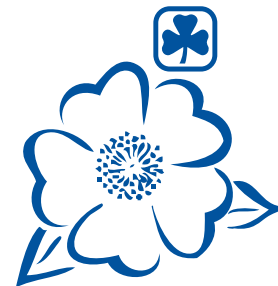


WINTER 2014

Blue-Print



Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada | Alberta Council | www.albertagirlguides.com

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

Week Long Camps

— Twyla Jenkins, Provincial Camping Adviser

Guiding Mosaic is coming! We are all very excited that this fantastic camp will be held right here in Alberta, at Camp Woods Sylvan Lake on July 9-17, 2016. I know Guiders are preparing their girls to ensure they have the best experience possible.

One of the prerequisites for this camp is a minimum of four nights in tents prior to the camp, with at least two of these nights being consecutive. It should be easy for everyone to get in two weekend tent camps between now and GM.

However to really prepare your girls for GM, I would like to suggest that you try to hold a longer camp. While a six to eight night camp would be ideal, even a three to five night camp will help.

When spending a whole week in a tent, it is harder for the girls to keep the tent clean and their belongings organized. Stuff seems to disappear under the sleeping pad or at the bottom of the sleeping bag. Space is limited, and by living in a tent longer at a camp before GM, the girls will have a better understanding of what they really should bring with them to GM, and what things they don't need to bring.

A longer camp will also help the girls to learn to get along with each other in close quarters. Living in a tent together means they need to be respectful of the need for privacy, tolerant of each others quirks, considerate of others' belongings, and respect others' need for rest or sleep.

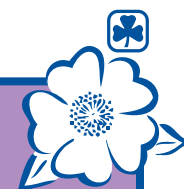
Personal hygiene is more of an issue at a long camp. During a weekend camp, the girls can manage to do without a shower or hair wash. But at a week long camp they will need to deal with these. A longer practice camp will give the girls the opportunity to learn to use a solar shower, or to wash their hair in a basin. Many girls have never brushed their teeth without a sink and running water. They will need instruction on how to do this using a cup and slop pail at camp.

Airing the bedrolls and tents becomes more important at longer camps, and the girls need to learn to find suitable times to do this that won't interfere with their program.

As well as being preparation for GM, longer camps are just lots of fun. There is more time to fit in all the things we like

to do at camp without rushing. There are more meals to try interesting menu ideas and methods of cooking. More time to earn badges, do extra crafts, play games, or learn more songs. All camps need the usual tents and other equipment. At a longer camp we get lots of chances to really use the equipment, instead of just setting everything up and immediately taking it all down again.

If at all possible, I urge you to try a longer tent camp in the coming year. If it is not possible for your unit to have a longer camp, suggest to your girls that they might like to attend one of the provincial camps being held in 2015. Preliminary information on these camps is in this issue of *Blue-Print* and more detailed information will be coming out in the February *Blue-Print*.



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A message from the Provincial Commissioner

Wow, isn't the fall flying by? It's such a busy time as we welcome new members and reconnect with returning ones. For me as I write this, five months have passed since I was installed as the 19th PC of Alberta Council. It's been an amazing experience to say the least. I have had the opportunity to meet many Guiders and girls at various provincial events such as Hodge Podge, Girls' Arts Camp, Parade of Nations at the World Triathlon, Commissioners' Workshop to name a few. My deputies and I are looking forward to meeting many more of you in the coming months. (Note, if you have only two of the crests you might want to consider registering for Multi-Faceted as all three of us will be there.)

By now you have been selling cookies for a few weeks at least. I hope sales are going well. Did you know that while the cookie sales give you the Unit Guider and possibly your district and area funds to allow you to operate your units and offer great opportunities to the girls, it also has another role. Seventy-five cents from each case of cookies sold in AB, NT and YT goes into a membership assistance pool and with these funds we are able to assist our members with their membership fees as well as our areas and districts with rent subsidies. In 2014, we are targeted to assist in this way by at least \$67,500. We couldn't do that if it wasn't for everyone selling their cookies. Thank you! Working together we can achieve great things.

While I am on the subject of cookies, are you participating in Cookie All Stars? It is a great program and it rewards the girls for their work. The girls get to acquire great skills that they will never realize they have by participating in door to door sales as well as public venue sales. It prepares them for future employment as being able to say that you have great sales skills is an asset. Making cold sales calls is a great confidence booster. Watch your girls as they make those sales and see how happy they are when they are "closing the deal". I remember especially Sparks and Brownies when they practically danced when they made sales. They aren't afraid to ask the question and if they get told no, they learned to just smile and say, 'thanks' and move on.

An exciting piece of news to share with you now, our two northern areas are now joined together in one area that which joins NT and YT together. They have not come up with their new name yet but they will continue to offer guiding in the most remote parts of Canada that as they have been doing.

Have you checked out the Provincial Commissioner's challenge? It's in the new program booklets that most of you have probably received by now or you can find it on the website. It is my belief that service is a great opportunity to "take action for a better world". There are so many things you can do. Of course the Christmas season has a variety of opportunities but look outside the box. Is there a forgotten segment in your community that could use your help? One of my favorite service projects is the Birthday Parties in a Box. It is simple to do with any age and it creates conversation and awareness in everyone who participates. With Thinking Day coming up and the celebration of the birthdays of Lord and Lady BP what better time than to have "presents". They can later be donated to your local food bank for distribution. I am looking forward to hearing about the great service projects happening in AB, NT and YT.

Are you on Facebook®? Why not "like" the GGC-AB PC Team page? We post pictures of what we are doing and cool things that come across our plates.

