

# Blue-Print



Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada | Alberta Council | [www.albertagirlguides.com](http://www.albertagirlguides.com)

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

## Out and About!

– Tracy Burton, Alberta Program Adviser

Spring and summer are great times to go outside with Guiding, but many units struggle with what to do when they have the girls outside but are not at camp. Here are some thoughts about what to do when you get out and about!

- Go for a walk in your community. Make up a scavenger hunt of things you can find around your community. This is also a good chance to work with Pathfinders on their Girls for Safer Communities as well and can be a great bridging activity.
- Outdoor games. These do not have to just be wide games that require lots of room. Almost any game can be played outside. A game that can be played with any group size or age is loose caboose. Everyone but one needs a partner and they hold the waist of their partner. The one who is “it” runs around and tries to hook on to the back partner. If they manage this, the person in front becomes “it”.
- Outdoor campfire/sing song. You do not need to have an actual campfire to do this. You can make a circle anywhere and sing songs.
- Outdoor cooking. This is not just a camp activity. You can roast hot dogs, make s’mores or try out various different types of cooking. Remember, you will likely need *Safe Guide* approval for this if the girls are cooking themselves over a fire.
- Have an outdoor recruitment event! Being outside can be a great opportunity for members of your community to see you and see the fun that is Guiding. Please wear uniform and see if you can get some form of advertising, such as posters. This can be used for the Provincial Commissioner’s Challenge so please take pictures (don’t forget about IR1’s!) and submit this for the challenge.

Whatever you do – make sure it is fun! If it is not fun, it is not Guiding!

Have a great summer whatever you are doing outside. Have a relaxing break over the summer and get ready for another great year of Guiding!

## Fun in the Sun

– Donna Leonard, Provincial Training Adviser

By now units will be outside enjoying the last days of spring and the beginning of summer. What a great time to try out all the outdoor activities you learned at training.

Of course it’s not too early to start determining what trainings you would like to take next year. If you are a new Guider, chances are most of the trainings you have taken this year were mandatory and covered topics around unit management. This year plan on taking trainings that are just for you!

What about organizing a year-end Guider retreat - or start your year off with one! Why not try out all the things you heard about but didn’t have time to do with the girls. Learn songs, treat yourself to a spa and enjoy spending time together. Why not ask an adult friend to join you? Being with a group of Guiders is so rewarding and reminds us of why we are involved in Girl Guides.

Remember to include new Guiders at fall trainings. Arrange car pools so you can travel together.

We are gathering resources for the 2013 **Van-Go**. I hope we will be driving into your location to share our skills and love of Guiding with you. Our **Van-Go** project is a wonderful opportunity to have just the information **YOU** need delivered up close and personally!

Enjoy the warm days of summer and take the opportunity to do something just for you!

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# A message from the Provincial Commissioner

*Happy spring!!!*

The days are getting longer and the snow is disappearing fast – this, of course, means the beginning of “mud season” which if you are a dog owner you will know all about. As I write this we have had 10 straight days of sunshine – it feels great to get outside and be active!!

## On-Line Registration

We did very well in our first year of participating in On-Line Registration. The hoped-for participation rate was in the 65% range; Alberta Council's (AB/NT/YK) participation rate was 78%!! On-Line Registration for the 2013/14 Guiding year began April 1<sup>st</sup>. As the feedback from the field was very clear that we needed to have a separate “window” for girls returning to their same unit to remove the stress of not being able to get back into their own unit, National worked very hard to accommodate this request and starting this April there will be three distinct “windows” for On-Line Registration – April will be for girls returning to their same unit; May will be for existing girl Members wishing to move to the next branch of Guiding, or changing units, and for girls who wish to register in their same unit (but who didn't re-register in April) and June and onwards will be for girls wishing to join GGC (as well as existing girl Members who didn't manage to register in April and May for whatever reason).

## Minor changes to On-Line & Paper Registration forms for 2013/14

There are two small changes on the registration form (on-line and paper) this year. One is an update to the consent section so that swimming at a facility with a lifeguard is included in the ‘general consent’ the parent/guardian gives by agreeing to/signing the registration form. The other change is with respect to Transitioning Members (TMBR) – more later in this article.

## Paper Registration

Due to the minor changes mentioned in the above paragraph please ensure that the A5.P form you are using **is dated March 2013**. Please remember paper registration (A5.P) is always available for a parent/guardian who doesn't have internet access, or doesn't have, or doesn't wish to use, a credit card online. However, it is **very important** to get the paper registration form to the iMIS home as quickly as possible (scan & email or fax, or by mail) to secure the space wanted as Members using On-Line Registration will continue to be placed in units and it could end up that a girl using paper registration might not get a spot.

