

The

Signal

November 2014



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Newfoundland and Labrador Council

Girl Greatness Starts Here

Spring Cookie Blitz 2014



Editor's Note

I would like to thank everyone who has submitted content for this issue and apologize for there being such a delay between issues. We have been having trouble getting enough content so I encourage everyone to take note of the new deadlines below and start sending in your stories.

We need your "How she did it" Stories as well as your "Blasts from the pasts". We want The Signal to be able to continue and for that we are going to need your stories!

I hope you enjoy this issue and take time to read though the many exciting things that have happened and are happening throughout our province.

Stacey Adey
The Signal Editor

International Day of the Girl – Celebrating Female Heroes

There has been an instant meeting developed by our national office for International Day of the Girl (October 11th, 2014). The theme is female heroes and it is available for download on the GGC website. The meeting incorporates empowerment and literacy and can be done at anytime with the girls.

The Signal

The signal will be published every second month with a total of six issues per year

Deadlines

Dec. 12
Feb. 12
April 12
June 12
Aug. 12
Oct. 12

Editor

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*Mailed under Canada Post Publications
Mail Sales Agreement No. 40009690*

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From Your Provincial Commissioner

Welcome back to another year of great Guiding in Newfoundland and Labrador. By now things should be in full swing, planning this year's events, setting up meetings, and meeting new Girls, Guiders and parents.

Guiding was very active in the Province this past summer with two very successful camps. A Guide and Pathfinder Provincial Outdoor Camp was held at Camp St. George on Salmonier Line, with over 100 members in attendance, and a "World Without a Passport" International Camp was held at Provincial Headquarters. A patrol of Pathfinders and one Guider attended an adventurous SOAR Camp in British Columbia and many Girls traveled internationally.



While in the planning process, be sure to set your sights on our Provincial door-to-door Cookie Week being held October 18th – 25th. My Deputy Pam and I are thrilled to, once again, be joining Girls and Guiders across the Province selling our delicious cookies. In past campaigns, our Members have received over-whelming positive responses from residents who were thrilled to see "Girl Guides" selling cookies in their communities once again. It is awesome how our Girls and Guiders have come together as a team to promote cookies and turn the Campaign into the astounding success it has become.

A huge thank-you to every Girl, Guider and parent who continue to help make our cookie campaigns a success. Every box of cookies sold is not only vital to supporting our organization but also an integral part of our leadership programming. Guiders don't forget to order your Provincial Cookie week Crest.

The Provincial Training Department has been quite busy preparing for two upcoming "Innovations in Guiding" conferences. One to be held in central at Lion Max Simms Memorial Camp September 26th-28th and the other at Burry Heights on the eastern section of the island October 24th-26th.

Whether you are a new or experienced Guider, these conferences offer many exciting opportunities for training and interacting with knowledgeable Guiders who are willing to share their skills. Don't let yourself miss these opportunities. We would love to sit, have a chat and share our experiences with you.

New Units are opening across our Province in locations that have not been active for many years, thanks to the help of our Membership Growth Coordinator, Allison Graham. With support from the Guiders, I am confident these Units will succeed and offer dynamic programming.

BackCheck, a new process arising for Member screening, is now helping us maintain confidence in having fully screened Members delivering great programming for our Girls. Each Unit should now be using this process.

Don't forget to read the monthly edition of "News Flash". This contains valuable information of what's happening across the Province and up-coming events. If you haven't been receiving this email, please contact Sharon at Provincial Office.

The success of Guiding in Newfoundland and Labrador is so great because of the commitment and dedication of each of you. Thank-you for all you do for Guiding.

Kay Penney
Provincial Commissioner

The Signal Needs more Content

Over the past year The Signal has been undergoing a few changes. We have moved to a digital copy, with hard copies still available upon request by contacting Girl Guide Headquarters. We were hoping by cutting down on our printing cost that we could put out more issues per year in order to share the many great thing that Guiding is doing in our Province. In order to be able to do more issues we need more content. This issue has what we hope to be the start of some different features that will be in every issue from now on. Some of these new features include "Kids Say the Darndest things " and "Blast From the Past". We want to hear of any ideas you might have for continuous stories to have in The Signal. We want The Signal to be a place to share your great stories from the past or present, to share your ideas for camps, crafts and program. Please contact Stacey Adey at thesignal.ggc@gmail.com with your ideas or stories for the Signal.

Canada Day Memorial



Memorial Day commemorates Newfoundland and Labrador's veterans, especially the members of the Newfoundland Regiment who fought and died at Beaumont Hamel during the opening day of the Battle of the Somme on July 1, 1916. Thank you to Hannah Best, 24th Spark Unit, for participating in the Memorial Day Service at the National War Memorial on Water Street. She laid the wreath representing the Girl Guides of Newfoundland & Labrador.

