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Dear Guiders . . .

Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada is all about championing Girl Greatness. That's why it's so important to hear from the girls first-hand, to learn what they want Guiding to be, and to understand what their ideal Guiding experience looks like. And it's up to us to listen to what they have to say and to help them put their ideas into action and realize their goals and dreams. So, how do we facilitate all this at the unit level?

In Creative Brainstorming (see page 34), Guider Liz Knowles offers ideas that go beyond a classic brainstorm session. She provides tips for creatively and effectively giving girls the opportunity to share their ideas on everything from unit activities to cookie selling strategies to what snacks to eat at camp (besides our beloved s'mores, of course.)

"Let's go to camp!" This may be one of the top picks you hear when your girls start mapping out their must-do activities for the Guiding year. We know that camping is a great way for girls to hone their leadership skills and to challenge themselves. We know that Guiding's outdoor programming is first-class. And we know that camping is just plain fun! But leading a group of girls on a weekend of tenting or even staying in cabins can be daunting if your own camp skills are a little rusty. That's where Guiders like Carol Law come in.

Carol gets a special thrill out of organizing Outdoor Activity Leadership (OAL) weekends for Guiders (see page 23). In this training, Guiders learn by doing, enhancing their camp skills and gaining confidence to take their own units camping. As Guider and participant Sarah Langford notes (see page 25), "At our training weekend, there were no slideshows or paperwork. We set up tents, gathered firewood, hiked, sang songs and lit and cooked on different camp stove models. And of course, just being and sharing with sister Guiders was a learning experience in itself."

Photo: courtesy Pamela Rice

If you have never camped before or have only pitched a tent in your backyard, consider checking with your province/territory for upcoming OAL camp skills trainings. It's a great way to pass on the love of the great outdoors to the girls in your unit.

Also in this issue...

- Welcome! (page 4) – how to make girls and families new to Canada feel truly welcome in Guiding
- Wartime Service (page 14) – a look back at the pages of *The Canadian Guider* from 1939-1945
- Terrific Teams (page 28) – tips for making the Guider/Girl Assistant partnership a success.

Have fun engaging your girls – whatever their age!

Yours in Guiding,

Pamela Rice

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Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) recognizes and values the richness of human diversity in its many forms, and therefore strives to ensure environments where girls and women from all walks of life, identities, and lived experiences feel a sense of belonging and can participate fully. This commitment to inclusion means GGC's culture, programming, and practices encourage self-awareness and awareness of others; room for difference; and environments where girls and women feel safe, respected, supported, and inspired to reach their potential.

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WELCOME

Making Newcomers Feel at Home

COMPILED BY MELISSA MOOR

In Canadian Guiding, we are very fortunate to have a diverse membership, including girls who have recently arrived from other countries to settle here. As Unit Guiders, how do we ensure that these newcomers and their families feel welcome and comfortable with us, and help them build confidence as they integrate into their new communities?

Here are some tips to help your unit welcome girls who are new to our country and our organization.



Unit Activities

- Be patient. Recognize that girls who have recently moved to your community may be nervous and hesitant to participate in activities and outings.
- Remember that Guiding, and many other experiences in Canada, may be unfamiliar to this girl. Foster an environment where she can feel confident asking questions.
- To help girls who are learning a new language, run crafts and games that are easily understood without a lot of instructions. Try providing instructions in different ways, for example, through demonstrations or pictures.
- Learn about specific dietary requirements girls may have, such as halal, kosher or vegetarian diets. Make sure meals, snacks and cooking activities include food that everyone can eat.

Diversity Activities and Celebrations

- Ask girls who are new to Canada if they would like to share activities, stories, crafts or foods related to their culture.
- Give these girls the opportunity to share information about their home country and culture when your unit celebrates World Thinking Day or learns about the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).
- If a girl who is new to Canada speaks another language, ask her to teach the unit words or phrases in her language.

Camping and Outdoor Activities

- Try to make camping and sporting equipment available for newly arrived families to borrow for camps or unit activities.
- Run a pre-camp meeting, at which girls practise using camping equipment. This can help you to more smoothly introduce inexperienced girls to camp skills.

Cookie Selling

- Provide opportunities for your unit to sell cookies as a group. This may help girls who have recently arrived in Canada to participate, as some cookie-selling methods, such as selling to family and friends or in workplaces, may be more difficult for their families.

Parents

- Be available to explain Guiding paperwork and help parents who require assistance to understand and complete forms.
- Some newly arrived families may not have access to the Internet, a computer or a printer. Offer them paper copies of forms and get in touch with your provincial office for registration support.
- If possible, consider arranging unit meetings during the day or on a weekend (depending on their religious practices), rather than on a weeknight. This may be easier for newly arrived families who might have other evening obligations, such as English or French language classes.

Buddies and Friends

- Give the girl a buddy who can help her feel welcome and answer her questions. Being a buddy can also provide a great leadership opportunity for girls who are already familiar with Canadian Guiding.
- Plan activities so that girls work in pairs or groups of three and place new girls with experienced girls. This will make it easier for the girl to feel comfortable and make Guiding friends.

New Units

- Families who are new to Canada may eventually move to permanent housing in another neighbourhood. Help these families find and register their girls with a unit near their new home. 🌐

Melissa Moor is a Guider in Metcalfe, Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee. She compiled these tips with contributions from Laurel Anderson, 44th Vancouver Guides; Jiling Wang, 43rd Vancouver Guides; and Sunita Mathur, 1st Toronto Spark/Brownie/Guide Unit and member of the Girl Guides of Canada Board of Directors.



One of 10 Million Voices

Advocating for Gender Equality

BY KRISTA COYLE

In Guiding, we encourage girls to live with courage, confidence and resourcefulness. We help girls grow up thinking that they can dream anything, be anything and do anything. Unfortunately, our courageous, confident and resourceful girls still face a world that often questions their skills and abilities in everything from sports to employment to politics, simply because they are female. Many still face gender inequality every day.

Despite the inroads girls and women have made into a male-dominated world, we still need to advocate for gender equality today. GGC programming helps us to encourage girls to challenge their own assumptions, rather than listening to what other people say they can or cannot do. So, when we asked our Guide unit if girls can be scientists, engineers, politicians, mathematicians or anything else they put their minds to, they answered, “Of course!” Yet girls continue to be subject to gender bias from the sidewalk to the schoolyard to the workplace and beyond, hindering them from achieving their full potential.

Guiding at the United Nations

This is why, last March, I was proud and excited to be the Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) representative on the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) delegation to the 60th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW).

As I prepared for UNCSW, and even while attending it in New York, some people with whom I shared my interest in gender equality advocacy said, “That’s not a problem in Canada.” But it most certainly is. The unfortunate reality is that many girls and women in Canada still face gender-based discrimination – whether it is in their homes, schools, or workplaces. Girls and women also face implicit biases about what they “can” do or what they “should” do.

Promoting the Girl Voice

At GGC, we empower girls to dream big and to work to make a difference in the world. We provide safe spaces for girls to share their vulnerabilities and failures, as well as their abilities and successes, so they can learn and grow with our support. And together, we are engaging in conversations about mental health, healthy relationships, and global citizenship.

It is easy to become comfortable with the status quo, but the girls I work with are constantly reminding me to be an idealist. We have talked about inequalities from gender-focused toys to child brides, and their consensus is that these inequalities are not fair and need to change. They think it’s ridiculous that girls around the world, including in Canada, face discrimination simply because of their

Photo: courtesy Krysta Coyle; Illustration: @PhotoSpin



gender. They also think it's ridiculous that people make laws, policies, and other decisions about girls without listening to girls – and I do too! We need to promote the girl voice.

“My name is Krysta and I am one of 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.”

The voice of one girl or one woman might be ignored, but we have an incredible collective voice as 10 million members of a global movement. At the UNCSW, my sister delegates and I introduced ourselves and shared our personal experiences and stories of the girls we work with. We asked the global decision-makers to consider how the issues they discussed there would affect girls. We shared the transformative power of organizations such as WAGGGS in addressing social norms and attitudes that are harmful for girls.

Rhetoric to Reality

Most importantly, we asked how the UNCSW would turn rhetoric into reality for girls and women. The barriers preventing us from achieving our full potential cannot be tackled overnight. However, by sending WAGGGS delegates to the UNCSW, we can ensure the girl voice is listened to in high-level discussions. By speaking out, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts are making progress towards gender equality, one voice at a time! 🗣️

Krysta Coyle is a Guider in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the GGC National Link Liaison.

Engaging the Girl Voice

Tips for Unit Guiders

How can we open a meaningful discussion on gender equality with our girls? Here are some ideas and program connections to get you started:

- **Celebrate girls and women:** look for GGC programming on Make a Difference Days, such as International Day of the Girl and International Women's Day. And look also at specific events, such as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.
- **Help girls build resiliency and learn about healthy relationships.** Take on the GGC Girl EmPower and Say No to Violence challenges.
- **Tackle the Image Myth that tells girls and women how they should look.** Use the WAGGGS/Dove Free Being Me challenge, and watch for the new Be You challenge, developed with the support of the National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC) and launching this October.
- **Think about decision-making and the importance of raising the girl voice.** Check out the WAGGGS International Day of the Girl “10 Million Voices” package.
- **Raise your own voice!** Challenge girls' assumptions – and your own assumptions – about what girls can or can't do!
- **Spread the word.** Share your activities and your girls' experiences with us on GGC social media.