Just a reminder to continue to check your rosters regularly as girls register all year round and you want to be sure you have all the information of all the girls at your

meeting. With that in mind, we are getting close to the goal of 15,000 in 2015 but we aren't there yet. Why not have a bring a friend night (either adult or girl) or perhaps if your unit is looking for a leader perhaps the girls know someone who would be good and they could write a letter to her asking her to join. We are getting closer to our goal one member at a time!

I hope that when your Blue-Print came in the mail, that you were able to sit down with a cup of tea (or other relaxing beverage) and put your feet up and have a good read. Hopefully the holidays will bring you family time, lots of laughter and fun and most of all relaxation. 2015 is going to be a great year and we are getting closer to our goal of 15,000 members so don't stop now! We can do this! From the entire PC team, we wish you all the best this holiday season.

Beverly Simpson-Headon

Provincial Commissioner, Alberta Council



July 9-17, 2016 **GUIDING MOSAIC 2016**

Camp Woods, Sylvan Lake, Alberta

Girl Guides of Canada's 13th national camp Guiding Mosaic 2016 is coming to Alberta!

Can a Guide attend GM?

YES if she:

- was born in the year of 2004 or earlier
- her parents preregister her in the spring of 2016 for Pathfinders for the 2016-2017 year

Camp Fee Structure

The registration fee covers:

- Food; program activities and events; off-site activities; and campsite rental and costs.
- For all those arriving by airplane or by train transportation from the Calgary or Edmonton airport or the Edmonton train station

Additional Costs

Participants are responsible for transportation costs to and from Alberta, additional accommodations before and after camp (if required), all camping equipment, and personal expenses.

Children at Camp

GM2016 is intended for Pathfinder and Ranger camp participants. To get the best possible experience, Patrol Guiders and Core Crew must ensure undivided attention to their respective roles and responsibilities. Therefore adult camp participants and Core Crew staff will not be permitted to bring their non-camp participant children to camp.

The registration process is still being worked on at the time of this submission; stay tuned as the planning unfolds. Reliable sources to find information are:

- www.guidingmosaic.com
- **ANY_GUIDENEWS**
(Alberta's biweekly email newsletter)
- Alberta questions: e-mail:
AB.GM.liaison@shaw.ca

PLEASE NOTE – Alberta patrols are responsible for arranging their own transportation/travel to and from camp. Alberta patrols cannot go to the Calgary or Edmonton airport or Edmonton train station to join this transportation to camp.

Membership

– Noella Brisebois, Provincial Membership Adviser

Here we are the end of November. Where does the time go? The first census count will be upon us before we know it. We are all at a busy time of the year, new girls, perhaps new units, new Guiders and enrolment ceremonies.

Hopefully things are falling into a terrific routine and everyone is having fun. With the upcoming census count it is a good idea to check your unit rosters and perhaps even your council rosters to make sure all the registered members are on your roster. Please make sure no one is missing and there are no extra Members (Members not in your unit/council). This could be done on a weekly basis – just a good habit to initiate. If you happen to find an extra or missing Member, contact the provincial office and discuss this with the iMIS clerk, they are awesome and more than willing to help out. It is important to remember Members can join at any time and the full registration must be paid. We cannot, and do not, pro-rate membership dues.

Registrations can be made either online or by paper. PayPal® is a terrific alternate to using credit cards.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all you do and for your dedication to increasing membership in Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada!

Alberta Girls' Arts Camp

Coming Soon in the summer of 2015!

More information in the early 2015 issue of *Blue-Print*.

Interested in volunteering, e-mail:
program@albertagirlguides.com



Training

— Kathy Batty, Provincial Training Adviser

Planning is well underway for our annual provincially sponsored events. Multi-Faceted, which will be held in March 2015 is going to challenge you to boldly go...while the Trainers' Workshop, taking place in April, is an excellent opportunity to check out what the trainer modules are all about! Please see elsewhere in this edition and the AB Girl Guide web page, under Training, for more information.

Why should you consider taking trainings that GGC offers?

Training sessions are designed to assist you in your current position within Guiding. If you are a Unit Guider, perhaps you would like some ideas on what to do with your unit outdoors during our long winter months. **We** can help with that. Perhaps you are an area standing committee adviser and are looking for hints and tips on managing your time. **We** can help with that! Or maybe you are just interested in getting away for a weekend with like-minded women for a bit of personal development! Again, **we** can and **will** help with that, in fact we want to! Not only will you receive great resources from the training itself, you will also come away with fantastic ideas from other participants!

To give you just a smattering of what can be found in the Dramatic Arts Enrichment Training session, this module is designed to help you understand the importance of including dramatic arts in your regular program and to introduce you to some of the possible styles of dramatic arts that could be used in your program.

There are many forms of dramatic art, including role playing, puppetry, drama games, mime, improvising and storytelling, all of which have their own benefit to the girls while including pieces of their program work. For instance, role playing gives

the participants the opportunity to think about something they have learned and apply that knowledge in a real-world setting. It also provides participants the chance to understand a situation from someone else's point of view and it gives participants a way to build self-esteem and confidence in a positive environment. Can you incorporate these examples into your meeting?

- After talking about how to use a camp stove or how to behave around a camp stove, Brownies or Guides can role-play safe ways to behave at camp before getting there. This practice gives them real experience in a safe setting.
- After learning about Guiding in other countries or listening to the story of a girl from another country, Sparks or Brownies can role-play to present the life of a girl in another country.
- Pathfinders and Rangers can act out situations that will happen in the future such as out-of-control parties, job interviews or fights with parents, in order to work out how to deal with them and to get support from each other.