Story and photo submitted by Donna Tuck MMPA

Long Range Trails

Susan Oates Presented Pat Dwyer with a Thank You gift as she finishes her turn as an Area Commissioner for Long Range Trails.(April 26 2014)



Kids Say the Darndest Things

During a Brownie activity, one girl was in the middle of the room sitting serenely in the lotus position with her eyes closed. The guider went to her and asked what she was doing. She calmly said: "I'm lemitating".

Brown Owl had told the girls the story about how guiding started during a Thinking Day meeting. At closing, she asked the girls what they had enjoyed.

One brownie responded: I really liked the story about Lord and Lady Baking Powder.

Child: "Mom, teacher is a monster!"

Mom: "That's not nice, why would you say that?"

Child: "Because she told us she has eyes in the back of her head."

Do you have something funny that a kid has said to you that you would like to share. Please send it to Stacey at thesignal.ggc@gmail.com



How She Did It!



The "How She Did It" campaign is based on highlighting Guiding members, at all levels, who have accomplished something in their life that they attribute to something they have learned through Guiding. We want to start highlighting our members here in Newfoundland and Labrador and spread the good news of what Guiding does for our individuals. We want to show how we are constantly growing. It is amazing what is done and not credited, we want to demonstrate these events.

With this in mind, we wanted you to share a story, a quote, an event, a success that you have completed with the help of Guiding or what Guiding has taught you. We are going to publish all entries, with picture, in The Signal and our NL Council Website for prosperity.

If this is something you would like to do or know someone that would like to share their story, please contact Donna Tuck at donnajtuck@yahoo.ca.



www.girlguides.ca

How Alex Did It!

Alexandra Richard is a very quiet six year old who has dealt with a lot of scary stuff over the past six months. In September, she moved to a new province, starting at a new school, and her mom started working outside the home for the first time since she was born. How did she do it? She joined Sparks!! Alex is a very shy girl who has trouble making friends, because of her shyness. Her family had tried several different activities to try to combat her shyness; however, none of them seemed to work. With no family or friends in the province, it has been a tough transition for Alex. Alex was moved away from the friends and support group that she'd developed over the years. Her family looked at a few options to help Alex make some friends and to try to make the transition a little smoother. They decided to take a chance on Sparks. Her mom was in Brownies when she was a girl and remembered that she enjoyed it very much. Since joining Sparks, Alex loves to go every week, and seems to be fitting in well. She no longer hides behind her mom when they walk into the church and often runs off to play with her Spark friends without even saying good bye. She's always talking about how much fun she has at Sparks and her family feels that it has really helped her come out of her shell. While still very quiet, Alex joins in eagerly in all the activities during Sparks meetings. Alex seems to have developed more confidence and independence since joining Sparks. That is how Alex did it!



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How Leah Did It!

Hello. My name is Leah Penney, and I wrote a speech in school! I'm a third-year Guide with the 2nd Chamberlains Guide Unit.

In school we had to write a persuasive speech in French and the subject was our choice! For my subject I chose Guiding!!!! I chose Guiding because it is an AMAZING thing for younger and older girls, and I thought that maybe I should write my speech on it so I could tell more people about all of the really fun things we do in Guiding, all of the ways we help people, and to maybe get more girls involved in it!!!! In my speech I talk about all of the other activities that girls my age can do, but I include Guides in my activities because it is important to me.

Guiding does not only help me with my social life but it also helps me in my academic life!!!! I did not only present this speech for my class, but I won my class competition and got to participate in the school wide speak off competition!!!! I proudly wore my Guide uniform at the speak off. Guiding gave me a great topic to write about that was important to me, but what I learned in Guides gave me the confidence to participate in the speak off.

This is how far Guiding has gotten me...so far! I did it, but I'm not done yet!



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How Abbey Did It!

Guiding has given me the opportunity to take part in new experiences and have successes in every aspect of my life. One of the greatest experiences that I have had thanks to Guiding was the Guiding trip to Churchill, Manitoba last year. While in Churchill, I took part in a study of insects on the tundra, learned about sustainability and the impacts of climate change, learned about the culture of some of the native people who call the area around Churchill home and saw polar bears and beluga whales in their natural habitat. Because of the wonderful opportunity provided to me through Guiding, I learned more about respecting myself and others, protecting our common environment and sharing in the sisterhood of Guiding. Thanks to Guiding, I did it.



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How Megan Did It!

