb at Barb.taylor@scouts.ca of your station and what facilities you require.
- May 14th, 9:30-3:00pm – JOTT 2022 - təmtəmíxwtən/Belcarra Regional Park. To Register: Email Scouter Jim Pound at scouterjimp@gmail.com before March 31, 2022

Thank you for everything that you do. You are amazing! Scouting would not be possible without you and your teams!

Yours in Scouting,

Fraser Valley Council Key 3

Tom Waldock - Council Commissioner

Viki Fanous - Council Relationship Manager