

Editorial

Happy new year! I am very excited to read about and share the amazing adventures that lie ahead in 2020. How did you celebrate the new year? Do you have exciting events or projects planned? Perhaps a trip? We want to hear about the innovative things you are doing and how you inspire girls and women across the province. How will you celebrate Thinking Day this year? The 2020 theme, as set out by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion," making the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting Movement more accessible to everyone! This is an exciting time to be a part of an organization that is ever evolving, and I can't wait to see what this year holds!

In this issue, we reflect on a winter of warm holiday festivities and service in the community. From Remembrance Day to crafting holiday cards for soldiers to visiting seniors, Guiding members across the province have been spreading warmth and joy. I hope you also enjoy reading about the many experiences and opportunities Guiding brings around STEM and much more!

Yours in Guiding, Saffina Jinnah

Cover Photo Credits:

Front: Madison, Sparks Unit Helper, introducing STEM to young minds. Credit: Van Chau

Back: Georgia and Arielle, 2nd Parksville Guides, painting more than just the canvas. Credit: Val Froom

CANADIAN PUBLICATION AGREEMENT No. 40681574

Pipeline is published four times a year. **Deadlines** for submission of articles:

March 1. July 1. October 1. December 1.

Copyright 2020 by Girl Guides of Canada - BC Council, 107-252 Esplanade W., North Vancouver, BC V7M 0E9. Unless otherwise indicated in the text, reproduction of material in Pipeline is authorized for non-profit Guiding use, provided that each copy contains full acknowledgment of the source. Any other reproduction in whole or in part without prior written consent of BC Council is prohibited. Pipeline receives ideas and activities from various sources. The original creator is not always made known to us. If we have failed to credit a correct source we ask to be informed. Members submitting photographs for publication must ensure that all members pictured have image release forms on file with Girl Guides of Canada. Submissions are accepted up to the deadline and are published at the discretion of the editor. Submissions may be edited in the interest of conformity and style, taking into consideration the space available.

BC Council Contact and Information

107-252 Esplanade W. North Vancouver, BC V7M 0E9

Phone: Membership/Events/ General Information 604-714-6636

Fax: 604-714-6645
PC Office: 604-714-6643

General information:

bc-info@girlguides.ca

Guide House bookings: michell.ge@girlguides.ca

Website: bc-website@girlguides.ca **Pipeline:** bc-pipeline@girlguides.ca

Provincial Commissioner: adriana.arreola@girlguides.ca

Deputy Provincial Commissioners: adriana.arreola@girlguides.ca

Girl Engagement Standing

Committees: bc-girlengagement@girlguides.ca

(coordinator)
bc-camping@girlguides.ca
bc-international@girlguides.ca

Member Services Standing Committees:

bc-program@girlguides.ca

bc-memberservices@girlguides.ca (coordinator)

bc-membership@girlguides.ca bc-prcomm@girlguides.ca bc-training@girlguides.ca

Other Standing Committees:

bc-cookies@girlguides.ca bc-treasurer@girlguides.ca bc-safeguide@girlguides.ca bc-screening@girlguides.ca (and mentoring)

Supporting Committees:

bc-museumarchives@girlguides.ca
bc-awards@girlguides.ca
bc-imis@girlguides.ca
bc-inclusivitydiversity@girlguides.ca
bc-link@girlguides.ca
bc-lopo@girlguides.ca
bc-lones@girlguides.ca
bc-propertymgmt@girlguides.ca
bc-rangers@girlguides.ca
bc-riskcompliance@girlguides.ca
bc-soar@girlguides.ca
bc-trefoil@girlguides.ca
bc-adventuretrex@girlguides.ca
bc-wateractivities@girlguides.ca
bc-youthforum@girlguides.ca

Table of Contents

PIPELINE

Editor: Saffina Jinnah
Email: bc-pipeline@girlguides.ca

Editorial Team:

Ming Berka, Hilary Feldman, Linda Hodgkin, Katrina Petrik, Ruth Seabloom, Robyn So, Helen Varga

Design: Phoenix Graphic Design
Printer: Mitchell Press





PC's PAGE

Diamond Isinger, *Provincial Commissioner*



020 is a new year that will be full of fun, adventure and exciting changes ensuring we are putting girls at the centre of our decision-making and creating opportunities for girls of all ages to lead.

To kick off 2020 there are two big celebrations focused on the power of girls and women. What better way to celebrate the new year! We all know Girl Guide members love any excuse to celebrate together. Girls always enjoy having fun with friends while learning and making a difference. I hope you take advantage of these upcoming events marking special occasions to launch a girl-driven year:

In February, BC Girl Guides will mark World Thinking Day with our annual provincial event dedicated to celebrating the Guiding sisterhood around the world. We are shaking things up this year by travelling to a new location in the growing city of Surrey where we will reach new members and gain visibility in this community. We are putting girls in the lead to create an event by girls for girls. The Rangers of our BC Youth Forum are organizing the gathering and over 825 girls and adults have registered to join the fun over two engaging sessions on February 22. I can't wait for everyone to explore activities related to inclusivity, diversity, equity and acceptance (I.D.E.A.) the theme chosen by the Ranger planning team.

Here are some other exciting ways to explore this theme locally and create a safe and inclusive space in your unit and community:

- Invite a local advocate or organization working on diversity and inclusivity to your unit meeting to deliver a presentation or workshop.
- Visit the Girls First platform to sample activities like the "Growing Acceptance" trivia game about LGBTQ+ inclusion for Rangers or the "Diverse Connections" activity for Brownies.
- Download the World Thinking Day program pack from the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts at wagggs.org, a key resource the Youth Forum is using to plan this fun day (there is also a crest available.)

In March, consider celebrating International Women's Day on or around March 8, 2020. The global theme in 2020 is #EachforEqual which explores the role that each person plays in creating a gender equal world. How will you mark this occasion?

Here are so me ideas for Guiders and girls:

- Check out the Girls First platform for ready-to-use activities about gender equity.
- Invite female role models to visit your unit and share their interests, talents or careers.

- Attend an external event in your community by asking local women's organizations if they're planning any special activities that would be appropriate for girls' attendance.
- Visit girlguides.ca to access GGC's girldriven research (under "About Us") to get
 the latest data on the experiences of girls
 in Canada in areas like STEM, feminism,
 summer employment and more.

