



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

BC Council Annual Report 2015



Vision

Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada, the organization of choice for girls and women, makes a positive difference in the life of every girl and woman who experiences Guiding so she can contribute responsibly to her communities.

Mission

Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada enables girls to be confident, resourceful and courageous, and to make a difference in the world.

Promise

I Promise to do my best,
To be true to myself, my beliefs and Canada
I will take action for a better world
And respect the Guiding Law

BC Girl Guides

*It All
Started with
"I Promise"...*

Dawnette Humphrey, BC Provincial Commissioner



IPromise ... For many, many years, every member of Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada has started her Guiding journey with those words. In spite of the hectic lives of girls, young women and Guiders in British Columbia, our members ensured that they indeed did their best in 2015!

Provincial, area and district growth plans helped increase our total membership from 17,086 in 2014 to 17,314 in 2015—a modest increase but going in the right direction! In 2015, units, districts and areas continued to participate in events in their communities and expanded to include events and festivals they had not taken part in before, thereby introducing Guiding to new audiences.

Our provincial standing committees continued to excel in their projects and initiatives to keep our membership excited about Guiding! The following is a **small sampling** of the projects undertaken.

Camping

Island ROAM 2015 provided girls and Guiders the opportunity to explore Victoria, Duncan, Port Alberni, Courtenay, Port McNeil and Mount Washington

on Vancouver Island. The Bowron Lakes canoe trip had participants paddle the full circuit of 13 lakes, do portages and enjoy the wilderness of Bowron Lakes Provincial Park. Eight Guiders from five areas took part in the Outdoor Activity Leadership Module 8 – Backpacking event in Strathcona Provincial Park and gained training and skills to enable them to provide more adventure camping and outdoor activities for the girls. New Camps to Go and instant meetings developed by the provincial Camping Committee also played a role to help our members appreciate and have fun in the great outdoors!

Program

New provincial challenges included Alien Invaders, Arts To Go Passport to the Arts and Colour Me Healthy. Another successful Ranger Revolution took place at the provincial Guide House, giving an opportunity for Rangers to explore their program in a deeper, more meaningful context and developed leadership and skills that the girls took back to their areas to share. Guides Exploring Science and Technology (GUEST) in the North introduced 82 girls in Rivers North Area to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) role models, enabled them to try hands-on activities focused on scientific and technological advances that have occurred since 1910, and inspired interest in STEM and non-traditional career options.

International

A 12-day provincially sponsored trip, Me to We – Udaipur, enabled seven girls from Southern Vancouver Island, Rivers North, Thompson Nicola and West Coast areas, as well as three Guiders, to travel to Udaipur, Rajasthan Province in India, where they worked with the Me to We organization on service projects including assisting in building a school. Another Colours of the World event in the summer of 2015 educated Guide-aged participants about cultural diversity, international travel and other international program opportunities. Adventure to the Capitals had Pathfinder-aged girls travel to Ottawa to take part in Canada Day celebrations and visit Old Montreal and Quebec City before travelling to Washington, DC, to take part in July 4th celebrations.

Public Relations

Twenty-six girls from seven of the ten areas in BC took part in the Junior Ambassador Workshop, forming a group of prepared spokespersons for media opportunities and public speaking engagements. They enjoyed tours with media outlets in the Lower Mainland, learned about writing media releases and honed their public speaking skills. Who better to promote Guiding to the public than our girls!

The PR Committee also worked on updating the BC Girl Guides social media sites, which include Twitter, Facebook and YouTube, and developed social media guidelines for appropriate use of these tools.

Training

The first-ever Safe Guide Assessor Workshop took place in late February. The weekend provided support to 25 Safe Guide assessors on issues specific to their position for which there is no current training. The BC Training Committee hosted the Western Regional Trainers Conference in November, bringing together 89 trainers from around BC and across Canada. Evaluations indicated trainers appreciated being able to share knowledge and skills with each other.

Membership

The BC Trefoil Guild Rendezvous 2015 in Whistler was hosted by Lions Area Trefoil Guilds. Activities included hikes around Lost Lake, a canopy walk, art walks, hula hoop lessons, and nutrition and craft sessions. The provincial membership adviser, provincial iMIS adviser and BC Guide House staff worked closely with the national office in piloting adult online registration. The Membership Committee continued working to identify strategies to retain transitioning members until they are eligible to be Link members and/or Unit Guiders. The committee also worked on a new Link challenge and launched a new BC membership challenge, Here We Are.

Properties

A Provincial Properties Workshop presented managers of Girl Guide properties with information about safety, legal issues, insurance and property management trends via presentations from relevant experts.

Provincial Council

The Giggle and Guide with Confidence Composite Conference sponsored by Provincial Council took place in early November. It brought together area commissioner teams and area advisers in awards, camping, cookies, international, membership, program, PR, and training, as well as treasurers. All received training specific to their positions and had opportunities to work together as area teams in identifying topics of particular interest or concern.

Again, these are only a sampling of BC events and opportunities in 2015! None of them would have happened without the tireless dedication of our volunteers and the enthusiasm and passion of our girls and young women! The words “thank you” will never be enough to express the pride and gratitude I feel for all of you! Girl Greatness truly starts here in BC!



BC Girl Guides

It All Started with "I Promise"...

In 2015, BC Girl Guides had opportunities for...

