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Annual Report
New Brunswick Council

Provincial Commissioner Message

It is with a heavy heart my term as Provincial Commissioner comes to an end in April 2020, but our council is in good hands with our new PC Shelley MacDonald. Shelley's experience, steadfastness, and kindness will carry the organization forward confidently even in an uncertain time.

Guiding in NB and PEI was still working through many changes in 2019, as Girls First was instituted in September and unified banking was on the horizon.

The 2019 AGM and Spring Training "Changing Tides" was hosted by PEI Area and held in Charlottetown. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed being together on the island and we look forward to being together again in the future.



Continuing with the focus on the GIRL as the center of everything we do, we had some amazing camps in 2019 including Operation Olave, Provincial Pathfinder Camp "Think Outside", Sizzle n' Splash, and Night Quest. Thank you to all the Guiders who planned events and camps for their girls to take part in, we really do a wonderful job in NB and PEI when it comes to creating experiences for our girls!

Provincial Commissioner

Beth Campbell



Tidewater Area

There has been a lot of exciting things happening in the Tidewater Area. We are excited to say that we have added 2 units to the Area: 10th Moncton Guides and the 1st Riverview Pathfinders. Our units in Alma have amalgamated their units into a Rainbow unit and are having great success. Sackville District also amalgamated their Port Elgin units.

We are excited to see our members traveling. We had girls travel to the Marsna Jamborette in the Netherlands, and Voila Quebec. We were pleased that some were able to make presentations to their Districts as a thank you for their support.

This year we have members traveling to Europe as part of an independent trip. They leave June 23 and will travel for 17 days visiting Ireland, Scotland, France, Netherlands, and London. As well as National trips to Kenya and the Yukon.

Our units have been busy with activities:

Units have taken part in Rock climbing, coding with Code Mobile, Santa Clause parades, Wild lights at the Zoo, Caroling, Mayor Christmas light ceremonies, visiting Transport Canada, the flight college, hiking local trails, snowshoeing, winter camps, sleepovers, visit to the Sugar woods, thinking day celebrations, art shows with proceeds going to CWFF, working on program work, cookie selling and preparing for SOAR 2020.

Units have also been giving back: Volunteering at the Rebecca Schofield play park, making Cookies and donations at Ronald Macdonald house, Collecting soup for Isthmus, volunteering at the Karing Kitchen, and planting trees.

Tidewater area held their first holiday social this year. Guiders were able to get together for great company and food. It was a great success and guiders were happy to get together to share stories and celebrate the holidays. Special thanks to Elizabeth Westwell our training Advisor who catered the event.

Tidewater area is also thrilled to see the Trefoil Guild getting together and sharing in the sisterhood of Guiding. They took part in a murder mystery night as well as a New year's potluck. We are grateful to have them in our Guiding lives.

Louise Poulter, Tidewater Area Commissioner, has completed her term. The Guiders would like to Thank her for her hard work and commitment to Guiding. We are sure she will still be active in the area and wish her the best and a well-deserved rest.



Coastal Shore Area

Coastal Shore has had an exciting year. We had an Area Guide/Pathfinder skills camp in June and an all age camp in July at beautiful Camp Sheldrake. Our Rangers planned and lead “Lights, camera, camping” and everyone from our smallest spark to our most seasoned Guider enjoyed the event. Girls enjoyed a dance, a movie, fireworks, ropes courses, zip lining, rock climbing, rappelling, singing and drumming, crafts and more. Girls participated in the great shoreline clean up as part of a service project and despite some rain, everyone left with a smile on their face.

Other Area events included a bring a friend membership event in the fall, an Area training weekend, a Canada Cord ceremony, Secret 3k, an Area Thinking Day event and participation in a parade of lights. We are proud to have new units and new leaders in our Areas and we are planning an Area adventure to Halifax for our Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers. Our Bathurst Pathfinders continue to fundraise for WINGS in England.

In our units our girls continue to choose activities that are both new and exciting and tried and true. Highlights from the girls include but are not limited to: science night, sleigh rides, winter camping, a day trip to Quebec for sliding and parties. Many highlights for the girls revolved around service projects including visiting the SPCA, planning the Secret 3K, collecting school supplies for a third world country, and caroling at the hospital. We have a Trefoil Member celebrating her 90th birthday this year.