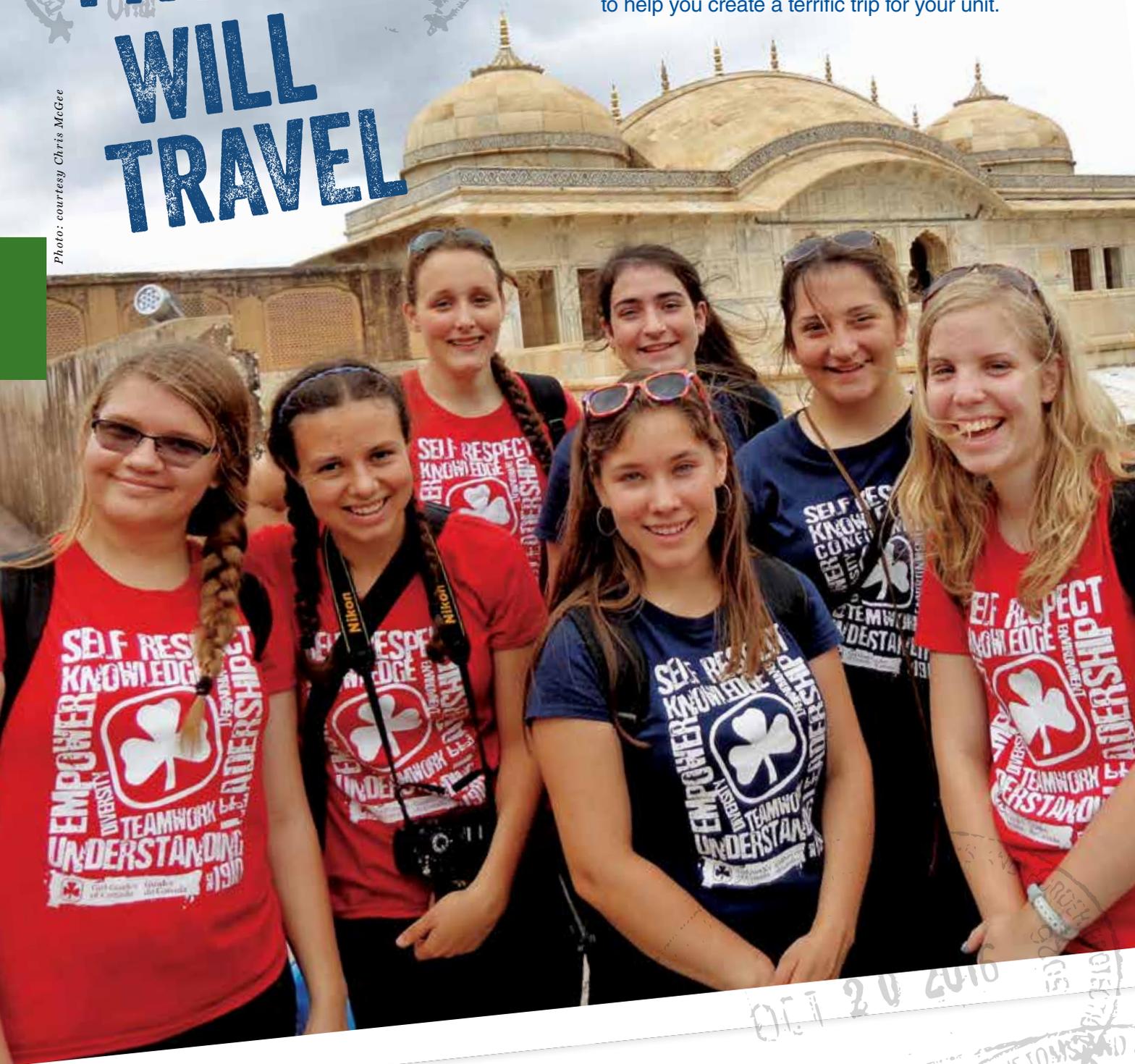
HAVE PASSPORT, WILL TRAVEL

Photo: courtesy Chris McGee

Planning a Unit Travel Adventure

BY KRIS MCGEE

Want to take your girls on a travel adventure? Not sure where to start? We asked a veteran Girl Guide globetrotter who has visited 14 countries on four continents for some tips to help you create a terrific trip for your unit.



Many Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) members take advantage of the international travel opportunities that are available through our provincial and national bodies, and through the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). Independent unit trips provide additional and increased opportunities for Unit Guiders and their girls to explore the world, to participate in international events, and to forge friendships with Girl Guide and Girl Scout sisters around the globe.

Planning an independent unit trip can be challenging, but the rewards are more than worth the effort. Here's how to get started:

- Begin to plan early (two to three years in advance).
- Read through the Safe Guide document, "International Travel 72 Hours or More, Planning Guide" and the Fundraising Policy and Procedures section of the GGC Governance Policy.
- Involve the girls. The girls need to buy in to everything they will be seeing and doing, if you want them to take full advantage of this wonderful opportunity. When girls and parents/guardians are in on the planning from the beginning, you will be much more likely to turn your idea of an international adventure into reality.
- Determine who are you going with (your unit, other units in your community), and what your role is (co-Guider, Responsible Guider). If you've never participated in an

independent trip, don't start off as the Responsible Guider. Join another unit's trip or work with a mentor who is experienced in independent unit travel.

- Consider your destination and your girls' interests (a cultural/educational exploration, a World Centre visit, a service project). A trip to a World Centre is an easy "first trip" to plan.
- Develop a budget for airfare, event, accommodation and activity costs, as well as an emergency/contingency fund. Err on the side of over-budgeting by rounding up your anticipated costs. Enlist the help of a skilled treasurer, whether or not she plans to travel with you.
- Submit your documentation for review. (Each province has a slightly different submission process; ask your International Adviser for direction.)
- Develop expectations for all participants and their parents and guardians around fundraising, behaviour, participation and communication.

If you'd like to read about some of my unit's past and future travels (GM2016 last July; Our Cabaña, March 2017; and Madagascar, also in 2017) check out our travel blog: krismcgeeblog.wordpress.com You can also find more information and advice in my "101 Travel Tips" posted there. 🌐

Kris McGee is a Guider in Toronto, Ontario.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Girl Guide Travel Benefits and Challenges

THE GOOD – Life Lessons

Girl Guide travelers gain:

- "controlled" freedom in a safe and supervised environment
- an opportunity to make, build and solidify lifelong friendships
- independence and a chance to explore
- a lifetime of inspiration and memories.

Many of the girls who have been members of our trips have used their experiences and skills to further their education, employment and interests. One has recently returned from a three-month volunteer position at Our Chalet; three others are preparing for their fourth WAGGGS World Centre trip and one is preparing for a spring trip to her fifth World Centre – Kusafiri, in Africa. Between successful scholarship applications, acceptance to university programs and promotions at work, our members will all admit that their travel opportunities have opened many doors in their lives.

THE BAD – Lost Luggage

I have a track record of lost bags on all but one of the trips I have taken! However, I am not alone in this. Quite a few Girl Guide travelers have experienced lost or delayed baggage, likely due to our odd-sized backpacks, which don't stack conveniently on airport luggage trollies. That being said, travel backpacks are a must for us. Suitcases do not roll well on cobblestone streets in Europe or over dirt roads in South America or Asia, and are difficult to carry up broken escalators or lift into bumpy rickshaws. And backpacks allow you to have two free hands for eating, holding on in crowded buses, paying for trains and grabbing those fabulous photo memories for posterity.

THE UGLY – Getting Sick or Hurt

On a recent trip to India, stomach troubles were rampant throughout our group. New foods, different cooking processes and varying resistance to bacteria can and will take a toll. However, this doesn't mean that you can't be prepared! Carry the appropriate medications for the usual travel bugs; have a plan for sick days; and use the buddy system. As the Guider, you may be unaware that one of your girls is under the weather, but her buddy may notice. And let your girls know that Guiders are not superhuman; you may experience emotional reactions, health challenges and general fatigue, too.



Top of Their Class

Student Guiders Score A+

BY CAIRA CLARK

Nova Scotia has an extraordinarily high concentration of academic institutions, and many of the universities and colleges there are located within the Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GCC)

Halifax South District. As a result, at least 80 per cent of the Guiders in that district are full-time students.

Student Guiders have unique strengths in connecting to the lives of girls today. Here's how this district is making the grade with young adult members and the girls they mentor.

Photos: Krysta Coyle



Making the Grade

Having so many student Guiders in one district brings many benefits to the Guiding community:

Enthusiasm. We have youthful enthusiasm and energy that many girls relate to very quickly, bringing us all a great deal of satisfaction and happiness.

New ideas. As students, we come from all parts of Canada to study a diverse range of subjects. While any new person will bring new ideas to an organization, university/college student Guiders – whether we are former girl members or completely new to GGC – can contribute unique perspectives to GGC programming.

Knowledge. University and college students are learning new information every day that can often be adapted for GGC units. For example, a chemistry student can bring fresh ideas for a STEM meeting, or a kinesiology student can bring a unit fresh and fun active living activities.

Connections. Student Guiders are often also involved in other organizations in their communities. The crossover can create opportunities for new service projects and unique meeting themes. For example, someone's volunteer work with a campus women's centre can provide an exciting and relevant learning opportunity for the girls.

Community. Having so many student Guiders in our district creates camaraderie. Like all Guiders, students volunteer for the girls. In our district, they also find friends in Guiding who are at a similar point in their lives and have similar interests. I have met many of my closest friends through GGC in Halifax.

Making it Work

Having so many student Guiders in one district can also be a challenge. We don't have the same schedules as other Guiders who work full-time (or as the parents and girls in our units), and there are periods during the year when we become swamped as we study for exams. To help our district run more smoothly, we've made adjustments and adaptations.

Most of our units end after exams in April.

The girls don't miss out on summer camping, because they attend provincial camps. Plus, parents say they appreciate the extra time as summer sports start up.

We have two District Commissioners. We are both full-time students, but we share the responsibilities, which means less stress for us and more programming fun for the girls in our district.

We put more leaders in each unit. Having three or four Guiders enables the unit to keep running, even when someone is too busy with studies to attend meetings.

We go on outings with our units during midterms and exams. This provides a welcome break from regular meetings for the girls and from the study grind for us.

We hold several district camps per year. It's hard to get enough Guiders who are all free on the same weekend, so we have camps with all branches attending. And our biggest camp is in September or October, when more student Guiders can attend, rather than May or June, when the university/college year has ended and we head back to our hometowns and summer jobs.

Other Guiding districts/communities may not have as many university and college students as ours, but there are likely quite a number of young women who would like to work with GGC units. By making adjustments and adaptations as we have done, it is very possible for your district/community to incorporate student Guiders in unit leadership and activities. If there's a university or college in your district/community, don't hesitate to involve students. You are certain to be impressed by the insight, energy and dynamism that these young women will contribute to your girls! 🌟

Caira Clark is District Commissioner in Halifax South, Nova Scotia, a Unit Guider with the 1st Halifax Rangers, a GGC Trainer, and a student at Dalhousie University.

Student Guiders Speak



Photo: courtesy Skye McIntosh

Skye McIntosh



Photo: courtesy Kayla Bernard

Kayla Bernard

Why do you volunteer as a Unit Guider?

I volunteer because Guiding has had such a large impact on me, especially in high school, because I still love it, and because I get to make the same impact on my Pathfinders. They see me as a role model, and that's a role I take seriously.

What can university/college-aged Guiders offer to girls?

University and college students have so much to offer girls in Guiding. They not only offer their time, but also their skills. They can share their passions; for me that's art, music and camping. My passions led me to a provincial position on the Program Committee, surrounded by other Guiders of my mother's generation. But as they continuously tell me, my young, fresh perspective is needed. Students can also offer girls the connection that sometimes comes more easily when you're closer in age. I can help a Ranger with her service project, for example, because I worked towards the same award not too long ago.

What can a district/community do to encourage university/college students to volunteer in Guiding?

The best way for districts/communities to encourage students is to let them know Guiding is active where they will be studying. When a student moves to a new city to start her post-secondary education, Guiding is probably not on the top of her list of things to look into for extra-curricular commitments. Districts/communities can also encourage students by allowing students to volunteer just what they can. For some, a weekly commitment in a unit will be possible, while for others, it will be more feasible to become a District Guider who cannot commit to every week but can manage camps and emergency fill-ins.

Why do you volunteer as a Unit Guider?

