



Girl Guides  
of Canada  
Guides  
du Canada

# FOCUS

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- ✓ Visit [Support Us](#) on our website
- ✓ Mail us your donation
- ✓ Phone: 416-487-5281 ext. 228



Your support in action

June 2010 Issue NO. 4



Chief Commissioner Chris Burton enjoys a laugh with some girls.

## Message from the Chief

We're half way through 2010 – a year of celebrations for Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada as we mark 100 years as a vibrant, dynamic Movement! Our centennial celebrations are building a buzz about Guiding with our Members and the public. Everyone is talking about Girl Guides!

Our 2010 celebrations officially got underway in January with a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary launch event at Casa Loma in Toronto, home of our first Chief Commissioner. And the excitement just started building from there. In March, the important role Guiding plays in communities right across Canada was commemorated on Parliament Hill with our 100 on the Hill event. And on National Rally Day in May, the national spotlight was truly on Guiding as some 48,000 girls and Guiders joined together in this milestone moment in Guiding history. (For photos from these events, see pages 2 and 3.)

I joined the Rally Day in my hometown of Lethbridge, Alberta. Volunteering at one of the stations – I was helping make sparklers! – and throughout these centennial activities, it brought home to me why girls need Guides. Watching girls and Guiders having fun and working together emphasized how GGC engages girls in all activities and how girls and adult Members share in the work and play. I have never been prouder to be a Member of Girl Guides of Canada.

Thank you to all of our donors – you help make girl greatness happen.

And more is still in store for the fall. Stay tuned to find out what everyone is talking about!

Chris Burton  
Chief Commissioner

National Rally Day in Toronto included flags in a rainbow of colours at Ontario Place.





## Girls take action with our 2010 National Service Project

Since launching in January, Members have logged an astounding 51,000 acts against hunger and surpassed our goal! Here are just some of the ways girls and Units are donating food and volunteer hours:

- A Guide Unit in Ontario held an aerobics night, using donated canned goods as hand weights.
- Brownies in Burnaby, B.C., packed a birthday box for a local food bank containing everything needed to throw a birthday party for an 8-year-old.
- Sparks in New Brunswick sent their Premier drawings of what they thought it felt like to be hungry.

Through Guiding, Canadian girls are truly able to speak out and get involved in the issues that matter to them!



## GGC at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)

We always knew our girl Members had lots to say – now everyone else will, too! If you're visiting Toronto this summer, be sure to visit the Canadian Girls Say... exhibition at the AGO. The exhibition showcases the top 100 images submitted as part of this groundbreaking Girl Guides of Canada program and reflect how deeply Canadian girls feel about their communities. We extend a special thanks to our generous sponsor, Black Photo Corporation, for making this project possible.

**Canadian Girls Say... will be on display at the AGO until September.** Be sure not to miss this exhibition, which speaks volumes about what matters to Canadian girls. We encourage those unable to visit the AGO to view our online gallery of the top 100 images at [www.girlguides.ca/cgs\\_themes](http://www.girlguides.ca/cgs_themes).

Two Pathfinders enjoy the opening of Candian Girls Say... at the AGO.



## Let's get the party started!

On January 16, 4,700 girls, Guiders and special guests came to Toronto's Casa Loma to kickstart our 100th anniversary celebrations. As part of this National Launch party, Chief Commissioner Chris Burton led Members in saying our renewed Promise for the first time.



The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario The Honourable David C. Onley greets girls at the National Launch Party.

Our launch party was a sea of girls and Guiders from all branches, ready to party!





### Girl Guides take over Parliament Hill

In March, our 100th anniversary celebrations touched down in Ottawa with our 100 on the Hill event. Girls had the chance to tour the House of Commons before participating in a special reception recognizing GGC for 100 years of helping Canadian girls become confident, courageous and resourceful leaders. Among the guests were the Speaker of the House, Senators, party leaders and MPs.



Alexandra Mendes, MP, Brossard-LaPrairie sponsored the event on Parliament Hill. Justin Trudeau celebrates with some of our girl Members.