Would you like more information on this session or in another area?

Talk to your training team; we **can** help!

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to visit our newly updated web pages, the next time you are surfing the net, we hope you will take a minute to have a look. You will find listings of the various training opportunities taking place in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon as well as other useful resources!

Check us out at:

www.girlguides.ca/AB/Volunteers/Training/AB/Training.aspx

TRAINERS' WORKSHOP

If you are a Trainer, Trainer Candidate or are interested in finding out more information on what being a Trainer entails, then please set aside **April 24-26, 2015** and plan to attend the Trainers' Workshop being held at the iHotel in Red Deer. The weekend will offer the Trainer Stream, which are modules designed to provide training and facilitating skills to ANY Guider in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon who may be interested in becoming a Trainer.

After participating in the modules, you can make the decision whether or not you want to proceed further with becoming a Trainer...no commitment required! More information will be coming out in early 2015, but in the meantime, talk to your area training adviser.

We hope to see you in April 2015!

Dove® Free Being Me Challenge

As Guiders we understand the importance of a positive self-image, especially for young girls. We all imagine a world where no one is worried about the way they look. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and Dove have joined together to work towards this incredible vision. We want everyone to feel free to be themselves.

The challenge incorporates games, activities and discussions to challenge the image many young girls have about what they should look like. Most of the sessions require minimal supplies and the download even includes a sample letter to send home to parents to explain the challenge and get them on board.



There are two different levels of the challenge – one is for 7-10 year olds (Brownies and Guides) and one for 11-14 year olds (third year Guides and Pathfinders). The challenge is broken up into five sessions and it is estimated that each session will take just over an hour to complete. There is a guide for leaders as well to help you prepare and run the sessions.

Visit www.free-being-me.com or www.girlguides.ca (under Programs/Specialized Programs) for the full downloads and information. Crests can be ordered from www.wagggs-shop.org.

Start planning ahead for Thinking Day!

Before you know it, it will be February 22 and you will be celebrating Thinking Day. With a little planning you can make the day meaningful for the girls and Guiders in your unit.

By the end of the year, there will be some resources available to help you plan. Firstly, look out for the next edition of the “Friendship Flyer” in the upcoming *Canadian Guider*. The theme will be diversity and inclusion and will include many suggestions for unit activities to help your unit celebrate Thinking Day.

The 2015 WTD theme is Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 8: Develop a global partnership for development.

WAGGGS has adopted the final Millennium Development Goal (MDG) as the theme for Thinking Day 2015: Develop a global partnership for development. Over the last 7 years, WAGGGS members have been taking action on the MDGs.

WAGGGS has developed another activity pack for this year’s theme. For the first time, the activity pack includes a board game to help Guides celebrate on World Thinking Day.

Perfect for playing together at a group meeting, or as part of a World Thinking Day party or special event.

The activity pack is free to download from www.worldthinkingday.org. If you would rather purchase a game rather than print it yourself, you can buy it from the WAGGGS store – Thinking Day crests are available there too.



Adult Arts Event Looking for ideas!

Attention all Guiders in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon. We will be hosting an “Adult Arts Event” from November 6-8, 2015 at Tangletrees.

The hostesses, Donna Thomas and Bonny LaBine are currently in the planning stages and would like your input as to what sessions you would like to see offered at this bi-yearly event.

Please e-mail Donna at thomasdm@csc-scc.gc.ca with your ideas by the end of December 2014. More information about registration will be made available in early 2015.

Alberta Council's 2015 casino

**Friday, January 9 and
Saturday, January 10, 2015
at Century Casino**

Please contact Sharry Hodgkinson at sharryhodgkinson@telus.net or 780-455-6955 if you would like to volunteer.



Awards

We all like to be appreciated and noticed for what we do—when volunteering our time or working at a paid job. One way we can demonstrate we have noticed a Guider's hard work and extra effort, whether for one-time project or an ongoing commitment, is to give them an award. Sometimes the process of applying for an award can seem a bit daunting. The best thing you can do is to talk to your area awards adviser and ask questions. Here are a few of the questions I have received:

1. Are commissioners the only ones who can apply for awards?

Any registered Member can apply for an award. It is a simple process: fill out the R.3P form for a provincial award or the R.3N form for a national award and sign it on the line labeled "Recommended by", write a letter of support, obtain a second letter (you need three letters for the Alberta Rose Award) then give the form and letters to your area awards adviser. She will take it from there.

2. Can only adult Members write letters of support?

Unless the criteria states the letters must come from registered Members only, a letter of support can be written by a girl Member, a parent or a member of the community. This most often applies to Pathfinders and Rangers, but if a co-leader in a unit wants to recognize a Guider she works with she can get letters from the girls and parents. You will still need at least one letter from a registered Member who fills out the R.3 form and recommends the Member for the award.

3. Is there an award for people from the community who help with a specific event or give ongoing service to Guiding?

Yes, indeed there is! The Silver Thanks pin can be given to a member of the community, male or female, who has given service to Guiding with permission of the commissioner concerned.

4. Can you receive the Gold Merit award if you have the Gold Unit Guider award?

These two awards are exclusive of each other and are given for different reasons. Having one does not mean you can't receive the other.

5. What do I do if a DC won't approve awards higher than the ones she has received?

This is just a misunderstanding on the DC's part. Awards the DC has or has not received have nothing to do with awards given to the Guiders in the units. Talk to your area awards adviser to help straighten this out.