World Thinking Day and International Women's Day are great opportunities to learn, connect and grow in Guiding. I challenge everyone to host a special event or themed unit meeting and invite guests including adults so we can enlist more amazing catalysts for girls' empowerment. Perhaps attend an event in your community to build connections with other people who may wish to support or volunteer with GGC. Ask your district or area for membership materials that you can have handy if anyone is interested. Try celebrating in a public space like a community centre or shopping mall so those in your neighbourhood can see Guiding in action. Of course don't forget to wear your uniform or other Girl Guide gear so new friends know you're part of our amazing organization.

I look forward to seeing many of you during these festivities and other exciting occasions in 2020. Happy celebrating, learning and growing!



Do You Enjoy Singing Guide Songs?

Singing enthusiasts are invited to COAST (Come On and Sing Together), a residential singing circle for adult Guiding members.

When: Wednesday, April 14 to Friday, April 17 after lunch. Come for two days or come for all three.

Where: Kingswood Camp, near Victoria (www.svigirlguides.bc.ca/kingswood)

The lodge accommodates a maximum of 30, with 12 lower and 12 upper bunks plus floor space. No mattresses and no showers.

Cost: \$50 for 2 nights and \$75 for 3 nights and includes food and lodge accommodations.

To register: Contact ggcfsa.trefoil.liaison@gmail. com. Registration and payment for COAST are handled separately from the Trefoil Guild Rendezvous.

You do NOT need to go to the Trefoil Rendezvous in order to participate in COAST.

AWARDS

Gold Merit

Annalisa Adam Gibsons

Note: The awards list is created from the iMIS database. If an award was presented but not entered in iMIS before the Pipeline submission date it will not be included on this list.

Pipeline is Available Online!

Issues of *Pipeline* from 2016 to the present are available at www.bc-girlguides.org; select *Volunteers* > *Guider Resources* > *Pipeline*.

NOTE: Issues are available as PDF files and are about 10 MB in size.



Identify YourMembership Number

Five membership numbers are randomly drawn from the iMIS database for each issue of *Pipeline*. If your number is listed below, you are eligible to receive a gift from the provincial PR Committee. To receive your gift, send an email, identifying your number, to bc-pipeline@girlquides.ca before March 15, 2020.

21834 111532 1602221 1058588 1584255

Upcoming Events

		5 — · · · · · ·		The second second
DATE	WHAT	wно	WHERE	NOTES
February 22	BC Girl Guides Celebrate Thinking Day	Members of all ages	Surrey City Hall	Deadline has passed.
March 16-31	Splash into Spring	All Members13+ at the time of the trip	Our Cabaña, Mexico	Provincially sponsored trip. Deadline has passed.
March 21–22	Quartermaster Workshop	All Guiders	Guide House, North Vancouver	Guiders take the Food Safe Module and learn tips and tricks for quartermastering for a large group with a variety of food preferences. More information to come by email or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
April 3–5	Safe Guide Workshop	Safe Guide assessors and select Guiders who train Safe Guide	Camp Kanaka, Maple Ridge	More information to come by email or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
April 14-17	COAST (Come On and Sing Together)	All Guiders who like to sing Girl Guide songs	Kingswood Camp, Victoria	Contact ggcfsa.trefoil.liaison@gmail.com for more information.
April 17-19	Trefoil Rendezvous	Trefoil Members	Hotel Grand Pacific, Victoria	Registration required by February 1. Visit https://www.svigirlguides.bc.ca/trefoil for more information.
April 18	International Briefing	Selected participants of nationally sponsored trips	Guide House, North Vancouver	Participants will be contacted by provincial International Committee.
April 25	Independent Trip Workshop	Guiders on independent trips	Guide House, North Vancouver	Participants will be contacted by provincial International Committee.
May 2-3	Brownies at Science World	Up to 30 Brownies per area	Science World, Vancouver	More information to come by email or contact bc-program@girlguides.ca.
May 9	BC Council Annual General Meeting	Guiders	Guide House, North Vancouver	RSVP will be required; more information to come.
May 15–18	Guide Jubilee	First- and second-year Guides	Camp McLean, Langley	Deadline has passed.
May 29-31	Brownie Night Owls	Brownies	Mountainview Camp, Cranbrook	Deadline has passed.
May/June	GUEST on the Island	Guides	TBA	Contact bc-program@girlguides.ca for more information.
June 14	Hands Across the Border	All Guiding members	Peace Arch Provincial Park, Douglas border crossing, Surrey	Registration required.
July 24– August 1	SOAR	Selected units	Camp Barnard, Sooke	Visit soarbc.com for more information.
August 21–23	Area Commissioners and District Commissioners Workshop	Area commissioners, district commissioners and their deputies	Guide House, North Vancouver	This training is geared to all first and second-year DCs and ACs to foster teamwork. More information to come by email or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
September 25–27	Road to Dynamic Presentations	Rangers, Link, bridging members and all Guiders	Guide House, North Vancouver	This training is for Guiders who want to improve and enhance their presentation and communication skills. Those who have questions about becoming a GGC trainer are also encouraged to attend. More information to come by email or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
October	Women in Trades	Pathfinders, Rangers and Link members	TBA	More information to come by email or contact bc-program@girlguides.ca.
October 9–12	Ranger Glamp Camp	Rangers	Camp Kawkawa, Hope	More information to come by email.
November 6–8	Interprovincial Travel Briefing	Groups doing interprovincial travel in 2021 that have submitted their paperwork by September 15, 2020	HI Vancouver Downtown	More information to come by email or contact bc-safeguide@girlguides.ca.
November 13–15	Area Training Advisers Workshops	Area Training Advisers	Guide House, North Vancouver	More information to come by email or contact bc-training@girlguides.ca.
November 27–29	Ranger Leadership Conference	Rangers from all areas of BC	TBA	

Spreading Cheer Through the Season

Honouring Our Soldiers

1st Mackenzie Girl Guides Continue Learning from Remembrance Day

Megan D. Brumovsky, Rivers North Area

1st Mackenzie Girl Guides prepared 90 holiday cards for Canadian soldiers on November 19, 2019. The girls were inspired by Remembrance Day and this was the second year they dedicated an evening to preparing cards.



The girls working away. Photos: Megan D. Brumovsky



A colourful card by a creative Spark.



A large stack ready to be sent off!

Visiting Seniors in Vancouver

Saffina Jinnah, West Coast Area

What happens when teenagers and seniors come together? Although you might think these two groups don't have a whole lot in common it is proven that both teens and the elderly benefit greatly from spending time together.

