



Pipeline

British Columbia Council

Guiders Experience

Outdoor Activity
Leadership Training

Girls and Guiders

Get a Taste of Adventure

Provincial Commissioner Asks:

"What Do You Want to
See More of This Year?"

Tales of International Travel: Kenya, Costa Rica, Mauritius and More!



Editorial

As the new year is upon us, there are many exciting opportunities in sight. I hope you enjoy this adventure-packed issue full of inspiration of Guiding trips near and far ranging from Whistler to Kenya and everywhere in between. There are no limits for Girl Guides!

With this issue, I also want to thank *Pipeline's* previous editors; Robyn So as well as Katrina Petrik for their on-going mentorship, support, and guidance as I transition into this role. Thank you to the Editorial Team and designer, Patti Zazulak for welcoming me and allowing me to learn along the way. I am excited for this role and to engage with you to ensure we continue to share our amazing Guiding stories!

Yours in Guiding, Saffina Jinnah

Cover Photo Credits:

Front: Keegan Hayton ziplining through Costa Rica! *Jackie Hoffer*

Back: 1st Grouse Trex girls hiking through Garibaldi Park to Elfin Lakes. *Carol Turner*

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PC's PAGE

Diamond Isinger,
Provincial Commissioner



Over the last few months, I've been delighted to connect with BC members at events like the Fraser Skies Area Country Fair, our Girl Guide Day at the Whitecaps, the IGNITE conference for older youth members to learn and connect and the Indigenous Women's Leadership Summit, where I was able to spend time with Indigenous girl and adult members.

I've been listening carefully for the biggest and best ideas from girls that we can help support, to give each girl every opportunity to be everything she wants to be.

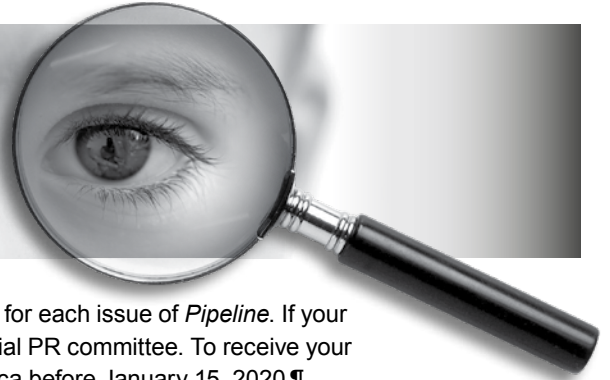
What I've heard from girls is that they want more ... more ... MORE! They can't get enough of the amazing things happening in BC, especially as part of GGC's new girl-driven program. They want more fun, more mentorship, more ways to take the lead and more allyship to diverse girls and women.

I'm all for those aspirations, and I want us to think big, so I'm turning my attention to how we make that happen. How do we build our BC capacity to do MORE of, well, almost everything? We can do that by:

- focusing adults' existing time MORE on what really matters: inclusive, girl-driven programming. BC and the national office are working together on resources, tools and processes, like our new and convenient ePACT health information system, to help Guiders focus MORE on being catalysts for girls and focus less on administration.
- putting girls at the centre of every strategic and operational decision we make, to ensure that our current resources can go directly towards MORE of the amazing girl opportunities that our BC girls want and need. We can do MORE with the same amount of time, cookie money and energy, if we make smart, girl-focused choices.
- elevating girls to take on leadership roles and make MORE happen for themselves and their peers. To do this, we need our current adult allies to be fearless about finding opportunities for girls to plan and execute cool stuff, for girls and by girls. Girls can accomplish amazing things for themselves, and even in support of adult members, when we put our trust and support in them and act as true adult catalysts for girl empowerment.
- growing our adult membership. "Bring a friend" activities: not just for girls! As many of you know, BC needs new Guiders. September is not our only recruitment time—we need more adults to join us year-round. Our dynamic programming is in high demand in BC right now. If every Guider in BC recruited just one friend to be part of GGC in the coming year, to join an existing group or start a new unit, we'd be able to welcome thousands more girls who are waiting patiently on wait lists to join us.

What do YOU want to see MORE of this year? And most importantly, how can you make that happen for yourself and fellow members? Consider teaming up with girls in your community to host a new program event, launch a new membership growth initiative, plan more camping adventures or international travel, or anything MORE that girls near you want to get out of Guiding. Need advice or guidance? Connect with your commissioner(s) or a provincial volunteer (contact info is available at bc-girlguides.org)—we are available to support you with your big, bold ideas. Here's to doing MORE, together!

Identify Your Membership Number



Five membership numbers are randomly drawn from the iMIS database for each issue of *Pipeline*. If your number is listed below, you are eligible to receive a gift from the provincial PR committee. To receive your gift, send an e-mail, identifying your number, to bc-pipeline@girlguides.ca before January 15, 2020.¶

207823 | **939771** | **1067594** | **100634** | **924879**

GONE HOME

Joyce Codron, *New Westminster*
Laura Freeman, *Vanderhoof*
Nancy Gunter, *Pouce Coupe*
Barbara Harris, *Prince George*

Helen Inglebright, *Chemainus*
Muriel Shearer, *Surrey*
Erin Wilson (girl member),
North Vancouver

AWARDS

Bronze Merit

Shaundra Curtis *Kelowna*
Karen Morrison *West Kelowna*

Note: The awards list is created from the iMIS database. If an award was presented but not entered in iMIS before the Pipeline submission date it will not be included on this list.

Pipeline is Available Online!

Issues of *Pipeline* from 2016 to the present are available at www.bc-girlguides.org; select *Volunteers > Guider Resources > Pipeline*.

NOTE: Issues are available as PDF files and are about 10 MB in size.



Upcoming Events

DATE	WHAT	WHO	WHERE	NOTES
2020				
January 31– February 2	Dogwood Training	Guiders	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	Personal enrichment for Guiders who want a deeper experience of Guiding beyond their regular unit or council experience. More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
February 22	BC Girl Guides Celebrate Thinking Day	Members of all ages	<i>Surrey City Hall</i>	Registration required; more information to come by email in December.
March 21–22	Quartermaster Workshop	All Guiders	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	Guiders to take the Food Safe Module as well as learn tips and tricks on how to quartermaster for a large group with a variety of food preferences. More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
April 3–5	Safe Guide Workshop	Safe Guide assessors and select Guiders who train Safe Guide	<i>Camp Kanaka</i>	More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
May 2–3	Brownies at Science World	Up to 30 Brownies per area	<i>Vancouver</i>	More information to come by email. Applications are due January 14, contact bc-program@girlguides.ca.
May 9	BC Council Annual General Meeting	Guiders	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	RSVP will be required; more information to come.
May/June	GUEST on the Island	Guides	<i>TBA</i>	Application forms will be sent out in January, or contact bc-program@girlguides.ca.
July 24– August 1	SOAR	Selected units	<i>Camp Barnard, Sooke</i>	Visit soarbc.com for more information.
August 21–23	Area Commissioners and District Commissioners Workshop	Area commissioners, district commissioners and their deputies	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	This training is geared to all first- and second- year DCs and ACs and fostering team work within the team. More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
September 25–27	Road to Dynamic Presentations	Rangers, Link, bridging members and all Guiders	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	This training is for Guiders who are looking to improve and enhance their presentation and communication skills. Those who have questions about becoming a GGC trainer are also encouraged to attend. More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
November 6–8	Interprovincial travel briefing	Groups doing interprovincial travel in 2021 that have submitted their paperwork by September 15, 2020	<i>HI Vancouver Downtown</i>	More information to come by email, or contact bc-safeguide@girlguides.ca.
November 13–15	Area Training Adviser Workshops	Area Training Advisers	<i>Guide House, North Vancouver</i>	More information to come by email, or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.