Events, Camps and Travel

- ★ Unit, district and area camps
- ★ GUEST (Guides Exploring Science and Technology)
- ★ Mix It Up
- ★ Me to We Take Action Academy
- ★ Adventure to the Capitals
- ★ ROAM Island 2015
- ★ Colours of the World
- ★ Ranger Revolution
- ★ Alberta Girls' Parliament
- ★ Junior Ambassador Workshop
- ★ Trex Rendezvous
- ★ Camp Yukon 101
- ★ Rally in the Valley
- ★ Bring-a-friend events
- ★ GOTA (Girls on the Air)
- ★ Nite Trek
- ★ Hands Across the Border
- ★ Santa Claus Parades
- ★ National Conference
- ★ Linking Together Conference
- ★ Trefoil Guild Rendezvous
- ★ Travel to the World Centres
- ★ Travel to India, USA, Mexico, Italy, Switzerland, England, France, and across Canada

Service Projects

- ★ Making quilt squares and cushions
- ★ Knitting scarves and toques for shelters
- ★ Sewing stuffies for victim support services
- ★ Making birds' nests for a bird rehabilitation centre
- ★ Building a book nook
- ★ Participating in the Words in Action National Service Project
- ★ Helping at community dinners and soup kitchens
- ★ Supporting women's shelters and after-school clubs
- ★ Making birthday-party-in-a-box kits for food banks
- ★ Participating in the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup
- ★ Wrapping Christmas gifts for donations
- ★ Participating in TD Tree Day
- ★ Tree planting with the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Tree Planting Grant Program
- ★ Making educational preschool toys
- ★ Volunteering at community events, including Canada Day, Community Days and Remembrance Day

Global Awareness

- ★ Twinning 2020, with Peru
- ★ World Thinking Day celebrations
- ★ Hike for Hunger
- ★ Fundraising for the Canadian World Friendship Fund (including through the CWFF Pizza Challenge)

Provincial Areas (including Lones District)



Training

- ★ Camp Skills Days
- ★ Enrichment Training for Guiders
- ★ Safe Guide Assessor Workshop
- ★ Outdoor Adventure Leadership Training
- ★ Composite Conference
- ★ Western Regional Trainers' Conference

These wonderful opportunities were made possible through the sale of Girl Guide cookies and the support of our communities.



BC Girl Guides

It All Started with "I Promise"...

BC Council Membership for 2015

Patron Her Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon,
OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Honorary Officers

Pat Drugge	Judy Maurice
Elaine Hayden	Dolores Racine
May Kendrick	Marion Rogers
Elaine Killam	Georgia Runcie
Daphne MacGregor-Greer	

Provincial Commissioner Dawnette Humphrey

Deputy Provincial Commissioners

Leslie Bush	Helen Varga
-------------	-------------

Provincial Treasurer Roanna McCormack

Advisers of Provincial Standing Committees

Camping	Joy Andersen
International Membership	Jennifer MacGregor-Greer Rosemary Meech (<i>Jan.-Jul.</i>) Gerry Koepke (<i>Aug.-Dec.</i>)
Program	Julie Thomson
Public Relations	Laurie Hooker
Training	Kerrie Glover

Area Commissioners

Fraser Skies	Siobhan Peck and Jill Battie (<i>Jan.-Nov.</i>)
Kootenay	Maryann Brock (<i>Jan.-Sept.</i>) Shelley Balfour (<i>Sept.-Dec.</i>)
Lions	Colleen Kellner
Lougheed	Darlene Kent
Monashee	Sheila Fergusson
Pacific Shores	Deanie Patten
Rivers North	Robi McKnight and Christine Tessier
Southern Vancouver Is.	Sharon Doty (<i>Jan.-Sept.</i>) Gillian Hurwood, Adrienne Blandford and Wendy Halpen (<i>Oct.-Dec.</i>)
Thompson Nicola	Tara Decker and Anne Fox
West Coast	Diamond Isinger

Elected Members

Sarah Beairsto
Amber Larlee (*Jan.-May*)
Stella Vallee
Lisa Welchzelberger (*May-Dec.*)
Kelsy Woods

2015 BC Council Bursaries and Scholarships

Bursary of Honour Tashina M., *Rivers North Area*

BC Council Bursary

Rachael C., <i>Rivers North Area</i>	Maryna E., <i>Southern Vancouver Island Area</i>
Eliessa H., <i>West Coast Area</i>	Laura M., <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>
Stephanie P., <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>	Kailyn P., <i>Lions Area</i>
Heather W., <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>	Julia W., <i>Lions Area</i>

Margery Dumfries Scholarship Kayla C., *Southern Vancouver Island Area*

Eve Pound Scholarship Lauren D., *West Coast Area*

Pat Drugge Adult Bursary Laura Allgrove, *Rivers North Area*

BC Trefoil Guilds' Education Grant Angela Forseille, *Rivers North Area*

Awards

Medal of Merit Bev Lindsay, *Fraser Skies Area*
Julie Thomson, *Monashee Area*

Fortitude Bethany Koepke, *West Coast Area*

Honorary Life Valerie Nilson, *Lougheed Area*

Book of Honour

Joan Conner, <i>Monashee Area</i>	Cheryl Geissler, <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>
Catherine Hardy, <i>Monashee Area</i>	Jill Maden, <i>West Coast Area</i>
Joan McElwain, <i>West Coast Area</i>	Patricia Miles, <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>
Doreen Ridsdale, <i>Rivers North Area</i>	Lorraine Thibeault, <i>Rivers North Area</i>

Also presented to BC members in 2015

Gold Merit	13
Silver Merit	19
Bronze Merit	31
Gold Thanks	70
Team Award	27

Girl Guide Cookie Sales

Classic cookies	51,834 cases
Chocolatey mint cookies	45,828 cases
Total cookie sales in 2015	97,662 cases

Membership in 2015

Adults	4,151
Girls	13,163
Total Members	17,314



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

For more information or to contact us:

Girl Guides of Canada – BC Council
1-800-565-8111 or www.bc-girlguides.org



2015 BC Girl Guides

*It All Started With
"I Promise"*



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

For more information
or to contact us:

Girl Guides of Canada -BC Council
1-800-565-8111 or www.bc-girlguides.org