6. When are Membership pins given to the girls and Guiders?

Membership pins celebrate the number of years of GGC membership and should be given to both girls and Guiders at the beginning of the Guiding year. A good time to give them to everyone is at an early ceremony, for example an enrollment ceremony.

7. Are there any awards beside the formal awards?

There are lots of fun informal awards that can be given to everyone. You will find them on our web page at www.albertagirlguides.com in the Membership section under Recognize/Rewards. Please let me know if you come up with any more and I will add them!

The information you need about our formal awards and how to apply for them is in the *Alberta Provincial Awards Information Booklet* which can be found on our web page www.albertagirlguides.com in the Membership section under Recognize/Reward.

If you have questions about anything to do with awards ask your area awards adviser or e-mail them to awards@albertagirlguides.com.

Summer Camps for Girls

Provincial Guide Summer Camp

Date: July 19-26, 2015

Place: Camp Sherbino (near Sylvan Lake)

Who can attend: Anyone registered as a Guide in the 2014-2015 Guiding year

Theme: Mount Olympus and Beyond

Each day we will celebrate a country that has had the honour of being an Olympic host. England, Japan, Germany, USA, Canada, Brazil, and Russia have been selected. Activities and crafts will reflect the culture of each day's designated country. Olympic sports, such as archery, will also be represented in some of the activities.

A fieldtrip to the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, and to the waterslide in Sylvan Lake are among the many exciting events being planned for this camp.

Girls will apply as individuals on a first come first served basis. A limit of 36 girls will be accepted for this camp. Girls will need to have a completed swim test entered in iMIS before camp. Complete information and registration forms will be available in February.

Summer Camps for Girls continued

Provincial Pathfinder/Ranger Summer Camp

Date: August 2-8, 2015

Place: Camp Woods at Sylvan Lake

Who can attend: Anyone registered as a Pathfinder or Ranger in the 2014-2015 Guiding year

Name: Water World

Theme: Water Related activities

Participants at this camp will spend a portion of each day doing water activities such as swimming, canoeing and kayaking. Other water related activities will include things such as making small paddle boats and cork boats to race (similar to cub car races); building rafts from pool noodles; and water themed crafts. A few other activities such as archery and geo-caching will also be available.

A field trip to learn about wetlands, and to the waterslide in Sylvan Lake will also be included in this exciting camp.

Girls will apply as individuals on a first-come first-served basis. A limit of 36 girls will be accepted for this camp. Girls will need to have a completed swim test entered in iMIS before camp. Complete information and registration forms will be available in February 2015.

Colour Your World

Date: To be confirmed (one week in late July/early August)

Place: Alberta Guide House, Edmonton

Who can attend: Girls who have just completed third year Guides

Name: Colour Your World

Participants in this event will feel like they have travelled around the world without ever leaving the Edmonton Area. Experience food, crafts, dancing and games from many countries and spend a day at Edmonton's world famous Heritage Days Festival. Activities at past events have included Japanese Drumming, African Drumming, Bollywood dancing, going for sushi and making Ukrainian Easter Eggs at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village.

Girls will apply as individuals on a first come, first served basis. A limit of 20 girls will be accepted for this event. Complete information and registration forms will be available in February 2015.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Public Relations Adviser

Are you interested in a challenge and a new experience?

Alberta Council is looking for an enthusiastic Guider with a passion for Guiding, interested in promoting a positive image of Girl Guides of Canada to the public and fostering a sense of pride in Guiding among our Members in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon.

The position is open to any adult Member and responsibilities include:

- Chairing committee meetings;
- Participating in Alberta Council and Standing Committee advisers' meetings;
- Orientation of Area Public Relations Advisers;
- Distributing news releases and information from National;
- Communicating and promoting external events that enhance our image; and
- Increasing awareness of Guiding in all of Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon communities.

Necessary Qualifications:

- Good written and verbal communication skills;
- Team player
- At ease speaking with the media;
- A overall understanding of various social media

Deadline for applications is January 31, 2015

Position commences June 1, 2015

Application form and job description are available from Alberta Council:

- calling 780-424-5510
- e-mailing info@albertagirlguides.com
- www.albertagirlguides.com
- 11055 107 St NW, Edmonton AB T5H 2Z6



GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA – ALBERTA COUNCIL
Provincial Event Registration Form

Send form **with fee** by 4:00 PM **FEBRUARY 19TH, 2015** to:
No refunds after this date, but substitutions allowed.

Girl Guides of Canada Alberta Council
11055–107 Street NW Edmonton AB T5H 2Z7

Or e-mail/fax form with credit card payments to: info@albertagirlguides.com Fax: 780-426-1715

Note: Payment **MUST** accompany Registration Form

Name of Event: To Boldly Go....Multi-Faceted 2015 Date: March 20-22 2015

Applicant's Name: _____ iMIS Number: _____

Guiding Area: _____ Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____
Number Street Town/City Postal Code

Health or Dietary Restrictions:

Every effort will be made to accommodate your dietary/health restrictions. Please be as specific as possible using a second page if necessary.

Additional Information we need

to be made aware of: Please be as specific as possible.

Double Accommodation

\$290 (GST included)

(includes double accommodation, meals and sessions)

(Roommate requested name or indicate no preference)

Method of Payment

To Boldly Go....Multi-Faceted 2015

Participant fee - \$290

☐ Cheque (made payable to Girl Guides of Canada Alberta Council) Amount : \$ _____

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card #: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Card Holder's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Note: It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that application forms and fees arrive before the deadline.
The participant will not be processed or registered until both the registration form and the payment have been received.