Save the Date

Join us at Surrey City Hall on Saturday, February 22, for Thinking Day 2020! BC Girl Guides and the BC Youth Forum invite BC members to "BC Girl Guides Celebrate Thinking Day: I.D.E.A. - Inclusion, Diversity, Equity for All." Sign-up information and final event information will be emailed to members in December. We hope to see you there!

Save the Date

The BC Council Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2020, at Guide House. RSVP will be required; more information to come.

BC Patrol **Attends LEAP**

LEAP 2019 was a seven-day outdoor adventure at Doe Lake camp in Sprucedale, Ontario. Some of the BC participants share their experiences here.



Photos: Annalisa Adam

Members from the BC patrol learned canoe skills during their time at the waterfront.

L EAP was an amazing experience. It gave me an opportunity to meet new people and see new things, such as the CN Tower, Niagara Falls, a waterpark on the lake, drone flying and the out-trip “movie chills and thrills.” LEAP was my first big Girl Guide trip and it did not disappoint. In the two weeks I was gone, I made friendships that will last a lifetime! I’m already planning to meet up with one of the other participants during spring break. I would like to thank BC Girl Guides for selecting and sponsoring me to go on this amazing trip.

Amy, Pathfinder,
Rivers North Area

T his trip has been an absolute blast! I have learned so, so much from LEAP and found out so much about myself. There were so many skill-building activities, from music to STEM to outdoor recreation. I also found out what it was like to live for a week in the outdoors. The environment at LEAP was warm and accepting to all kinds of girls, national and international. I have also met a number of LGBTQ+ people, and everybody made sure everyone was included. A huge thank you to everyone who made this trip possible and to all the wonderful people who attended this trip. I will always remember this trip and all the friends I’ve made.

Crystal, Pathfinder, West Coast Area

I went windsurfing on the first day at camp and despite the lack of wind, I had a lot of fun. The drone flying was really cool. We got to use a computer-programmed drone simulator, which was super hard. Afterwards we went to Toronto, and we went to Ripley’s Aquarium of Canada. It was super cool. We got to see sharks, turtles, jellyfish and lots of other cool sea creatures. I also got to go to the CN Tower, which used to be the tallest building in the world. I had so much fun on this trip. I feel so lucky to have gotten the opportunity.

Taanika, Pathfinder,
Pacific Shores Area

10 things I learned while travelling with Guiding:

1. Pack EVERYTHING on the kit list. You may think you don't need some things, but you definitely do.
2. Be yourself. If you are kind and treat people fairly, you will make friends.
3. Listen to your Guiders. They probably know what they're doing.
4. Nobody's perfect. Guiders are people too, and they may make mistakes, but be patient and try not to stress them out too much.
5. Don't worry about shopping or buying souvenirs. You can shop wherever you go. Enjoy being in a new place. Stop at the tourist attractions, not the mall.
6. Turn off your cell phone. Talk to your fellow Girl Guides and make new friends. You don't need to check Instagram while you are travelling.
7. You do not need pictures of everything. Take pictures of the important stuff, but if you are focused on capturing everything, you miss out on witnessing things firsthand.



Sealynn carrying the Canadian flag at the opening ceremony of LEAP 2019, in Ontario.



Members of the BC-sponsored patrols outside the CN Tower in Toronto after camp.

8. Lend a hand. It is better to volunteer to carry group gear or to wash dishes than to be told to do so. Your Guiders will appreciate it.
9. Personal hygiene is key. If you think you are starting to smell, take a shower! A good rule to follow is to

keep your hair up or in braids to keep it cleaner for longer.

10. Be respectful when out and about. Walk in single file, be respectful to people you meet and recognize the time people spend on making your trip fun.

Sealynn, Ranger, Lions Area

New BC Camp to Go: **Night Owls!**

The BC Camping Committee is excited to release the new Night Owls Camp to Go in 2019. The focus is on encouraging Brownie Guiders to take their girls out camping in both residential and tent settings, at established campsites. Modelled after the BC Night Owls event held in Duncan, in May 2019, the Camp to Go contains games, activities and menu ideas to facilitate camp planning. Crests will be available to order on the BC Girl Guides website. To learn more, visit bc-girlguides.org and select *What Girls Do > Camping > Camping Challenges*, and click on the Night Owls crest.



OAL Adventure Module 8

Adventure Outdoor Activity Leadership (OAL) builds on OAL training for residential and tent camping. There are eight modules in the Adventure OAL program: seven theory modules and a practical module that involves five nights of camping over at least two trips, one of which must be a moving trip. Adventure OAL teaches Guiders how to take their girls adventure camping and tripping. BC Guiders participated in canoeing and kayaking training trips in the summer of 2019.

Canoeing Expedition *Joy Andersen, Trip Lead*



Photos: Joy Andersen

Christina Lake Canoeing.

A group of 10 Guiders from the West Coast, Fraser Skies, Monashee, Kootenay and Thompson Nicola Areas came together for a weekend of learning and fun on the OAL Adventure Module 8 Canoeing Expedition.

We began planning in May for our August adventure. After months of conference calls, emailing and chats on Facebook, we all had assigned duties and completed the ever-present Safe Guide forms. This allowed each participant to have a section she could handle and at the same time learn new things or a new way of doing things.

It was drizzling when we arrived at the Texas Creek boat launch. We introduced ourselves, chose our paddling partner, checked our gear (everyone brought too much—it's in every Girl Guide's nature to be prepared) and loaded the canoes. It was now 4 p.m. and starting to rain hard. The

rain didn't dampen our excitement—we were going to have fun! Thank goodness we were well prepared with rain gear and waterproof dry sacks.

Upon our arrival at the first campsite, our first order of business was tarping and warm drinks! Hanging out in the rain (under the tarp) gave us time to get to know each other a little bit. Wow, what a wide range of experiences, so much to share. As we began to get to know each other we could slowly see individual strengths coming out. With camp set up and everyone fed, we headed off into our tents to begin again in the morning.

Day two was hot and

beautiful. It started with breakfast and packing lunches. Great variety, great food! We then broke camp, loaded the canoes and moved north to Ole Johnson. After setting up camp and eating, again, we took our 75 pounds of snacks and went exploring the head of the lake. It was calm, stunning and beautiful for a paddle and some splashing in the lake and practising our rescues. All in all, a great, relaxing afternoon.

The second night was my favourite. It was time to really discuss Guiding with like-minded women, share our adventure knowledge and learn new skills from others. I enjoyed the fellowship, the silliness of some, the shyness of others. Everybody had something to contribute. Some had years of experience to share, while some were new. We were lucky enough to have a canoe instructor as our trip assist who was super happy to share her skills and teachings with us.

The last day was a challenge. As we were getting ready to launch the canoes and cross the lake, bad weather was heading our way. Whitecaps are not the most fun to paddle in. We ended up taking more breaks than anticipated on our trip back to the launch site, but everyone made it



First Evening Under the Tarp.



Ready for the last leg of canoeing.

back in one piece with good spirits.

We had a wonderful time with our Guiding sisters, laughing, learning and taking in the beauty of Christina Lake.

