Approved Sept 2015, Revised November 2017

**Purpose**

Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada, Nova Scotia Council endorses the philosophy that every girl should have the opportunity to join Girl Guides. It does however also recognize that due to - geographic, financial or cultural circumstances, these opportunities are not always present. Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada, Nova Scotia Council is committed to provide these potential units with funding support and resources to make these opportunities accessible.

**General Application**

The guidelines would apply to new units that would be unable to open without substantial financial assistance. Generally, the majority of the unit roster would consist of new members to guiding, and not transferred in from other units (waiting lists or issues alleviated).

**Specific Application**

A new unit opening does not in itself merit the need for funding. Therefore, application requests will be reviewed to see whether the unit has the additional challenges:

* Geographical. Funded unit requests that have sisters units within approximately 30 minutes would not generally be considered to have a geographical challenge.
* Socio-Economical. If approximately 75% or more of the girl members require support, then this provides justification that the unit may be deemed a funded unit.

**Guidelines**

1. The need for this assistance could be recognized by the community itself or by the DC/ AC/ Membership Adviser.
2. Applications will be submitted through the Area Council to the PC or Deputy PC: Area Support. Review and approval is granted by the Provincial Commissioner and Provincial Treasurer.
3. Province will waive its portion of the membership fees for girl members in these units.
4. Areas will waive the $15 portion of girl membership fees.
5. Province will provide funding for all girl members in an identified community as per the formula on the application.
6. Areas will provide funding for unit(s) and Guiders in an identified community as per the formula on the application. (i.e. membership fees, trainings, uniforms, unit supplies, meeting space)
7. Nova Scotia Council, and Areas, will provide support to eligible units for one year.
8. Units may reapply additional funding for a second year.
9. Request for exceptions to the Guidelines are to be submitted to the Provincial Commissioner.
10. Funded Units must submit a copy of the Annual Financial Report by January 31st of the following year for each year funding is received.
11. Requests for uniforms is addressed independently by contacting the Provincial Office.