A list of participants for this event will be distributed at the event to allow you to communicate with each other during or after the event. Do you wish to have your name, phone number, e-mail address, and home address included on the list of participants? Failure to mark of either box will automatically place you on the participants list. No follow up phone calls or e-mails will be sent in this regard. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

Cancellation Policy: In the event of the participant cancelling her registration in this event up to three weeks prior to event, 75% will be returned to the applicant. No refunds will be made if cancellation is received within three weeks (twenty-one days) of the event, except upon extenuating circumstances; documentation may be required.

We protect and respect your privacy. Your personal information is used to communicate within our organization. We do not provide or sell this information outside our organization. For further information, see our privacy statement at www.girlguides.ca.

To BoLDLY Go....
Multifaceted Event 2015
Session Choices

Name: _____

iMIS #: _____

Please indicate 1st and 2nd choices where applicable.

*denotes a Provincial Challenge **denotes a TEAM Module

SaTurDaY SeSSionS	
Session 1 - Boldly Build Relationships	Choice preferences
Toastmasters/Public Speaking	
Free to be Me	
Girls United: Helping Girls Connect in Healthy Ways **	
Effective Communication **	
Bias Awareness and Equity Training **	
Session 2 - Boldly Express Yourself	
Dramatic Arts **	
Singing Games (About the Girl) **	
Sing, Sing a Song	
Alberta Arts Challenge *	
Visual Art	
Session 3 - Boldly Venture Outdoors	
Night Games for all ages	
Preparing Girls for GM 2016	
Alberta Geo-caching Challenge *	
Leading Active Games **	
Knotty Girls and Games	
Session 4 - Boldly Travel	
International Guiding **	
Four F's of International Travel Planning	
Provincial Commissioners Challenge *	
GM 2016 for Adults	
Two Stars and a Wish - National Web Site Demystified	
SunDaY SeSSionS	
Session 5 - Boldly Experiment	
# Social Media	
CSI Challenge *	
STEM Challenge *	
Go Green in your Community Challenge *	
Robotics	

**Please return registration form, conference fee and session choices
to the Alberta Provincial Office by February 19th, 2015**

*Note: It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that application forms and fees arrive before the deadline.
The participant will not be processed or registered until both the registration form and the payment have been received.*

Crisis Communications and Media Attention

— Sheila Morrison, Provincial Public Relations Adviser

I'd like to relate a hypothetical story of an encounter with the media. One fall day, the media was invited to a junior high school to do a story on literacy. They spent time with some staff and students, interviewing and filming groups and individuals. As they were wrapping up, the lady packing up the camera overheard two female students talking about what they were planning for their next Girl Guide meeting – something literacy based.

The camera person went to the school office and enquired if there was a Girl Guide unit that met at the school. The secretary indicated there was a group that met on Wednesday evening in the gym and provided the phone number of the lady she thought to be a leader in the group.

With best intentions, the media producer called the leader, not aware the contact information was out-of-date and the leader was no longer involved with Guiding. A day had passed, and they still had not heard from the leader. Their story was going to air in another 24 hours. They really wanted to connect the Guiding activity to their story but would drop that portion if they couldn't find a connection. As they were discussing this, someone in the newsroom opened a box of Girl Guide cookies. Realization sank in, they could find a group selling cookies, and ask them.

They quickly discovered the cookie finder online, and went to visit a group of Brownies selling cookies at the mall. Arriving at the mall, the lady from the media left the camera equipment in the van, and decided on taking quotes instead. The Guider at the mall became suspicious of the questions posed to the girls. After a few questions of her own, she discovered this was an encounter with the media. What should she do? Continue answering their questions? It wasn't an emergency. Should she call her District Commissioner or Area Commissioner now or later? Or one of the numbers on the Emergency Response card in her wallet?

She took down the name of the interviewer, the media she represented, and when the story was going to air, so she could tell her commissioner. When the story aired, she was surprised and a little disappointed with the quotes used. The story turned out to be a little different than what she thought it was going to be about.

Using the Emergency Response card to contact the communication team when the media comes to visit is never a wrong decision. If you're not comfortable responding to the media, ask someone else to do it. The story above was a positive and common encounter with the media. The media has their story well defined before they start asking questions. Be clear on your message.

It's important to recognize the difference between media attention and crisis communication. Crisis communication requires immediate attention. It usually is in response to an isolated incident. Attention as a result of the crisis may pose negative implications. The response on behalf of Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada and Alberta Council needs to be managed with a singular plan where the interests of both Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada and the public are best served by honest, candid, and timely communication.

Consider the earlier story, but instead of beginning at a school with a story on literacy - suppose it was born out of a tragic circumstance. If a member of Girl Guides has been involved in a tragic event, whether at a Girl Guide event or not, the media may seek out her friends in Guiding to get a description of her and her interests. The questions asked of the Brownies and Guider selling cookies in the mall could have been very different. They would have quickly recognized the purpose of the interview as being in response to another event. The media request cannot be ignored. This would be the time to contact a member of the communication team on the Emergency Response card, so the Provincial Commissioner can be informed, and the spokeswoman can manage the necessary communications to the public.

See the Safety and Emergency response section of *Safe Guide* and the Emergency Response Plan (SG.4) for the communication plan. Be sure to collect the media's contact information and express confidence that the situation will be handled by the communication team. Alberta Council has a crisis communication plan in place. We will contact them quickly. Avoid further discussion, or conflict with them. Most importantly remember you are not alone in this.