What the participants said:

“It is always interesting and so enlightening to share with other Guiders. We all have little ‘knacks’ for doing things or ‘gizmos’

that make life simpler. That alone was worth the trip!”

“As an experienced backpacker but not a fan of water trips for my unit, I was very excited to participate in this canoe expedition. It was fun! I learned a lot! I am currently planning new canoe trips for my Trex unit because I encountered support and new knowledge from other

like-minded women. Thank you.”

“I am super thankful that I was included on this trip and look forward to my next OAL adventure camp.”

“At the end of a new adventure it can be bittersweet to say goodbye to new friends, so instead, maybe hope to see everyone at SOAR 2020.”

Kayaking Expedition

PJ Borghardt and Pat Link, Trip Lead and Trip Assist



Photos: PJ Borghardt

Our September 2019 OAL Adventure Module 8 kayaking training expedition brought together eight wonderful ladies from across BC. Most had never met in person before we met at Horseshoe Bay, and most had never been on an overnight kayaking adventure trip (although we did

all have our prerequisite paddling skills). Our two months of planning by phone and email had brought us together and we were excited for our expedition—we were eight empowered women who were ready to explore Sechelt Inlets Marine Provincial Park by kayak! The weather and conditions

were in our favour. Our two-night trip started at Pedals and Paddles, in Tuwanek, where we loaded our single kayaks and set off for a three-hour tour to Kunechin Point at the junction of Sechelt and Salmon Inlets. The currents and winds were good, and before we knew it we had quickly set up camp overlooking the ocean and the seals that were at play in the waters below. We couldn't have asked for a better spot! We enjoyed a Greek feast for dinner including baklava—who says you can't eat well on an expedition! The morning sunrise was incredible and as much as you want to sleep in, there's a good reason to get up at 6:30 a.m.! We packed up our camp and paddled further up Sechelt Inlet to explore Cawley Point and enjoy lunch on a beach. En route we saw starfish, sea cucumbers, jellyfish, spider crabs, seals and many different species of birds.

We eventually turned around as we wanted

continued on page 10 ➡

continued from page 9

to get to our new campsite before dark. We arrived at the Halfway Beach site in the late afternoon and set up camp. Another beautiful spot—right on the water looking up Salmon Inlet! We could see across the water to where we had slept the previous night. A long



day on the water made everyone tired, so after another great dinner and many stories and laughter, it was an early night to bed. The next morning, we got up early and packed up, as we knew the weather was changing. There was some rain as we crossed the inlet to return to Tuwanek, but we stayed together as a group, encouraged each other along and made the crossing, no problem. We were a little cold and wet—sometimes that happens when you are out in nature. As long as you are prepared, it's just part of the experience. Later while debriefing on the ferry, we talked about how much stronger we felt as paddlers and adventure campers and how far we had come since our pre-training. In those three days we had learned a lot about ourselves and what we were capable of, and we talked about next trips and how we wanted to continue to build our capacity so that we could create these types of experiences for our girls.

Module 8 training expeditions are designed to build personal capacity and experience in our Guiders as well as provide opportunities for laughter, storytelling and sharing experiences. Sometimes if you're lucky you may even find a lifelong friend. If we can take it further and create opportunities for passing on these skills to our girls, then we will be truly successful—and that is ultimately what these trips are all about!



♣ SOAR 2020



**Zone West
online product sales
available now!
Order your SOAR 2020
gear by May 31, 2020.**

—  —
Visit soarbc.com
for a link to the SOAR e-store.



Hilary Henley, Guider, 1st Grouse Trex, Lions Area

Backpacking Trip to Elfin Lakes

Eight 1st Grouse Trex girls and four Guiders met up in North Vancouver on a Friday morning in late September for a weekend backpacking trip to Elfin Lakes, in Garibaldi Provincial Park. At the Elfin Lakes parking lot, group gear—food, tents, cooking supplies—was divided equally and, after a photo opportunity in front of the trailhead, off we set.

Putting our slowest hiker in front as the pacesetter, we hiked as a group. We had discussed taking a 10-minute break for every hour of hiking, but more stops were

made as backpacks were adjusted and tightened and layers were removed.

We reached the Red Heather hut after two hours of backpacking. The only group there, we were able to sit at the tables for a hot soup lunch. While we were eating, the light rain turned to snow! This had not been in our original forecast.

Once we had changed into rainwear, we set off and the snow became heavier and started to stick to the ground. Visibility dropped, but the trail was easily identifiable, although our mountain views were now

absent. The girls picked up the pace and we hiked briskly. We reached the lakes and, soon, the large Elfin shelter. We were grateful to shake off the snow from our hoods and packs and come into the heated building to enjoy hot chocolate and snacks. Six inches of snow had accumulated on the ground in two hours. We were now in a snowy wonderland.

The shelter was fully booked for the night. The park ranger told us where shovels were located so that we could remove the snow from the tent pads. The snow had stopped falling by the time we replaced our layers to start digging. We set up four tents.

We sat down together and discussed the fact that the snow now required us to adjust our weekend to maintain the safety of our group. There were only six sets of hiking/ski poles, two pairs of snow gloves, a few sets of snow pants and ski jackets and no microspikes among twelve people. The day hike to Opal Cone that we had planned for Saturday had steep ascents and descents. We decided as a group that it would be best to hike back to the Elfin Lakes parking lot the next day. The hiking/ski poles would be distributed so each person would have one, and the walk



Photos: Carol Turner and Maria Adey



back could be safely accomplished as the incline and decline were minimal.

We cooked and ate dinner in the heated communal Elfin shelter amongst many groups of people—all welcoming and complimentary about the Trex girls having backpacked all their gear into Elfin Lakes. The snow had stopped falling by the time we headed to bed, and we photographed the sweeping mountain views that surrounded our tent pads.

Around 4 a.m. the howling winds turned our valley into a wind tunnel. Our tents were shaking and vibrating, lifting up with each gust despite the weight of the people inside. Guiders checked the tents and placed rocks on the tent flies and four tent corners. The girls were a bit alarmed but went back to sleep. At 4:30 a.m., one of the tents collapsed—two poles succumbing to the wind and popping out of the tent pegs, the fly flapping in the wind. The Trex girls in the tent roused the Guiders, and we quickly reassembled the tent. Using scissors from a first aid kit, one Guider hacked a spare rope into guy lines, and the Guiders tied down each of the four tents to nails already hammered into the front of each tent pad. With the tents secured against the raging wind, we all returned to bed.

Morning brought bright sunny skies, with the snow sparkling in the light. We used an



inReach [a satellite communication device] to ask our home contact Guider to let the parents know of our arrival home later that afternoon. On our return trip, we met many hikers coming up the trail, unprepared for the snow that had fallen the day before, and cyclists needed to push their bikes on the snowy track.

By the time we reached the Red Heather hut, the snow had turned to mud. One Trex girl rolled her ankle close to the parking lot, but she was able to walk slowly using hiking poles to the car, where a Tensor bandage was applied to her ankle. The group gear was returned to the Guiders and carpools were reassembled for the ride home.

This experience showed us the need to adapt to changing conditions and really

challenged our group to problem solve through an adverse situation.



Field Trips

Darlene Clark, Guider,
1st Monarch Brownies, Thompson Nicola Area

A glorious compliment was given to me at the end of the Brownie year by the parents and Brownies. They loved our unit because we were always visiting community locations. I want to share some examples of those local resources and hope that you will seek out your own local equivalents.