I firmly believe in the opportunities that Girl Guides provides for girl development. I have grown within Girl Guides since joining as a Spark, and I know that after my amazing parents, Girl Guides has had the greatest influence over me as a young girl. This organization is one of the main reasons behind my confidence, my interpersonal skills and my overall success as a young adult. I stay involved in Girl Guides so that I can help give other girls the opportunities for learning, development and fun that I was given myself as a girl.

What can districts/communities do to encourage university/college students to volunteer in Guiding?

Distributing clear communications leading up to September would enable students to email their desire to get involved with a unit directly. Encouraging students to volunteer just for an occasional event or to fill in for Guiders who can't come to some meetings would provide a way to introduce them to Guiding without requiring too heavy a time commitment from them at the start. GGC could also attract students initially as Link members and then encourage them to get their training and clearance to work with units and at events or camps. And promoting GGC Scholarships, international trips and opportunities at World Centres would attract quite a few students.

Why do you volunteer as a Unit Guider?

It's a learning experience, not just for the girls but for the Guiders, as well. The girls teach me just as much as I teach them. The skills and experiences I gain from working with the girls are priceless.

What can a district/community do to encourage university/college students to volunteer in Guiding?

Show them that Guiding will give them a few hours a week to forget about their studies and remind them what it's like to be a kid again.

What can university/college-aged Guiders offer to girls?

We offer a new perspective on the world we live in today. We give the newest generation of girls a fresh outlook on how we interact and connect with the world on a local and a global scale. 🌐

What do university/college-aged Guiders have to offer girls?

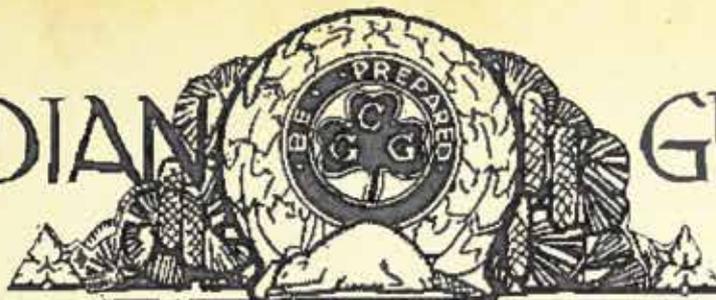
Energy! University and college students are generally young, don't have children of their own yet, and, with the exception of exam time, we have a lot of energy for working and playing with younger girls. We also have immediate experience with groups other than Girl Guides, including summer camps and student governments. We can introduce the Guiding community to fresh, new ideas for crafts and games. And many young adults are eager to explore the outdoors, whether it's because they missed out on it during their own childhoods, or because they remember the fun of camping and hiking from their own experiences. We are eager to join and help out with younger girls for hikes, camps or other outdoor excursions.



Photo: courtesy Mikayla Halliday

Mikayla Halliday

The CANADIAN GUIDER



TORONTO, ONTARIO, NOVEMBER, 1939

WARTIME SERVICE

The Canadian Guider 1939-1945

BY MELISSA CHARENKO

During the Second World War, Canadian Girl Guides gave a great deal of their time and energy in support of the war effort. As Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GGC) units across the country prepare to observe Remembrance Day this coming November 11, let's take a look at how our national magazine, then called *The Canadian Guider*, profiled the many contributions of girls and Guiders to wartime service between 1939 and 1945.

Overall, each wartime issue of the magazine had content similar to what is published today. There were messages from the Chief Commissioner; there were ideas for meeting activities and community service projects; and there were updates from units throughout the country. However, many other articles focused specifically on the war.

GIRL GUIDE TRAINING FOOLS NAZIS!

This headline in a 1943 issue of the magazine described how a Polish Ranger hid herself in a white sheet to avoid capture during a snow storm, and employed the outdoor skills she had learned in Girl Guides to complete her escape from Poland. This is one of the more dramatic wartime stories published. Others, while not as dramatic, documented the quiet and continuing commitment of Canadian Girl Guides to support the war effort at home and overseas.

CARRY ON GUIDING...

Soon after the war broke out in 1939, *The Canadian Guider* encouraged members "to keep on Guiding," to provide service, and to give children "practical training in preparedness for emergencies... and maintain steadiness and morale in the crisis in which the British Empire finds itself."

H.R.H. Princess Alice of Albany, Countess of Athlone, who was the Commissioner for Overseas, echoed this message. She explained that the ideals of the Guiding Movement provided the foundation on which "we can hope to build a new and happier world – a world in which peace and goodwill shall prevail against the forces of cruelty and injustice."



Photo: courtesy GGC Archives

Girl Guides contributed donations towards the purchase of two air ambulances in 1940.



SERVICE ON THE HOMEFRONT

In addition to these morale-boosting messages, many issues of the magazine provided various ideas for service on the homefront. In May, 1940, Girl Guides were reminded that “soldiers can never have too many pairs of socks,” and were encouraged to take on gardening projects for their neighbours and other jobs, such as “collecting newspapers, wrapping paper, magazines, tinfoil, lead paper from tea packages and even empty tubes, toothpaste and otherwise” in order to raise money for the war effort.

As part of the two-year “Guides Overseas Gift Project,” Girl Guides knitted and sewed more than 29,655 articles of clothing for children in England who had been victims of bombings. Six cases of letters thanked our members for their work, some of which were published in the magazine. One recipient wrote, “I have just received two packing cases full of lovely clothes coming from the Canadian Girl Guides... It is good of your members, and I only wish I could write to each Guide. This part of London has been badly bombed... The soap and face cloths were much appreciated as the dirt in London now has to be seen to be believed!”



THE BIRTH OF THE CWFF

Canadian efforts to lend a hand did not end with the war. In 1945, the Canadian World Friendship Fund (CWFF) was announced. It was established because “children of war-ravaged countries need so much thoughtful care and so much help in rebuilding morale and a moral code.” Today, the fund promotes the Canadian Guiding spirit throughout the world, as our members continue to contribute toward world peace and goodwill.



Girl Guides sorted and packed salvage for the war effort.

Photo: courtesy GGC Archives



War Service



Child Nurse



Signalling Transmitter



Surveyor



Samaritan



Rifle Shot



First Class Knitter

WARTIME INSIGNIA AND BADGES

Some GGC insignia was modified during the war. For example, due to the scarcity of metal, a tin button often replaced the traditional brass enrollment pin.

There were also new badges introduced during the war. A Ranger could earn the Home Defense Badge if she understood the care and use of gas masks and babies’ respirators, and could show how to behave during an air raid. She also needed to know “the principles of dealing with fires and incendiary bombs, and the methods of rescue from smoke-filled rooms,” as well as first aid and activities that would keep “children interested and less frightened during an air raid.” The War Service badge was awarded to any girl who gave 100 hours of service in any effort connected with the war, and any girl doing wartime service could wear the National Service Armband.

The existing program already had many badges related to wartime service, and an article in the magazine reminded girls that earning the Child Nurse, Cyclist, Knitter, Rifle Shot, Sick Nurse, Signalling Transmitter, Surveyor, Airwoman, Empire Knowledge, Motorist, Samaritan, Mariner or Rescuer badges, among others, would give them useful skills to support the war effort. 🌐

Melissa Charenko is a Guider from Toronto, Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee.



Welcoming the World

International Campers at GM2016

BY DIAMOND ISINGER

Camping with Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GGC) provides wonderful, unique, life-changing experiences for our members. For girls and Guiders from other countries, joining us at Canadian camps is an even more special opportunity, and we're always pleased to welcome our Guiding and Scouting sisters to strengthen our connections with the world.

At Guiding Mosaic 2016 (GM2016), among the 2,752 campers attending, we were delighted to welcome more than 100 Guiding sisters from 11 WAGGGS countries! These keen campers and intrepid explorers shared their enthusiasm, friendship, and global perspectives, while participating in the chores, challenges and companionship of camp life with Pathfinders and Rangers from throughout Canada. Asked for their impressions of the camp, girls and Guiders had many different perspectives and experiences to share. Here are just a few of their comments.



Cool Climate – Warm Welcome

GGC's nearest sister Association, Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) brought a patrol of Girl Scouts to be a part of GM2016. Coming to Canada was an unexpected opportunity for Emma Juarez, who had been planning on an inter-state expedition to the Appalachians when she was invited by her local GSUSA council to join a trip abroad. Unfamiliar with our cooler temperatures, Emma valiantly adjusted to our stormy and muddy weather, which is so very different from the "super hot" climate in her home state, Texas. Her adjustment was made much easier by the welcoming attitudes of all our campers. When asked what the biggest surprise of a Canadian camp was, Emma said, "Y'all are so nice and so sweet... I'm not used to that. Other girls often freak out when they find out we're from Texas." With their southern charm, sense of humour, and well-informed perspective, these Texan girls were a welcome addition to the camp!

Photos: Diamond Isinger; Background Photo: GGC/Guiding Mosaic 2016
Illustration: Robert Johannsen



The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) sponsored four activities at GM2016:

- Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup
- GGC Camp Sherbino Legacy Project
- Wild
- Leave No Trace

Leisure, Friendship and Food

Seven girls from Sri Lanka travelled a long way to join Canadian Guiding members at GM2016. One of those campers, Yeheni Edirisinghe, was enthusiastic about her visit to Canada – and how different it was from home. “The program sessions were fabulous,” she said, explaining that team building was her favourite. Despite a busy camp schedule, she noted, “In Sri Lanka, we have a strict timetable of activities. Here, we have leisure time to meet new friends and have so much fun!” Yeheni also savoured the new tastes of Canadian meals. “We don’t have such food at home,” she said, elaborating that her go-to meals in Sri Lanka are extra hot and spicy!

Waterfront Adventures and a Badge Swap Craze

From the birthplace of Girl Guides, the United Kingdom (UK), lucky girls were selected to travel to Mosaic to get a taste of Guiding in Canada. Canadian girls often travel to the UK for international camps, such as Unity International 2014, and the UK girls were delighted to come and explore our country. After successfully applying to venture abroad, Bethany Weir was excited to take advantage of all the opportunities at GM2016. From waterfront adventures to trading crests and crafts, she relished it all. “I had a really good time kayaking – for my first time,” she said, “And I loved the frenzy of badge swapping, a Girl Guide craze I have never experienced back home.”

Core Values in a Positive Environment

And it wasn’t just the girls who had fun. Our sister Guiders from around the globe had a blast at GM2016, too! Catherine Reid, of Trinidad and Tobago, is a long-time trip leader, having already made Girl Guide visits to England, USA, Jamaica, Curaçao, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Dominica. When asked what was distinctive about our Canadian camp, Catherine said it was not so different from her other camp experiences, and trust her, that’s a compliment. “Guiding members around the world have the same core values and do the same things, just in different ways,” she explained. She was delighted by our Canadian hospitality and the positive environment we create for girls. “All of you Canadians are so nice, we visitors are not afraid to ask questions and be ourselves,” she said. “At home in Trinidad and Tobago, our girls are less outspoken, but at a camp like this, they really discover their voices.”