CORRECTION

to Fall 2014 *Blue-Print* Issue

Under the Provincial Camping Events for the upcoming Guiding Year, the word "Brownie" was put on the wrong line. The Camp In A Box, Creaking Bones, is for Brownies. The week long summer camp July 19-26, 2015 at Camp Sherbino Sylvan Lake is for Guides only. Not Brownies as indicated.

We apologize for any confusion.

Museum memos

— Janet Allcock, Archives Adviser

Did you know...

A Heritage Box full of activities suitable for Sparks and Brownies, such as a badge bingo game and semaphore flags, is now available and that one for Guides/Pathfinders is almost complete.

Did you know...

You can book a tour of the museum and do an age-appropriate scavenger hunt. Consider this if you have booked the Guide House for a sleepover or for one of your unit meetings if you are close enough.

Contact Janet at archives@girlguides.com for more information on both these activities.

A man was preparing a celebration to mark the 100th anniversary celebration of his company. He went into his local archives and asked what historical information they could give him about the company. The answer was brief – “Whatever the company has given us in the past.”

We, in archives, do not actively record the history of units, districts, events etc. We depend on you to give us your log books, scrapbooks and memorabilia. We are very concerned that future generations will not have this information about the present time. In an increasingly paperless society, records such as these are not being preserved as they were in the “old days”. You can help by donating items which will be of interest to future generations.

HELP WANTED!

**Alberta Council's 2015 Casino
is looking for volunteers!**

**Friday, January 9 and
Saturday, January 10, 2015
at Century Casino**

Please contact Sharry Hodgkinson at
sharryhodgkinson@telus.net or
780-455-6955 if you would like
to volunteer.

To BOLDLY Go... Multi-Faceted 2015

Organizers Log...

Star Date March 20-22, 2015...

Guiders from Alberta, NT and Yukon have been spotted recently starting up units, providing support to districts and in general - having fun....

Multi-Faceted 2015 is for Guiders To BOLDLY Go... and meet new Guiding friends, reconnect with existing friends, explore new topics, expand skills and enjoy the wonderful sisterhood that is Guiding!

Organizers Janet Melnyk and Tanya Watts are looking forward to attendees enjoying the weekend and leaving with exciting new ideas and memories to last a lifetime!

Multi-Faceted 2015 will be held on the weekend of March 20-22, 2015 at the iHotel in Red Deer, Alberta.

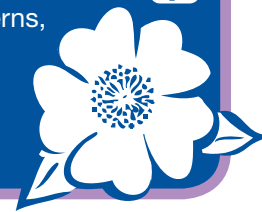
Cost is \$290 (GST included) and this includes accommodation (double occupancy), all meals and sessions.

So set your phasers to FUN, grab a Guiding friend and register by filling out the Event Registration Form and the Session Choices (found elsewhere in this edition) before February 19, 2015 at 4 p.m. First 25 people registered will receive something special at the Conference! For more information on the session choices, please visit our website:

www.girlguides.ca/AB/Volunteers/Training/Events/AB/More/Training-Events.aspx

At the beginning of March participants will receive the registration package and rules of enjoyment to make this a great weekend of fun and learning.

For information, questions or concerns, please contact Tanya Watts at
tawny.owl@icloud.com.



Find Your Voice Challenge

Introduction

The purpose of this challenge is to have fun while learning more about being an active citizen.



Challenge Requirements

Sparks & Brownies: Do one activity from Section 1 and three activities from Section 2.

Guides, Pathfinders & Rangers: Do three activities from Section 1 and four activities from Section 2.

Section 1 – Learn

1. Attend / observe a debate or municipal council meeting or other type of decision making meeting.
2. Learn about the democratic process and hold a vote to make a decision.
3. Find about AGP (Alberta Girls' Parliament). Answer the 5 W's (who, what, where, when and why).
4. Find out about Girls Worldwide Say and Youth Forums on the WAGGGS website. What are the 8 MDG's (Millennium Development Goals)?
5. Brainstorm a list of concerns or issues that affect you or your unit (in your community, province, and country, global, as a girl, etc.).

Section 2 – Do

1. Invite a government official to speak at your unit meeting.
2. Organize and hold a debate about your topic.
3. Prepare and present a speech on something you are passionate about.
4. Learn and sing "I Am One Voice".
5. Play a debate game.
6. Do you remember the television commercial for a hair shampoo where the key concept was viral marketing? The phrase in the commercial went...

"They'll tell two friends... and they'll tell two friends... and so on, and so on..."

And whether we are talking about shampoo, automobiles, candy bars or websites, viral marketing still works! Find out how this concept can help spread the word of your message.

7. Write a letter to your local alderman, MLA, MP, etc. This could be about a question, comment or concern you have.
8. Make a collage or poster or power point presentation about your issue to spread knowledge.
9. Create and present a song or poem to get your message across.
10. Find some another way to spread your message and present this.
11. Attend AGP (as an audience member, page (G/P), Sergeant-at-Arms or clerk (P), or as a delegate (R)
12. Attend a World Forum

Program tie-ins:

Sparks: In My Community – Additional Activities

Brownies: Key to My Community – Women's History challenge, Key to My Community Special Interest Badge

Guides: Discover Your Community #3, #6

Pathfinders: Follow That Woman

Rangers: Global Awareness – Advocacy, The Power of One, Leadership and Management – Leadership in Action

Resources:

- www.wagggsworld.org
- www.alberta.ca/ministries.cfm
- www.albertagirlguides.com/program-AGP.html
- www.gslakemomscoutnotes.com/2012/01/song-i-am-one-voice

Guides on the Air (Thinking Day on the Air)

Have you ever wanted to talk with Girl Guides from other areas of Canada? Or connect with Girl Guides from around the world? Then be part of this challenge which links girls and Guiders from all over the world. This challenge has undergone a facelift and a new badge is available to match the new program. Look at the Alberta Girl Guide website to get the latest information on this exciting challenge. To learn what the above Morse code message is, check out the GOTA (Guides on the Air) challenge!