What does a teen have to gain from this type of community involvement? In my own personal experience and as a Guider, these interactions help build emotional intelligence, critical thinking and social interaction skills. As a result, girls build confidence and better self-esteem as well as a sense of responsibility. Meanwhile seniors appear to experience better mental and physical health and overall increased quality of life.

This past October the Burnaby Mountain District 12th Rangers visited Cavell Gardens Senior Living to spend time with residents during their teatime. Though ice breakers and games were planned they were unnecessary as conversation was flowing as there were many past Girl Guides and Guiders from eastern Canada to Ireland! We exchanged stories and songs as well as delicious cookies. It was a great day for singing Girl Guide songs and learning old and new traditions. The unit plans to go back in the new year!





A Remembrance Day Poem

by Chloe, 1st Quesnel Pathfinders, Rivers North Area

Poppies

The poppies grow red, the soldiers who died And the soldiers who died fought for our rights They all gave us the freedom we have in our lives.



Chloe of 1st Quesnel Pathfinders presenting her poem. Photo: Deb Manulak

Holiday Cheer from Kimberley

Daleen Bybee, Kooteney Area

Girls from Sparks right up to Rangers in Kimberley are working hard to incorporate service projects into their weekly meetings and camps. There are limited local options in their community and they often get creative and find different ways of helping others near and far including sending holiday cards to members of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Sparks through Rangers in Kimberley display their cards for Canadian soldiers. Photo: Daleen Bybee



Hostelling

Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers who are interested in travelling can experience hostelling!

April 24 to 26, 2020

Stay at the HI-Vancouver at Jericho Beach, 1515 Discovery Street, for one or two nights from 6 p.m. on Friday until 11 a.m. on Saturday or Sunday.

The cost is \$46/person for one night or \$94/person for two nights *(taxes included).*

The fee includes mug up and breakfast for one or two days, dinner on Saturday if staying two nights, a crest and a variety of activities such as Eco Pak, Jericho Beach Park Stewardship or the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. Box lunches can be added by request.

Register your patrol or unit by email at: groups.res@hihostels.ca to book your stay.

www.hihostels.ca/girlguides

All SySTEMs Go!

Il SySTEMs Go was a Girl Guide event held at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. It was designed to immerse girls in the world and opportunities of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). BC Council sponsored a patrol to attend the event which united adventurous STEM-loving girls and women from around the province to travel, explore and experience the sisterhood of Guiding.

Ten strangers met on a Friday at the Vancouver airport. By Saturday, you wouldn't believe we'd only been friends for 24 hours! That's Guiding, "It's so cool how girls all over BC were brought together because of our interests in STEM"

- Victoria, Fraser Skies Area



Girls acting as sensors and collecting data.

We travelled by ferry, plane, train and bus to reach "Hostelling International Edmonton" our home for the weekend. We explored the Strathcona neighbourhood and enjoyed the 'pedestrian scrambles' that allowed us to cross in all directions while vehicles are at a complete stop. We continued to wander,



Girls at the Alberta Legislature building. Photos: Carol Turner

window-shop, and eat. "My favourite meal was at Chianti's where our server kept grating parmesan cheese on my pasta for a long, long time. That was funny!" – *Kiki, Lougheed Area*

On Saturday, we explored Edmonton together. We saw the Alberta Legislature, the Science Centre and West Edmonton Mall where we also did a couple of fun activities. "I enjoyed all the activities we did, including the non-STEM ones, like bowling and the mini escape room!"

Cindy, Lougheed Area

"I can't believe that they have a pirate ship inside a mall!"

- Sophie, Monashee Area

We made our way to the University of Alberta campus and picked up our STEMinist swag bags and met girls from various parts of Edmonton. We participated in engaging and interesting activities that taught us about sensors, forensic science and DNA. All the sessions and workshops were led by highly qualified women who work in these or related fields. "I really enjoyed it when we met many other Pathfinders at the event and learning information that we wouldn't in school!" – *Emma, West Coast Area*

Our final activity was a tour of Canada's largest nano-fabrication lab, where dust would interfere with fabrication and has to be carefully eliminated from the air. "It was cool to go to camp at a real university! I especially liked the lab station the most!"

- Kiki, Lougheed Area

Overall, this was an amazing weekend. Thank you, BC Council for providing this experience for all of us!



Stories from IGNITE

Carissa Konesky, BC Program Adviser

his past October over 150 Pathfinders, Rangers, Unit Assistants, Trex and Guiders from across the province came together for the biggest girl conference that BC has ever held–IGNITE! The weekend was filled with amazing learning experiences, new friendships and a lot of laughs.

IGNITE participants began the weekend with our IGNITE Guiding Expo. The official event started off with opening remarks from our provincial commissioner, Diamond Isinger and staff from the national office, followed by a keynote speech by Guiding ambassador Krysta Coyle. We then engaged participants in fun icebreaker activities led by the Youth Forum and in a conference kickoff hosted by Vancouver Theatre Sports. Girls who had partaken in international trips throughout the summer set up

displays and fun activities such as a giant game of Jenga and a paint-by-numbers to help kick off the weekend. Of course, no Guiding event is complete without a campfire! We ended our Friday evening sitting around a campfire in the ballroom singing and laughing.

"My favourite thing about IGNITE was the girls that were there. Whether it was reconnecting with girls I had met from previous Guiding events or meeting new friends, or even just watching the room, it reminded me why I still am a part of Girl Guides. It's not for the badges or the events. It's for the sisterhood I have the privilege to be a part of." — Alayna, Ranger and Unit Assistant, Pacific Shores Area

The participants woke up Saturday morning to a very packed day! The morning sessions ranged from learning

about bridging members from Chair of the national Board of Directors Robyn McDonald and our Guiding ambassador, Krysta Coyle to learning about applying for credit cards. After a quick break, we headed into sessions based on the program area "Be Well" which included participating in yoga, and discussions concerning mental wellness and self-esteem. This was followed by lunch and exploring the city.

"I really enjoyed the session on Guiding traditions. Everything about the session was amazing and very meaningful. I loved that "Lady Baden-Powell" came to visit and lit our candle. See photo on page 12. I enjoyed saying the Promise, singing traditional Guiding songs and discussing the important things in Guiding. Everything was perfect! Being a part of this amazing organization really made my heart full of pride. Girl

Guides has had such an impact on my life already and I am only 14. I can't wait to see what my life will be like in the next 30–40 years as I continue to grow because of all the cool experiences provided by Girl Guides." – *Madison, Pathfinder, Fraser Skies Area*

Following lunch, our STEM sessions began with a wide range of activities such as designing a video game and learning about alternative energy. Other sessions throughout the afternoon included topics such as event marketing, the Girl First Program and scholarships. Finally, we got to embrace our creativity with artistic sessions. Some of the highlights were a balloon animals workshop and an improv workshop.