Kamloops Makerspace

A Makerspace is a collaborative work space for anything that involves creation—mechanics, baking, needlework, woodworking, metal shop—the list is endless. People pay a donation to use the facility, equipment and machines. It's a great way to fumble with ideas until you come up with a viable product for the market. The Brownies toured the Kamloops Makerspace and then made hat traders for Hands Across the Border. The tour took 45 minutes and held the girls' attention! Makerspaces are popping up all over BC, including in Salmon Arm, Trail and Nanaimo.

Kamloops Innovation

Kamloops Innovation is an organization known as an accelerator. Once you have your tech idea or product, Kamloops Innovation is there to help you get into the market. You can rent space in its mobile worker facility or hire a mentor to get you moving. We brought our Brownie unit here to learn what an accelerator is and what a mobile worker space looks like. After touring the facility, we used the open boardroom table and white board to plan our advancement ceremony.

Kamloops Food Policy Council

The Kamloops Food Policy Council works with several organizations in Kamloops to improve access and sustainability within the food system, for



Brownies with the new Kamloops Makerspace sign.



Brownie Unit making owl invitations at Kamloops Innovation Centre.



Lily making popsicles at Kamloops Food Policy Council.

example, working with the local Save-On-Foods to gather expired food (that is still safe to eat) and deliver it to the Kamloops Food Bank. Another example is the gleaning program, which reduces waste from fruit trees. Volunteers glean produce from trees: a third of it goes to the homeowner, a third to the Food Bank and the volunteers keep the rest of the produce. At the end of the year, the Food Bank's excess fruit is frozen. The Food Policy Council makes popsicles out of it. We brought our Brownies to the facility to learn about all the community kitchen programs and to make popsicles from frozen fruit gleaned last year. We did a four-station rotation making popsicles, creating micro composters from pop bottles, drawing the food system and participating in a relay race.

When you bring the girls to facilities such as these, they learn about parts of the community that may or may not be highly advertised by their own school and family networks.

Photos: Darlene Clark

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Waterfront Staff for Summer 2020

At Camp Olave, near Sechelt, BC



Photo: Jane Lee

Join us and work from May to August at Camp Olave, which has over 1,500 metres of ocean beachfront overlooking the scenic Georgia Strait. The waterfront position will allow you to play an important part in the girls' fun, friendship, adventures and discovery at camp. Camp Olave has been operating for over 90 years, providing a variety of camping experiences for girls.

You will report to the summer staff supervisor. In this exciting position, your main responsibility will be to ensure the safety of participants in all waterfront activities, including swimming, kayaking and canoeing. Additionally, you will support other activities in the camp, such as leading girls through various nature programs and special events.

For more information, please visit the Camp Olave website at www.campolave.com.

Qualifications:

- Current NLS Waterfront Award*
- Current Standard First Aid and CPR certification
- Paddle Canada Intermediate Lake Skills Tandem and Sea

Kayaking Skills Level 1, or equivalent courses in your province/territory, or a reference letter and documented experience that includes righting and re-entry into a capsized boat**

- Female, 19 years of age or over
- Environmental studies an asset
- Résumé and reference letters documenting at least two years (or 750 hours) of employment experience in a similar position

Lifeguard wage is \$23.00 per hour, plus you will enjoy onsite beachfront accommodation provided by Camp Olave.

**Candidates with NLS Pool are welcome to apply; the successful applicant will have the NLS Waterfront course fee reimbursed upon successful completion.*

***Candidates with basic boating abilities are welcome to apply; the successful applicant will be reimbursed, upon successful completion, for boating courses to update skills.*

Email your résumé and cover letter by February 29, 2020, to Elaine Lake, Camp Olave Management Committee personnel coordinator at greatlakes@telus.net.

SAVE THE DATE



BC Girl Guides at the **Canucks Day**



Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 1 p.m.

Vancouver Canucks vs. Winnipeg Jets

Tickets: \$49 upper bowl, \$65 lower bowl
and \$103 lower bowl premium*

Early bird bonus for purchases made before December 15, 2019:

- Entered to win a 200 Level Suite (14 tickets) for a Vancouver Warriors lacrosse game in the 2019–20 season!
- Receive an invitation to an exclusive Spring Skate Party!

Come as a unit, a family or with your friends

- Custom crest to first 250 members in uniform who visit the membership table
 - Members-only draws
 - Special shout-outs

For tickets or more information, contact

Cassie: cassie.micono@canucks.com / 604-899-7746

Danielle: danielle.starkman@canucks.com / 604-899-7538

**Pricing also available to friends and family members; Guiding membership not required*

Pacific Skies Travel Adventures

Independent trips are a lot of work and planning but totally worth it! Our district's latest adventure was a three-week trip to Mauritius and Madagascar, with a stopover in Zurich. Eight Rangers, two Pathfinders and four Guiders from Pacific Skies District participated in the trip in July 2019.

Mauritius is a tiny island off the coast of Madagascar. It may sound like an odd destination choice, but we had met some girls and Guiders from there at an international camp in Korea six years ago, so what could be more natural than to visit them! Madagascar seemed like a good addition, since we were so close, and why not add three nights in Zurich.

Mauritius is a beautiful tropical island in the Indian Ocean. After nearly 40 hours in airports and planes, we made it. We were greeted warmly by old friends and met lots of new friends. The Mauritius Girl Guides and their families lent us two apartments for our stay and donated food to keep us fed for the week. Their friendliness and generosity were incredible. We visited their district meeting, where all levels met together, toured around the island and were invited to lunch in Chinatown. Each of



Photos: Wendy Halpen and Susan Christman

us was given a host family to visit and have dinner with; each of our experiences was unique. We visited a local children's home, taking gifts to share and playing games. After a little shopping on our final day, we had dinner and fireworks on the beach.

Madagascar was a different experience. It seems to have a lot of socio-economic issues, but it is an incredible place. First up was a three-day trip to the Vakona Forest Lodge. We had a great time searching the forest for lemurs. Did you know there are over 200 species of lemur? We found the six local ones we were looking for and had fun on Lemur Island, where the rescued lemurs jump all over you looking for treats. We had contacted Madagascar Girl Guides and spent a day visiting with them. We attended a district meeting, where girls were presenting the skills they had learned over the last year, and then we met with a unit of girls. A very interesting question and answer period followed, with one of the questions being, "Why are you so tall?"



Sadly, our adventure was coming to an end. After a short three-day stay in Zurich and a tram ride up Mount Pilatus to view the beautiful scenery around Lucerne, we headed back home. Two years of planning and fundraising, and it was all worth it. International travel is awesome.



Kenya 2019

Provincially Sponsored Trip

In the summer of 2019, a group of 12 girls and two Guiders set off at the end of July for a life-changing trip: two weeks in the rural community of Melelo, Kenya—a partnership between BC Girl Guides and Me to We. We learned so much about local culture and about the work Me to We is doing. As a service project, we helped build a new classroom for the local school. We are so grateful to the BC International Committee, to our host community and to our trip facilitators for this incredible immersive experience.