As well, I think there may be some confusion about paper registration with respect to the payment of registration fees (National Membership fee as well as provincial/area/district/unit add-on amounts). Even if the girl Member has not paid the full amount of registration (\$110 for 2013/14 in AB and NT and \$100 in Yukon) the paper registration form should still be entered into iMIS right away. This is the only way we have to count the girl, have her contact information in iMIS, have a record of the parental consent to their daughter being a Member of GGC and know that the parent/guardian has read and agreed to the *Code of Conduct*. Plus, the unit guider will not see the girl on the unit roster if the girl's registration has not been entered into iMIS. As I have mentioned **all** paper registration forms need to make their way to the iMIS home as quickly as possible. There are three options listed on the A5.P form (full payment, subsidy request or partial payment). The iMIS homes know to keep track of the payment received (or not) on a worksheet. There is no risk to being charged for a girl who has not paid as you will know if the fees have been covered (by the parent/guardian, the Member Subsidy program, Area or District funding) before the billing dates of December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> each year. **So please do not hold on to paper registration forms for any reason.** If you have questions please call your iMIS home – they will be happy to assist you.

Please remember that both on-line and paper registration is for the 2013/14 Guiding year and therefore is effective only on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. If a girl is moving branches or is new to guiding and registers in May or June they are guaranteed a space in that unit effective **September 2013**.

## Member Subsidies

As most of you know Alberta Council administers the Member Subsidy program. The monies in Member Subsidies comes from \$0.75/case of cookies sold in AB/NT/YK and with 88,000+ cases of cookies expected to be sold in 2013 in AB/NT/YK this amounts to approximately \$66,000 available to assist our Members. As per Council motion we divide the assistance into 40% for individual Member subsidies (which includes girl and adult Members) and 60% for meeting space rental cost assistance. The deadlines for the Areas to submit the consolidated requests from the area and districts) are March 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> and Alberta Council Executive approves the payouts in sufficient time so that Areas and Districts will know how much we have been able to cover well before the March 31<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> billings from National. To date we have been able to cover 100% of the requests for individual Member assistance and in March approved 25% of the total costs of Meeting Space Rental cost requests. Alberta Council is the “first responder” to requests for Member Subsidies since we must use up the full amount (approximately \$66,000) each year. Member Subsidy request forms, and instructions, are available on the provincial website.

## Rangers & Transitioning Members

The Provincial Committee (Provincial Commissioners from across Canada) have clarified the Transitioning Member category. This category had originally been set up to allow a girl Member who had finished the Ranger program to stay connected to Guiding. And that is how it will continue to operate. However, we have recommended that the Ranger age be changed from 15-17+ to 15-17 (this will be reflected in the July 2013 update to *Guiding Essentials*) since no other branch of Guiding has a “+”. Effective with September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 (the beginning of the Guiding year which goes from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> annually) if a girl Member has not yet turned 18 she may register in the Ranger Unit for the entire 2013/14 year (regardless of when she then turns 18) and may work on the Ranger program. If she is 18 before September then she would become a PMBR and begin the screening process to become an Adult Member. However, if she has not yet reached the territorial age of majority, she would be made a TMBR (transitioning Member) and could either be registered as a Girl Assistant in a unit or be a Girl Member at Large (new activity under girl Member). If a girl who has registered as a Ranger in September (because she was not yet 18) then completed the Ranger program during the guiding year and wished to be counted in ratio then she would need to become a PMBR and complete the adult Member screening process. Further there will be a requirement that the new adult Member, who has transitioned from a girl Member would be placed in a Spark, Brownie, Guide or Pathfinder unit (one level separated from the level she has just completed).

If there are extenuating circumstances as to why a girl who is already 18 years old in September, and wishes to still register for the Ranger program, **advance** permission must be received from the Provincial Commissioner. (For instance if the girl only needs to complete three things to finish her Chief Commissioner’s award requirements).

## Permanent PRC Exemptions

Please remember that it is now possible to apply for a Permanent PRC (Police Records Check) Exemption IF you satisfy the following requirements:

- Be over 75 years of age, with birth date in iMIS
- Have no contact with girl Members
- Do not hold any position in Guiding including President or Treasurer in a Trefoil Guild (the Member may be a Member at Large or a Trefoil Guild member as long as there is no position held).

Please contact your Area Commissioner or iMIS home if you wish to receive an EX.3 form. The form is then completed and sent to the Area Commissioner for recommendation; then forwarded to the Provincial Commissioner for endorsement and the Exemption is approved finally by the Chief Commissioner and entered into iMIS.

## National Network Conference

The biannual National Network Conference was held in Toronto the third weekend in March (22-24). Alberta Council had an incredible showing. All seven Standing Committee Advisers were present (Camping, Cookies, International, Membership, Program, Public Relations and Training). As well, the deputy provincial PR adviser attended as the representative for the Communications Network and our two co-Safe Guide Advisers attended the *Safe Guide* Network meetings and our provincial Treasurer attended the meetings of the Treasurers Exchange. Five of the National Network Advisers are from Alberta (International, Program, Public Relations, *Safe Guide* and Training). And, with the Deputy Chief Commissioner-Provincial and the Provincial Commissioner we made a group of 18!!! Here we all are after a very long day of meetings, I was so proud to lead the Alberta Council delegation – what a great wealth of knowledge we have in our Advisers!!!