With all those amazing stories from GM2016, we’re so happy that our visitors came to make memories with us! The Canadian participants loved being a part of our global sisterhood right here at home.

Do you want to experience international Guiding, yourselves? You can travel so many places with Girl Guides! GGC sponsors adventures to destinations around the world each year. Check out girlguides.ca for information about our 2017 trips. 🌍

Diamond Isinger is a Guider from Vancouver, BC.



Fun in the Mud

There's No Place Like Camp!

BY MADELINE AND ABIGAIL

Guiding Mosaic 2016 (GM2016) may rank among the messiest of the national camps hosted by Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GGC). But for twin sister Pathfinders Madeline and Abigail, no amount of rain and mud could dampen their enjoyment of this long-awaited international Guiding event at Sylvan Lake, Alberta.

No description of GM2016 would be complete without talking about the epic mud. There was mud from one end of the camp to the other, and it got onto and into everything in between. Nevertheless, this camp was amazing! We were so excited as we travelled to Sylvan Lake with our patrol of nine Pathfinders and two Guiders from Bedford, Nova Scotia. Arriving at the camp, it was hard to believe that the day we had been working towards for two years was finally here. And wow! GM2016 lived up to all of our expectations!



Photo: Abigail Harper

Spherical Experimentation (Bumper Balls!)

There were tons of activities, and each day brought us something new to try. We both absolutely loved Spherical Experimentation, also known as Bumper Balls. We were supposed to be playing soccer in these giant, inflatable balls, but once everyone discovered how much fun it was to bump into each other and stand on our heads, the soccer part of the activity was quickly forgotten. We figured out that the bigger the ball, the easier it was to roll, but the harder it was to get back on our feet. That's probably why knocking people over became our favourite strategy in the "experiment." We especially enjoyed watching our friends stuck upside down, kicking their legs in the air, waiting for rescue.

Food, Friends and Traders

Making connections with Pathfinders from other parts of Canada and the world was one of the best parts of GM2016. It seemed like we were always waiting in line for food or the tuck shop, but that was okay, because it gave us a great opportunity to make new friends and trade crests. Traders also open



Photo: Lauren Smith



Photo: GGC/Guiding Mosaic 2016

up avenues to talk to people and hear their stories. We traded for the BC West Coast Area crest from a Pathfinder named Natalie, whose campsite was next to ours. The three of us really enjoyed hanging out at camp and getting to know each other. We hope to stay in touch with Natalie and all the other friends we made and traded with during the camp.

The Calgary Stampede

One of the highlights of our trip was a visit to the Calgary Stampede. It was nice to get a break from camp life, and to see so many people at the Stampede grounds. Our patrol divided into two groups; one went to the midway and the other visited the exhibits and animals. The best ride on the midway was the Swing Tower. These were not like other swings we have experienced. The whole ride rose up, and we could see the entire Stampede. We also enjoyed the crazy food there, especially the deep fried Oreos, mini donuts, and rainbow slushies.

Canoes and Dragon Boats

The Sylvan Lake waterfront was beautiful and offered lots of different activities. We paddled canoes all around the lake and saw

canola fields, which was interesting for us, because it is not something we have in Nova Scotia. Dragon boating was another favourite. There were 26 people in the boat and everyone had to paddle in sync. After we got the hang of it, it was surprising to see how quickly we could go. The instructors taught us some neat paddling rhythms and, in return, we taught them a Girl Guide cheer.

Rafts and the Rockit!

Another water activity was raft building. Every group was given some pool noodles and rope, and tasked with building the best raft we could. Once it was built, each person was challenged to ride the raft out to a buoy and back; and then we were challenged to get our entire group on the raft for five seconds, without sinking it. We succeeded at both challenges! The same day, we also got some swim time. One of the best parts of this was the water inflatables. There was a trampoline that was great, but the Rockit was the best! This was a crazy, spinning, floating top that spun and rocked as we climbed on. There were lots of screams, splashes and laughs from all of us trying it out.

So... back to the rain and the mud. We were told it was the wettest July Alberta has seen in a long time, and we're pretty sure all of it fell on Sylvan Lake, because it rained every single day! Camping in the rain and mud definitely tested our skills, our gear and our patience. But in spite of those challenges, we had an amazing time at GM2016, and we can't wait for the next GGC national camp! 🇨🇦

Madeline and Abigail are members of NS Patrol #18 and the 1st Bedford Pathfinders, in Bedford, Nova Scotia.

Photo: GGC/Guiding Mosaic 2016



Illustration: Robert Johannsen

Cutting Through the CHAOS



Tips to Get the Girls' Attention

COMPILED BY
HILARY FELDMAN

Have you ever had one of those meetings? You've painstakingly planned activities, created an exciting program or invited a special guest. And the girls just won't settle down. You are frustrated and embarrassed for your guest, but you are convinced the girls will enjoy what you have in store for them, if only you can get started. . .

We asked some experienced Guiders from each branch how they tackle the challenge of getting girls to listen, behave and engage. Here are their top tips for cutting through the chaos to capture and retain the girls' attention.

Sparks

Quebec Guider Dena Schertzer advises playing a running game, singing an active song or dancing around, to get the "sillies" out of their systems before starting an activity.

To get the girls' attention, Manitoba Guider Cori Kulbaba uses the "hand clap and repeat" as her personal go-to. She finds it easier on the girls' ears and on her vocal chords! Once a number of girls are clapping back, she introduces silly patterns; the girls find it pretty funny when everyone can't repeat the hand clap pattern perfectly.

In a discussion, if the girls start chatting off-topic, BC Guider Kirsten Dougans redirects by saying, "That's a great story, but we're talking about (topic) right now. You can talk about other things later."

Brownies

These girls love the "Brownies, Brownies, where are you?" chant. If they don't respond at first, use different voices to make the chant



entertaining and fun instead of simply repetitive.

BC Guider Laurel Dougans and her co-Guiders tell jokes and give dramatic “sabotaged” instructions, for example, asking, “Should I hold the scissors like this?” while holding them improperly, then showing the proper way to do it. These light-hearted strategies can keep the littlest girls involved and listening.

To guide her Brownies’ discussions, Laurel focuses on their input and questions. Sometimes it helps to turn discussions into games.

For instance, when preparing for camp, have each girl name an item to pack. Keep going around the circle until they run out of items.

Laurel also challenges Brownies to do things on their own. Tackling tasks independently makes girls feel empowered, and if they’re not having to wait for instructions, they will be less likely to become disengaged.

Guides

To get the attention of this age-group, BC Guider Debra Legge uses the raised arm signal; it can take a little time to be effective, but the girls do catch on. Manitoba Guider Cori Kulbaba agrees. “I am a huge fan of the traditional Guiding sign with an arm and three fingers in the air,” she says. “It’s old-school, but I think it’s good to keep some Guiding traditions going as our organization changes.” The raised arm signal can also provide a fun challenge. For example, if everyone pays attention within 10 seconds, the girls will get an extra treat with their snacks.

If the girls are just too restless to settle down, use active running games to drain that excess energy. Most wide games can be tweaked to fit your program theme, and can set the stage for the rest of the meeting.

Guides will become more invested in your meeting if you give them leadership roles. You can have patrol leaders and seconders keep the attendance books and use a duty chart for patrols, so the girls become responsible for setting up, cleaning up, planning games and other duties. Debra’s unit also uses a “Friendship Bill of Rights,” which the girls sign to show they understand and agree to listen, respect others and be inclusive.

Pathfinders

Nova Scotia Guider Kayla Bernard starts every meeting with 10 minutes of chat and “catch up” time. Once it is time to get started, she finds the arm and three fingers sign effective. If that doesn’t

work, she waits, “Sometimes if it seems they really do need to chat, I am patient,” she says. “They know if they don’t settle down to address what we need to discuss, they won’t earn their badges. So it doesn’t usually take long for them to remind each other to listen.”

If the group is spread out, Kayla asks the two girls closest to her to take on a leadership role and gather everyone together. It’s a win-win approach, as the girls get to lead and she doesn’t have to strain her voice yelling.

As with younger girls, if Pathfinders are just too energetic, a running game or a silly camp song with lots of actions and yells will help them burn off the energy and settle down.

Rangers

Most strategies for younger girls won’t work as well with Rangers, because they’ve heard them so many times already. And, because the program is meant to be Ranger-driven, it’s likely these near-adults will settle themselves and each other down.

For your part, humour and straightforward communication are key. For larger groups, you can still use the traditional arm signal effectively. But for smaller groups, just catch a Ranger’s eye and say something like, “Can we get going now?” She will be more than likely to pass the message along.

All Branches

Many tactics work across all the age groups. For instance, when you want to move from a craft or a game to something else, start singing a song that everyone knows. The girls know to join in. Singing for a minute or two can distract them from their previous task and minimize complaints about ending what they are doing.

When groups just will not respond to any other strategy, Manitoba Guider Cori Kulbaba uses a whistle. Even a short blast will get everyone’s attention – especially in a small space such as a church basement. Cori is also a huge fan of the whistle at camp, but recommends using traditional whistle signal codes to avoid confusion. Be aware that loud sounds can be overwhelming and disturbing to some girls, so use a whistle sparingly.

With older Brownies and Guides who regularly fail to listen, Cori will explain how frustrated she feels when it takes so long to get things going, and that the consequence is missing out on activities and campfire song time at the end of meetings. She will also ask the girls for suggestions on how to more easily get everyone to pay attention.

Getting and retaining girls’ attention is a balancing act between running a smooth meeting and making sure the girls (and Guiders) have fun. Some days, it’s just harder to stay on track. It is helpful to build in a little extra time in your planning and to use consistent approaches when asking for attention, whether you use hand clapping, raised arm signals or songs. And, happily, the girls do tend to become more attentive over the year. 🗣️

Hilary Feldman is a Guider in Vancouver, British Columbia, and a member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee. We thank Kayla Bernard, Kirsten Dougans, Laurel Dougans, Cori Kulbaba, Debra Legge and Dena Schertzer for their contributions to Ask a Guider.

Explore, Discover, Develop



New Programming for 2016-2017

Guiding is all about dynamic programming that empowers girl members to explore their world, discover their talents and skills and develop their potential. This Guiding year, we're excited to launch three new challenges that address the unique needs, opportunities and issues girls face in today's increasingly complex world.

We're also set to launch a new two-year National Service Project (NSP). Programming will be posted as noted below and crests will become available at thegirlguidestore.com concurrent with the launch of each program.

Girls Count Challenge

Launching September 2016

After a successful three-year pilot, the Girls Count financial literacy challenge is gearing up for its membership-wide launch. This challenge aims to equip girls with a stronger understanding of money, while helping them to develop currency awareness, learn about purchasing power, and understand how to manage their money and plan for their future.

Be You Challenge

Launching October 2016

The new Be You challenge was developed with support from the National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC) and replaces the current Love Yourself challenge. Designed to build self-confidence, Be You will help your girls to develop a better understanding of body image pressures from media and society and to find greater self-acceptance. It will also introduce them to skills and strategies for creating and managing a holistically healthy lifestyle.