Guides

Mawiw Area

Mawiw has had a typical start up to another year of guiding. We had a new unit open up in the Stanley area.

The 1st Woodstock Pathfinders and 1st Florenceville Pathfinders travelled to Kouchibouguac National Park to camp together in September 2019.

Girls throughout our districts have been involved in the planning and choosing of the activities and program they wish to cover this year.

A number of meetings canceled due to snowstorms before Christmas causing many enrolment ceremonies until the New Year.

1st Gagetown units visited and hosted the January Birthday month at the local Orchard View Nursing Home. Their Pathfinder/Ranger had a fun time at the Escape Room at Unplugged in Fredericton. As well as going to Clay Café for some fun too. And the Guides went sliding.

Many units have held bridging meetings that involved the girls choosing the activities covered.

5th Oromocto Guides had a fun time out snowshoeing and made an obstacle course that was very much enjoyed by girls and guiders too.

The Lakes District, held a training for their guiders on the Girl-Driven Program in February.

The Lakes also hosted a district Winter camp over the thinking day weekend, joining multiple girls; Guides to Rangers; which involved 17 girls and 3 guiders sleeping outside overnight in their shelters built and taught winter survival skills from the local Search and Rescue.

1st Florenceville units held a winter camp and completed the Prairie Rose Winter Challenge in February.

February 2020 was full of Valentines parties, making valentines for seniors or hospital patients and thinking day activities.

Fiddlehead District hosted their annual Thinking Day Swim/Campfire in which 72 girls attended and 25 Guiders.

Units have had various guest speakers in to their units to discuss topics such as: Financial Peace, Dance, Miss New Brunswick (STEM), Soul Care-Mental Health, Girls on Air, and holding a paint night with Rebekah Jane Art Design.



Kennebecasis Area

Kennebecasis Council has many new faces. We have welcomed two new District Commissioners, a deputy district commissioner, public relations advisor, camping adviser and training adviser. Area thinking day rally was held on thinking day partnered with Water's edge area, the "Snowflake Ball" was a huge success that raised money for CWFF. Activities included crown and magic wand making, snow theme games and of course a special visit from princesses Elsa and Anna! There was an Ice Lounge for the older girls where they were able to experiment with makeup and hair tools, create fire art and wood burning activities.

Sussex District have been busy the past year completing badge work and challenges. Several units have been working on the chocolate challenge, plastic free challenge and new membership challenge to name a few. The girls have had fun attending sleepovers and winter camps and attending area events such as the snowflake ball which was a hit with the sparks. The annual "Bring a friend night" was a great recruitment opportunity where we gained new members. Two pathfinder units enjoyed a trip to Newfoundland during the summer.

Blue Water District has had another successful year where we have been continuing to focus on the Girls First Platform and growing our girl and adult membership numbers. The district continued to grow to see growth in all 4 units with 70 registered girls, 8 leaders and 5 non-member unit helpers. We finished the year with a district camp at Chacik where Sparks to Pathfinders came together for a fun weekend of games, crafts and activities. We held two cookie drive thru events during cookie days in Canada and sold 20 cases as a district. We started the guiding year with a kickoff to guiding event where we held a pool party for all registered members at the Hampton Community Pool. This was to help boost early registration for the coming year and to get the girls excited for another amazing year of guiding. The girls have attended many events throughout the year such as sparks can camp, camp skills for brownies and guides, district thinking day event planned by the pathfinders as well as bridging events with other local groups.

Gold District units continue to work through the girls first program including cooking, yoga, healthy relationships and lots of arts and crafts. Events attended included skating at the Rothesay commons and sleepovers. Service projects included Valentines for Vets, making holiday door hangers for seniors' home and making comfort kits given to a local homeless shelter. Planning a swimming event for swim tests for upcoming swimming activities at camp. Pathfinders and Guides and Rangers have been taking the lead planning many of their meetings.

Silver District has been busy in their units working with Girls First program with fun activities, crafts and games.



Prince Edward Island Area

The 2019 / 2020 Guiding year in PEI area was packed full of great memories. Throughout May, June and July, our camp was used for a number of units, district, and area camps for all ages. Two area camps (Spark/Brownie and Guide/Pathfinder/Ranger) were themed Dr. Seuss and had approximately 50 girls at each. A PEI Area patrol of 5 girls and 2 adults attended LEAP 2019, taking in some sights in Toronto before and after.