The weekend focussed mainly on the roll out of the current **nation-wide** National Strategic Plan which will run from 2013-2015 and how we will all be working to address the Strategic Priorities and Objectives in our jurisdictions. I am very happy to report that we are well on our way to meeting the goals and objectives set out in the Strategic Plan (please refer to the winter issue of *Canadian Guider* for your own copy of the 2013-2015 Strategic Plan (little folded brochure in the centre of the issue). We have already met the target for our membership for 2013, with the increase we had in our membership at the January 2013 Membership Count, and have reached our retention rate goals for girl and adult Members, and are well on our way to reaching our agreed upon goal for cookie sales for 2013. **Thank you all for working to meet our goals.** There are other priorities too that we will all need to work on and report on – one in particular is the continued focus on ensuring that our girl Members have a chance to develop leadership skills and that we are engaging our girl Members to ensure they are being consulted in the decision-making processes in their units and that they are being given opportunities to host or MC events where they will be given a chance to take on leadership roles.

As we wind down the Guiding year there will be many advancement ceremonies, Annual General Meetings, Area and District Dinners, etc. Carol, Susan & I are fortunate to be attending Area Dinners on April 20<sup>th</sup> – in Cypress Hills, Chinook and Woodsmoke Areas respectively (good thing there are three of us as we are able to cover all the events on that date). I will be also attending Area Dinners in Parkland, Edmonton and Calgary in May and I will be at the Peace River Area 2013 Celebrations Rally on May 11<sup>th</sup>, and Susan will be at the 2013 Celebrations Rally in Calgary Area, and then we will be at the Honourary Life Members' Luncheon in Red Deer at the end of May – so lots of travelling for us in the next two months, I hope your end of year camps all run well and that you have good weather (although I know everyone does just fine in any kind of weather as we are “prepared for anything in AB/NT/YK”).

Thank you all for all that you do to ensure Guiding stays fun, exciting and safe, with both new and old activities that the girls want to do. I absolutely know that it is NEVER just “one hour a week” and I thank you all for your dedication to this wonderful organization – I appreciate your sharing of your time and talents so that we, **together**, can provide the best possible experience for girls in Canada. And for those of you planning international trips this summer I hope the flights are on time, the luggage arrives with you, the sun shines, the line ups are short and the food and sightseeing is wonderful. And of course the best part, developing wonderful friendships that last forever! Be sure to take some time this summer to “recharge your batteries” and we can all look forward to another great Guiding year beginning in September.

**Margaret Utgoff**

*Provincial Commissioner, Alberta Council*

# Alberta Link Adviser **WANTED!**

Are you interested in a position that supports our young, dynamic Guiding Members between the ages of 18 and 30 who still want to remain connected with Guiding but may not have the time to devote to being a Unit Guider? Alberta Council is looking for an eager, enthusiastic Guider to take on the position of Provincial Link Adviser. This position is open to any adult member in Alberta, Northwest Territories or Yukon with interested applicants being comfortable communicating by letter and e-mail.

## **Responsibilities include:**

- Encouraging the involvement and active participation of Guiding Members 18 to 30 years of age
- Increasing awareness of Link and encouraging and supporting Link activities
- Preparing and distributing a Link newsletter at least twice a year

## **Qualifications include:**

- Good written, e-mail and verbal communication skills
- Good time management skills

**Deadline for application to the provincial office is June 15, 2013.**

**Position commences on July 1, 2013.**

The Committee Application form is available on the Alberta Girl Guides website under “Forms”.

The position description is available from Alberta Council by contacting **info@albertagirlguides.com** or 780-424-5510.





# This is what I'm talking about:

## Government House and Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada Alberta Council Celebrate 100 years together

– Sheila Morrison

Time to walk the talk. Last issue I was full of advice on how to plan an amazing event. I closed off the article with planning ideas about including celebrities and influential people, interviews and feature photos, and the importance of celebrating your event with Council, the Blue-Print, media, and social media. Now, here's an example of the kind of follow up I'm talking about.

On a sunny, spring-like day in Edmonton, in between snowstorms, 100 invited guests arrived for a special reception and tour of Government House. On February 3, 2013 His Honour, Colonel (Retired) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC OMM AOE MSC CD LLD, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and Her Honour, Linda M. Ethell hosted members of Alberta Council to celebrate 100 years of Girl Guides in Alberta.

