



Welcome to Scouting



So, welcome to Scouting!

Your Group Commissioner will provide the following materials to help —

- ☞ get you registered:
 1. Application for Membership and Appointment of Adult Volunteers Form
 2. Police Record Check application form

- ☞ orient you to your role:
 1. Description of the role you will perform
 2. “First Steps” booklet from the Greater Toronto Council
 3. Information about training courses and workshops
 4. Connect you with experienced scouters to help you on an on-going basis

- ☞ you get more information:
 1. Contact information (phone, e-mail) which will include the Area Commissioner and other area resources.



Name: _____

Group: _____

Group Commissioner: _____

Area Commissioner: _____

Greater Toronto Council Office & Store
265 Yorkland Boulevard, Toronto, 416-490-6364

Scouting Values, Beliefs and Practices

Mission Statement:

The mission of Scouting is to contribute to the education of young people, through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law, to help build a better world where people are self fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society.

Scouting's Mission is achieved by:

- Involving youth throughout their formative years in a non-formal educational process.
- Using a specific method that makes each individual the principal agent in his or her development as a self-reliant, supportive, responsible and committed person
- Assisting youth to establish a value system based upon spiritual, social and personal principles as expressed in the Promise and Law.

Principles:

Scouting is based on three broad principles, which represent its fundamental beliefs.

- Duty to God
- Duty to Others
- Duty to Self.



Practices and Methods:

We define Scouting Practices as a system of progressive self-education including:

- A promise and law;
- Learning by doing;
- Membership in small groups;
- Progressive and stimulating programs;
- Commitment to the values of doing one's best, contributing to the community, respecting and caring for others, contributing as a family member; and,
- Use of outdoor activities as a key learning resource.

Beaver Promise

I promise to love God and to help take care of the world

Wolf Cub Promise

I promise to do my best
To love and serve God,
To do my duty to the Queen;
To keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack,
And to do a good turn for somebody everyday

Scout Promise

(Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Adults)

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and the Queen,
To help other people at all times,
And to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law



Beaver Law

A Beaver has fun, works hard, and helps family and friends

Wolf Cub Law

The Cub respects the Old Wolf
The Cub respects himself/herself

Scout Law

A Scout is:
Helpful and trustworthy,
Kind and cheerful,
Considerate and clean,
Wise in the use of all resources.

Your Protection, Youth Protection

Volunteer Recruitment

Scouts Canada has a comprehensive volunteer screening procedure. Before becoming a member in good standing, all adults working with youth are required to provide a clean police record check, have an interview and provide three references who are contacted by the interview team.

Adult Supervision

Program activities must be carried out by a minimum of two leaders. All programs have a specific leader to youth ratio which varies with the age of the youth.

Health and Safety

The activities we offer are fun and challenging, but we must ensure the safety of all participants. Guidelines, policy, criteria and checklists, as outlined in the Procedures for *Camping and Outdoor Activities*, are in force in order to provide protection for you and our youth.

Parent/Guardian Consent

Parent/Guardian permission is required for all activities performed outside the regular meeting place.

Physical Fitness Certificate

Physical fitness certificates are required for all youth and adults at the start of each activity year and are essential for the well-being of all members of the organization in case of a medical emergency during activities. The content of these certificates remains confidential.

Insurance

Scouts Canada membership includes supplemental indemnity and liability insurance for its members.

Child Protection Protocol

Scouts Canada has a guideline which provides information protecting children from abuse. In addition, *A Duty of Care – A Code of Conduct For Adult Volunteers* is in effect to ensure that all members of Scouting are treated with respect and dignity.

Photo Release

A photo release is required from the parents/guardians of youth, or from adults, if the photo/video will be published in print, on the internet, newspapers, newsletters or magazines. This photo release is included on the enrollment and application forms.

Uniform

Leaders wear a distinctive uniform available from our Scout Shop. Scouting is recognized throughout the world by its symbol, the fleur-de-lis.

