

April 2020

Blue-Print



For Guiding in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada | Alberta Council | girlguides.ca/ab

A message from the Provincial Commissioner

Kathy Batty, Provincial Commissioner

As I am writing my late (again) Blue-Print article on March 16, 2020, all I can say is WOW, what a crazy world we live in. I sincerely hope that by the time you are reading this last edition for the 2019-2020 Guiding year, life has come to some sort of normalcy, whatever that looks like.

EDIT April 10, 2020, WOW times a bazillion!

I realize that most of our members are worried about cookies, nationwide banking, September, travel, etc. As well as being worried about their own new normal. And I know we all would like these questions answered. I can assure you that all levels of Guiding are working hard to figure out the answers to your questions. Please be patient, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to change almost every aspect of our lives, literally on a daily basis, and sadly, GGC is not immune to those changes.

So much has transpired since I wrote my original Blue-Print article in March. However, I have been inspired, awed, amazed, thankful and so many other words, by how our volunteers have pulled together in this unprecedented time, showing the true-blue Sisterhood of Guiding.

Our members are rising to the occasion, supporting each other in so many ways, I am truly proud to watch, from behind the scenes, the amazing acts being offered. Our ANY Council Coordinators, and Advisers have been working behind the scenes on virtual and at home activities for our girls and Guiders. Please continue to watch for details!

But does it stop there? Oh no, not in GGC! While you are working through your own new normal, you are also working to ensure your girls are being

supported. What that looks like is different in every unit, and that is okay! I have been so inspired by the stories I see on social media about Guiders stepping outside their comfort zones to learn a new technology, to connect the girls together. The activities, sleepovers, campfires, crafts etc., amaze me. The agility being shown is just...well inspiring. **THANK YOU** hardly seems enough.

My term as your Provincial Commissioner comes to an end on May 2, so I wanted to take this last opportunity to say that it has been by absolute honour serving as your Provincial Commissioner. I have felt very privileged to meet so many members in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon, and don't think I would change a single experience (okay, maybe one or two!).

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A Message From The Provincial Commissioner continued...

Guiding looks a little different than it did when Julie, Laurie and I became your PC Team, and I suspect once Tracy and her team are finished, we will have seen even more changes. Change is not bad, it can sometimes be a bit bumpy, and maybe even a little scary, but if the outcome makes it easy and wows the girl, then bring it on.



Thank you for all you have done and continue to do in support of GGC, Team ANY. You are truly appreciated.

To Tracy and her team, I know you will do an amazing job guiding us through the next three years and I wish you every success!

Kathy Batty

A message from the ANY Provincial Commissioner Elect

Tracy Burton, ANY Provincial Commissioner Elect

I am very honoured and excited to be your next Provincial Commissioner, starting in May. Along with many of you, I have a strong passion for Guiding. I believe that we provide great Guiding opportunities in Alberta, Yukon and Northwest Territories. We have such a diverse group of Guiders and girls and have many unique opportunities we can offer them.

To introduce myself a little bit, I have been in Guiding since I was six as a Brownie. I have gone through the program until Rangers, have been a unit Guider for Sparks, Brownies and Guides and I currently have a multi-branch unit of Sparks and Brownies. I have been a deputy Provincial Commissioner, an Area Commissioner, a Provincial Program Adviser and have worked at the area level. I love camping and have been fortunate to attend two National/International camps as a girl and two as an adult. I have had the chance to travel with Girl Guides, going to Costa Rica as a girl, and then having the opportunity as an adult to travel to three of the world centres. I am always amazed by the sisterhood of Guiding when I

travel and see Girl Guides from other countries, who are immediately your friend and sister even though you have just met them.

My vision for the future of Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon in the next three years is three-fold. Firstly, I feel that we need to continue to work on increasing adult membership; this is done firstly through retention of our current Guiders. I feel that we need to continue to recognize the amazing work that you are doing currently. Secondly, I feel that we need to continue to increase girl membership; if we have talented and enthusiastic Guiders, we have more opportunities for the girls to experience all that Guiding has to offer for them. Lastly, I want to be a reliable and open source of information about changes that are coming in Girl Guides.

I look forward to working with all of you over the next three years and I hope that I get the chance to meet many of you, at area events and at ANY Council events.