Our visit to the giraffe sanctuary was a trip highlight. Giraffes are truly majestic, with their trademark spots and neck for DAYS! Their black tongues snaked out to snatch up the food pellets excited tourists were offering. Feeling brave, we put the pellets between our lips and the giraffes leaned in for sloppy, bristly kisses. So cool! Fun fact: Warthogs (*pumbaas*) often hang out near giraffes to clean up their food scraps and so the giraffes can alert them to danger. ► **Caitlin**



Amelia being kissed by a giraffe. Photo: Joy Gregorash

In the towns of Kenya, the roads are lined with small shops made of brick or corrugated metal. People mill about selling their wares. Bananas, mangoes, shoes, dresses, clay pots and even bed frames are displayed at the roadside to draw customers. As we leave towns for more rural areas, the roadsides are busy with people walking alone, people with herds of goats or sheep, or people carrying water (the lucky ones have donkeys to bear the load). The space is so vast, it's hard to tell where people have come from or where they're going. Our lorry is obviously packed with visitors; locals (especially the kids) turn to wave enthusiastically and call out "Jambo!" Their genuine smiles make us feel so welcome. ► **Tanya**



Shops in Nairobi. Photo: Tanya Virani

One morning, half of our camp (representing women and girls in majority countries) was woken early to collect water and firewood. The other half (representing boys and men) slept later and then had a Swahili lesson. The girls arrived late to school. Some scrambled to catch up, and others felt so far behind that it wasn't worth it to keep trying. We quickly realized how household responsibilities can impact education. Later that day we simulated the world's distribution of food resources, consumption and waste. Divided into country teams, we were asked to make lunch with



Early-morning firewood crew: Karter, Rachel, Rory, Rosalie, Lexi and Georgia. Photo: Tanya Virani

scarce resources. To be successful, we needed to form alliances and work together. It was fascinating to see that resource-rich countries (like Canada) didn't feel the need to work with others because they could comfortably feed themselves. Global simulation day was an eye-opener! ► **Kaylee**

Two local mamas took us through their daily routine of walking to the river to fetch water. The river was beautiful but murky, a huge contrast to the clear water we have in BC. We filled 10 L and 20 L jerry cans and tied a scarf around each one so that we could carry the weight on our foreheads and arms. The walk back with the jerry can was difficult, and as we climbed the hill we could feel the strain on our necks and backs. It's hard to imagine having to do that multiple times a day! The experience changed our view of water; I really appreciate having clear, clean water on tap. ► **Rory**



Rachel and Rory carrying their water. Photo: Rory



Dancing with the school children in Melelo. Photo: Tanya Virani

In Melelo, we had several opportunities to connect with the primary school children (aged 5 to 13). They grabbed our hands when they saw us and pulled us to the field to play. The language barrier was not a problem; we soon found out that dancing and singing are excellent ways to communicate! They taught us some dance moves, and while we tried hard, we just couldn't get it. We also shared games with one another. There were lots of smiles and laughter! These kids don't have many material possessions, but they are the happiest and most loving people I have ever met. They taught me that education is a gift and that we should appreciate it. ► **Amelia**

During our three-night stay at Boma Camp, we experienced the way many people live in the Maasai Mara. A boma is a homestead that encloses land, livestock and buildings. In the boma are several manyattas (mud huts) constructed by local mamas for Me to We. The manyattas are low, thatch-roofed, dirt-floored rooms that sleep about 12 people. When you first duck inside, you notice how dark it is; there are no windows, just a few vent holes and a bit of light from the open door. Next you notice the wonderful smell, earthy and fragrant, from the thatched roof. Nights can be cool in the Mara, but tucked in under our bug nets we were very cozy! ► **Joy**



Inside the manyatta. Photo: Tanya Virani

Beading is a traditional art practised by Maasai women. They sell extra pieces at the market but seldom make much profit. Me to We has partnered with local women; they support the mamas' work by providing childcare, then buying the finished pieces and redistributing them in the world market. The women we spoke with were so grateful for these opportunities! Halfway

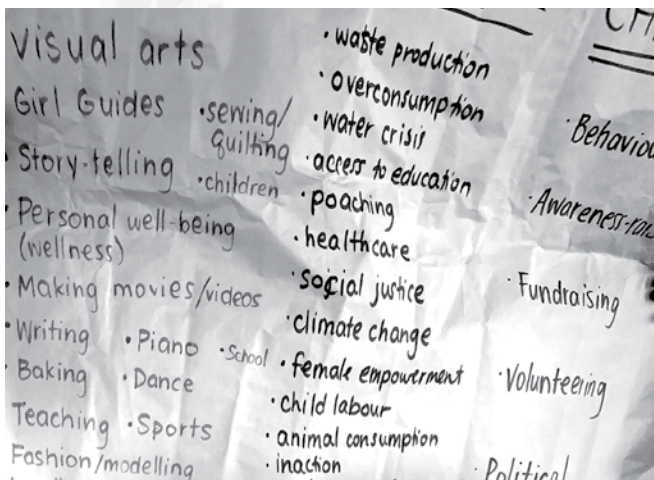
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through our trip we got the chance to sit under the trees and bead with a local mama. She demonstrated the proper scooping motion to pick up the most beads, then left us to create. While the mamas can complete a bracelet in only a few minutes, it took most of us considerably longer! ► **Rosalie**



Rosalie, Karter and Caitlin busy beading. Photo Tanya Virani



Brainstorming our action plans. Photo Tanya Virani

Every Me to We adventure involves crafting an action plan to make a difference on an issue that's important to you. But how do you tackle such an open-ended task? Our facilitator encouraged us to combine our passions with our issue: what do you care about, what do you love to do, and how can you put them together? Previously, it had taken me days to figure out a plan, but with this approach it clicked right away. Everyone in our group had amazing, powerful and attainable ideas. This day was one of my favourites, because it showed me how much of a difference each one of us can make. ► **Karter**

Kisaruni Secondary School is an all-girls boarding school built by Me to We to serve the Maasai and Kipsigi families in the Maasai Mara. Applicants must successfully pass a grade 8 national exam for entry, and the school is filled with passionate

students! Their school days begin promptly at 6 a.m., and they are busy with classes, meals, extracurricular activities and studying until bedtime at 10 p.m. Students take 11 classes and speak at least three languages (English, Swahili and their tribal dialect). Their days include cultural studies, where parents and elders come to the school and teach traditional skills. Many students hope to continue their studies in agriculture or medicine at WE College, and then use their learning to benefit their communities. ► **Rachel**



With some of the students at Kisaruni. Photo: Nicole Teschl

Near the end of our stay, the community held a "Bye-Bye Ceremony" to thank us for our contributions. Walking over to the school site, we were greeted by elders, kids and teachers. They circled around us and held our hands as they chanted, sang and jumped. It was an overwhelming welcome! The school principal shared how Me to We has brought improvements to the school (five new buildings) and to the community (clean water, medical services, health education and more). He thanked us for travelling across the world to help build a school for Melelo. Our group sang *O Canada* and *Make New Friends* for them, and the elders gifted each of us with a shuka (traditional blanket). It was hard to say goodbye and there were many, many tears. I am so grateful for this experience! ► **Georgia**



In our new shukas at the Bye-Bye Ceremony. Left to right: Rory, Kaylee, Lexi, Rosalie, Amelia, Caitlin, Katie, Georgia, Karter, Rachel, Ainsley. Photo: Nicole Teschl



**WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF GIRL GUIDES
AND GIRL SCOUTS**



Explore the UN's Sustainable Development Goals

BC International Committee

The United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are in line with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) vision, to ensure "All girls are valued and take action to change the world." The SDGs recognize that gender equality is critical to the progress of all goals. The stand-alone goal on gender equality includes the elimination of violence against women and recognizes the importance of education and of life-long learning opportunities. Each of the goals is global and relates to every country in the world!

