



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Backgrounder

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 community.

Mission

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

History

In 2010, Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) celebrated its 100th anniversary as a trailblazing organization advocating for girls and women. Now with more than 92,000 members from coast to coast, 7 million Canadian girls and women have been involved in Guiding over the last 104 years.

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.

In 1910, the Guiding Movement arrived in 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 our history, GGC has prepared girls to meet the challenges that they face in their lives head on. Whether learning to bandage wounds during the First World War or working on their anti-bullying badge today, Guiding continually evolves to reflect the needs and interests of girls and women. Today, Guiding's innovative programming is helping the next generation of Canadian girls become confident, courageous and resourceful leaders.

GGC continues to be a place that sparks the imagination of girls to take their place in the world and take action on the issues that matter to them. As female role models, our adult members support girls to achieve and





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succeed – through fun, adventures, challenges and international experiences. Guiding continues to play an important role in communities right across Canada.

Girl Guide Branches

Guiding gives girls the tools and resources they need to achieve greatness. Through hands-on learning experiences, girls and young women are encouraged to develop their own identity and build positive relationships with others. GGC welcomes all girls and women to join and be a part of the following branches:

- 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