Tracy Burton

Promise Service Boxes:

The Alberta Council Youth Forum's 2019-2020 Service Project

Emily Hayes, Anita Roy and Lucy Wolpert, ABCYF Members

Special thanks to Desiree from the 16th Lethbridge Pathfinders

For a few years now, the Alberta Council Youth Forum has wanted to create a council-wide service project for our members to enjoy. However, we struggled to find an idea that would be accessible to all units across Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Yukon, and satisfy the needs of the very different areas Girl Guides are located.

A service project is not effective if it cannot reach the communities that need it most, and if it cannot accommodate the needs of different communities. This is why we were so excited when we finally settled on the Promise box idea; it is super flexible in the sense that everyone can participate in it and adjust the project to make it possible for their unit and useful in their community.

Most towns and cities have a youth or women's shelter, or a similar organization that units can donate goods to, and even if there isn't one, they can find a way to bring their project to their nearest shelter. This makes the project a possibility for all units, regardless of the size of their community.

The Promise Box Project asks units to fill at least one small shoebox with items for a girl and to donate it to a local charity that helps girls and women. Though this is not necessary, we encourage girls to fill the box with items a girl their age would enjoy or need, so a Brownie unit's box would include donations for 7 to 8 year-olds, while a box made by a Pathfinder would be more suited for 12 to 14 year-olds. Possible items you could include in your box are toiletries, socks,

small toys, gift cards, and make-up. These are only suggestions, so please reach out to the charity your unit will be supporting before beginning the project, as they will likely be in need of specific items!

Since our project began, people have been reaching out to the youth forum for details. This is perfectly acceptable to do and we love updates. At least one of the youth forum members has done it with their unit and would definitely be a useful resource if you are interested in taking on the project.

Desiree, a third-year Pathfinder from Lethbridge, talked to us about her experience with the Promise Box Project. Desiree said, "I liked that the project gave my district a chance to give back to our community" and that the project "can range from ages 0-99 depending on what and where you donate." Although finding it initially difficult to know exactly what the charities needed, she thought it was an amazing idea, especially due to the focus of helping other girls and women.

This service project will be set on pause until 2020 when guiding is proceeding as usual. However, we encourage you to try to start thinking about the service project with your units, and to let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Until next time,

The Alberta Council Youth Forum

Have you done the Promise Box service project? Email us at albertacouncilyouthforum@gmail.com to give us feedback. Don't forget to use the [#promiseserviceboxes](https://www.instagram.com/promiseserviceboxes) on Instagram and to tag us in your posts [@albertacouncilyouthforum](https://www.instagram.com/albertacouncilyouthforum)

Increasing Unit Guiders: We All Have A Role!

Bev Burton, ANY Council Membership Adviser

It is hard to think about starting our units up again in the fall when we are still so busy finishing up the 2019-2020 program, getting ready for camp, planning advancement ceremonies, and all the other myriad of activities that girls and Guiders are doing at this time of year. However, now is the perfect time to think about how to increase adult membership to increase girl members for the next Guiding year. Here are just some ideas to try:

1. Have a bring a friend night for the Guiders.

- You can get the Plus One challenge crest for this
- Have all the Guiders invite one female friend to try out a meeting and see if they would be a good fit

2. Have a bring a mom/grandma/aunt/special woman in your life event.

- Have each girl bring an adult woman to one meeting so they can see what our meetings are like
- Bring adult registration forms along with you

3. Work with your Area's PR Adviser on advertising for your unit's needs.

- You can do specific advertising in your community to fill a role in your units, such as having specific ads saying Volunteer as a Brownie Guider

4. Work with your Area's Membership adviser to put up specific advertising in schools to advertise the need for Guiders in your community

- Advertising is already going out to the schools for girls to join, so why not advertise for women to join as well?

If we all work together, we can increase our adult membership; this will increase our girl membership so more girls and women will be able to reap the benefits of Guiding!

Everything she wants to be.



A Hundred Years of Brownies

as Seen Through the Camera Lens Janet Allcock, ANY Council Archives Lead



The 12th Edmonton Brownie Pack in St. John Anglican Church in 1934. In the early days the uniforms were often hand-made from patterns and fabric from National. One enterprising unit even purchased one uniform, took it apart and asked a local seamstress to replicate it for all the girls.