"Attending IGNITE helped me feel like I'm still involved in Guiding even though I'm a bridging member and don't attend meetings. When I'm 19, I hope to come back as a leader. Attending events like this helps me learn more about the new program, and what opportunities are available for girls in GGC." — Celina, bridging member, Southern Vancouver Island Area

Our evening sessions included astronomy, magic tricks and even circus school. It was time to celebrate! All the IGNITE participants and adult allies came together to celebrate Pathfinders' 40th birthday. The birthday party included crafts, games, an ice cream bar and a dance party! There were even IGNITE-themed cookies! What a fun way to end a busy day!

Sunday morning began with sessions where girls got to explore future opportunities such as applying to universities, working in the trades and developing a social justice action plan. An exciting highlight was the panel discussion by female politicians, including MLAs representing the ridings of Richmond South Centre

continued on page 12 ◆◆

We caught up with IGNITE participants after IGNITE to find out about their experience.

Here were some of their highlights...

What was your favourite thing about IGNITE?

"I loved how I met a whole bunch of other girls, became friends with them and told stories together about Girl Guides and IGNITE." – April, bridging member and Unit Assistant, Southern Vancouver Island Area

"Meeting other Guiding members from around BC." – Skye, Ranger, West Coast Area

"My favourite thing about IGNITE was being around and meeting so many great girls who are passionate about the same things I am!" – Morgan, Ranger and Unit Assistant, Pacific Shores Area

"Meeting all kinds of new friends, learning about old (and new) Guiding traditions and just being able to be there." – Julie, Pathfinder, Kooteney Area

"The circus school!" – Elise, Pathfinder, Fraser Skies Area

What did you learn at IGNITE?

"I got to learn that every woman can be a leader and every woman is powerful in their own way." – *Nikole, Ranger, Lougheed Area*

"I learned that my voice matters. I'm a girl and I am powerful. I am strong and I am beautiful. Most importantly, we can change the world." – *Kate, Pathfinder, Fraser Skies Area*

"I learned that Girl Guides is more than just a program. It's a family." – Lauren, Pathfinder, Lions Area

"I learned how to get lots of scholarships, how to do magic, and the power of social media, the art of alcohol inks and how to code. I learned many fun things and many useful things." — Cate, Ranger, Rivers North Area

"New games to play with younger girls. I made a great craft!" – *Brooke, Ranger, Lougheed Area*

What did attending IGNITE mean to you?

"It meant that Guiding is a much bigger part of our world than just my own world. That Guiding caters to all needs, is inclusive, respectful and helpful towards the world around us. That it is not just part of my life in my once-a-week meeting, but that I can be a part of it in someone else's life. I am able to carry on Guiding throughout my entire life. Quite honestly, I would suggest to every girl to join Girl Guides. I am a proud woman to be a part of the Guiding sisterhood." — Lauren, Ranger, Fraser Skies Area

"I felt honoured and excited to be chosen to participate at IGNITE! It was such an amazing experience for me. I am so grateful to have been able to have been a part of this event." – Madeleine, Pathfinder, Pacific Shores Area

"It felt like a start of a new era. Like I helped contribute to the first IGNITE in Canada and paved the way for more girls to experience what I have at the convention."

— Sarah. Pathfinder. West Coast Area

"Another new and fun Guiding experience!"

– Deanna, Ranger and Trex member,
Kooteney Area

"Stepping out of my comfort zone." – Kirsten, Ranger, Monashee Area

Are you interested in helping to plan exciting provincial events such as IGNITE? The BC Program Committee is always looking for new members especially those who are interested in organizing events. Email bc-program@girlguides.ca for more information!

continued from previous page -

and North Vancouver—Lonsdale and councillors representing the City of Richmond. We closed off the weekend with a keynote speech by former Girl Guide, Rochelle Prasad. At a very young age, she founded her own organization, Camp We Empower, empowering future generations.

"I learned that we are never too young to make a difference." – Alaina, Lones Pathfinder, Thompson Nicola Area

IGNITE enabled girls, Guiders and Link members from across BC a chance to connect and learn of the many great opportunities available to them. Our BC Operations Committee presented exciting options available for awards, training, camping, PR and travel! Link members from five different areas were at IGNITE volunteering as adult allies, bringing girls, bridging members and Link members together.

"At IGNITE I didn't just learn about Girl Guides, I learned that it's not just a program that you go through. The experiences and



the bonds are unbreakable. They are your family and you will love them. Thank you, IGNITE, for teaching me that!" – *Lauren, Ranger, Monashee Area*

Thank you to everybody who made IGNITE possible including: INGITE participants, presenters, Adult Allies, the BC Youth

Forum, Kate Tobin, Lisa Wechzelberger, Colleen McKenna, Colleen Kellner, Susan Stephen, the BC Operations Committee, BC Council, and the amazing BC Program Committee! This brilliant event would not have been possible without all your time and dedication!



SAVE THE DATE



The Tradition Continues

Girl Guide Day 2020



Sunday March 15, 2020, at 1 p.m.
Vancouver Canucks vs. Winnipeg Jets

We invite you to join us to cheer on our Canucks and connect with fellow Guiding members at the largest Vancouver Canuck group event of the year!

Tickets:

\$49 upper bowl, \$65 lower bowl and \$103 lower bowl premium Available to friends and family members; Guiding membership not required

Come as a unit, come as a family, come with your friends!

- Custom crest to the first 250 members in uniform who visit the membership table
 - Members-only draws
 Special shout-outs

For tickets or more information, contact

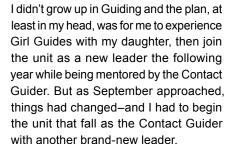
Cassie: cassie.micona@canucks.com / 604-899-7746
Danielle: danielle.starkman@canucks.com / 604-899-7538

Untapped Resources

Spark Unit Helper Alison Martens, Telegraph Trail District, Fraser Skies Area







n my daughter's first year of Sparks,

I was asked if I was interested in

being a leader. I said, "Hmm yes, but,

next year."