Mighty Minds Challenge

Launching January 2017

GGC's new mental health challenge, Mighty Minds, will introduce girls to mental health issues and help them build resiliency skills and address mental health stigma. This challenge has been created in consultation with Psychology Foundation of Canada and Kids Help Phone.

National Service Project: Action on Poverty

Launching September 2016

Inspired by the 1st Seymour Guides' name submission, Action on Poverty embodies the spirit of service by getting girls to take action. This two-year NSP aims to reduce the harmful effects of poverty by building understanding, empathy, and compassion for those living in poverty, while reducing its stigma through learning and dialogue. Combining service projects with instant meeting activities, girls and Guiders will have the opportunity to log their actions online to measure the Canada-wide impact of this service project. 



Hone Your Camp Skills

OAL Camp Skills Training

BY CAROL LAW

Successfully imparting camp skills to girls only happens when a Guider is comfortable at camp herself. As with learning and teaching first aid, Guiders also need training to learn and teach camping skills.

Sparks love singing around a campfire. Brownies enjoy cooking a simple meal on a campfire. Guides learn how to build a campfire. Pathfinders and Rangers expertly build a campfire to cook up a delicious meal. This progression takes place because their Guiders have acquired the knowledge and experience to teach them how to build that fire.

Photo: ©iStock/svetikd

Get Outdoors

Camping and outdoor adventures are so integral a part of the Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GGC) program, we include all our branches in a call to action: Get Outdoors! Sparks learn to pack extra socks for a day hike. Brownies learn to waterproof a bed roll. Guides learn to build a tripod wash stand. Pathfinders learn how to hike for days, paddle many kilometres, and camp “pioneer” style in the wilderness. But they don’t get there without Guiders who have the camp skills training to open up the possibilities of the great outdoors to their girls.

OAL TEAM Training

Spending a weekend at a camp skills training may seem like a large commitment, but the full immersion into a camp experience de-mystifies all those print resources Guiders read in the GGC Safe Guide and other documents. An Outdoor Activity Leadership (OAL) training translates those printed words into that tried-and-true Guiding philosophy of learning by doing.

Trainers across Canada present the OAL TEAM training and innovative enrichment opportunities year-round. The best way to experience potential mishaps and to learn from those experiences is in a controlled setting with other adults. In Ontario, weekend camp trainings include the OAL “Beyond Basics,” at which Guiders learn enhanced camp skills, and provincial camp facilitator trainings for a vast variety of camp activities at all skill and interest levels.

Knots are Not Just Knots

Typically, Guiders realize they should “learn knots” so they can teach them to their girls. So they take a training session in knots, but often forget what they have learned by the next season. However, if they enrol in a weekend camp training, they will find that those knots become vital for making all kinds of useful and fun gadgets. Applying the knowledge in practical ways reinforces the learning and helps those knots stick! From building campfires to setting up and weather-proofing tents to tying and using those knots, at OAL trainings, Guiders not only learn skills, they retain them so they can take them back to help their units get outdoors. And they have a lot of laughs and fun as they learn in the company of their Guiding sisters.



Winter Camp Skills

Eager to enhance their own camp skills so they could take their girls on more challenging outdoor adventures, a group of Ontario Guiders combined winter adventure camping with tripping skills for a training weekend. The result was that, after acquiring their new skills, they were able to facilitate their Pathfinders on a four-day winter tripping camp on snowshoes!

This was accomplished because these Guiders worked with trainers to gain the skills and confidence to help their girls build their own confidence and skills.

Doing Our Best

Camping and outdoor activities are fundamental to the GGC program, and we should all strive “to do our best” to ensure the girls get the most out of all the possibilities that await us in Guiding and in the great outdoors. Just as important as having camp skills is learning how to teach them to girls and even more importantly, showing those girls your willingness to explore nature yourself. Even a Guider who is leery of the outdoors can help reluctant campers, as they explore and gain confidence together with her. Guiders who take weekend camp trainings enjoy the sisterhood of Guiding while supporting each other in shared challenges and experiences, guided by enthusiastic training teams. This enjoyment and enthusiasm spreads quickly to the girls. 🌍

Carol Law (a.k.a. Hudson), is a Guider in Newmarket, Ontario.



- what to watch for with young campers (making sure they are warm, ensuring they eat and drink enough, etc.)
- how to use different camp stoves, the pros and cons of each (hands-on experience assembling and lighting wood and liquid fuel stoves)
- how to start a fire with what you have around you
- how to build a fire for cooking
- how much potable water to bring with you and how to “budget” its use
- how to set up and take down a camp
- how to evaluate a camp.

One skill that I improved significantly was campfire cooking, specifically cooking over coals. We divided a fire pit in two, one half for hot coals and the other for a large fire. We fed the large fire with wood and, as it began to make coals, we moved them over to the other half of the fire pit where we were cooking stew. And let me repeat myself: the food was fantastic! It gave me so many great ideas that I can't wait to try out with my Guide unit. For example, our Sunday breakfast featured yummy cheese pierogies, cooked in tinfoil over coals.

I also learned how to pack a backpack. This is a skill well worth learning, especially if you are hiking into your campsite. I never did any backpacking at my previous camps, so the tips and tricks I learned here were very helpful – not only on how to pack my backpack, but also on how to protect my back by checking my posture when carrying it.

I know my Guides will benefit from this training because I now feel so much more confident taking them camping. And on a personal level, I got to meet and share ideas with other Guiders, making great new friends in the process. Above the skill-sharpening opportunities it offers, a weekend training camp also provides a great venue for discovering all the different opportunities that are available to us as Guiders. 🌲

Sarah Langford is a Guider in Sarnia, Ontario.

Amp It Up!

What I Learned at a Camp Skills Weekend

BY SARAH LANGFORD

Even with 15 years of Girl Guide camping experience I'm quickly learning that going on outdoor adventures with my sister Trex members and taking a group of 20 Guides camping are two very different things. Knowing how to camp is only half the challenge; the other half is having the patience to teach the girls how to camp. An OAL winter camp training taught me how to do this and so much more!

This was all hands-on, learning-by-doing training. There were no slideshows or paperwork. We set up tents, gathered firewood, hiked, sang songs and lit and cooked on different camp stove models. Speaking of which, the food was fantastic, and we learned we could cook it all with our girls at our own camps. And, of course, just being and sharing with sister Guiders was a learning experience in itself.

Sharpening Camp Skills

The skills that are taught at an OAL weekend training include:

- menu planning and meal preparation
- new camp songs



Piece by Piece

Personal Pocket Knife Camp Craft **S B G P**

BY CAROL LAW,
NEWMARKET, ON

At meetings, this craft can be introduced to Sparks for pretend fun to explore how a pocket knife can help as a tool at camp.

At camps, the knife pieces work as rewards for accomplishments:

- Brownies can earn pieces as they do a duty at camp.
- Guides can earn pieces as they do a duty or learn a skill.
- Pathfinders can earn pieces as they work on the knowledge and skills they need to safely carry and use a pocket knife.

You can view and download images of all these knife pieces at: <http://bit.ly/29RDvuf>

What You Need:

- cardboard
- brass butterfly brad and washer, or small nut/bolt
- foam sheets in various colours
- scissors
- pencil
- hole punch
- glue gun hot glue sticks
- cord for camp hat hanger

What You Do

- 1 Download the template from <http://bit.ly/29RDvuf> and transfer it to the cardboard.
- 2 Cut out each knife piece and use it as a guide to cut out foam pieces. Use the traditional Swiss Army knife red for the cover pieces and white for the cross.
- 3 Punch a hole in the top of each knife piece.
- 4 As they arrive at camp, give the girls their “pocket knife” covers to label and decorate with fabric paint, permanent markers and jewel embellishments. As

with all crafts have them include their names on the back cover.

- 5 Have the girls attach the front and back knife pieces together with a brass butterfly brad and washer or a small nut/bolt.
- 6 As the girls learn each of the knife pieces, they can insert them between the front and back pieces. Award each knife piece as each associated chore/challenge is completed:

Brownies: covers, scissors (cook), awl (tidy tent), knife blade (clean up), saw (pile firewood), screwdriver (make gadget), white cross (check first aid kit and review camp safety rules).

Guides: covers, scissors (cook), awl (perform ceremonies), knife blade (set up and care for tent), saw (pile firewood/build campfire), screwdriver (make gadget), white cross (practise first aid and safety procedures).

Pathfinders: covers, scissors (cook), awl (whittle wood), knife blade (review knife care), saw (practise knife skills), screwdriver (make gadget), white cross (practise first aid and safety procedures). 🌐



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Terrific Teams

Unit Guiders and Girl Assistants

BY RACHEL COLLINS AND HANNAH KELLER

Many girls have a deep and enthusiastic commitment to Guiding. They are excited about our programs and enjoy being a part of our organization. You can harness the energy, skills and abilities of these young members to enhance girl greatness in your unit. Just ask them to become Girl Assistants (GAs).

A Guider/girl team can add a refreshing new dimension to the Guiding experience. Girls who become assistants in units can learn a lot from Guiders, especially about leadership. Guiders who have GAs can gain access to new perspectives, ideas, input and assistance for planning and running meetings.

As a Guider and a GA who have been working together for two years, we have compiled our top tips for Guiders working with GAs and for GAs working with Guiders and units.

Tips for Guiders

1 MAKE A PLAN TOGETHER.

Sit down at the start of the year or over the summer to talk about what your GA wants to get out of volunteering, and what you are hoping she can contribute to your unit. Some girls might be looking to develop their leadership skills, while others might be looking for volunteer hours or might simply enjoy spending time with a younger branch. Find out what goals the GA wants to set, and help her achieve those goals. (Check in throughout the year too!)

2 BE REALISTIC.

Remember that GAs are teenagers who have other interests and responsibilities, too. Girls might be contending with high school pressures and commitments to other extra-curricular activities. Place only as much onus on them as is realistic given their schedules, especially at exam time.

3 BE PATIENT.

Remember that your GA is still figuring out her leadership style. Take the time to explain her leadership role and your program plans. Encourage her to ask questions, and be sure to answer them thoroughly. Don't take for granted that she will know what your plans are without an explanation. You might be comfortable winging it, but she might not be!

4 SCALE UP.

Start with smaller, more manageable tasks to give her a feel for the structure of your meetings. For example, have her run a game or lead a short singalong at your meeting. After she feels comfortable, scale up your expectations. Get her to plan a craft, then a more involved activity, then part of a camp or an entire meeting. Keep yourself accessible to her as she is learning to take on more responsibility.

5 BE A TEAM.

Involve your GA (where appropriate) in planning and social events. Getting together for a planning meeting? Find a time that suits her schedule and bring her along. The more involved in the team she is, the more enthusiastic she will be about leading unit activities.

6 PROVIDE FEEDBACK.

Give your GA useful feedback. Remember to highlight her positive attributes, but gently provide necessary advice to help her grow and learn. Sandwich your constructive criticism between two scrumptious compliments on how wonderful she is!