Here are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships

Which of the goals are relevant to our country, your community and you? **To help you decide, you can download a fun and interactive app called "SDGs in Action," available for free by visiting sdgsinaction.com.** Click on the goal you want to explore, and it will give you a quick introduction to the goal. You can find out all sorts of facts and figures and targets and case studies, while seeing others' actions and pictures.

Sage, Ranger, Fraser Skies Area

Me to We Take Action Camp

This summer, I was sponsored by BC Girl Guides to attend Take Action Camp in Ontario. This was my first time going to a camp hosted by Me to We, so I wasn't sure what to expect. When I arrived at camp, I was greeted by friendly staff and campers who made me feel extremely welcome and at home.

My days at camp consisted of activities that were both fun and educational. We had several coaching sessions where I learned about social justice and different directions you can take when wanting to make a difference in the world. I always left these sessions feeling confident, empowered and like I could actually make a change in the world.

One of my favourite parts of Take Action Camp was our out-trip, where we volunteered around Toronto. I got to go to

Variety Village and learn about everything that they offer to the community. At the end of our tour, I got to visit with some of the people who were attending a class there and hear about what they liked at the facility. I loved connecting with the other staff and participants there.

Take Action Camp gave me the opportunity to befriend people from all around Canada. I even got to make friends with a group from Japan who attended camp! All of the friendships and memories I made at camp will stick with me for the rest of my life. It was a one of a kind experience. Camp has taught me to believe in myself and to stand up for what interests me. Even though this was unfortunately the last year of camp, I know that the legacy and way that Take Action Camp has impacted all of our lives will last forever.



Photos: Jackie Hoffer

Enjoying coconuts fresh from the tree. Left to right: Maxime, Piper, Alexa, Keegan, Amy, Veronica.

Costa Rica Adventures in the Wild 2019

Jackie Hoffer, Guider

On June 29, 2019, 13 girls and two Guiders from all over BC set off to have an adventure of a lifetime in beautiful Costa Rica! With the aid of our tour company, EcoTeach, whose slogan is

“Where Travel Can Change the World,” we got to experience community, culture, nature, conservation, wildlife and adventure all in the span of two weeks. We donated supplies to a local school and an Indigenous community,

BC Council–Sponsored Trip

shared in song and dance, tried new foods, explored the natural environment, encountered a variety of wildlife, enjoyed several adventurous activities and made lasting friendships. All in all ... our trip was PURA VIDA!

Here are a few of the highlights:

Alice, Prince George

All the girls on the trip were super friendly and fun to be around, and some of them are now my best friends. We travelled all over the country, never staying in one place for more than a few days, so we got to see several locations. We stayed in hotels and hostels, on farms and in resorts. We got to spend time in the mountains, in the Caribbean and everywhere in between. I learned so much about wildlife, climate change and



Visit to an elementary school.

its effects on our planet and its wildlife. From ziplining to spending the day at a wildlife rehabilitation centre, we got to do a little bit of everything. It was an amazing experience all around.

Brenna, Pemberton

We went to a turtle conservation station called Estación Las Tortugas, on the Caribbean side of Costa Rica. There we saw baby hatchlings released into the ocean and helped build the turtle hatchery for next year. We also did patrols on the beach at night; if we had come across any turtles, we would have taken the eggs to the station's hatchery to make sure poachers didn't get to them first. It was very inspiring to feel you were helping out an endangered species and making a difference in the world.

Keegan, Castlegar

Ziplining—I absolutely loved ziplining. I've always been one of those people who is up for a new adventure. At first it was a little nerve-wracking, but once I was over the first line it was unbelievable. The turtle sanctuary—never in my entire life did I think I was going to hold a



Hike at Arenal Volcano National Park.

baby leatherback turtle! This place was incredible! We released over 50 turtle babies into the ocean during the two days. Lastly, snorkelling—this was definitely the highlight of the trip for me. While I was in the water I saw thousands of fish, a jellyfish, a little shark and a barracuda. The water was also crystal clear, it was so magical. Although I got lots of salt water in my mouth ... it was totally worth it!

Piper, Victoria

What really makes trips like this special are the little things. For example, sitting on a bumpy bus full of loud teenagers talking to two people you just met, and getting along perfectly well. Or learning how to make empanadas with your local guide, or stopping on a three-hour bus ride to see waterfalls, or getting lunch and local treats such as lychees. All of these little things make up the trip. Most people will skip over these little things, but they're the most important. So when you go on an international trip, remember to make time for the little things, like sitting by the ocean with an amazing group of people while on your way to amazing adventures.

Emma, Prince George

It was so much better than I ever could have imagined, and I am so grateful that

I was able to experience all that I did. Some of my favourite things about the trip were the food, the people and the girls that I got to meet.

I got to do all that I wanted to and more and went to bed each night feeling like it was a successful, fun-filled day. On top of all that, I learned a lot too. Every moment was turned into an interesting learning moment, and it was amazing being able to see and learn about the country.

Veronica, Vancouver

We visited the most amazing sustainable coffee farm called Life Monteverde. We talked about sustainability, had a tour of the beautiful property, learned a whole bunch about coffee, saw the grinding process, tried some amazing coffee and fed goats. Almost all their power comes from eco-friendly sources and they have all sorts of connections with the local community. It was an amazing example of an eco-friendly and sustainable farm. Now if only all farms were like this!

Maxime, New Westminster

Lots of crazy things happened: a bat (that we named Rodrick) flying around our room, a toad (Richard) sitting behind a toilet, lightning storms that shook the earth, hiking through jungles and crossing

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Hike at Arenal Volcano National Park.

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rivers on foot. The craziest may be my encounter with the “Jungle Gypsy Crab.” I hopped into the shower (I wear glasses, so without them things were quite blurry), closed the shower curtain behind me, and saw this black blob very rapidly ascending the inside of the shower curtain! Of course, I screamed, the sound echoing through our tiny room. I thought it was a giant poisonous spider and that I was definitely in for it. I took a closer look, and it was, sure enough, a jungle crab! My friend Amy came in and scooped it up in her hands (my hero) to bring it back to its home in the jungle, but the crab had other ideas! It hopped (actually hopped—I’m not exaggerating) up her arm and onto her back. Amy ran outside and brushed it off her back. I’ve never ever had a crab in my shower before. I’ll definitely never forget this.

Alexa, Kelowna

Here are 10 things you must do when visiting Costa Rica.

1. Appreciate the howler monkeys. They are loud and disruptive, but you will miss them once you are home.
2. Swim in the ocean. The waves are huge. Enough said.
3. Keep a journal. Write about little moments and the best parts of each day.
4. Take in the view. Whether it's the ocean, the jungle or ants on the sidewalk, take it all in because it's nothing like Canada and is all soooooo beautiful.
5. Bring binoculars. They will make it easier to see animals from far away. We saw sloths, monkeys and tons of birds, including green and scarlet macaws and tiger herons.
6. Eat tons of fruit. Whether you are eating pineapple, bananas, coconuts or lychees, it is all delicious, and street fruit is so much better than the stuff we get in Canadian stores. Bananas straight from the tree are better and sweeter than the ones we eat at home.



Rafting down the Sarapiquí River. Left to right: Brenna, Piper, Jackie, Amy, Maxime.