Ever since I was a Spark, I have heard about the four World Centers. Older girls got to go on trips to these amazing places, and got to stay at Our Cabana, Pax Lodge, Sangam, and Our Chalet. I dreamt about visiting these places myself when I got older. In 2013, GGC gave me this opportunity. I traveled to Switzerland with a patrol from all across Canada, and got to spend two weeks at Our Chalet. These two weeks were like being in Girl Guide Heaven. I got to do many awesome things, like white water rafting, swim in an alpine lake and experience the Swiss culture and the beautiful Alps, but my most memorable experience was an overnight hike to the peak of an Alp called Bunderspitz. This was a huge goal and personal challenge that I conquered with the help of the other girls and the awesome leaders on the trip. Reaching that goal was an incredible accomplishment that I will never forget. Girl Guides has helped me by not just fulfilling a dream of mine, but helping me to challenge myself and be the best I can be. And that's how I did it!



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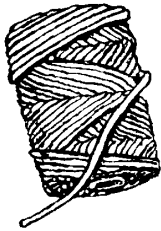
How Carissa Did It!

Guiding is a lifestyle, not just an activity girls attend once a week. Since my first year of Sparks, I have been applying knowledge and skills learnt from Girl Guides to my every-day life. The “be prepared” motto has helped me think quickly and survive many different scenarios. I have millions of amazing Guiding memories and talking about just one is very difficult. However, the summer of 2014 I was given the opportunity to travel to British Columbia to attend a weeklong camp called SOAR. While attending SOAR I met a special friend from Grenada. This girl has touched me; she was always thinking about how she could enhance Guiding in Grenada with what she was learning at SOAR. We had so much in common and we spent countless hours sharing stories, achievements and advice. She has inspired me to make a difference and never give up no matter what comes my way. It’s astonishing how strangers can become best friends within minutes; this is why Guiding is considered an international sisterhood. You will never feel alone as long as you have Guiding in your life and the passion for Guiding in your heart. I believe that the experiences provided by Girl Guides are phenomenal in the development of girls and communities. It’s amazing how Guiding can change people in extraordinary ways.



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BLAST FROM THE PAST



Many, many years ago I attended a camp in Saskatchewan.

We tented in canvas ridge tents (two tents to a patrol) and cooked on charcoal under a canvas cook shelter. Each site of course had Guiders to help and supervise, but on the whole, we prepared our meals ourselves.

One afternoon we were issued a challenge: prepare and bake a cake which would be judged by a panel of Guiders. Lots of tinfoil transformed our charcoal hibachi into an oven and we were soon watching anxiously as our cake baked, and trying to avoid the temptation of lifting the tinfoil to check on it every 5 minutes.

It was windy and rainy that day, and suddenly disaster struck. A gust of wind pulled out the pegs on the corner of the shelter closest to the stove and the cook shelter began to fall.

All eight of us sprang into action! I don't think it occurred to any of us to consider the consequences of canvas landing on glowing coals - the only thing that concerned us was the need to save the cake (mind you, what we needed to do was the same either way). Two of us hunched over the stove so the canvas shelter would land on our backs and arms rather than the precious cake, and the others grabbed mallets and pegs and guy lines and fixed the shelter as fast as possible.

Whew! Disaster averted! And when the cake was finally done, and turned out onto the plate, we gazed at it with considerable pride.

For about 2 seconds.

Because, no denying it, there was a definite sag in the centre of the cake. Our wonderful cake had fallen. And the panel of judges was coming our way, working its way through the other patrols to us.

A little surreptitious spying by one girl brought us the information that the Guiders were taking only a tiny piece of cake. We knew that all but the middle of the cake was baked to perfection, so surely the tiny piece they sampled would not reach the fallen middle. The cake would taste good, but what could we do to make our cake look good as well?. One girl had a brainstorm and quickly crumpled up a piece of tinfoil and put it under the centre of the cake.

Success! The cake looked wonderful and we waited happily for the judges.

When they arrived, they praised the look of the cake and one judge pulled out a small knife to cut a piece...

...and carefully cut her small piece from the very centre of the cake! (Or tried to; it's hard to cut through tinfoil.)

We didn't win.

Submitted by Nita Mason



Feeding Families in Newfoundland & Labrador – a “Golden” experience.



The 1st Mount Pearl Rangers are made up of twelve girls, nine of which are finishing the Ranger program this year. As part of their Chief Commissioners Gold Award requirements, these girls decided to work on their Ranger Service Project as a group. This Ranger Service project requires that the Ranger play an active role in planning and doing a service project and at least 20 hours (including planning time) is required.

