# **Milestone Recognition Program**

# Overview

The Milestone Recognition program celebrates the achievement of a Volunteer's years of service in Scouting. In 2011, Scouts Canada launched a new component for Scouters with one to five years of service that better reflects our demographics.

## Background

The Milestone Recognition program has two initial milestones: 5 years of service and 10 years of service (Long Service Medal). Subsequently, each fifth anniversary is acknowledged with a certificate. However, 50% of our volunteers have less than 5 years of service and 78% have less than 10 years of service providing us with little opportunity to recognize the majority who donate their time.

## Milestone Recognition Program: Volunteers with 1–5 years of Service

In addition to volunteers who reach 5 year incremental service milestones, the enhanced program recognizes 100% of active volunteers with 1 to 5 years of service to Scouting.

Early in each calendar year, myscouts.ca identifies all active volunteers who celebrate 1 to 5 year anniversaries before the end of the current Scouting year.

Each Group/Area/Council Commissioner receives notification that the annual campaign is about to kick-off. That email contains a list of all volunteers in their section who are eligible to receive recognition. Commissioners then have an opportunity to make corrections or update recipients' email addresses.

Each eligible volunteer then receives an email thanking them for their continued service and invites them to select a recognition item commensurate with their service anniversary. If there is no email, the Commissioner can make the selection on the Scouter's behalf, after contacting the Scouter for input.

After selection, the gifts are provided to the Commissioner for presentation.

## How to Help

**Scouters** — Ensure that myscouts.ca has the most recent email address for volunteers and accurately reflects years of service.

**Commissioners** — When the annual program starts, follow up with the individuals so that they submit their choice or use the other options (opt out or donate). After the gifts are received, present them in a meaningful way and at an opportune time. Certificates recognizing 5 year increments are also presented in a meaningful way and at an opportune time.