7. Bring an umbrella. Sometimes it will start pouring. It smells wonderful and you just have to dance. Bring an umbrella to be prepared but keep in mind the umbrella will only protect you from the rain, not the mud at your feet.
8. Take risks, try new things, stretch yourself. Try new food. Jump into the river while river rafting. Eat street fruit. Pet an iguana. Swing in a hammock. Surf the waves without a surfboard. Ride in a sketchy boat.
9. Have a trip song. Ours was *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* and you don't know how many times we just broke into song. When someone starts singing others will join. That's just how it works.
10. Make memories. Laugh lots. Go on adventures. Appreciate all of it. I will never forget this trip; the people (my new friends), the food and all the new adventures were amazing. I made so many memories on this trip.

Amy, Brentwood Bay

Near the beginning of the trip, we went to a farm that grew coconuts, papaya and sugar cane. We all got to try the sugar cane and drink the water from a green



Alice releasing hatchling turtles.

coconut. Later in the trip, we went on a farm tour. The owner showed us a press that he used to make a sugar cane ginger juice. It tasted really good. At the same farm I got to try tilapia, which is a common fish to find and/or farm there. I think my favourite activity was the trip to the Bribri Indigenous community in Cahuita. To get there we had to cross a large river, then ride a bus for half an hour. Then we hiked for a bit longer, to another river, which we had to cross in a tippy, leaking dugout canoe. The trip was a once in a lifetime experience, and I was able to go on it because of Girl Guides.

A Taste of Adventure

Carol Turner, Guider, Lions Area



Photos: Laura Allgrove

A Taste of Adventure provided all participants with the opportunity to be challenged, grow, make new friends and see a beautiful and remote part of our province, while learning why we need to Be Prepared.

We came from all over BC with a range of adventure backgrounds. We pushed our abilities in various ways. For some, this was the gruelling hike up a spectacular mountain ridgeline. For others, it was the rigour of the tandem canoeing certification course. Some rode a horse through the forest and field for the first time. We all came out of the experience a little tougher, a little more confident and with memories that will last a lifetime.

Our base camp was at the beautiful Crooked Lake Resort, three hours by bus east of

Williams Lake. The first backpacking group went up the Eureka Ridge Trail. The views were beautiful and the hike was difficult. It felt so good to put the backpack down at the top, to set up camp and hide inside tents from the multitude of mosquitoes. Several small thunderstorms passed overhead and across the alpine meadows, and long conversations forged new friendships.

The canoeing adventure started following a long hike back to camp and a quick, delicious lunch. Within minutes, we were righting a capsized canoe, before reaching calm waters where we would learn strokes, manoeuvres and the correct technique for canoe-over-canoe rescue. After some hesitation about going in the lake, many girls asked if they could go in again once their turn was finished.

The horseback riding was well organized and took us through hilly forests and fields. Some of us even saw a rare western badger. There was a behind-the-scenes challenge of planning activities in Williams Lake, where forest fires of recent years have hurt the tourism industry to the point of closing businesses. The ranch we ended up riding at, near 100 Mile House, was the fourth round of re-booking this adventure (thanks to Laura's tenacity!).

I had both the challenge and pleasure of watching some wonderful young women push themselves beyond what they thought

they were capable of. I watched them learn new skills and build confidence through a taste of adventure that will hopefully take them to try new adventures and to work hard to follow their passions.

Thank you, BC Girl Guides, for providing this experience for all of us!

Sarah, Pathfinder

Imagine a week with a canoe out trip, a backpacking out-trip, horseback riding and great new friends. That's what A Taste of Adventure was for me! My favourite part was sitting in the tent during a thunderstorm. For canoeing, I had thought we were just paddling to the other side of the lake and back, but we actually did a nine-hour canoe training course in less than 24 hours. The next day, we canoed back to base camp and started our backpacking. We walked to a beautiful meadow with daisies all around and tall trees creating privacy and beauty. On the fourth day, we walked back to base camp, took down our tents there and bussed to the Williams Lake Stampede Grounds. We camped there that night, under the amazing cobalt blue sky filled with shining stars. On day five, we went horseback riding, and I rode a horse named Cricket, who liked running me into trees. The last day came too soon and we had to say goodbye, but I had an amazing time. Even though it's called A Taste of Adventure, I'd say we got a full meal!



Julie Ramsay, Guider, and trip participants.



Voilà Québec 2019 Interprovincial Camp at Wa-Thik-Ane in Morin Heights, Québec



Photos: Julie Ramsay

Canoe games on Lac-Bouchette.

In August, eight Pathfinders and two Guiders, selected from around BC, attended the Voilà Québec 2019 Interprovincial Camp. This event was held at one of GGC's oldest properties, Camp Wa-Thik-Ane, in the Laurentian Mountains north of Montreal. Patrols from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Québec and New Brunswick gathered on the shores of Lac-Bouchette for a week of camp memories and fun.

After Voilà Québec, our patrol spent three days touring around Montreal. We climbed the 400 steps up Mont Royal for a panoramic view of Montreal and

took a guided bike tour of the Plateau, Mile-End and Little Italy neighbourhoods. Montreal's bike lanes make it very easy to explore the city and see more than you would on a bus tour. We also took a guided walking tour of Old Montreal and got around the city using the Métro, Montreal's underground train system.

Here are each participant's impressions of the trip:

Mackenzie

Between all of the great food and tourist attractions, Montreal is a truly amazing place. If you don't like the "big city," then take a walk on the wild side. I'm sure

you will find something new to explore. Coming here has really helped my French, and it has really motivated me. If you are thinking about applying for sponsored trip, do it! You won't regret it.

Meredith

My favourite part of camp was probably getting up for the morning dip and sunrise hike to the bluff. I loved seeing the sun rise over the mountains (which are more like hills). The dips were a way of enjoying the mornings, with the mist coming off the water and the sounds of nature.

J'Naya

Wa-Thik-Ane is one of the most beautiful



Exploring Old Montreal.

campsites I have ever been to. The staff at Wa-Thik-Ane were wonderful to be around and always had a smile on their faces. This trip has challenged me to work on my hiking skills. This camp has prepared me for many adventures to come.

Sarah

I met these two Saskatchewan girls, Alex and Tatum, and they were amazing. I loved how after all the goodbyes from Wa-Thik-Ane, we still had fun touring Montreal. I enjoyed spending time with my patrol and also with other patrols from Alberta,

Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Québec and New Brunswick. I will really miss laughing and playing with all my new friends.

Lucie

From hiking up the bluff, to seeing the golden sunrise over the mountains, to eating a wood [oven]-baked delicious Montreal bagel, I made so many memories that I'm sure will stick with me. If I had to pick a favourite experience, it would probably be riding the longest and highest zipline in Québec.

Danielle

Tyroparc was my favourite because the friend I went to camp with is usually less



Via Ferrata at Tyroparc.

afraid of heights than I am, and when we went ziplining she was so scared. Now I can say that I've been to Montreal and gone ziplining as well as rock climbing. When I got down from the rock my hands could barely open. I asked my friends why, and they said it was because I had a death grip the entire time!

Riley

I made great new friends and really enjoyed being in the outdoors. My favourite part was going to Mont Tremblant. It was so much fun walking around trying traditional food like poutine and tire d'érable (maple taffy).

