



## BACKGROUND

### Vision

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada, the organization of choice for girls and women, makes a positive difference in the life of every girl and woman who experiences Guiding so she can contribute responsibly to her communities.

### Mission

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

### Our History

In 2010, Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada (GGC) celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a trailblazing organization advocating for girls and women.

It all began in 1909, when girls in England demanded to take part in a Boy Scouts rally organized by Lord Baden-Powell at the Crystal Palace in London. Baden-Powell was impressed and he asked his sister, Agnes, to create a program just for girls. This was the beginning of Guiding.

By 1910, the Guiding Movement had reached Canada and the first Unit was formed in St. Catharines, Ontario. By 1912, there were Units in every province and many of Canada's most forward-thinking women banded together to form the Canadian Girl Guides Association, with Lady Mary Pellatt as Canada's first Chief Commissioner.

Throughout its history, Girl Guides of Canada has prepared girls to meet the challenges that they face in their lives head on. Whether it was girls learning to bandage wounds during the First World War or girls today working on their anti-bullying badge, Guiding continually changes with the times to reflect the needs and interests of contemporary girls and women. Today, Guiding's innovative programming helps the next generation of Canadian girls become the confident, courageous and resourceful leaders of tomorrow.

**In the last 100 years, over 7 million Canadian girls and women have been connected to Guiding.**

### Girl Guide Branches

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada (GGC) is the original activity-based organization for girls in Canada with 90,000 Members from coast to coast to coast. We welcome all girls and women to join and be part of the following groups:

- Sparks – ages 5 and 6
- Brownies – ages 7 and 8
- Guides – ages 9 to 11
- Pathfinders – ages 12 to 14
- Rangers – ages 15 to 17+
- Adults – as leaders, mentors, team members and more