Did You Know?

Girl Assistants must be registered members of Girl Guides of Canada and can assist in branches except those of their own age group or the branch immediately below their age group. For example, a Ranger can be a GA for Guides, Brownies and Sparks; a Pathfinder can be a GA for Brownies and Sparks, and a Guide can be a GA for Sparks.

Tips for Girl Assistants

1 ASK QUESTIONS.

You're there to assist the Guiders, but the Guiders are there to help you, too. Don't be afraid to ask questions. It's better to feel foolish asking a question than to find yourself uninformed and confused.

2 TAKE INITIATIVE.

While you don't have to worry about being in charge of everything, you can offer to take on leadership roles that feel comfortable for you. Taking over a game or preparing a singalong will show you want to fully participate in what the unit has to offer. Even taking on small tasks can be a big help to your Guiders.

3 BE A ROLE MODEL.

The girls look up to you, so be the role model they need you to be. Assert yourself as a leader, and the girls will respect and look up to you as they do the other adults in your unit.

4 PARTICIPATE.

No one is too cool to play tag! Just because you're assisting Guiders doesn't mean you get out of participating in activities. Dive right in and get on the girls' level. They will love you for it and you will have a lot more fun!

5 USE YOUR RESOURCES WISELY.

Everyone has their own set of unique talents and abilities. What better place to showcase them than in Girl Guides? Are you an avid gardener? Offer to run a gardening night or a craft. Love singing? Plan a campfire for one of your camps.

6 HAVE FUN!

While you are volunteering your time, remember to enjoy yourself. Being a GA should be something you're passionate about, and love to do. 🍀

Rachel Collins is a Guider with the 23rd Guelph Brownies and the 1st Royal City Rangers, and Chair of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee. Hannah Keller is a Ranger with the 1st Royal City Rangers and a Girl Assistant with the 23rd Guelph Brownies.

Adventure! Challenges! Fun!

What's your Guiding story?

Canadian Guider wants your stories and photos of unique Guiding activities, awesome outdoor adventures, Instagram-worthy crafts and more. Send your ideas to: cdnguider@girlguides.ca

Girl Greatness Starts Here



Girl Guides of Canada
Guides du Canada

Photo: GGG/Guiding Mosaic 2016



Online Connections

GGC Social Media



Facebook Fun and Safety

Many Guiding units, districts, divisions, areas and communities have Facebook pages. How can you make sure that yours is a fun, safe place for girls and Guiders? Just go to your Facebook page's Settings and make these three adjustments in the General tab:

1 Visitor Posts: Are you comfortable with visitors posting on your Facebook page? These posts appear in the left-hand column called Visitor Posts. You can allow posting with or without your review, or you can disable visitor posts altogether. Disabling visitor posts temporarily might make sense for periods of time when you are not planning to monitor your page frequently, such as during a summer break.

2 Page Moderation: Do you occasionally get visitors leaving inappropriate comments on your Facebook posts? Keep track of inappropriate words that get used repeatedly and add them under Page Moderation to block them from appearing on your page. If one of these keywords is used in a post or comment, it will be marked as spam and will not appear.

3 Profanity Filter: We recommend setting this to Strong.

Facebook Shout-Outs, Comments and Kudos

Whatever you call them, members and others have been leaving many kind words on our Facebook page. Is there a Guiding sister or group you would like to thank, commend or encourage? Write it on:

facebook.com/GirlGuidesofCanada.GuidesduCanada

To all of our sisters in Guiding in Fort McMurray. Remember that we are here with you. Be strong!

I want to send out a THANK YOU to the Quesnel Girl Guide who helped me when my daughter crashed her bike and was crying. You made her evening!

I just wanted to write how grateful I am for our Guiding family, the 35th Burlington Guide unit. We recently lost two grandmas in 10 days and the girls got together and made my daughter a card. It totally made her feel special and she knew they were there to support her.

Photos: courtesy Girl Guides of Canada



Twitter Tips

The Guiding year has started and many new Guiders are leading units for the first time. What advice would you share with them? Tweet it with **#GliderTip!**



Insta-Guides

We love discovering awesome Guiding photos on Instagram. Next time you see one or post one, tag us with [@girlguidesofcanada](#) or use [#girlguidesofcanada](#)

New to Instagram?

Here are three things to consider when starting an Instagram account for your unit.

- 1 An Instagram account is a great way to show off your unit's adventures to the public, if that is what you want. However, if you are looking for a more private forum for girls, Guiders and parents to share news, notices and photos, consider starting a closed Facebook group instead.
- 2 Do you take a lot of great photos of your unit activities? The best Instagram accounts share beautiful photos on a regular basis. Look at the smiles on the 1st Halifax South Brownies in the above image!
- 3 Do girls in your unit have their IR.1s signed? Only girls with signed IR.1s should appear in your Instagram photos.



Flickr Fun

Have you seen our digital yearbook for the 2015-2016 Guiding year on Flickr? Find it at: flickr.com/girlguidesofcan/albums

And keep your camera handy so you can contribute to next year's yearbook! High-resolution photos – 1MB and higher – are best and be sure girls have their IR.1 forms signed. Send them to: marketing1@girlguides.ca as you go along or wait until we call for them in the May 2017 issue of GuidePost. 📷

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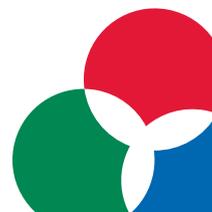
Badge Activities

Select Saturdays from February to April 2017

OntarioScienceCentre.ca/Sleepovers

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IDEAS TO GO

CAMPFIRE CRAFT

S B G P R

SUBMITTED BY AMY BUCHANAN,
STOUFFVILLE, ON

This is by far the cutest craft idea our unit has come across in a long time. And we've heard from parents that the girls love them so much they are using them as bedside night lights.

What You Need

- CD/DVD disc
- black or brown craft paint
- craft paint brush
- small pebbles
- glue gun/glue
- white craft glue
- orange and yellow tissue paper cut into five-inch (13-cm) squares
- scissors
- battery-operated tealight

What You Do

- 1** Paint the top side of the CD/DVD disc. (It might take two or three coats to completely cover.) Allow to dry thoroughly. (We prepare these prior to our meeting to save time.)
- 2** Arrange small pebbles along the outer edge of the disc, using the glue gun to affix them.
- 3** Layer two squares each of orange and yellow tissue paper, alternating the colours and offsetting the corners. Put a dab of glue in the center of each square as you stack them to hold them together.
- 4** Glue the battery-operated tealight candle in the centre of the squares and carefully fold the tissue paper up around it. Use a dab of hot glue to affix it in place in the centre of the disc. Fluff and separate the tissue paper layers to look more like flames. 🕯️

Instructions and images published with permission of Sherri Osborn:
aboutfamilycrafts.com/how-to-build-a-campfire/



HALLOWE'EN SPOOKY BOXES S B C

CREATED BY CHRISTIE VANDERVLIST-DAIGNEAULT

Here's a fun and inventive use of the Girl Guide cookie carton that is sure to have a few of your girls squirming, squealing and smiling with delight this Hallowe'en.

What You Need

- empty cookie carton
- acrylic paint
- scissors
- felt
- glue gun and hot glue sticks
- Hallowe'en "icky" objects
- fall seasonal objects (optional)



What You Do

- 1** Paint box black.
- 2** Cut out hand-sized holes on one side.
- 3** Cut slits in two pieces of felt fabric and hot-glue them inside of the box to cover each hole.
- 4** Decorate as you wish. Insert two peeled grapes for eyeballs, corn silks for hair, noodles and oil for intestines, and whatever other "icky" things you can dream up.

You can also decorate a box for an autumn exploration activity and insert pine cones, leaves, gourds, corn, etc., to see if the girls can recognize the objects without seeing them. 🕯️

Christie Vanderolist-Daigneault is a Brownie Guider in Guelph, Ontario.



CREATIVE BRAINSTORMING

G P R

SUBMITTED BY LIZ KNOWLES, MONTREAL, QC

We talk a lot about girl engagement and about involving the girls in the decisions we make as a unit. But how do we make that a reality? Here are some ideas for brainstorming creatively and effectively with your girls.

THE CLASSIC BRAINSTORM

Brainstorming typically happens around a blackboard or a giant sheet of paper. The key thing to remember is to write down absolutely every idea mentioned. Don't think about sorting or evaluating how realistic the ideas are just yet. This will encourage girls to speak up and not be afraid of rejection. Also, a less than practical idea from one girl might just spark a more realistic idea in another.

THE COUNTDOWN

Set a stopwatch and see how quickly you can brainstorm 50 ideas, or to just jot down as many thoughts as you can in a set amount of time. If the ideas stop flowing, pause, and either move on or find some new way to jump-start the conversation again.

THE SNOWBALL BRAINSTORM

Have the girls draw or write ideas on pieces of paper, crumple them up and then throw them around like snowballs. Then have them each pick up a few and read them to the group. Compile the ideas into a list and move on, or sort the snowballs into "yes," "no," and "maybe" piles. As all the ideas are anonymous, everyone's contributions can be considered without anyone feeling criticized.

THE POST-IT BRAINSTORM

Put up sheets of paper around the room with questions or topics and give the girls post-it notes to add their ideas. This enables girls who might take longer to come up with ideas to spend as much time as they want on particular topics.

ROUND-ROBIN TOPICS

Some girls feel more comfortable being heard in small groups, so organize them this way and give each group a topic. After a set amount of time, have the groups rotate to the next topic, leaving one girl behind to explain her group's thoughts to the arriving girls. She can then move on with them and leave someone new behind the next time the groups rotate.

Illustration: ©iStock/muchomor



THE TAKE-HOME

Some girls think better when they don't feel rushed, so let your unit know at the end of the meeting that you will be brainstorming on a particular topic the following week. The girls can pre-think and also chat about ideas with friends and family.

THE BREAK

Brainstorming sessions get stuck due to lack of information. For example, you are trying to narrow down a list of possible outings but don't have the pricing. Just put the discussion on hold until the next meeting and gather the information you need in the meantime. You can also assign each girl one idea to research, so she can pitch it to the group.

"ROLESTORMING"

When a group of people who think alike brainstorm, they may come up with a list of similar ideas. To broaden the ideas, have the girls brainstorm from a different perspective. For instance, give each girl a particular theme (environment, international, local community, animals, etc.) to think about for service projects. Or have them imagine that they are their favourite character from a book or a movie when suggesting possible outings.

BLIND VOTING

When narrowing down a list of ideas, you may get one or two strong voices in your group that influence the way the girls vote. Simply having them close their eyes can give them more confidence to vote any way they like.

PROPS

Place a pile of random items in the middle of your circle for the girls to use as inspiration. A rubber ducky might make a girl think about a shoreline clean-up. A winter hat might make someone else think about tobogganing or winter camping. Or throw in some paint sample chips and have the girls use colour for inspiration.