Claire

My favourite part was the sunrise hike to the bluff. We woke up at 4:30 a.m. and started hiking in the dark. The hike was about 20 minutes long and not too steep, and the bluff overlooks Ranger Lake, a small lake at the edge of the camp. We sat and waited, and soon the sky started turning yellow and orange. We got to watch as the sun came up over the hills, and it looked like an orange ball in the sky. All the trees turned gold, and it was so beautiful!



One of Montreal's many murals.

Maryna Ell, SVI Area; Tammy Tsang, Lions Area;
Tessa Turenne, Lougheed Area; Tara Haynes, West Coast Area

Pacific Coast Experience in Whistler

Photo: Maryna Ell

The last weekend of summer saw some 50 Rangers and Link-aged Guiders collect in Whistler to complete their OAL Adventure training. We spent Friday to Sunday completing Modules 1 to 7 and then departed Monday morning on several different adventures around Whistler and Squamish to complete the first part of Module 8. There were two backpacking groups, one kayaking group and one multi-sport group, which included rock-climbing and paddle boarding. It was an experience of fun, friendship and adventure—just like any other Guiding event!

Tammy wanted to go adventure camping and meet other Link-aged members. She had taken OAL Adventure training before, but at the end of this training she finally felt ready to lead girls on their own adventure! She signed up for the beginner backpacking trip and loved it, saying it was the best decision ever! She was made Responsible Guide for the trip and says she now has the skills to do Safe Guide red-level paperwork (something many of us are terrified of). The training and trip also reaffirmed her knowledge and ability for taking the lead on an adventure camp. She felt she had a new place to bring girls for a beginner trip, as well as the confidence to make it happen!

Connecting with other Link members was a huge plus. We got to grow our Guiding support systems, make new friends and meet companions for future trips. What more can we ask for?

Maryna also signed up for beginner backpacking. It was an

adventure, an appropriate challenge and an excellent trip! The 22 km of hiking over three days at Loggers Lake and Cheakamus Lake was challenging but worth it—especially when the group made it back to the parking lot at the end of the trip! Fairly even terrain and camping right beside the lake, as well as the chance to put new skills and knowledge into practice, made it absolutely worth it. “We may have been beginners, but I would chance to say we are no longer—with the resources, skills and opportunity to practise that this training provided, we are ready for anything!”

Tessa did the advanced backpacking expedition. It was incredible! They tied in the new skills they had just learned and really put them



Photo: Tammy Tsang

to use hiking to Garibaldi Lake. Communication was especially important, and they worked as a team to get it done! The middle day of the trip was a 15 km day hike to Panorama Ridge—a balancing act if ever there was one, but one with an amazing and rewarding view at the top. On the final morning, the group woke to watch the sunrise over the mountains before heading out. They got to “experience an amazingly calm moment with some fellow Guiders who had just met each other a few days prior but were already so fond of one another.” Tessa found she was more capable than she first thought when it comes to outdoor adventure leadership, and she encourages everyone to go on any outdoor expedition or backpacking trip they can find. The experience is always worth it, even if you may feel uncomfortable or hesitant at first!

Tara went on the kayaking expedition. The group went all the way to the Sunshine Coast, beyond Halfmoon Bay! Tara was reminded of what Girl Guides, and the beautiful landscape of BC, has to offer to young women and girls who are interested in outdoor adventures. The water was calm and serene, the anticipation was high and the skills from “outdoor leadership boot camp” were fresh in their minds. One of the first things the group came across was the area’s resident seal colony—a small troop even escorted

them through the territory! They practised their chart-reading and crossed Welcome Passage over to the Thormanby Island group, and into Buccaneer Bay. They camped on a tombolo, which is a sandbar connecting two bodies of land. They managed a gourmet backcountry dinner (space is less limited when you’re boating rather than backpacking)! Stories and dreams were shared by the fire and everyone was already considering their next adventure. So many opportunities and possibilities!

The Pacific Coast Experience was a lovely and eye-opening experience. We were all reminded of the beauty that BC holds (for those brave enough to seek it). All that is required is the courage to begin! Tara, like many of us, grew up with Guiding and believes that Girl Guides should be about exploring the world around us and opening ourselves (and others) to new and exciting experiences whenever possible. It’s a great big world, full of adventure!

Overall, the training was an incredible success and we were grateful for the opportunity to learn and practise these vital Guiding skills. As we return to civilization and to the Guiding year, we all know that adventure camping is not as scary as it first seemed, and we are now armed with the resources and skills to share it with our own Guiding communities. Thank you, Pacific Coast Experience!

CWFF Pizza Challenge 2020

BC International Committee

Looking for ways to incorporate International Guiding into your meeting? Does your unit love pizza? Then this challenge is for you. The BC International Committee challenges your unit to find a unique way to fundraise for the Canadian World Friendship Fund. Some past ideas include a community carnival and a multi-unit used book sale. Some units have encouraged the girls’ entrepreneurial spirit by hosting a bake sale or craft sale.

Once your unit has completed their fundraiser, fill out the CWFF Pizza Challenge entry form, found on the BC Girl Guides website, www.bc-girlguides.org; select *What Girls Do > Challenges > International Challenges > CWFF Pizza Challenge*. Send the completed form to the provincial International Committee at bc.pizza.challenge@gmail.com, and forward the money to your district treasurer.

There will be a prize for one unit at each level of Guiding. The unit in each branch that collects the most money per unit member (including Guiders) will win up to \$100 to be used for a pizza party for the unit. That means that a Sparks Unit, a Brownie Unit, a Guide

Unit, a Pathfinder Unit and a Ranger Unit can each win up to \$100 for a pizza party.

An additional prize of up to \$100 for a pizza party will be awarded to the BC unit that uses the most original fundraising activity in this challenge.

Entries must be received by the provincial International Committee by March 31, 2020.

Winners will be notified by the end of April 2020 so that the winning units can have their pizza party before the end of the Guiding year.

Every unit that participates in this challenge can also order the CWFF Pizza Challenge crest, available from the BC Girl Guide website: select *What Girls Do > International > Challenges > BC Challenge Crest, Pin and Camp To Go Order Form*.





AROUND BC



Sarah, Rhiannon and Althea from Roberts Creek Guides and Pathfinders, Lions Area, enjoy banana boats while camping at Ruckle Park, on Salt Spring Island, this July.
Photo: Melinda Marsh



Nilah, from 1st Summerland Trex, Monashee Area, enjoyed a canal tour while on the national trip to Maarsna Jamborette, in Holland. Photo: Claudia Wyld



This is a photo of most of the BC Guiders who attended DAWN this summer in Newfoundland. They had a wonderful time and the weather held off with rain till the very last day. The girls even got some excitement one morning when a cow moose wandered into their campsite. Photo: Pat Mahon



The 1st Grouse Trex, Lions Area, embarked on an adventure to Garibaldi Lake in July. Photos: Carol Turner



AROUND BC



Photo: Ruth Kreislich



Photo: Deb Shaw

The 2nd Ottergrove Sparks, Fraser Skies Area, spent a sunny windy morning planting trees with TD Tree Days in Abbotsford.



The 2nd Gibsons Guides and 1st Panther Pathfinders, from Lions Area, had fun at Mix It Up in Mission. Photo: Tara West



Susan Zutz, a Guider from Coastal Rainforest District, Pacific Shores Area, is on her way to Ignite as an adult ally.



Kinga, from 1st Summerland Trex, Monashee Area, is rock climbing the Skaha Bluffs, in Penticton.

Photo: Joy Koopmans

Girl Guides

British Columbia Council

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

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