I felt overwhelmed. The district and other unit Guiders supported us as best they could and there were lots of resources

for program material and badge work. But I didn't know any of the traditions. events or songs that seemed to be an integral part of Girl Guides. How were the Sparks going to learn about Guiding as an organization? How would they learn about the Guiding culture and traditions? We didn't even know how Guider names were assigned. I was still trying to figure out what order the branches came in by age group.

Pathfinder to the rescue!

Through a district Guider, our Spark unit connected with a Pathfinder who was interested in being a Spark unit helper. She saved the day! Firefly (my co-Guider)

and I were thrilled to have her join us. Madison came every week and shared games and songs that I had never head of with the Sparks, like "Fred the Moose", "40 Years on an Iceberg" and "Once a Girl Guide Went to Camp." It was awesome. She knew all the words by heart.

She could answer questions about Guiding traditions like "What is Thinking Day?" and "Is having a pink balloon arch at enrolment a tradition that we need to follow?" She even had ideas of games to play with the girls at the drop of a hat.

Firefly and I learned a ton from Madison, and not just traditions, songs and



Sparks doing a science experiment.

games. She had been in Guiding with our district for nine years, so she knew what resources were available or who to ask. Sometimes I felt a bit awkward asking another Guider a question that I felt I should know but asking Madison somehow didn't feel so awkward. Of course, she did not know everything, but she was often a great starting point. In some ways, she was mentoring us, and in other ways we as leaders were mentoring her.

Madison also planned and ran a few meetings including a science lab night and a camping night where she showed the girls her backpacking gear and taught them how to light a match safely.

Madison and two of her fellow Pathfinders also planned and ran a "late-over" pyjama event for the Sparks with a health and well-being theme. It turned out to be six hours of non-stop Sparks fun in a small room at the recreation centre. The

Pathfinders did an amazing job.

The girls love her! They can relate to her, they look up to her and, now as Brownies they look forward to seeing her. She still helps with the Spark unit and sometimes even starts off the meeting for both the Sparks and Brownies together with games or songs in the gym.

It was also fun to see Madison grow and learn. Through the year she seemed to learn more about what five- and six-year-olds were capable of, what songs and games worked best for them and how to engage them. Hopefully she has seen what a difference one person can make in a life, how she has the power to guide and support their future.

As Guiders, experienced or new, I think there is a lot we can learn from girls—all girls.

Life is a funny thing. Depending on your daily routine, there can be periods where

you don't interact with certain age groups very much. Besides all the other benefits, Madison provided us all with a connection, learning and insight into what it is like to be 12–14 years old and what the near future could hold for us as mothers and Pathfinder Guiders.

I am thankful for all the support and help from the Guiders in my district and online, but I am especially thankful for Madison!

If you are a new Guider or even if you are not new to Guiding, I encourage you to tap into the resources that Girl Guides has, and not just the Guiders.

Ask your district and fellow Guiders if they know a Pathfinder or Ranger who might be interested in helping with your Sparks or Brownie unit. We can all learn from each other and grow together.

When asked, "What is your favourite thing about Sparks?," one Spark answered. "Madison."

Bring Back **Flags**



Joy Gregorash, BC International Committee

We have over 150 flags from Canada and around the world, and members from BC can borrow them at any time! Sponsoring a flag is a lovely way to honour someone in your area. A flag costs \$50 and the name of the honoree and/or the sponsor is noted on the flag itself. We also have a set of small flags and stands that can be used to decorate tables.

We would like to thank the Trillium Trefoil Guild for their donation for the purchase of the Azerbaijan flag. Azerbaijan joined WAGGGS in 2017.

To borrow these items, contact bc-international@girlguides.ca.

Capital Grants for BC Guiding Properties Questions Answered and Myths Busted

Nancy Adams, BC Properties Committee Member

he Summer/Fall 2019 Pipeline issue introduced BC's properties to everyone. It is amazing to have such wonderful places for our girls to experience how awesome Guiding is in the great outdoors (and indoors). Keeping these properties well maintained and safe for such experiences is very important and many volunteers take on that challenge, working hard to maintain and improve our properties. Did you know that BC Council is also involved and sets aside funds within each year's budget to assist with capital projects that keep our properties well-maintained, up-todate and safe? To access these funds, submit a capital grant application to the Properties Committee.

Who can apply for a Capital **Grant?**

Applications can be submitted on behalf of any Guiding property undertaking a capital project. The person taking the lead on the project usually takes on the application. The area commissioner must also review and sign the application.

How much money will a property get for a project?

Each project can potentially receive \$15,000 or up to a maximum of 50% of the total projected cost of the project, whichever is less. Also, given that there is a limited pot of funding to be divvied out to successful applicants, the amount requested may not be fully funded.

Are capital grants available for all property repairs and maintenance?

No, capital grants can only be used for specific types of projects. Specifically, capital grant funds assist with "the construction of new buildings, additions or renovations to existing cabins and buildings, and purchases of capital improvements and major repairs." Capital grant funding does not support general maintenance or projects to keep things in proper working condition.

"Capital improvement" means the betterment of a building or equipment that extends its life or increases its usefulness or productivity. For example, a capital improvement might be adding insulation to winterize a cabin that previously was only usable in warmer seasons or installing an upgraded furnace to bring it up to current codes and improve efficiency.

A "major repair" refers to work performed to return property to a former condition without extending it useful life. Rebuilding an existing porch or stairway are examples of major repairs.

The application specifies two deadlines. Why can't a we apply on behalf of one property any time we decide to do a project?

There's no need to wait until the deadline to submit a grant application. Just send it in whenever it is ready. The Properties Committee will perform an initial review, making sure all documentation is

complete, and hang on to it until the next deadline. Once each deadline has passed, the Properties Committee completes the review and approval process and then allocates grant funds.

Can we expect to receive a grant for our property, and for the amount asked for when applying for a capital grant?

Not necessarily. An application is not a guarantee that the application will get approved and receive any funding. The Properties Committee reviews all applications, checking for completeness, requirements and merit, then allots available funds to successful applicants.

For the best chance at receiving requested funding—in addition to fully completing the application packages it is recommended that you apply for the first deadline, September 30. This submission date is for projects planned for the following year. . The May 30 deadline is for projects undertaken throughout the remainder of that year, utilizing any remaining funds not allocated during the first deadline process.

Are there a lot of steps, and planning, necessary to apply for a grant?