PEI Area also hosted a couple of visiting Guiding Groups from BC, Ontario, and Alberta over the summer. Lots of girls and guiders came out for a tour and campfire in Victoria Park with one group, and another met up with PEI Girls to see the Anne of Green Gables musical.

When hurricane Dorian hit the east coast, it took out a number of trees at Fairhaven. Luckily none of the buildings were badly damaged and we had a wonderful group of guiders, spouses, parent, and girls to come 'lend a hand' in cleaning up the debris. It was a true testament to guiding spirit from the community in PEI.

We had a couple of new units started this year, which helped make up for a couple closing. With the new units came some fantastic new and returning guiders. The sizes of the units in central PEI continue to grow, and we are seeing larger numbers of girls staying into Pathfinders and Rangers.

In the fall, one district hosted an area camp for 50 girls with a Mexican Halloween theme. The girls learned about Dia de las Muertes, watched Coco, sampled different Mexican food, and make Halloween-themed crafts.

In November we had 50 girls and their parents/siblings attend a screening of Frozen 2 with their units. It was a fabulous time, and special Elsa's Movie Screening crests were ordered from the UK badge shop. November was also our Area youth awards night with girls earning Canada Cords and Trailblazers from the lieutenant governor at Fanningbank House.



Camping

Wilderness and Remote First Aid - The Camping Committee ran a WRFA weekend at Camp Whisong in April. The course was facilitated by Doyle Adventure and Safety. Eleven participants completed the course

Think Outside – No Box Required, Provincial Pathfinder Camp - The provincial Pathfinder camp was held at Camp Chiplaquorgan, June 28 to August 1. Although registration was lower than expected, the patrols that attended were able to learn and practise many camping skills. The program included trail maintenance, making animal tracks, leather work, outdoor cooking, canoeing, as well as themed campfires and a very popular karaoke night. Camp Chair – Kelly Shannon

Voila Quebec - Provincially Sponsored Trip - One Provincially sponsored patrol attended Voila Quebec at Camp Wa-Thik-Ane in Morin Heights, Quebec. The patrol travelled by train to the event and spent two days touring in Montreal before camp.

Dawn NL – Provincially Sponsored Trip – A half patrol of four Rangers and two leaders attended this event in Gros Morne National Park, Newfoundland.

Sizzle and Splash - The Steering Committee discussed the age requirements for this camp and agreed that inviting Pathfinders to SNS in 2018 (for the tenth anniversary celebration) had significantly changed the tone of the camp. The Rangers who attended expressed their dissatisfaction with opening the registration up to younger girls. It was decided to return to the original format of this camp (third year Pathfinders and above). After receiving a lower than expected number of registrations (12) the Steering Committee altered the schedule to include a wilderness overnight paddling trip to Ghost Island for all of the campers. This solution worked extremely well with the girls enjoying the adventurous journey and four Guiders logging 2 nights of OAL Wilderness tripping. The Steering Committee is planning to return to Paddle Canada instruction for girls in 2020. Going forward, we would like to offer Out Trips and Paddle Canada in alternate years. Camp Chair – Deb Maber

Paddle Canada Canoe Certification – Jeannie Proctor led a Paddle Canada Instructor course at Camp Oswego, September 13 to 15. This challenging, but rewarding weekend allowed eight Guiders to earn the *Paddle Canada – Lake Canoe Instructor Tandem* certification. This training will allow these Guiders to run Paddle Canada courses.

Fall Camper Conference – The Fall Camper Conference was held at Camp Oswego, September 27 to 29. Participants will also be attending Canoe Kayak NB's *Canoe Camping Symposium*, being held at Camp Pascobac. The committee did not have enough attendees to hold the business meeting, but all who attended were very happy with the new contacts that

were made in the New Brunswick camping and paddling community. **Night Quest** – Night Quest was held October 19 to 20 at Mactaquac Provincial Park. RG – Karen Frontain with Allison Pugh were the co-chairs of this popular event.



Membership

	Girls	Adults	Total
Coastal Shore	281	77	358
Kennebecasis	340	57	397
Mawiw	652	190	842
PEI	394	94	488
Province	1	0	1
Tidewater	403	90	493
Waters Edge	402	110	512
Total			3091

Communications

Our Facebook pages have all been going strong over the last year to keep promoting Girl Guides to the community, as well as internally to our co-Guiders. It has been a great place to share resources, and upcoming events to keep everyone aware of the incredible work our volunteers and girls are doing in each of their communities around the province.