Financial Accounting

Scouts Canada of Canada is a not-for-profit organization. Money for Group operations comes primarily through membership fees and approved fund raising projects. Groups are required to maintain bank accounts in the name of Scouts Canada and have their accounts audited annually.



You are not alone

You need never feel alone. If you have questions, need help finding program activities, don't know how to carry out a ceremony or prepare a challenging program, have concerns or just need to exchange ideas, there are many people available to help you. Ask your Group Commissioner for a list of the Area's team of Service Scouters, Trainers, Advisors, and Community Resource people.

- **Group Commissioner and Service Scouters:** These Scouters will help get you started and can be your mentor for your first few months.
- **Area Service Team:** Each of the 10 Areas in our council has some volunteers who are always ready to help you develop your program, training, camping, outdoor and personal skills.
- **Training:** Formal courses and workshops are offered by Scouts Canada and are listed on the council website, www.gtc.scouts.ca On-going training is provided by your fellow leaders and Group Commissioner.

To get started:

- Ask for one-on-one assistance with a mentor for a month or two!
- Aim to work with other adults in your group in an atmosphere of FUN, FRIENDSHIP and ADVENTURE
- Learn by doing! It is a great way to catch on. Participate in small group discussions with other leaders in your area to learn more.
- Try it – you'll like it, and if you need help along the way – just ask!



Welcome to Scouting,

the best organization in Canada and around the world for youth.

Scouting organizations around the world, under the leadership of the World Organization of Scout

Movement (WOSM) provide fun and exciting programs to more than 28 million members, youth and adults, boys and girls in 160 countries and territories. Scouting has been an integral partner of Canadian education activities for youth and adults since 1907. Youth may join Scouts Canada at any age from five upwards. The programs build on each other but are also independent of each other.

Welcome! Come experience the adventure of Scouting with other adults and youth.

What We Offer

To Adults

Scouting offers you the opportunity to:

- Make a difference in the lives of youth and young adults
- Develop strong friendships both locally, nationally and internationally
- Challenge yourself to participate in many new activities
- Succeed in things you never thought possible
- Connect with your community
- Learn and develop your leadership skills.
- Get involved and participate with your child/children's programs as a leader, on a group committee or as a helper