Applying for a capital grant is a simple process of gathering documentation that is already part of a property's operations. followed by compiling information about the property and project on a short



application form. Whether or not a property team decides to apply for a capital grant, they take the same steps as they carry on general operations:

- They must have a plan (Property Management Plan) for the timing of repairs and maintenance. This plan demonstrates that the property team has reviewed the property's current condition and future requirements, setting a timeline for tackling the required work.
- They must prepare an annual budget, anticipating revenues and estimating operating costs, including budgeting for specific projects. Budgeting requires some knowledge of repairs and maintenance projects necessary in the coming year (refer to the plan in point 1) and property usage (often tracked as bed-nights and day use).
- 3. They need to find qualified workers to perform repair and maintenance work.

 They must keep financial records, as with all levels and committees in Guiding. Financial recordkeeping includes annual reviewed financial statements.

The grant application requires documentation for these steps, but the property team should have all of it available anyway.

Why are projects over \$10,000 called "Large Projects" and treated differently?

The BC Real Properties Procedures states that "improvements (to existing properties) that are valued in excess of \$10,000 must be pre-approved by Provincial Council, and the Board [of Directors of Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada] prior to project commencement." Whether or not a property team is requesting a capital grant, if it plans a large project, it must

compile the required documentation supporting the project and submit it to the Properties Committee for an initial review who will forward this on to BC Council for approval prior to capital grant consideration.

The additional information required for large projects provides BC Council with the necessary details of the property and the planned project so that it can make an adequately informed decision, ensuring the best use of properties for Guiding.

Can we just split the project into smaller parts to avoid the extra work of applying for a large project?

There's no getting around it: if the cost to complete a project is over \$10,000, it is a large project. A property team is not going to install half of a roof and not the other half or build a deck structure

continued on page 18 ••

continued from page 17 ◆◆

without installing the decking material. Property teams that plan will have all the required documents available, thus it shouldn't be onerous to submit projects for BC Council approval.

Why does the property team have to have cash on hand for 100% of the project cost if they can apply for a grant to cover half the amount?

The full amount requested may not be available because funding for capital grants is limited each year. This will especially be the case for the applications submitted for the May deadline, which relies on any balance of funds not allocated at the September deadline. If the property team goes ahead with the project without the support of a capital grant, they will need to fully cover the project costs.

Our property team knows exactly how much our project

will cost. Why do we need to add in a 15% contingency to the project cost for the grant?

It is common to discover unexpected issues during renovation projects, regardless of planning and preparation. For example, removing old windows may uncover rot or other damage within window frames that was not visible before removing the old windows. This would cause additional work and likely add cost to the project. The added 15% contingency provides a safety net within project budgets, assisting with the added cost of such discoveries, so that the property team knows they can properly complete the project without falling short on funds.

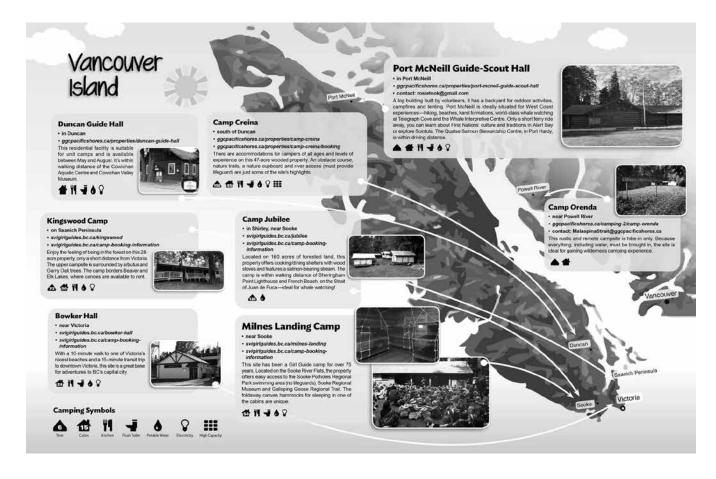
We have to pay all project bills including the complete total of the GST. Why do we only include 50% of the GST in the budget?

The property team will pay the GST on all

bills related to the project but can reduce their expenses by recouping 50% of the GST portion paid in the same way that a Guiding unit or council can apply for a GST rebate, through their area to the Provincial Office.

Why is it necessary to have the area commissioner(s) sign the application? Why not just insert her iMIS number as her signature?

The property team's activities are ultimately the responsibility of the area commissioner. The area commissioner's signature on the application gives the Properties Committee a level of comfort in knowing that the area commissioner is aware of the project and has reviewed the application that inserting an iMIS number cannot. In circumstances where the area commissioner is not close to a property, the property team may want to consider emailing the application to the area commissioner for review and signature.





Our property has a guy who's done all sorts of work for us. Why do we need to look for three quotes for the work, when it's so difficult to find contractors interested in coming out, instead of just using our guy?

We all like to believe that "our guy" will always give the property team a fair market rate for work performed, but it is prudent to verify current fair market rates to confirm that his quoted prices remain fair. Three quotes give comparable options among local contractors and market rates, perhaps providing alternative ways to proceed with the project as well offering price differences.

Getting contractors out to properties, both in remote rural locations and in busy urban areas, can be difficult. In order to make informed decisions regarding a project to ensure it proceeds as effectively as possible, acquire as much independent

information as possible. If three quotes are not possible, include an explanation with your application outlining the steps taken to arrive at your choice.

Is it true an application can be submitted on behalf of a particular property for one grant every two years?

This is a myth that's been circulating for a number of years and is completely false. Go ahead and apply for as many capital grants, at each and every deadline, as needed for the projects required to keep the property in good repair, for the safety and success of Guiding adventures.

Why does the project have to be completed before we can get the grant money?

It's not possible to confirm an accurate tally of project costs before fully completing the project and paying the bills, nor is it possible to confirm project completion.

Why does the capital grant have a deadline for completing a project?

The BC Council funding for each year's capital grants is part of the council's annual budget, which does not roll over from one year to the next. November 15 of each year is the deadline for completing projects and submitting the report and claim. This date allows for review of the report and completion of grant payment processing before the year-end.

If the year-end deadline passes and the project isn't complete, is the capital grant approval withdrawn?

Sometimes unforeseen issues arise during a project, causing extended delays. Such delays are often outside a property team's control and occasionally push beyond the year-

continued on page 20 ◆◆

continued from page 19 ◆◆

end deadline. Don't panic—keep the Properties Committee informed of your project's status. The committee tackles such situations on a case-by-case basis, depending on the particular circumstances. They connect with the Provincial Office finance staff to figure out how best to meet the finance cut-off requirements and maintain the funding for the project, if at all possible.