The grand foyer of the 100 year old building was filled with guiding songs as guests arrived. A special formality hung in the air, with everyone in their best uniforms, sporting all their pins. Yet, the familiarity of the guests and the hosts allowed it to be more like a gathering of friends. The young voices of the 140<sup>th</sup> Edmonton Pathfinders were followed by the beautiful sounds of a harp. The hall buzzed with members of guiding young and old.

A few words of welcome were shared by the host, His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell, the Honourable Heather Klimchuk Minister of Culture, Margaret Utgoff and Beverly Simpson Headon. The afternoon was spent touring the three floors of the newly renovated building before it would be open to the public. The artwork showcased Alberta's landscapes and people. The displayed artifacts marked events and people in Alberta's history. The caucus chambers, known as Alberta Room, showed the guests that this is still a working building. Tea and coffee were served along with a lovely anniversary cake. A slide show of guiding over the last 100 years captivated members as they tried to find their friends and units in the more recent photos.

The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta celebrated the guiding movement by saying "it was an excellent program that developed service, and taught girls to embrace every challenge with strength and competence; it built our communities and fostered excellence in our youth."

Minister Klimchuck spoke how the guiding movement fostered teamwork and volunteerism, and engaged active citizens to do their best – to reach for the stars. She spoke directly to the guests and said, "Thank you for your service in shaping our history."

As guests departed, via the famous carriage porch, they received three pins: an Alberta pin, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta's pin, and a special centennial pin displaying the trefoil emblem as depicted throughout the 100 years. When you see the gold bar worn with pride on a Guider's or girl's uniform, ask her about the friends she met on that special afternoon at Government House.

Last issue I shared things you should consider when planning an event. I recommended starting with deciding on the basics: WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, WHO and HOW MUCH. What's your event? When and where will it be held? Why are you holding this event? Who will organize it? How much do you have in your budget? I pointed out the importance of planning how to handle the media if they attend your event. I shared some key things and people to follow up with after your event, such as reporting to your Council, the Blue-Print, and @GGCAAlberta on Twitter®.

**When you read this: tweet out – "@GGCAAlberta I read it in Blue-Print" and link the article from our website.**



# Fun in the Sun – International Style

Now that the weather is nice, you may find that your girls are getting antsy being inside in your meeting place. Why not take them outside and play some active games from other countries? Here are some suggestions to get you started.

## **Brazil - Rabbit Without a House**

This game is best when you have at least 11 people. Pick someone to be “it” (the rabbit without a house) and someone to be the caller. Divide the others into groups of three. Each group makes a rabbit in a house by two girls holding hands (the house) and one girl (a rabbit) standing inside. The caller yells out “Find a house” and all the rabbits, including the one without a house, have to run to find another house. The rabbit left without a house becomes it.

## **Sweden - Hoken Flyger Hogt (The Hawk Flies High)**

Everyone stands in a ring. When the leader calls out, “The hawk flies high,” everyone jumps. The leader varies the calling with different kinds of birds; “The seagull flies high, the eagle flies high” and so on. After every call the girls should jump. After a while the leader starts calling other animals that cannot fly, for example, “The mouse flies high.” If the animal cannot fly, then the girls should not jump. If they do, they should take one step backwards.

## **Mexico - Gallinita Ciega (The Blind Hen)**

To play this game, you need a handkerchief or a cloth and more than three people to play. The game starts when you choose somebody to be the hen. Then you put the handkerchief over the hen’s eyes and turn the now blind hen for a few seconds.

After that, everybody else scatters and the blind hen has to find somebody and guess who that person is and say what her name is. If the blind hen is right, that person becomes the new blind hen. If not, the hen is blindfolded again and the game continues.

## **Taiwan - Catch the Chicks**

Children playing the game pretend they are an eagle, a hen, and some chicks. All the chicks stand behind the hen in a row, and the hen tries her best to protect her babies. When the game starts, the eagle tries to catch the chicks. If a chick is caught by the eagle, then the eagle wins the game, and the chick who is caught is the eagle in the next game.

## **Mexico – Keep the Ball**

This game is played in two teams and there is no limit to the number of players on each time. You need a soft ball to play and the boundaries and time limit should be decided before playing. The game starts when somebody throws the ball up to the sky. The player who catches the ball has to keep the ball for her team. She has to throw the ball to her partners and each person on the opposite team has to try to ‘steal’ the ball. You can’t return the ball to the person who gives it to you. When the time is up, the team that has kept the ball wins.

## **Colombia - Stop**

To play Stop, you only need a ball. To start the game, one girl takes the ball and the rest of the girls stand around her. The girl with the ball throws it up in the air, calls out the name of one of the other girls and the rest of the girls have to run away as far as possible. The girl who is named has to try to get back to catch the ball. If the named child catches the ball in the air, she can immediately say another name and run away. If she doesn’t catch the ball before it hits the ground, she still picks up the ball and says “Stop!” and all the other girls have to stop running. The one who said stop looks to see which child is near her and walks 3 long steps, and tries to tag the girl with the ball by gently throwing it at her.