THE TRIGGER PROCESS

Sometimes you leave a brainstorming session feeling like you have a list of ideas but they are just that: ideas. Consider stopping your brainstorming at some point, narrowing down the list of ideas and then re-brainstorming from there. If your unit wants to go see a movie, what kind of movie? What cinema could they go to? Would they be interested in a pyjama movie party at your meeting space? How about making a unit movie?

THE PRE-BRAINSTORM

If your group tends to come up with silly ideas, have them do a pre-brainstorming session, jotting down the wildest ideas they can think of. Tell them to name all the things they think your unit could never do. Who knows, you may surprise them by turning something absurd into something possible. Your unit might not be able to take a trip around the world, but the world could become a terrific camp theme! 🌍



Deborah Del Duca considers herself extremely fortunate. Every day since 2001, she has felt inspired by her work. Whether meeting with Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada (GGC) Board Directors, collaborating on inclusivity initiatives, providing input on new programming development or meeting with girl members at our National Conference, Deborah's work has led her to a deep respect for the Guiding Movement.

CHAMPIONING GIRL GREATNESS

Deborah Del Duca

This summer, Deborah stepped down after 15 years as GGC's Chief Executive Officer. During those years, she led the development of strategic priorities and the implementation of initiatives that ensure Guiding reflects the needs and interests of today's girls and busy volunteers.

"I really wanted to be in a place where I could feel passionate about my work and contribute to making a real difference," she said in reflecting on why she came to our organization. "I wanted an environment in which I would be constantly learning, inspired and motivated. And so, GGC became that place for me."

Commitment, rigorous governance, stewardship and innovation have been the hallmarks of Deborah's work with our Board of Directors. And at the heart of it all has been Deborah's firm belief in the impact Guiding can make on girls' lives.

GUIDING IN ACTION

GGC'S notable achievements as an organization during Deborah's tenure include:

- the introduction of the Inclusivity Statement and volunteer resources reaffirming Guiding as a place where all girls and women feel welcomed and respected
- the current GGC Mission, Promise, and Code of Conduct
- the first class programming developed with girl and volunteer input, and extensive research on the factors that impact the lives of Canadian girls
- the launch of Girls First, our comprehensive five-year review and revision of our programming and program delivery
- the introduction of Girl Greatness Awards, recognizing the amazing accomplishments of our girl members
- the development of Safe Guide, a risk management tool now widely used as a model by many other youth organizations
- the negotiation of our Dare Foods Ltd. contracts, and the re-development of our Girl Guide cookie business – including the introduction of our peanut-free, trans-fat-free and Kosher designations.
- the GGC Centenary celebrations in 2010
- three Guiding Mosaic national camps, hosting participants from around the world
- the expanded national scholarship program that has awarded 346 scholarships totaling \$624,750
- our leading role in WAGGGS and Western Hemisphere initiatives and programs, sharing and enhancing our expertise in membership growth development.

"I deeply believe in gender equality and the capacity of girls and women to affect a better world," she said. "I totally appreciate the amazing potential of today's youth. Girls and young women in Guiding – all girls and young women – are passionate about so much. They are concerned and take action about human rights, the environment, literacy, the eradication of poverty, stopping the violence against girls and women, community development, and so much more."

As GGC's longest serving CEO, during her 15-year tenure, Deborah worked side-by-side with six Chief Commissioners. Through countless collaborations with more than 200 staff and many more volunteers at every level of Guiding, all dedicated to fulfilling the goals of the organization, she truly experienced what it means to be a Girl Guide. "I have witnessed and experienced the nurturing, mentoring, support and enduring friendships among the girls and women of Guiding. It brings a richness to all our work together," she said. "The sisterhood of Guiding is a lifelong gift."



Former Chief Commissioner Myrtle Corkum, Stephen Lewis and Deborah Del Duca

In her time with GGC, Deborah experienced many profound moments. Among these was meeting with Canadian diplomat and human rights advocate Stephen Lewis, following his acceptance of the World Citizenship Award from the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Equally moving were the opportunities to state the Guiding Promise in

unison with hundreds of Guiding members from around the world at the opening ceremonies of the four World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) World Conferences.

But what Deborah will remember most about her time with GGC are the countless members she's had the chance to meet along the way. "Bearing witness to the stories of girls throughout Canada and around the world who are so courageous in their relentless struggles for the human rights of all has been so profound," said.

As Deborah steps away from the day-to-day workings of GGC, she looks forward to seeing the results of the increased engagement of Guiding's youth members. "We need these young women to be the champions of our Movement, so that all girls and women can be confident, resourceful and courageous and change the world," she said.

While Guiding will remain a part of Deborah, she's eager to explore the many opportunities that await her. "I will take time to be with my family and have more travel adventures with my husband, David. I will also consider how and where to next direct my energy and my passions," she said. We know that energy and passion will take Deborah very far, indeed. 🌍

As we bid Deborah a fond farewell, we also welcome in our new CEO, Jill Zelmanovits (see page 46 of this issue of Canadian Guider).



A Customer Attention Grabber

Girl Guide Cookie Dispenser **B G P R**

DESIGNED AND CREATED BY SANDI (JELLYBEAN) DEWAR

Here's a great way to market Girl Guide cookies in public places! Please note that any resemblance or similarity to Doctor Who's TARDIS is purely coincidental and it will not, in any shape, form or wormhole, transport you to another dimension.



STEP 2

- Place the top box onto the bottom box and mark out the rear doorway.
- Using a carpet knife or box cutter knife, cut doors into the boxes.
- Lightly score down the "hinge-side" of the doors to facilitate opening.



STEP 1

- Get two similar-sized armchair boxes from a furniture store.
- On each box, secure one set of four flaps with reinforced packing tape.
- Decide which box will be the top of your dispenser and cut two of the flaps from the untaped end. On the bottom box, cut off all four flaps from the untaped end.

Photos: Sandi (JellyBean) Dewar



STEP 3

- Line up the boxes with the two flaps from the top box tucked down inside the bottom box. This will help to strength the structure.
- Using reinforced duct tape, attach the boxes together, securing all seams, both inside and outside the boxes. Also tape any holes or hand-holds closed from the inside.
- Cut a window into the front face of the top box; score and fold it to the outside as shown.



STEP 5

- Paint the entire exterior of the cookie dispenser in Girl Guide blue. The cardboard will absorb most of the first coat, so plan on painting two to three coats of paint. This dispenser was painted using one large (16-oz/475-ml) bottle of Crayola tempera paint.
- Let paint dry for at least 24 hours.
- Print cookie graphics from the GGC Brand Centre and position them with tape until you are satisfied with your design.



STEP 4

- Cut a slit into the box that the window can slot into.
- Score the underside of the window flap in two places and bend it to create a ledge.
- Notch the corners of the window flap so that it slides easily into the slot.
- Optional: the ledge can be secured with duct tape on the inside of the box.



STEP 6

- Glue the cookie graphics into place using extra-strength adhesive. (We used double-sided tape instead of glue to secure the Girl Guide Cookies banner.)
- Cut a “dispensing” hole in the side, slightly larger in size than a box of Girl Guide Cookies.

Once a customer has paid for cookies at the front window, their cookies can then be “dispensed” through this slot. ☺

Sandi (JellyBean) Dewar is a Guider in Port Elgin, Ontario.



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Five Great Girls!



The GGC 2016 Girl Greatness Awards

Canadian Guider congratulates all the recipients of the 2016 Girl Greatness Awards, five of whom we have profiled here. Check out girlguides.ca for the full list and profiles of this year's recipients. Nominations for the 2017 Girl Greatness Awards will open this coming winter.

Photo: courtesy Heidi



COURAGE

Heidi – Sparks

I am nominating Heidi for the Courage award because she had the courage to join our Sparks unit even though she had just arrived from Honduras and she was adopted only in September. She didn't speak any English when she started coming to Sparks and she was really shy. But now, Heidi is brave; she is not shy anymore; and she is learning to speak English very quickly. Heidi has made lots of friends and she has been a nice friend to me.

CONFIDENCE

Katie – Brownies

I was shopping with my mom and baby brother and I saw him start to have a seizure! I was the first one who saw and told my mom. My mom's cell phone wasn't working, so while my mom stayed with my brother I had to find a salesperson who had a phone so we could call 911. When I did find someone, they were scared and didn't know what to do! I took the phone and called 911 all by myself. I talked to the lady on the phone and told her what was happening and where we were and she sent an ambulance for us. While we waited I also found a cold cloth for my brother and stayed by my mom's side telling everyone who was watching that we had already called 911 and my mom knew what she was doing. I even got to help the paramedic when he came and I carried his bag to the ambulance.



Photo: courtesy Katie

RESOURCEFULNESS

Tess – Guides

I am an above-the-knee amputee like Terry Fox. My mom and dad always taught me to be confident and showed me that I am capable and can do anything my brothers can. I couldn't do sports, but I could still join a group to have fun and get me out of the house and make new friends. I was pro-active and asked my mom to sign me up for Girl Guides. I am persistent and I don't give up when things get hard for me. Each time I overcome a problem I know I become a better, stronger person. By staying positive, I have the right attitude to make it easier to find solutions. Now I love going to Guides each week, where I feel welcome and confident and I take part in all the activities, even the camp-outs.

Photo: courtesy Tess



Photo: courtesy Nadia



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Nadia – Pathfinders

I am nominating myself because I volunteer at lots of different places. During the summer I volunteered at the zoo, helping to take care of the animals and to give young children great experiences with them. Since last October, I have been volunteering at Wind Reach Farm. They run a farm and equestrian centre accessible for people who have special needs. I help out at the equestrian centre, with the therapeutic riding lessons. People who have special needs require side walkers and someone to lead the horse so they can ride safely. I volunteer every Saturday for four or five hours in the morning. I think this is making a difference, because it's giving these people a chance to interact with these animals. One girl, who is five or six years old, rides on Saturday mornings and apparently she rarely talks. But she absolutely loves horses and riding. I know this because whenever she's on the horse she constantly talks. Seeing the smile on her face is the highlight of my day. I'm so glad that I am able to help make people happy.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Candace – Rangers

I have been a member of Girl Guides for 13 years, and during that time, the most important lesson I have learned is that every one of us has the power and potential to make a difference, regardless of our age or gender. One of the most serious challenges facing our Earth today is climate change. When I learned that aviation-generated emissions from hydrocarbon fuel combustion account for approximately 3.5 per cent of the world's total greenhouse gas emissions, I decided to see if I could come up with a solution. As an aspiring pilot, I didn't want to be a part of the problem; I wanted to be a part of the solution! So over the next year, I designed, built and tested a new type of morphing multi-winglet for airplanes that is 257.2 per cent more efficient than a standard airplane winglet in reducing the trailing vortices that negatively impact fuel consumption and increase greenhouse gas emissions. My new design was chosen to represent Canada at the 2015 International Science and Engineering Fair, where it was awarded the NASA Grand Award. I have shared my research with the world and I hope that my design will help in our fight to combat climate change in the near future!