Sparks/Brownies

Do three of the following:

1. Have a member of the local amateur radio club come talk to your group and try to connect to amateur radio enthusiasts in the area around where you live. The following website has contact information for amateur radio persons in your area – www.rac.ca
2. During Thinking Day week, try to connect with Guides from other countries. The following website www3.ns.sympatico.ca/hfarchibald has all the information needed to set up contact with a local amateur radio club as well as frequencies to access Girl Guides in other areas. GOTA from national www.barriearc.com/GOTA/GOTA.htm
3. Using the phonetic alphabet (see attachment), learn to spell your name and to do the Spark or Brownie promise (see attachment).
4. Learn how to spell your name using Morse code and to spell out Sparks or Brownies.
5. Do the attached word search that has words associated with GOTA.
6. Learn about more modern forms of communication. For Thinking Day, have the girls under adult supervision, spread the news by texting, emailing, twittering or some other form of social networking a quick Thinking Day greeting.

There is an attached GOTA QSO card the girls can get when they communicate with another unit on the airwaves.

More resources are available at www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk, which is the United Kingdom's information about Guides on the Air (or Thinking Day on the Air) as it is known in other countries).

Guides/Pathfinders/Rangers

Do four of the following:

1. Have a member of the local amateur radio club come talk to your group and try to connect to amateur radio enthusiasts in the area around where you live – www.rac.ca
2. During Thinking Day week, try to connect with Guides from other countries. The following website www3.ns.sympatico.ca/hfarchibald has all the information needed to set up contact with a local amateur radio club as well as frequencies to access Girl Guides in other areas. GOTA from national www.barriearc.com/GOTA/GOTA.htm
3. Using the phonetic alphabet (see attachment), learn to spell your name and to do the Promise.
4. Using International Morse code, learn to spell your name and to do the Promise (see attachment).
5. Using either the phonetic alphabet or Morse code, create a message to have one of your friends decode.
6. Do the attached crossword puzzle that has clues related to GOTA.
7. Learn about more modern forms of communication. For Thinking Day, have the girls, under adult supervision, spread the news by texting, e-mailing, twittering or some other form of social networking a quick Thinking Day greeting.

There is an attached GOTA QSO card that the girls can get when they communicate with another unit on the airwaves.

More resources are available at www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk, which is the United Kingdom's information about Guides on the Air (or Thinking Day on the Air) as it is known in other countries).



Gateway To Our Past Challenge

Purpose

The purpose of this challenge is to learn more about the history of Guiding and to explore the archives available.

Challenge

All branches to do activities from at least two of the following four sections.

Section #1: Heritage Boxes

Heritage boxes are available through the provincial office. You may also have many of these items available in your area to use.

Sparks and Brownies complete two of the activities in the Heritage box. Guides complete three of the activities in the Heritage box. Pathfinders and Rangers complete four of the activities in the Heritage box.

Activities:

1. Learn about and possibly try on a previous uniform for your branch.
2. Use the ties from previous uniforms to tie reef knots or to make slings (depends on the previous type of tie).
3. Learn how to wear the berets (uniform hats from previous uniforms) and learn the difference between the Guide sign and the Guide salute.
4. Use semaphore flags and alphabets to send messages to your friends.
5. Bean bag games.
6. Learn how to make a bed at camp using a sheet and three blankets (pins and instructions provided in the Heritage boxes).
7. Play a Kim's game.
8. Using artifacts in the box, learn how to identify and date the artifacts.

Section #2: Guiding Through the Generations

Learn about the challenges and badges that our previous Guiding sisters would have done.

Sparks and Brownies do two of the following. Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers do three of the following.

Activities:

1. Learn your own address and telephone number and how to address an envelope.
2. Set a table for a simple meal.
3. Help wash dishes by hand for three meals in one week.

4. Learn how to answer the phone and take a simple message.
5. Set a table for a family supper.
6. Wrap a parcel and address it.
7. Carry a message of at least 12 words in your head for five minutes and deliver it correctly.
8. Sew on a button.
9. Change the sheets on a bed.
10. Tie a reef knot behind your back.
11. Know the three crosses which make up the Union Jack and which country each represent.
12. Tie and know the uses of the reef knot, sheet bend, round turn and two half hitches.
13. Skip 20 times, without a break, turning the rope backwards.
14. Learn how to sew a hem.
15. Learn how to set a table for a special dinner.
16. Light a fire using two matches without paper or fire starters.
17. Use a compass and find 16 points by the sun and stars.

Section #3: Fun with Heritage

Either visit the Archives at the provincial office OR borrow old uniforms (these may be available from your own area or from the provincial office) and put on a fashion show.

Section #4: Up Close and Personal with Your Guiding Past

Invite a previous Guiding member to come to your unit to discuss what meetings were like when they were a girl Member. Try to run your meeting for one week based on this.