If the child who is trying to tag the other child misses, she has to start the game again by throwing the ball up and saying another name. However, if she tags the other child with the ball, that child starts the game.

# 100 years of Guiding in Alberta – Alberta Council Museum Event

– Janet Allcock

Have you ever wondered what Guiding was like in Alberta in the early years? Do you want to learn about some of the movers and shakers of the last century? Have you heard about Alberta Girls' Parliament but know nothing about its development? Are you interested in what was in the early programme (and yes, that is how it was spelled)? Would you like to see a fashion show of historical uniforms? Then read on.

The Museum and Archives committee is really excited and things are really buzzing in the Rosalyn Schmidt Room. We are hard at work preparing for an Open House! The Alberta Council Museum and the Edmonton Area Archives will be part of the Edmonton and District Historical Society's Historic Festival and Doors Open event which takes place July 2- 7, 2013 in the Greater Edmonton Area. This is the event for anyone interested in our rich history in culture and recreation.

There will be information about other events in this festival nearer the time at [www.historicedmonton.ca](http://www.historicedmonton.ca).

## Our contribution to this event takes place as follows:

**Date:** July 6, 2013

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Where:** Alberta Girl Guide House Museum and Archives

**Fashion shows:** 2 and 3 p.m.

*Light refreshments will be served*

Mark the date – you are all cordially invited to help make this event a success. If you can't make this event, but would like to visit the Museum, please contact us via the Guide Office.

# Service Project

## Have you started working on our Service Project?

Some amazing photos have already come in. If you aren't sure about the project check out the provincial website or ask your Area PR Adviser.

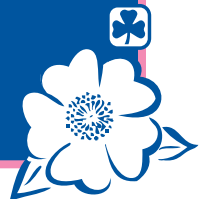
When your quilt is complete and ready to go, send a photo of the completed quilt, along with the following:

- Unit/District/Guild Name
- Contact Guider's Name, phone number and email
- Who the quilt is being donated to?
- When the quilt is being donated?

To your Area PR Adviser and she will send you the crest to sew onto your masterpiece!

Please keep the Area PR Adviser in the loop so she can promote the great efforts of your unit/district.

Once you are done and would like to purchase the participation crests, contact Marivic at the Provincial Office for the crests. She has all the details.



# Membership – It’s That Time of Year Again...

– Marion Rex, Membership

## Time for Online Registration

If you haven’t updated your unit information, please do so as soon as possible as online registration for 2013-2014 started April 2, 2013 for members returning to a unit.

- **Unit Capacity** – Online registration availability is based on the numbers listed for your unit in iMIS. If your unit capacity changes, be sure to contact your iMIS home. Changes/updates can be made in iMIS at any time and be immediately reflected on the registration web site.
- **Wait List** – When a unit fills in online registration, the family has the option to put the girls on a wait list. If a spot comes open, they will be sent an email stating the fact that an opening has come available. They will have three business days to register or the spot goes to the next person on the wait list. Alberta has three wait list managers (WLM): Calgary Area, Edmonton Area and Noralyn Tismo at Province.
- **Startup information** – If you know when your first meeting is scheduled for the 2013-2014 year, let your iMIS home know. That information will be available to the parent community as they register their daughters for the coming year and will save time and trouble when those parents call the iMIS home for more information in the fall. Also, it would be wise to contact the people on your unit roster in late August/early September as I usually receive many emails asking when the meetings start—the beauty of that is that now you should have current email addresses for all of your parents.

## Time for Dress Uniform at Year-End Banquets

Are you confused about what pins go where on your uniform? *Guiding Essentials—Standards at a Glance* (updated June 2012), p. 35, lists the following information regarding Adult Members’ Insignia.

### Adult Members’ Insignia

The following are recommended guidelines for adult Members wearing Guiding pins:

- Insignia may be worn when the uniform is worn.
- It is recommended that one pin incorporating the Trefoil (enrolment pin) or the Guider appointment pin may be worn on the left point of the collar or on the pin tab on the left side of the uniform shirt.
- It is recommended that up to four pins of the Member’s choice be worn on the left side on a pin tab on the uniform shirt (these can include appointment pins, Membership pins, award pins, etc).
- It is recommended that GGC name tags be worn on the right side

I have seen more than four pins on a pin tab, but they should be placed with taste rather than cramming as many pins as you can. Having been involved in Guiding for decades, I now have a wide selection of pins that I’ve earned. Rather than wearing several pin tabs concurrently or more pins than a pin tab can hold comfortably, I choose to wear my World Guide Centre pins at Thinking Day, my favorites for standard full dress, and possibly my training pins for a training event. I’ve made this easier for myself by having several pin tabs ready to go that I wear interchangeably, rather than all at the same time.