Photo: courtesy Candace



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RECOGNIZING OUR MEMBERS

THE GGC NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada National Scholarship program recognizes and awards members pursuing post-secondary education. Each year, GGC’s scholarships support members heading to college, university or a trades program, whether in their first year of studies or later in their degree, on a full-time or part-time basis. In 2016, GGC awarded scholarships to 28 amazing members!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 GGC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Aloette Cosmetics of Canada Inc. Scholarship



Kimberly
First Year,
Science

Bayer Inc. Science Education Scholarship



Krysta
Post Graduate,
Pathology

Col. Karen Ritchie Memorial Scholarship



Meggin
First Year,
Chemical Engineering

Dr. Roberta Bondar Scholarship



Skye
Third Year,
Neuroscience

Dare Foods Limited Scholarships



Emily
First Year,
Arts



Kaylea
First Year,
Business Administration



Kirsten
Second Year,
Science



Victoria
Second Year,
Music

GGC National Scholarships



Elise
Part-Time Studies,
Education



Emma
Second Year,
Law



Heather
Part-Time Studies,
Social Work



Janice
First Year, Philosophy
in Interdisciplinary
Leadership



Jennifer
Third Year,
Nursing



Jennifer
Part-Time Studies,
Early Childhood
Education



Kelly
Part-Time Studies,
Engineering &
Environmental Studies



Nelligan
Fourth Year,
Fine Arts



Sheila
Post Graduate,
Professional
Communication

Humber Glen Trefoil
Guild Scholarship



Isabella
First Year,
Political Science

Kingston Trefoil Guild
Scholarship



Madeleine
Third Year,
Kinesiology

Norma Osler Education Scholarships



Emma
First Year,
Outdoor Recreation
& Education



Heather
Post Graduate,
Education

The Equitable Life
Insurance Company of
Canada Scholarship



Alison
First Year, Math
& Economics

WBE Canada
Scholarship



Vyana
Post Graduate, Public
Administration &
International Affairs

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario Scholarships



Alissa
First Year,
International
Development



Cassandra
First Year,
Nutrition



Hilary
First Year,
Commerce



Joia
First Year, French
& Education



Kristen
First Year,
Aerospace Engineering

GIRL GUIDES HAS GIVEN ME...

Thoughts on Guiding from Scholarship Recipients

The GGC Scholarship application process includes a brief statement from each applicant, describing in her own words the impact Guiding has had on her life. Here is what four of this year's 28 scholarship recipients wrote about what Guiding has given them.

Dare Foods Limited Scholarship



Victoria
Second Year, Music

“Through the different aspects of the Pathfinder and Ranger programs in particular, Guiding has helped me to become a better leader, to be a more confident person, and to develop my team-building skills.”

Kingston Trefoil Guild Scholarship



Madeleine
Third Year, Kinesiology

“Just as Guiding nurtured me, I now encourage my Sparks to make friends, to explore and to follow their dreams. I share with them my joy of the outdoors and my passion for science. I help them to try new activities, to learn to respect and value each other, and to grow confident and strong.”

Bayer Inc. Science Education Scholarship



Krysta
Post Graduate, Pathology

“As a former girl member, I understand and appreciate how important it is to have had role models who validated my personal experiences and supported me in speaking up for myself. Without developing the confidence and courage to advocate for myself, I could not be an advocate for the rights of girls and women around the world today.”

GGC National Scholarship



Jennifer
Third Year, Nursing

“As a Girl Guide, I was constantly exposed to strong female role models who were careful to instill a sense of empowerment within each of us. They taught us the importance of caring for our environment and our community, and to respect ourselves and others.”

Thank you Scholarship Supporters!

Thank you to the individuals, groups, foundations and corporations who helped make the 2016 Scholarship program possible.

- Aloette Cosmetics of Canada Inc.
- Bayer Inc.
- Supporters of the Col. Karen Ritchie Memorial Scholarship
- Dare Foods Limited
- Humber Glen Trefoil Guild
- Kingston Trefoil Guild
- The Family of Norma Osler
- The Equitable Life Insurance Company of Canada
- The Masonic Foundation of Ontario
- WBE Canada



Do you want to support GGC's National Scholarship Program to help girls and women pursue their educational goals and reach their full potential? To find out how you can contribute, email scholarship@girlguides.ca or call 416-487-5281 ext. 273.



Awards

Honorary Life

Wilma Bloye, ON
Bernice Booth, ON
Terri Lynn Culleton, AB
Deborah Del Duca, ON
Meleena Fulton, AB
Araina Golding, BC
Donna Hillman, BC
Jean Olsen, AB
Christine Rose, ON
Juanita Snelgrove, ON
Dorothy Walker, MB
Heather Walker, ON
Coleen Wall, MB
Phyllis White, SK

Fortitude

Gwendolyn Dekker, ON
Lee-Ann Knight, BC
Patricia Mahon, BC
Barbara Milligan, AB
Deanie Patten, BC
Joan Ross, BC
Abbey Sauve, ON
Kassandra Stewart, PE
Patricia Storing, ON
Katie Timmermans, BC
Beverly Walkling, ON
Barbara Wells, ON

Beaver

Kathy McKay, NS
Charlene McLean, SK
Catherine Penney, NL
Julie Thomson, BC

Team

Sharron Callahan, NL
Myrtle Corkum, NS
Dawnette Humphrey, BC
Marlo Jurkowski, MB
Ruth Lindsay, NB
Janet Mann, YT
Kathy McKay, NS
Charlene McLean, SK
Catherine Penney, NL
Marcia Powers-Dunlop, ON
Beverley Simpson Headon, AB
Holly Thompson, NS
Valerie Zaloum, QC

Medal of Merit

Heather Goacher, AB

Gold Merit

Louise Chase, BC
Faith Cormier, NB
Terry Newell, BC
Kara O'Brien, ON
Lisa Tougas, ON

Silver Merit

Mary D'Isendoom a Blois, BC

Bronze Merit

Michelle Brake, NS

Gold Maple Leaf

Susan Birnie, ON
Holly Thompson, NS

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www.junglecatworld.com/night_safari.html





Welcome Jill Zelmanovits

GGC's New Chief Executive Officer

After a comprehensive search process, the Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada Board appointed Jill Zelmanovits as our new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective August 8, 2016. Jill is a bilingual lawyer who brings 15 years of progressive not-for-profit leadership experience to her role as GGC's CEO.

Passionately committed to our Mission, Jill served for five years as a Trustee on the World Board of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girls Scouts (WAGGGS), where she also chaired the Membership Growth Work Group and the Advocacy Task Group. She worked on the Membership Services Working Group, (responsible for defining a value proposition for WAGGGS members), the Global Engagement Group (responsible for re-branding WAGGGS) and the Technology Work Group (responsible for developing a new comprehensive technology and innovation plan for WAGGGS). She also worked for the WAGGGS Europe Region office, located in Brussels, Belgium.



Photo: courtesy Jill Zelmanovits

In Canadian Guiding, Jill is a past GGC Board Director and member of the Audit and Finance Committee, and has chaired several committees including Governance. In her professional life, Jill was a commercial litigator at a Bay Street law firm before working for Legal Aid Ontario at a number of Community Legal Clinics. Most recently, she was head of the Housing Department and a Staff Lawyer at West Scarborough Community Legal Services.

A long-time GGC member herself, Jill is also the mother of a Girl Guide. In accepting the position of CEO, she said, "I am honoured to have been chosen for this role and inspired by the passionate leadership I see throughout the organization. I look forward to engaging with the staff, Board, Provincial Commissioners and Councils, leaders and girls across the country. I am convinced that Girl Guiding is what girls need to be the best that they can be, and I am full of optimism in the strength of Girl Guides of Canada." 🌍



Photo: courtesy Taylor Ball

Welcome Taylor Ball

New Canadian Guider Editorial Committee Member

Canadian Guider is pleased to introduce our newest Editorial Committee member, Ranger Taylor Ball, who is a grade 12 student in Vancouver, BC. Telling us a bit about herself, Taylor began with three claims: she can ride a unicycle; she is fluent in English and French, and working on her Spanish; and when she was younger, she was nicknamed Salad-Head, because of her super curly hair!

A GGC member for more than a decade, Taylor currently works as a Girl Assistant with a Guide unit. She says Guiding has provided her with incredible opportunities, from travelling to the Canadian Arctic to attending public relations workshops and much more. This summer, she took part in a BC Twinning project in Peru. Taylor says, "Guiding is one of my biggest passions. The next runner up is probably my love for words. I'm a big bookworm and an enthusiastic writer. I'm currently the co-founder and co-editor of my school's literary blog, and I'm excited to build upon my experience as a contributor to *Canadian Guider*." 🌍



In Memoriam

GGC Tributes

(March 2016 to June 2016)

Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada Members are frequently recognized in their communities for the wonderful work they have done during their Guiding lives. As many of them may be familiar to you, we thought we would share the following in memoriam announcements:

Betty Anderson, BC
Audrey Barden, ON
Amelda Boland, NL
Violet Butler, NL
Eileen Cook, ON
Joan Coward, ON
Florence Gillett, AB
Dianne Grundy, ON
Betty Hamon, ON
Judith Louise Kalinczuk, BC
Lois Kayler, ON

Marjorie Kosiancic, BC
Bonita Loomer, NS
Beverley Manser, ON
Catherine McKay, NS
Jean Moore, NS
Clare Morrow, BC
Hazel Newhook, NL
Gwendolyn O'Connell, ON
Abbey Sauve, ON
Arlene Spilchuk, ON
Anne West, NS

A Tribute Opportunity Supporting Scholarships



Illustration: ©GGC

If you, or your unit or your Trefoil Guild would like to make a donation to the GGC National Scholarship Fund in honour of these women, we would be grateful to accept contributions. For more information, please email us at: dixonr@girlguides.ca 📧



EARN YOUR:
Astronomy Badge
Engineering Badge
Physics Badge
Weather Badge
& More!

THEMUSEUM's ANNUAL

GIRLS SLEEPOVER

QUANTUM UNLEASHED!

Friday, November 4, 2016

Girls will embark on a fun-filled overnight adventure, participating in programs created by THEMUSEUM with Brownies and Girl Guides in mind. Girls will enjoy a healthy breakfast, snacks, morning fitness, and indoor campfire fun. Activities are inspired by THEMUSEUM's exhibitions: *Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters* and *Quantum: The Exhibition*.

Drop off: Friday, November 4, 6:00-6:30pm
Pick up: Saturday, November 5, 8:30-9:30am
Cost: Girls - \$50 + tax | Leaders - \$20 + tax
Email us at: GroupSales@THEMUSEUM.ca
Or call: 519-749-9387 ext. 233 or 228

THEMUSEUM.ca DOWNTOWN KITCHENER



SCHOLARSHIPS

2017

**Let Guiding support you as
you follow your dreams!**

For information go to
girlguides.ca/scholarships
Applications open winter 2017
Application deadline April 3, 2017

Girl Greatness Starts Here