### National Rally Day

On May 15, 2010, 48,000 Girl Guides from coast-to-coast-to-coast gathered to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Girl Guides of Canada. The day began with a sunrise ceremony in Newfoundland and concluded with a gigantic sleepover in Vancouver. Girls across the country participated in a host of activities from tug-of-wars and nature activities to a flash mob dance and of course, enjoying birthday cake! Check out videos and photos from across the nation at <http://2010.girlguides.ca>.



Sparks in Brandon, MB, greet Rally Day.

A Brownie shoots a beach ball high into Vancouver's Pacific Coliseum



### Stamp of approval

Our centennial celebrations are on the move, as Canada Post honours our girl-empowering movement with a new commemorative stamp this July. The stamp features photos of Emma Luce, a Guide, and Molly Lewis, a Brownie, as well as images of some of our current badges. From our first Unit in St. Catharine's, Ont., in 1910 to the important role Guiding plays today in girls lives in every province and territory, this stamp recognizes this milestone moment in Canadian history. Stock up and keep the face of Guiding in the public as the price of this stamp will remain the same over the years.

The Day of Issue package for the 100th anniversary stamp includes a short history of GGC. Get yours at your local post office.

Informational page for the stamp featuring a photo of Emma Luce and Molly Lewis, a postage stamp, and a short history of GGC in both English and French.

# Support Makes a Difference



## New Units Update

**Since 2006, our New Units Initiative has brought Guiding to girls in remote and at-risk areas.**

One of the first new Units created was the 2nd Brantford Guides in Ontario. From that Unit, eight girls recently received their Lady Baden-Powell Award, the highest award in Guides. New Pathfinder and Sparks Units have been created from this Guide Unit.



In Saskatoon, the Brownie/Guide Unit at the close-knit St. Michael's Community School is all about inclusiveness. The school's principal, the community worker, Guiders and girls alike all come together to create a safe and fun space for girls in this largely Aboriginal community. Everyone looks forward to her weekly Unit meetings. The year ended with a spa day for the girls – complete with manicures, pedicures, facials, and of course, pizza!



## Girls say Thanks!

Whether they're learning to make healthy snacks, doing simple woodworking or designing their own necklaces, girls in the 1st Yellowknife Brownie Unit are trying new things through Guiding. And they want everyone to know it! They sent a thank-you card to GGC's national office for our donors: "Thank you for your donation to our Brownie Unit – you help make all this fun possible!"

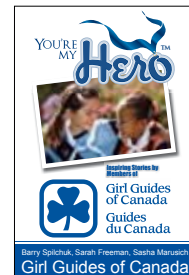


## GGC helps girls go green

With the support of GGC's Tree Planting Grant program, Faith Gibson, 1st Whitby Guides started FAITH, the Further Advancement In Tree Habitats project to provide sustainable tree habitats that will have a healthy and lasting effect on both the environment and our communities.

## Buy a book AND support Guiding!

What could be better than a book that's not only inspiring to read but also supports Girl Guides of Canada! Our new book, *You're My Hero, Girl Guides of Canada*, is now available to pre-order.



This is a book written by Girl Guides, with over 400 stories and drawings submitted from Members across Canada.

*You're My Hero* makes a wonderful keepsake for our 100th anniversary, and it also supports the future of Guiding. GGC will receive \$8 from every book sold. The book costs \$21 plus shipping (rates are listed online) and will be shipped the last week of July. You can order your copy today at [www.ymhggc.com](http://www.ymhggc.com). If you order before July 15, \$0.50 from the sale of each book will support a new GGC scholarship.

**Bonus!** Include your own hero story in the book. Go to [www.ymhggc.com](http://www.ymhggc.com), write your story and print it out. Then paste your story on the "My Personal Hero" chapter in your copy of the book.

### CONTACT

*Focus* is published each spring and fall.

Our donors make it possible for us to bring Guiding to new communities and support future generations of leaders.

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