Once the project is complete, how does the grant money get paid out?

Submit the short Report and Claim Form (available on the BC Girl Guides website) summarizing project activities, outcomes and costs, along with copies of bills paid and cheques cleared. This will inform the Properties Committee that the project is complete and trigger a payment back to the property team for the lesser of 50%

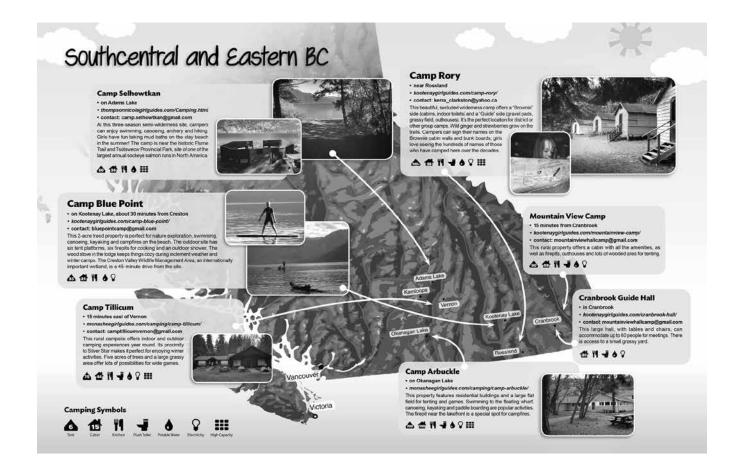
of the actual project costs or \$15,000, updating the amount originally allocated to the project from the budgeted figures to actual costs.

Our buildings and tenting sites are in great shape, but our property has trees that can use trimming. Can we apply for a capital grant for that?

This type of work doesn't fall within the guidelines for a capital grant but there is a similar grant process, with funds set aside by BC Council, for such needs. Apply for a property inspection/arborist grant for assistance. There's a short application form and no set deadline, with minimal documentation required (less than for a capital grant), and reviews are handled quickly. Your property team may want to consider inspections of buildings or outside areas (including trees) as a helpful

tool in the planning process and creation of the property's Property Management Plan. Or consider hiring an arborist, with expertise in recognizing and taking care of dangerous trees, to mitigate damage from falling trees and to help keep the property safe.

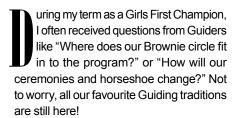
Thanks to BC Council, capital grant funding is available and is a terrific support for maintenance and improvement of properties throughout the province, giving our girls opportunities for fun in wonderful and safe environments. But you don't need to go through this process alone. the Properties Committee is available to provide guidance, suggestions or answers to questions you may have when planning projects or completing grant applications. Just ask BC-propertygrants@girlguides.ca—we're always happy to assist.



Guiding Traditions

What Happened to Our Toadstool?

Holly Arnold, BC Girl-Driven Ambassador and Lones Liaison, BC Program Committee



The Girls First Program gives the girls a voice, choice and action. It is not intended to take away from the wonderful traditions many of us hold so dearly. It is a program that enhances those traditions. But how does it work? Here are my thoughts: How about asking the Brownies how they would like to make their circle? One Brownie may suggest that they could all tiptoe into the circle instead of skipping, or another may recommend walking backwards into the circle! If you give the girls a voice, our program becomes girl driven.

Does your unit always do the same enrolment or advancement ceremony?

What a great opportunity to let girls of all ages use their voices to decide what they want at their ceremony. Maybe those blue carnations that the newly enrolled Guides have always received just aren't what this unit would like anymore. Why not create an opportunity for the girls to plan their own enrolment ceremony? Imagine the leadership and growth opportunities that you could give second-year girls as you guide them through the steps of planning a ceremony. It can be so exciting to brainstorm ideas and come to consensus all in a safe and non-judgmental space.

Openings and closings are still a very important aspect of our meetings. Our girls, especially our younger branches love the fun of singing their opening songs, skipping around the circle, and of course jumping up to light the fire! What about our older branches? This is a perfect chance to let them be innovative

with their opening and closings. Consider asking, do you want to take turns planning an opening, or create a standard opening for the year?

MemberZone and the Girls First Platform are great resources for both new and returning Guiders. I encourage you to look at both! MemberZone is the place to access the current Guider Handbook. And on the Girls First Platform, be sure to check out the many activities related to traditions. Once you log in, a simple search of the following topics will retrieve great results. Some of my favourites searches include:

- · Openings and closings
- · Enrollment ceremonies
- · Advancement ceremonies

However your unit decides to approach Guiding Traditions, remember that what is important to them will shine through their voice, choice, and action.

Awards Workshop

BC Awards Committee

BC Awards Committee hosted a workshop last November for the Area Awards Specialists. The members attending felt much was accomplished for new and experienced members. Members had time to discuss awards presentations, learn how awards and PR can work collaboratively to promote Guiding, work on a best practice document, create an Awards Challenge and have great fun completing the Sisterhood Challenge.



Sisterhood Challenge completed at the Awards workshop. Photo: Joy Andersen

Going Batty for Bats!

7th Mundy Lake Guides Help Build Bat Houses to Support Habitat at Local Park



Painting up a storm at Lee Valley Woodworking and Gardening Tool store. Photo: Audrey Wang

ne would think a group of nine, 10 and 11-year-old girls would be squeamish at the thought of bats, but these girls have become the best advocates for the management and enhancement of a bat habitat in their community. With the help and support of four different community partners, 7th Mundy Lake Guides created and installed four four-chamber bat houses in Mundy Park to give female bats shelter and a place protect their young.

"This is going to be a long-term service project for our unit and a way for us to educate local residents about this special little mammal that is so often misunderstood yet so ecologically significant," said Shelley Frick, Guider.

It all started with a two-and-a-half-hour workshop led by Danielle Dagenais from South Coast Bat Conservation Society. This organization promotes the awareness of bat conservation issues as well as the

ecological importance of bats through partnerships that encourage stewardship with stakeholder groups. At this meeting, the girls used drills to screw bat houses together. The boxes have wide but narrow openings at the bottom to allow the bats access to the roosting habitat within.

"The girls were keen to learn about bats and the importance of bat houses. They showed a lot of dedication and perseverance during the workshop. They



7th Mundy Lake Guides completed the construction of four bat houses. Photo: Neha Chhatre



Getting into character—Learning about bat physiology with John Saremba a.k.a. "Bat Man." Photo: Audrey Wang

should all be very proud of themselves," said Dagenais.

