

## **Sample Script for Recognition Ceremony Mistress of Ceremonies**

*This is only intended to be a base of a speech/script for the MC.*

Welcome to the Provincial Recognition Ceremony honouring the outstanding youth of **(city/community #)**. Thank you **(special guests)** for helping us to recognize the efforts of these young people in this celebration of their accomplishments.

We would also like to thank **(politician if in attendance)** for his/her ongoing support of the Girl Guides of Canada in **(city / region)**.

Girl Guides of Canada is proudly beginning its second century as the organization of choice for girls. From our early days in 1910 to the strong and vibrant organization we are today, Guiding's commitment to giving girls the tools and resources they need to succeed has remained the cornerstone of our organization. Millions of girls and women have been touched by Guiding. They have all had the chance to learn new skills, develop lasting friendships, build their confidence and leadership abilities and learn about the world around them, all in a supporting, safe environment. Guiding, as our members will tell you is great fun! But it's ALSO fun with a purpose. Our Mission is to enable girls to be confident, resourceful and courageous and to make a difference in the world. We believe Guiding is uniquely suited to the needs and aspirations of girls and young women today. It fosters a sense of pride in their own gender and equips them to function as persons in their own right in these complex, competitive times.

Girl Guides of Canada welcomes girls ages 5 to 18 to be part of our Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders, and Rangers programs and women over 18 years of age to be leaders, mentors, alumni and team members. We reflect the population and inherent diversity of our local community.

With over 70,000 girls and 19,000 adult women members, Canada is an important leader in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, the largest association for girls and women internationally. In **(city/community)** over \_\_\_\_\_ youth and \_\_\_\_\_ adult women actively participate as members.

Tonight, we are here to honour **(#)** of our outstanding youth members. Many of these young women joined us as 5 or 6 year old Sparks and have continued a relationship with Guiding through all of our branches. Others have joined us more recently. We are proud to call each of them Members.

**Pathfinders** is a three-year program for 12 to 14 year old girls. It is packed full of exciting challenges with a focus on camping and outdoors, community service, life skills, relationship

building, leadership development, environmental stewardship and citizenship, both local and international. Each Challenge is relevant to young women of today, encouraging them to tap into their talents, develop confidence to face the challenges of life, and to get along well with their friends and families. Emphasis is placed on leadership skills, decision-making - and fun!

The **Canada Cord** is awarded to Pathfinders upon completion of the three-year program. In total, over 20 diverse badges, a leadership project, community service, bridging with other Girl Guides, first aid training and a citizenship challenge must be completed. The Canada Cord is the highest honour that a Pathfinder age Girl Guide may receive.

Would tonight's recipients of the **Canada Cord Award**, please come forward.

*(Call girls by name)*

Congratulations to each of our Canada Cord recipients.

**Rangers** is also a three year program designed for our oldest girls ages 15 to 17.

The focus of the program is to give girls the opportunity to explore and develop their self confidence, independence and leadership skills.

Covering various program areas, girls explore their communities through active involvement and volunteer service. There is also an emphasis on global and environmental awareness, and developing outdoor skills. These girls may also apply for and benefit from provincially and nationally awarded post-secondary scholarships provided by Girl Guides of Canada. Adult Members provide guidance and support to the Rangers, but the goal setting and planning is done by the girls themselves. International travel, camps and service projects are a just a few of the many ways these young women develop their independence, leadership skills and self-confidence as they step into adulthood.

When Rangers complete the program they are awarded the **Chief Commissioner's Gold Award**.

Tonight's recipients have been mentors to younger girls in many local Spark, Brownie, Guide and Pathfinder units. They have represented Girl Guides of Canada at World Centers in Switzerland, Mexico, India and England and at various international events. They have also provided outstanding levels of community and environmental service at home and abroad and have grown their leadership skills through supporting such Girl Guide projects as Girls for Safer Communities.

We are pleased to honour their outstanding efforts with the Chief Commissioner's Gold Award, Guiding's highest honour for youth members. Would tonight's recipients of the **Chief Commissioner's Gold Award**, please come forward.

*(Call girls by name)*

Congratulations to all of our Chief Commissioner's Gold Award recipients!

We would also like to recognize the dedication, compassion and enthusiasm of the Unit Guiders. These girls would not be able experience Guiding or meet their challenges without the constant support of their Guiders. These women selflessly volunteer their time so that these girls will have the opportunity to grow and develop into the fantastic young women they are today. On behalf of the girls and your fellow Guiders, thank you.

Parents and families also need to be recognized and thanked. It is your commitment and encouragement that has kept your daughter on this path, and led her to this success. Thank you for all of the time that you have given to Guiding *(you may want to add more here)*

*(You may want to add adult awards and recognition of our 50, 55 and 60 plus Members here.)*

*(You should also recognize all of the special guests that have attended.)*

Also, a special thanks the Local Awards Task Group and volunteers for hosting such a wonderful event.

Please join me in congratulating all of tonight's Girl Guide awards recipients. We are honoured to call each of them Members of Girl Guides of Canada.