The Brownies on Onion Lake Cree Reserve in 1962. The large pockets held all sorts of things such as notebooks, test cards to track their progress, sewing and first aid kits. The triangular ties could be opened and used as a bandage or a sling; it was all part of Being Prepared.



“Twist me and turn me and show me an elf. I looked in the water and there saw myself.” Here the 2nd Spruce Grove Brownies enjoy a Japanese theme for their enrolment



Here In 1980 the 3rd Poplar Grove District Brownies (Spruce Grove) are wearing the uniform introduced in 1964. By this time the beret had been discontinued, but the badge sash had not been introduced. They sewed their interest badges on the right sleeve and the sixer and seconder stripes round the left sleeve.



The 1st Crossfield Brownies posed for their unit photo in the uniform designed by Alfred Sung and introduced in 1988. The dress was intended for meetings and the sweats, T-shirt and pants for camping and informal occasions. However, as you can see – the T-shirts proved popular and by 1994 when this photo was taken were worn by the majority on all occasions

Continued on page 11

Girl Engagement Survey Results

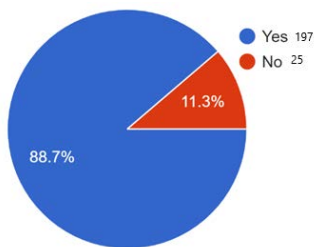
Dana Wagner (ANY Program Adviser) and Liz Maki (ANY Girl Engagement Co-ordinator)

In June 2019, the Alberta Council Program Committee put out a survey requesting input from our Members, both girl and adult, on girl engagement, leadership and camping opportunities being offered within our units. Here are some of the results of the survey. For full results please contact Dana.

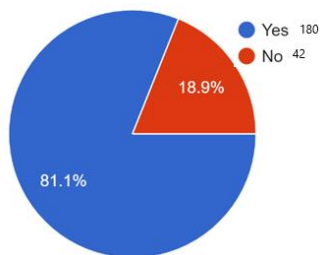
We had 222 Girl responses and 241 Adult responses. Girl responses were from 22 Sparks, 41 Brownies, 92 Guides, 32 Pathfinders, 32 Rangers and 1 Trex. Adult responses were from 66 Spark Leaders, 79 Brownie Leaders, 102 Guide Leaders, 53 Pathfinder Leaders, 31 Ranger Leaders and 11 other Leaders.

Girl Results

Do you want to be included in choosing what activities you do in your unit?



Do your leaders give you the opportunities to have a voice in the activities your unit does?



How many times a year does your unit camp?

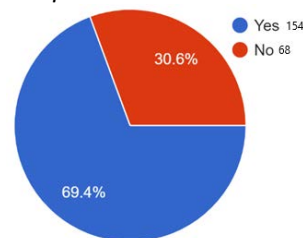
- 0 times – 2
- 1-2 times – 52
- 2-3 times – 69
- 3-4 times – 33
- 4+ times – 24

Adult Results

How do you give the girls in your unit the opportunity to contribute to what program is covered at unit meetings?

- Vote – 60
- Ask them – 106
- girls plan – 29
- do not let them – 15

Do your leaders give you the opportunity to take a leadership role at your unit meetings/sleepovers/camps?



What kind of leadership opportunities would you like to have?

Top results:

- Camps – 32
- Games/Crafts/Songs – 23
- Planning – 18

How many camping opportunities would you like during the Guiding Year?

- 1+ times – 10
- 2+ times – 51
- 3+ times – 40
- 4+ times – 31
- 5+ times – 15

How do you ask the girls in your unit what they want to do?

- Vote – 23
- ask – 116
- ask & vote – 49
- use cards – 9
- we don't – 7

How do you give the girls in your unit the opportunity to lead portions of a unit meeting/sleepover/camp?

Only let 3rd years lead – 5
we don't – 20
most popular answers – ask for volunteers, pull names from a bowl/use popsicle sticks, assign tasks to patrols/circle groups

Does your unit camp?

Yes – 219

No – 11

Takeaway thoughts:

Girls want an opportunity to help plan, Girls want to take on leadership roles, Girls want camps/sleepovers. Guiders are giving some opportunities to girls to help plan and lead but there is room for improvement. We are saddened by the Guiders that feel that girls aren't able to lead/plan or they don't give them the chance to lead/plan.