Once the bat houses were built, the next two weeks were spent between Lee Valley

Woodworking and Gardening Tools store and Colony Farm Regional Park. Staff at the store kindly volunteered to give the girls a hands-on experience with instructions



Brad Parrish from the City of Coquitlam, installing the Guides' finished bat house at Mundy Park. Photo: Audrey Wang

on how to paint their bat houses and build guano catcher trays. Guano catcher trays are used to determine occupancy since flashlights disturb bats and may cause them to leave and not return. This activity was paired with a visit to Colony Farm Regional Park where John Saremba (a.k.a. "Bat Man"), from the Burke Mountain Naturalists, gave the girls a tour of the bat condo there. He talked to them about the purpose of bat boxes, the optimal installation locations and general bat facts.

A week later when the bat boxes were ready to install, Brad Parrish from the City of Coquitlam met the girls to help place them in two locations around Mundy Park. Seeing the bat boxes installed gave the girls a great sense of accomplishment knowing they built these future bat homes with their own hands and worked as a team. The following month, the unit met back with Dagenais and Saremba to check in on their bat boxes. The girls were introduced to the procedures of the BC Annual Bat Count to help them develop this into a long-term project where girls can return to their installed bat houses and help monitor bat activity in Mundy Park and general bat activity for years to come.

This service project fulfills so many pieces of program themes for Guides, including: Your Action, Local Communities, How To, and Design Space.

Connect with SOAR 2020

Laurie Hooker, SOAR 2020 Public Relations Director

Ithough the SOAR team does our best to keep you up to date through *Pipeline*, the best way to keep current with changes or updates to our processes is to connect with us online. There are several ways you can do this:

Website: soarbc.com

The most up-to-date information will always be posted on the website. Visit it to catch up on the latest details or subscribe to updates by email. Simply enter your email address into the subscription box

on the side of the page, and you will automatically be sent an email every time we publish a new post to the site.

Facebook
Connect with us on
Facebook by "liking" our
Facebook page at facebook.
com/soarbc/ (you can also find this link
on our website from the pull-down Social
menu at the top of the page). Extended
information, beyond what we post on the

website, is shared on Facebook. This

extra information is "nice to know" but not necessarily "need to know." We'll always post the "need to know" updates at soarbc.com.

Instagram

Follow us on Instagram—we're @ggcsoarbc. If you're on Instagram and

would like to share your SOAR-related preparation photos with us, tag your photos with @ggcsoarbc and we'll feature our favourites.



CWFF Pizza Challenge 2020

BC International Committee

ooking for ways to incorporate International Guiding into your meeting? Does your unit love pizza? Then this challenge is for you. The BC International Committee challenges your unit to find a unique way to fundraise for the Canadian World Friendship Fund. Some past ideas included hosting a community carnival and a multi-unit used book sale. Some units have encouraged girls' entrepreneurial spirit by hosting a bake sale or craft sale.

Once your unit has completed its fundraiser, fill out the CWFF Pizza Challenge entry form, found on the BC Girl Guides website, bc-girlguides.org; select *What Girls Do > International > Challenges > CWFF Pizza Challenge*. Send the completed form to the provincial International Committee at bc.pizza.challenge@gmail.com, and forward the money to your district treasurer.

There will be a prize for one unit at each level of Guiding. The unit in each branch that collects the most money per unit member (including Guiders) will win up to \$100 to be used for a pizza party for the unit. That means that a Sparks unit, a Brownie unit, a Guide unit, a Pathfinder unit and a Ranger unit can each win up to \$100 for a pizza party.

An additional prize of up to \$100 for a pizza party will be awarded to the BC unit that uses the most original fundraising activity in this challenge.

This may be the last year that this challenge is offered!



Entries must be received by the BC International Committee by March 31, 2020.

Winners will be notified by the end of April 2020 so that the winning units can have their pizza party before the end of the Guiding year.

Every unit that participates in this challenge can also order the CWFF Pizza Challenge crest, available from the BC Girl Guide website: select *What Girls Do > International > Challenges > BC Challenge Crest, Pin and Camp To Go Order Form.*

Have You **Heard of Lones?**

Holly Arnold, Lones Liaison, BC Program Committee

Lones are girls who want to be involved with Guiding but, for whatever reason, can't attend regular meetings.

On their own, with help from an adult, girls work on program work for their age level. A Lones Guider is designated for each girl and sends her program challenges by mail or email that she returns to the Lones Guider when done. Girls also receive news and fun stuff—crafts, games, puzzles, etc.—in their packets.

No longer are Lones just girls and Guiders living in rural or out-of-reach areas; many live in towns and cities throughout BC. Generally, these girls are unable to commit to attending weekly meetings, but even as Lones they are welcome to attend camps with a local unit or to help with service projects or special events.

Every girl or Guider who wants to be a Lone—for a few months or for several years—has a place with us. Sparks? Sure, we have Sparks, and Rangers and all the branches in between!

So—if you or anyone you know would like to join Guiding by mail or email—try **LONES!**

Lones can register at any time of the year, so don't wait. Join us!

How to find us: Contact Holly Arnold, Provincial Lones Liaison, at bc-lones@girlguides.ca



Puzzle Pro!

Taya, Kalea, Sarah and Katelyn of **1st Roberts Creek Guides/Pathfinders, Lions Area**, are puzzle pros after completing the Cyber-Escape room activities from the Digital Defenders program. Photo: Annalisa Adam



Agnes Baden-Powell (Pathfinder ShyAnn), Lord Baden-Powell (Guide Arielle), and Lady Baden-Powell (Guide Anna) came to a meeting of 2nd Parksville Guides, 1st Arrowsmith Pathfinders, Pacific Shores Area. Photo: Val Froom



1st Oceanview Pathfinders, 2nd Arrowsmith Pathfinders, 2nd Parksville Guides, all of Pacific Shores Area, participate in splatter painting. No one left clean. All left with smiles.

Photo: Val Froom





12th Rangers from Burnaby Mountain District, West Coast Area, enjoy holiday time at the Burnaby Village Museum. Photo: Saffina Jinnah



1st Randerson Ridge Guides, Pacific Shores Area, practising some yoga and peace of mind.
Photo: Sara Alvarez



56th and 49th Burnaby Mountain Guides, West Coast Area, participated in an awesome sleepover at A & T Equestrian Centre in Surrey.

Photo: A & T Equestrian Centre



Kiah about to gallop away! Photo: Jennifer Yamagata