Program Tie-Ins

Sparks: Brownies and Beyond Keeper

Brownies: Key to Girl Guides – Guiding Through Time, Brownies Back in Time

Guides: You In Guiding - Learn About Guiding #1, #2; Canadian Guiding badge

Pathfinders: Exploring a Theme - From Dinosaurs to Vintage Cars

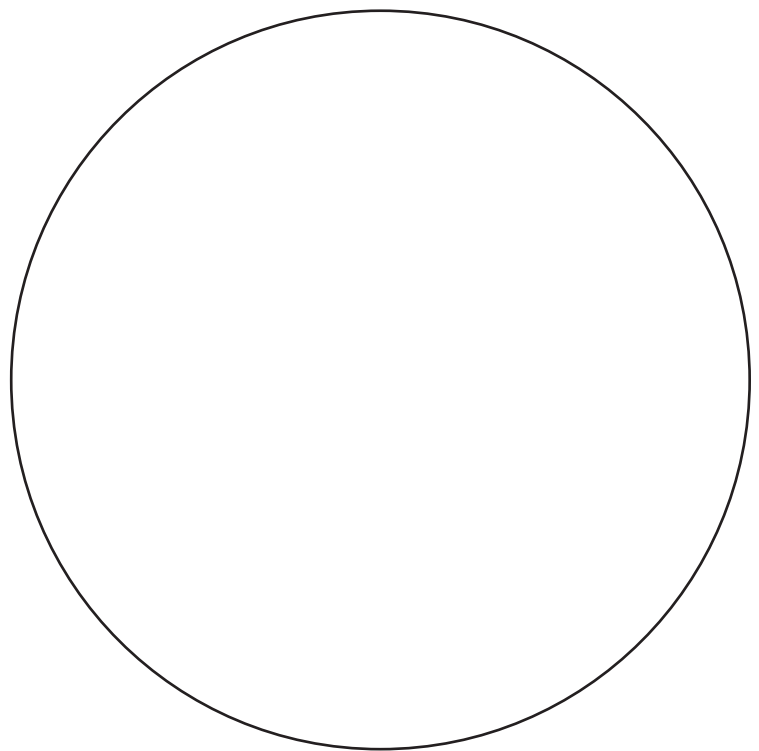
Rangers: Celebrate Guiding #24, #28

Gateway to Our Past Challenge Crest Contest

Help us create the Crest for the Gateway to Our Past Challenge. Please draw your creation within either shape.

The design needs to have the Challenge Name – Gateway to Our Past and the Trefoil.

Contest Deadline is February 28, 2015. Submissions need to be mailed to: Program Adviser, Girl Guides of Canada – Alberta Council, 11055 107 St NW, Edmonton AB T5H 2Z6.



Name of Designer: _____

Unit: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Girls will apply as individuals on a first come, first served basis

A limit of 20 girls will be accepted for this event

Complete information and registration forms will be available in February 2015.

The Wild and Wacky World of Program!

— Erin Ladouceur, Provincial Program Adviser

While I sit here creating the Program article for this edition, I realized I have not introduced myself. My name is Erin and I call Yellowknife home. Over my Guiding career, I have held many different Guiding roles and through them have become excited about the possibilities within the Guiding program. I hope to encourage and provide you with many different resources and information that will stimulate you to create wild and wacky programming for our girl Members.

Since taking on this position, I have been involved with a number of initiatives, which are creating exciting ideas and opportunities. These initiatives are constantly introduced all the time to make our programming absolutely amazing and to keep the girls wanting more.

Without further delay, here are some details for the exciting initiatives and activities.

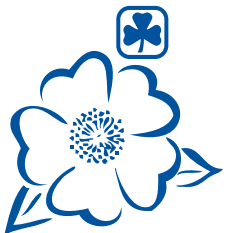
1. The National Service Project, focussing on Literacy, has been named – **Words in Action**. This is a multi-year Service Project, focussing on developing awareness for literacy and the different roles it plays within our society. The launch date for this service project is on **January 26, 2015**. More information and instant meetings will be released in December and January, via *GuidePost* and the National website www.girlguides.ca.
2. For our Rangers and Pathfinders, the **Alberta Girls' Parliament** is happening again this March. This event is an amazing opportunity for our youth members to learn and try out new skills. The application form is included in this edition of the *Blue-Print*. This is a highly popular program and the spaces do fill up quickly.

The deadline for submission of articles for the next issue of *Blue-Print* is **January 2, 2015**.

3. This fall we introduced a new provincial challenge, **Gateway to Our Past**. This challenge is focused on history of Guiding and accessing the archives that we currently hold. However, we need a crest designed for this challenge. With that, I am announcing a Crest Contest for **Gateway to Our Past** Provincial Challenge. This is a new challenge and right now, since we don't have a crest designed for it, we are hosting a crest contest to have our members help us design this crest. Please forward your unit's crest designs to provincial office by February 28, 2015, attention to program adviser.
4. With Thinking Day around the corner, I have included three Provincial Challenges for your units to try.
 - **Gateway to Our Past** – provides a focus on the history of Guiding and the exploration of the historical memorabilia that is available to our members.
 - **Guides on the Air (Thinking Day on the Air)** – provides an opportunity for members to connect with other Guiding Members during Thinking Day.
 - **Find Your Voice** – provides a focus at becoming an active citizen within our communities.

Lastly, as I'm writing this, it's an amazing November day outside in Yellowknife, with no snow and a plus temperature, which is totally wild and wacky. I would like to wish all of you a very safe holiday season. I hope you take time out of the holiday craziness to relax and rejuvenate for the second half of the Guiding year. May your creative juices flow freely to create some wild and wacky meetings for all to enjoy.

If you have awesome program ideas that you would like to share with everyone, please feel free to contact me at program@albertagirlguides.com or through your area program adviser.



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