We have come a long way in the past few years as we shift our focus to Girl Driven and Girl Focused program. A big thank you to all our Guider Volunteers that have worked hard to offer their best to the girls.

What does girl leadership look like to you?

Most popular answers – leading a song, running portions of meetings, teaching friends something new, girls taking ownership, girls overcome fears & obstacles, girls taking responsibility, girls are the “boss”.
Girls aren't able to take on a leadership role – 5
Unsure what girl leadership looks like – 5

Awards for Girl Assistants

Henny Smit-Nielsen, ANY Council Awards Liaison

Many of our Pathfinder and Ranger members work in other units as Girl Assistants, and some girl members only hold Girl Assistant roles. These young ladies spend time sharing their experiences and talents with our younger members; they are the role models our younger girls look up to. Acknowledging the contributions these members make is important; a small gift and a card (maybe signed by the girls in the unit) is one way of acknowledging these girls, while a Letter of Commendation or Gold Thanks Pin are more formal options. These two awards follow the same application process used for Adult member awards. Ask your Area Awards Leads if you have any questions about them.

Another way of recognizing these ladies can nominating the Girl Assistant for a non-Guiding award; Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards, Northwest Territories Outstanding Volunteer Awards and Outstanding Youth

Achievement Awards in the Yukon are Provincial level awards that have a youth component. More information on these awards and their application processes can be found on their respective websites. These awards are great ways for the greater community to see what an impact Guiding has on the community. Do not forget to check your community for some local awards; many communities also have youth awards. When writing letters for these awards, remember not to use the acronyms that we are so fond of in Guiding; also, describe the work done in terms that do not require a Guiding background to understand.

One thing to remember is that a regular Thank You goes a long way to show appreciation. But do not wait until the end of the year to let the girls know that you appreciate their efforts; let them know often, as they will learn and grow with the position.

Camp Cooking

The new Camping Cuisine Cookbook is available on the ANY Council website under Publications.

MASTER BISCUIT MIX (LIKE BISQUIC™) Karen MacDonald, Edmonton

Quantity: 24 litres (105 cups)

Ingredients:

2 L (8 cups) sifted all-purpose flour	15 mL (3 tsp) salt
175 mL (2/3 cup) non-fat powdered milk	375 mL (1 ½ cups) shortening

Directions:

Stir dry ingredients until well mixed. Cut in shortening until well mixed. Store in tightly covered container in a cool place. Use within a month (or freeze until needed).

And two recipes to use your biscuit mix with:

BEACH BOY BREAD Twilight District, Prairie Rose

Cooking method: Reflector oven

Cooking time: 20 minutes

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups biscuit mix	½ tsp vanilla
½ cup sugar	2 tbsp brown sugar
1 egg	2 tbsp biscuit mix
1 cup crushed pineapple	1 tbsp margarine

Directions:

Combine biscuit mix and sugar. In separate bowl mix egg, pineapple and vanilla. Add to dry ingredients and stir until well blended. Spread into 8 x 8 x 2 inch pan. Combine brown sugar, 2 tbsp biscuit mix and margarine. Sprinkle on top of loaf. Bake in reflector oven for approx. 20 minutes. Serve while warm.

CLOTHESPIN QUICK BREAD Karen MacDonald, Edmonton

Cooking method: Stove top

Cooking time: 8 minutes

Ingredients:

1 cup biscuit mix	¼ cup sugar
½ cup raisins	½ cup milk
1 egg	Cinnamon
2 ½ tbsp oil	4 – 6 clothespins

Directions:

Soak clothespins in water. Grease pie plate. Mix ingredients together in a plastic re-sealable baggie or a bowl. Fill pie plate ½ full with mixture, invert another pie plate over the first and secure with clothespins. Place on grill and cook for 3 – 4 minutes. Turn over onto the other side and bake another 3 – 4 minutes. Rotate the pie plate occasionally. Sprinkle with cinnamon.

Camp Cooking ...continued

MEXICAN SLOPPY JOES Sue Burrows, Calgary

Cooking method: Stove top

Cooking time: 25 minutes

Servings: 4 very hungry or 8 less hungry

Ingredients:

1 lb. ground beef	½ tsp garlic powder
1 green pepper chopped fine	½ tsp cumin
1 tsp chili powder	1 – 7 ½ oz can tomato sauce
1 finely chopped onion	Salt & pepper to taste

Directions:

Pita pockets or individual bags of taco chips. Brown meat with onions and green pepper, drain. Add rest of ingredients and simmer 20 minutes. The mixture can be made ahead and frozen. Garnish with chopped tomatoes, grated cheese and shredded lettuce.