The website has also been a great source of information about what is going on around the province, as well as resources for our new Girls First platform.

We have also been setting up events such as an upcoming 2 weekend event at Timbertop in Dominion Park, for our girls to get up high into the tree tops to do some climbing and zip lining adventures.

If you have any upcoming events, or pictures of past events, we would love to share them to our social media at nb-prcomm@girlguides.ca.



Archives

"Lady Violet's Crew" collects and processes material to maintain and preserve the records of New Brunswick Council Girl Guides. We meet once a month (except July, August & December) to process and plan. Units are welcome to visit while we are at Guide House. We thoroughly enjoy having fun with the girls while providing a resource for badges, a tour of the Archives section, a 'dress up photo op' in older uniforms, a scavenger hunt, singing, fun and games. This year we entertained seven Units.

We answer requests, sort material, file records and write reports. We are working to have all our printed material organized, posted on the Council of Archives New Brunswick (CANB) website and available for access. We also provide displays to highlight our Guiding history at Provincial Council events. Older Guiding uniforms may be borrowed on request. We welcome donations of heritage Guiding material.

Sadly, we lost our beloved Ruby Henry in January 2020. Her memorial service was a special time of stories, tears, laughter and Guiding friendships. She was a great inspiration and a fount, or in Archives terms a "fonds", of information for us all and will be missed!



Trefoil Guild



NB/PE Trefoil News: National Trefoil Gathering was held in Sudbury, ON, June 19-22. Nine Trefoil members from NB and PEI attended, representing eight Guilds. Trefoil is 60 years old (1959-2019) we started in Woodstock, ON. NB/PE has 12 Guilds and 1 Internet Guild. Provincial Trefoil Gathering was held Sept 28 in Nasonworth, NB, Mawiw Area. Thirty members attended.



Training

I attended the National Trainer weekend in Ontario, where we brainstormed ideas on the future of training in Guiding. Surveys showed that Training is important to Guiders, and they want to receive trainings.

There is a New Guider learning path that is available in online trainings. Once complete this will earn the New Guider her Unit Guider pin. These trainings will become mandatory within the first six months of becoming a Guider.

We are working on creating more online trainings and webinars, so Guiders can learn and share from anywhere. Some of the trainers have attended Webinars offered by Alberta.

There were many quality trainings offered in Charlottetown at our AGM weekend.

Approximately twenty trainers attended the Fall Trainer Weekend and twenty-five the January Trainer weekend at Centennial Lodge in Moncton. Three new Trainers are due to receive their Purple Pin, so are well on their way to earning their lamp. We also have three new potential trainers signed up who have completed some of their training.

There was a Commissioner and Administrator Conference held at Centennial Lodge in Moncton in the fall. There were 20 participants, with 10 in each group. Feedback was excellent and Guiders felt it was very informative and worthwhile. Each group needs one more training to receive their pin.

Plans were well under way to hold a Spring Training weekend, however we had to cancel due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Coastal Shore is willing to host this weekend in the fall, since much of the work and planning has already occurred.

There are still two Areas who are looking for Training Advisers.



Youth Forum

New Brunswick Provincial Youth Forum – Forum des Jeunes du Nouveau-Brunswick

New Brunswick Provincial Youth Forum had a year filled with both successes and challenges. This year's Provincial Youth Forum consisted of five 3rd year Pathfinders from three different areas within the province. This year was the first year the Provincial Youth Forum operated collaboratively in both official languages, with three francophone and two anglophone members.

We unfortunately only had one Provincial Youth Forum Meeting, due to challenges recruiting members, challenges with weather, and finally, challenges due to COVID-19. Some of the topics the Provincial Youth Forum focused on included growing the Provincial Youth Forum, developing youth-led events (including an Awards ceremony), and promoting provincial/national opportunities to youth members. There is significant room for the Youth Forum to grow and expand in the coming years, based on the foundation that was built this year.

The Youth Forum Coordinator also participated in national initiatives to connect Provincial Youth Forums and their Co-ordinators that were led by staff at the National Office. Several support documents have been created to assist in successfully on-boarding future Youth Forum Coordinators.





Girl Guides

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