## Time for Wearing Awards and Medals from Both Inside and Outside of Guiding

Are you someone who has been fortunate to be awarded insignia from outside of Guiding? The publication, *The Canadian Honours System Wearing Of Orders, Decorations and Medals* ([www.gg.ca/honours/pdf/wearing\\_e.pdf](http://www.gg.ca/honours/pdf/wearing_e.pdf)) lists the order of medals should the recipient be fortunate to have more than one. For example, you may be the recipient of any of the following:

- Queen Elizabeth II’s Golden Jubilee Medal (2002)
- Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012)
- Alberta Centennial Medal (2005)

So how do you wear these medals with our own Guiding pins? You should wear them in order of precedence, starting with the most prestigious medal on the right of the left breast, then in descending order right to left. As the Queen’s Jubilee Medals are more prestigious than the Government of Alberta Council Centennial Medal, they should be worn first with the oldest one (2002) having precedence over the Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012), then the Government of Alberta Centennial Medal (2005) if you have one. If you have an award not listed here, please check the handbook listed above for a complete listing of medals and awards given outside of Guiding. Finally, as they have less precedence than the other formal awards, you would wear Guiding regalia such as our new Girl Guides of Canada – Alberta Centennial Award and the Girl Guides of Canada pin tab. Also, for dress uniform occasions, if you have been awarded any award on a ribbon, you are encouraged to wear the most prestigious award on a ribbon. For example, if you have both the Gold Merit and the Medal of Merit which are normally presented on a navy ribbon, you would wear the Medal of Merit. So don’t be afraid to get dressed up in full dress uniform. Get out and have fun with your Guiding friends!



## Time for Volunteer Week

Now in its 71<sup>st</sup> year, National Volunteer Week is all about volunteer recognition. This year's celebration, taking place the week of **April 21 to 27, 2013**, pays tribute to the millions of Canadian volunteers who graciously donate their time and energy in acts of civic participation. Girl Guides of Canada—Alberta Council would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 2,600+ volunteers who inspire greatness in girls across Alberta Council. Without these dedicated volunteers, GGC would not be able to offer fun and relevant programming to over 11,000 girls from Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon. We appreciate your commitment of time, energy, passion and experience.

## Time to Look into the Volunteer's Change Purse

As a token of thanks for all you do in Guiding, let me thank you for the change you enable in your community. The Volunteer's Change Purse, composed by Anne Simmons of Western Reserve Girl Scout Council in Akron Ohio, is an amazing thing as it...

- ...contains a SMILE  
When you wear your smile, it lifts the spirits of others, spreads a little laughter, warms a cold heart, and calms the fears of a child. Your smile can bring change to all you meet.
- ...and a CANDLE  
When you light your candle, it sheds a small light, spreads a golden glow, gives a gentle warmth and lights another candle. The candle light represents the change your life can bring to others.
- ...a small PEBBLE  
Just as your pebble, when tossed into the water, causes those waters to dance and the ripples to spread, so too, you, working, living, being with others can bring change to their lives.
- ...and a HEART  
The heart represents your life which can bring light, warmth, music, and joy into the lives of those around you.

The gift of yourself can do anything for anyone, anywhere, anytime. Working with others, your life can bring...CHANGE!

*You bring change to the girls and Guiders in our communities, and we are all richer for it. Thanks for all you do in Guiding.*

# Thank You!

## Alberta Council Casino

Thank you to the following volunteers that volunteered there time in support of Alberta Council:

- Carol Banks – Guiding
- Marg Barry - Lions Club
- Dawn Buettner – Guiding
- Elaun Cable-Lind – Guiding
- Mary Chibuk – Guiding
- Terry Hancock - Lions Club
- Sharry Hodgkinson – Guiding
- Tom Hodgson - Lions Club
- Sharon Johnston - Lions Club
- Connie Klein - Guiding
- Terry Kozma – Lions Club
- Roger Kozma - Lions Club
- Alice Mah – Guiding
- Jolaine Martin – Guiding
- Donna Mckenzie – Guiding
- Carol Moeller – Guiding
- Willy Moes - Lions Club
- Karen Olson – Lions Club
- Marion Rex – Guiding
- Wendy Sirovyak – Guiding
- Casey Shunock – Guiding
- Margaret Utgoff – Guiding
- Donna Wilky – Guiding
- Pat Yim - Lions Club
- Rod Zohner - Lions Club

# Drumheller Story

— Jocelyn Rogers, 1<sup>st</sup> Sherwood Park Guides

My name is Jocelyn Rogers. I am the Contact Guider for the 1st Sherwood Park Guides. I recently took my girls on the first somewhat long distance trip I have ever taken girls on. We went to Drumheller, Alberta, April 12-13. When you leave your own community, it is amazing the people you meet. Let me tell you who I met along the road.