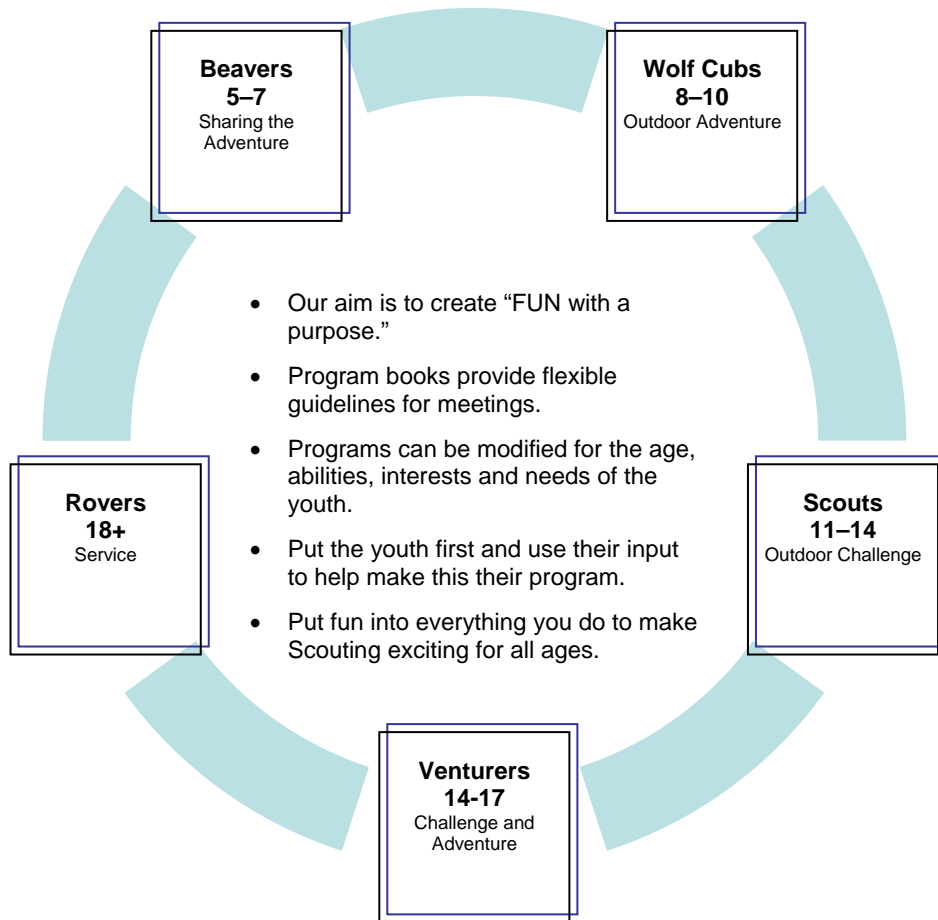
To Youth

Scouting offers youth:

- Fun, friendship and adventures
- Imaginative and innovative activity choices
- Encouragement to reach their potential; to be independent, confident and caring.
- Opportunities to learn and use outdoor, leadership and decision-making skills.
- Connection to their community and the wider world.
- Challenging, fun, exciting activities, camps and events with an outdoor focus

Scouting Programs

Scouts Canada's Programs are progressive and age appropriate for each level.



Scouts Canada also offers short-term *ScoutsAbout* and *Extreme Adventure* programs so that youth may get a 'taste' of Scouting.

ADULTS like you make it happen!
 Section and Program Leaders, Group Committee members, Area team members, trainers, mentors and more!

Resources

In addition to the people shown on the front cover, you will find a wealth of resources available to help you plan exciting, quality programs. You do not have to purchase the resources yourself, your Group can purchase the essential ones for you and many can be borrowed from other leaders and local libraries. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Essential readings for every Leader

- "First Steps" booklet
- *Duty of Care* – A Code of Conduct for adult volunteers
- Scouting Programs:
 - Leader Handbook
 - Youth Handbook
- *Camping/Outdoor Activity Guide*

Publications
 All registered members of Scouting receive these free publications:

- *Scouting Lifer* is a Scouts Canada magazine full of interesting articles on program ideas and activities, current trends, national news and information. It is mailed directly to all adult volunteers 6 times a year.
- Leader handbooks and resource books published by Scouts Canada will help you deliver a quality program

Scout Shop
 265 Yorkland Boulevard

- **JUMPSTART** programs are also available in print versions.
- **Leader handbooks** and **youth program handbooks** describe activities in more detail
- Many of Scouting's favourite **campfire** songs are available in books and on **CD**
- **Official uniform** items, badges and crests
- **Outdoor and camping equipment**
- **Souvenirs**, gift and presentation items are also available.

Program builder – web resource

Scouts Canada has developed an on-line program development tool. You'll begin by outlining the night with date, times and special things to remember and do. Then you'll be directed to fill in the night's programs; here is where it gets exciting. The Program Builder draws from a database of over 1800 Beaver, Cub and Scout activities. Choose from games, songs, crafts, and/or educational delivery "Methods" when you search for just the right activity to fill in your plan. Then, you print or e-mail your plan and you're all set!

You can also search the database on its own by keyword, section, program area or activity. These can be added into a program plan, or printed separately.

Check it out on the For Scouters page of www.scouts.ca

Web Sites
 Check out these Internet sites:

- Scouts Canada www.scouts.ca
- Greater Toronto Council www.gtc.scouts.ca (Be sure to check your local Area's materials.)
- World Organization www.scout.org