At camp:

Serve these as sandwiches in pita pockets.

On hike:

Put mixture in thermos bottle; pour out into a bag of taco chips, using bag as a bowl. Have a nourishing, quick and easy to clean up, meal. This recipe makes enough filling for 8 pita pockets or topping for 8 bags of taco chips.

PINEAPPLE DR. PEPPER™ SPARERIBS Twilight District, Prairie Rose

Cooking method: Dutch oven

Ingredients:

8 – 10 boneless pork spareribs	¾ cup brown sugar
1 – 6 oz can tomato paste	1 – 20 oz can pineapple tidbits
1 green pepper, diced	4 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup medium picante sauce	1 can Dr. Pepper™
1 onion, diced	2 tsp coarse black pepper

Directions:

Trim most of the fat from ribs. Arrange in the bottom of a 12” Dutch oven. Drain pineapple, reserving juice. Place green pepper, onions and pineapple evenly over ribs. In a large bowl, stir together the remaining ingredients including the reserved pineapple juice and pour over ribs.

Cover oven and cook for 2 hours using 6 – 7 briquettes under the oven and 12 – 14 briquettes on top of oven. Replenish briquettes after 1 hour of cooking time. Turn and baste ribs in oven juices carefully every ½ hour.

Girl Guides

Alberta Council

For Guiding in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon

You are invited

to attend the

Girl Guides of Canada, Alberta Council 2019 Annual General Meeting

To include:

2019 ANY Council Year in Review
The installation of the 21st Provincial Commissioner

Saturday, May 2, 2020

Virtual Meeting begins **10:30 a.m. (Mountain)**
Watch for your email for details on how to join.

We hope you will be able to attend.

 <p>Girl Guides Alberta Council</p> <p>For Guiding in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon</p> <p>Tag us in your photos using: #GGCAlbertaCouncil</p>	<p>Follow us on social media!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girl Guides of Canada, Alberta Council @GGC_ANYCouncil @GGCAlbertaCouncil GGC, Alberta Council
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A Hundred Years of Brownies as Seen Through the Camera Lens continued...



Until 1995 if a Brownie completed the program and advanced to Guides, she was presented with her Brownie Wings at a “Fly-up” Ceremony. This Brownie is really ready to fly-up, with wings pinned to her back and sitting in a hot-air balloon. The Wings could be worn on the Guide uniform. Roberta Bondar was very proud of hers and took them into space with her!



In case you are wondering what the back of those wings looked like, this photo shows that. You can also see the actual badge in the Guider's right hand.



Gretchen McCurdy, Chief Commissioner, visited Alberta in 2003 and was warmly greeted by these Brownies wearing a mix of the 1988 and 2002 T-shirts. The next changes came in 2012 and 2019. If you have photos of girls wearing these more recent uniforms, please send them to archives to add to our collection.

Letter from the Editors

Sam Boys and Finley Rogers, Blue-Print Co-Editors

Hello Blue-Print Readers,

We hope you had a great Guiding year, despite some challenges that occurred recently. We are looking forward to submissions coming in the fall and are wishing everyone a happy and healthy summer! And we are also looking forward to sending out more of our limited-edition crests in the next Guiding year, so please send us your amazing stories, how-tos, and other interesting things you have to add to Blue-Print. Please make sure that any individuals in pictures have their IR.1 forms signed off when sending submissions our way.

Yours in Guiding, *Sam and Finley*

ALBERTA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

As you are aware, COVID-19 has had a significant impact on day to day operations of every level of Guiding, and our beloved Scholarship program is no different.

On April 9, 2020, GGC, Alberta Council made the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 scholarship application process until the fall of 2020, or until Girl Guide operations resume.

It is our hope that applications would be re-opened in the fall so applicants attending post-secondary in the winter semester could apply.

Watch your email or girlguides.ca/ab



For Guiding in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon

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The deadline for the submission of articles for the next edition of Blue-Print is September 15, 2020. Send your submissions to any-blue-print@girlguides.ca

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