First, there was the “Fearless Five +1”. Those were the 5 Moms who came on the trip with me, plus one other Mom who arrived later on Friday and left early on Saturday with her daughter, but helped out during the night. The “Fearless Five” helped me help the girls have the best time ever. They all had daughters in the unit, but each of them was also responsible for 2-3 other girls in the unit. They were the best. They got up with girls in the night so I could sleep, they came to me with issues the girls were having, like I had asked them to. They alerted me when a girl was sick or in one case, had a bleeding nose. We all had great stories to tell about girls and the funny things they do.

Then meet John. He was our chartered bus driver. I have never met a kinder man. The company we used was First Student Canada (I highly recommend them). John is a retired semi driver, who now drives kindergarten children to school in St. Albert. He also drives for Special Olympics. He stayed with the bus while we wandered around Reptile World. He ate with us at Boston Pizza, and I booked him into the Travellodge in Drumheller so he could get a good night’s sleep. He had great stories to tell too, and had a very interesting outlook on life. On the Saturday that we left Drumheller to return to Sherwood Park, the weather was particularly nasty and snowy. I expressed some concern that I, and the other adults, had about road conditions. He very calmly said that he “had no intentions of getting into a wreck” and we would go as fast as we could or as slow as we had to, but we would make it home. I was relieved.

Then there was the staff at the Royal Tyrrell Museum. You can tell that they deal with children all the time. They threw in jokes when they were giving instructions, and made sure everyone had fun. They also made sure we were safe. At least one adult from every group that was staying there had to go on a security walk on the Friday night before bed to learn what to do and where to go in an emergency. The evening programs on Friday night were awesome, and different from the programs done by a couple of my girls who had been there last year in Brownies. That was great to hear, because it made the trip all that more exciting. Morning came too soon, but a good breakfast, served by the Museum, was had by all.

Driving back, John needed to re-fuel the bus, but he needed a Petro-Canada. There wasn’t one in Drumheller that wasn’t a Cardlock. We went to Three Hills, and there was only a Petro-Can bulk filling station. We had first gone to the Esso to ask about a Petro-Can, and the person at Esso said he would not let John get on the highway, with a school bus full of children, without enough fuel. So Esso filled us up just on John’s signature that a cheque would be sent later. I don’t know who at the Three Hills Esso made that decision, but thank you so much. It meant we didn’t have to go all the way to Red Deer and then north, and saved us a bunch of time, and John a lot of grief.

Then of course, there were my girls. Now I’ve known these girls since September. But I learned all kinds of new things about them. I saw two twins, who are extremely shy and hardly say two words, laughing and giggling with two of the other girls on the bus. I took care of a bleeding nose. I took care of a bus sick child. Everyone was tired on the trip back, but we all made the best of it. We ate at Boston Pizza twice because I have a girl in my unit who has Celiac Disease, and must have gluten-free food. Boston Pizza has a gluten-free pizza. I pre-ordered all our food by e-mail to the Manager a few days before the trip. That meant, when we arrived at Boston Pizza – on both occasions – our pizzas were ready and served to us right away. The Boston Pizza staff in Drumheller were terrific, and they gave us such a break on the meals, that we came in way under what I had budgeted for food. Thank you to the Drumheller Boston Pizza.

The other inevitable part of an adventure such as this are the desperate pleas for bathroom breaks – only a half hour out of Drumheller! Girls will be girls.

It was a long trip, I’ll have to admit. I know some units travel much farther. This was my first trip, and I booked a trip that I knew I was capable of managing – nothing more, nothing less. The experience was extraordinary.

Thank you so much to my “Fearless Five + 1”, and to John our fearless bus driver who kept us safe. Together we gave 20 girls a great experience.

This is why I love Guiding... How else can you meet extraordinary people and do this kind of stuff?

# Ever Wonder What to Do With Extra Girl Guide Cookies Left at Year End!

Many units get to the end of the Guiding Year and then they realize they still have left over Girl Guide Cookies that have not been sold yet and are out of ideas or time on what to do with them. Here is a quick list of some possible suggestions for left over cookies:

- Use as thank you gifts to any helpers, special guests, or field trip locations throughout the year.
- Set a Table up at Farmers Markets
- Set up a table at Local Stores and business which allow it.
- Community celebrations or events (many communities are celebrating their Centennials and having Areas to display their Community Services and organizations)
- Might be able to get involved in your Communities July First Celebrations and run some kids games and activity stations as well as sell some cookies
- Tables at a Fall Fair – also a good time for registration information
- Donate a case to a library reading program or another children's summer club group. (PLEASE NOTE EACH BOX MUST BE MARKED CLEARLY NOT FOR RESALE)
- Donate to a food bank or other good will organizations (PLEASE NOTE EACH BOX MUST BE MARKED CLEARLY NOT FOR RESALE)
- Sell at your registration events
- Use at your summer camps as a snack or make some delicious s'mores using the Mint cookies rather than Graham crackers and chocolate.
- Get the girls to figure out a cool new way to sell cookies as one of the last activities of the year
- They make some fantastic recipes so if all else fails buy a couple books yourselves and try out some of the amazing recipes on the [www.girlguides.ca](http://www.girlguides.ca) website!



If you haven't tried this recipe is definitely a favourite and can be made with Classic Sandwich Cookies or the Mint and both are great!

## GIRL GUIDE COOKIE CHEESECAKES

This recipe was created by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hampton Pathfinders in Hampton, NB. Thanks to Joanne Nickerson for sharing this tasty treat.

### Recipe Ingredients

- 6 vanilla Girl Guide cookies
- 6 chocolate Girl Guide cookies
- 2 8oz-packages of softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 eggs

### Method

Line 24 muffin tins with medium size muffin liners.

Split Girl Guide cookies in half and eat the creamy filling.

Place twelve vanilla cookie halves in one muffin pan and twelve chocolate cookie halves in the other muffin pan (remember to place the cookie wafer emblem side down so you can still see it once the cheesecakes are cooked).

Mix cream cheese, vanilla and sugar on medium speed until well blended.

Add eggs and mix well.

Pour over wafers, filling 3/4 full.

Bake for 20 minutes at 325 degrees F.

Remove from pan when cool and chill.

Top cheesecakes with toppings of your choice.

Girls will love a little caramel sauce, whipped cream and a few pecans on the vanilla cheesecakes. And try a little whipped cream and some chocolate shavings to dress up the chocolate cheesecakes.

**ENJOY!**

# Trip Report

— Sarah Rostron

**Sarah Rostron was selected as one of five girls from across Canada to attend FanTAStic 2013, the Girl Guide Australia Jamboree in Tasmania this past January. Here are parts of her report.**

The people I met, the experiences I had, and the new skills and ideas I have learned will influence me, as I grow older in Guiding. This trip really made me feel the importance of belonging to a worldwide organization like WAGGGS.

One of the best parts of the trip was getting to make so many incredible friends from all over the world. The other girls from our contingent feel like true sisters. Immediately after I met the other girls we bonded and had fun through interesting experiences in Vancouver. The night we spent in Vancouver really helped us to become friends and prepare us for the travels to come.

At the FanTAStic 2013 jamboree the Australian Guides in my unit were fabulous. In our patrol of six girls I helped to lead them and learned from them. In situations where something didn't make sense to me, say Australian slang, I could always count on one of them to help make sense of it. They were supportive of me, and I have been keeping in touch with them via email and Facebook®. Our homestay Guide families in Hobart Tasmania were lovely people. They showed us some of the neat things about living in Tasmania (like the wildlife)! I will keep in touch with the amazing new friends and new people I met on the trip for the rest of my life.

While in Australia, I tried many new things and had experiences that help make me a better Girl Guide. One of the more challenging events at the Jamboree was the overnight bivouac. The day of the bivouac we participated in a wide game. It was so neat to see all the leaders and volunteers come together and put on an amazing game. Our patrol of six girls had to pretend to be refugees for the day, and travel to various refugee camps. We really had to co-operate and communicate with each other in order for the various games and activities to work out. While making a flag to represent our family (patrol) in the refugee camp in Mexico we encountered

a giant huntsman spider! Personally, I am terrified of spiders. The Australians helped to show me that this was an unusual experience for me, but a common thing for them. That night, in the dark, we had to set up a shelter to sleep in using only a tarp, tent pegs, rope, and a wooden pole. This forced us to think outside the box, and really collaborate.

While experiencing Tasmanian wildlife in the Tasmania zoo, we had the option to go on a dirt buggy ride. I was very scared, but in the end my friends helped me through it and it was a great time. Surfing in Tasmania was an awesome way to spend the day getting active and having fun. I recommend surfing to everyone. I learned to overcome my fears (like my fear of flying, and fear of heights), enjoy the moment, and lead the way thanks to the experiences I had on the trip.

Being given the opportunity to go on an international trip has made me greatly appreciate WAGGGS. Being part of the guiding family makes me feel honored, because I know and have seen that WAGGGS is active throughout the world. Meeting some of the Guides there was very interesting because they spoke different languages, and had exciting uniforms. They also shared some cultural views by participating in the international night. We got to hear a traditional New Zealand song, a Fijian dance and some fun Australian campfire songs. There was also an activity tent all about worldwide WAGGGS. We got to learn about the four world centers, and sang their songs. Seeing how Guiding makes other girls' lives better, not just in Canada, but also in other places across the world is incredible. Representing Canada brought me great joy because I feel like I left a good impression on the other International guides.

I greatly appreciate the ability to participate in an International Jamboree and to represent Canada. I am proud of Guiding in our country, and it has been awesome to see Guiding at work in other places. I take away new skills, new friends, and lasting memories from this trip. The trip was overall fabulous, and the memories and experiences will stay with me as I grow in guiding and I am grateful for that.



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