The decision as to what project to focus on was very hard as they regularly volunteer in the community with various causes and found it very hard to pick just one! After a unit vote, they decided to focus on Food Banks. As part of this project, they would have to come up with ideas to help stock food banks and create awareness about the need for Food Banks in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Organizing the service project was a lot of fun, and seeing the end result is very rewarding. Here are some activities we have done over the past year:

- ◆ We kicked off our project May 2013 at the Community Food Sharing Association warehouse on Topsail Road – we invited the 9th Guides to come with us. While we were there we helped package and sort 4000 plus pounds of food to be shipped to food banks across Newfoundland and Labrador.
- ◆ We have held food drives periodically throughout the year (e.g. Thanksgiving) as well as holding a pet food drive at our Christmas party. We donated this food to the SPCA.
- ◆ We donated our Unit dues to the CBC Christmas Turkey Drive in December.
- ◆ We also bridged with the 9th Guides in December – we sent out a list of Food Hamper items in advance for every girl to bring – we ended up donating two large Hampers to the school where they meet.
- ◆ We collected food along the Mount Pearl Santa Clause Parade route.

Our biggest and most rewarding project by far was our “Long and Hungry Month of March” district wide food project. Based on Newfoundland history, the “long” is taken from the fact that March follows the shortest month in the year – February. “*The hungry month*” can be explained by looking at the availability of food especially **root vegeta-**



(Continued on page 13)

bles and how supplies were preserved throughout the winter months and how by late March supplies were very low. In keeping with this theme, during the month of February, we invited all of Marconi District to participate in a Unit Food Drive in their units. Our Rangers/Junior Leaders were responsible for collecting the food from the units in February and on March 4th we delivered it to the Community Food Sharing Association warehouse. While we were there, we packaged it along with over 7000 pounds of food to ship to food banks across Newfoundland and Labrador.



We had a lot of fun doing this project. We encouraged participation by entering all participating units into a draw for a chance to win an Easter Party with our group (won by the 10th Guides). Marconi district also generously provided a Food Drive crest for us to give to all girls participating as a thank-you. Ten units, covering over 200 girls and guiders participated in this project!

We are happy to say that we have now completed the requirements for the Chief Commissioners Gold but even happier that we have increased awareness around the fact that many users of food banks are families with children like us, the types of food that Food Banks regularly require, and how every little bit helps.

Story and photos by Lisa Engram

Crossroads Trefoil Guild

Trefoil members at Gander met at the Beaver Hut to sort through archival materials, photos and general memorabilia. Isabel Blackmore, an original committee member that helped in the building of the hut and an active Trefoil member was able to help identify numerous photos of former members, leaders and events as pictures and certificates were brought out. Several Guild members had also been Guiders here. (With so many transient people in Gander over the years much information is in danger of being lost.) Pictures were framed and arrangements made for them to be re-hung.

Photo and Story Submitted by Jane Bussey



ADULT ELECTED MEMBER FACT SHEET 2015

FOR THOSE WISHING TO APPLY TO BE AN ADULT ELECTED MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

The Provincial Council is the administrative authority for the Organization in Newfoundland and Labrador. It is ultimately accountable for the proper conduct of the Organization's business and has the responsibility to establish and monitor long-range plans; assure that objectives are being achieved; nominate and elect Executive Committee Members and Provincial Council Members; work closely and interactively with the Executive Committee and accept responsibility for securing and managing adequate financial resources.

This Fact Sheet provides important information for those wishing to apply as candidates for election to the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council of Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada. Please read carefully before completing the accompanying Application Form.

ADULT ELECTED MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL

As a Member of Provincial Council, you are committed to and knowledgeable about the Vision, Mission and Principles of Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada.

You enjoy thinking and talking about the long-term as much, or more, than you enjoy talking about current problems and practicalities and how something will work in different parts of our province and in different communities.

To be an effective Member of Provincial Council, the following would be helpful:

- ♦ Planning skills (seeing the bigger picture)
- ♦ Creative thinking skills
- ♦ Presentation/public speaking skills
- ♦ Leadership skills
- ♦ Collaborative working style
- ♦ Ability to attend weekend meetings of Provincial Council

Additional Requirements are:

1. In the normal course of a term (3 years), a Provincial Council Member could be expected to participate in a task group that analyzes and develops reports on:
 - ♦ Monitoring and evaluating planned priorities
 - ♦ Provincial revenue and expenditures
2. Additional time may be required for attendance at meetings or to attend other functions in addition to the regular scheduled meetings per year.
3. Between meetings, use of e-mail, conference calls and faxes are used.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ♦ An Application Form is also available on the Newfoundland & Labrador Provincial website: www.ggcnf.org or may be obtained by contacting the Provincial Office.
- ♦ Application forms, if computer generated, must not exceed the 3 pages in the given format, nor should the font size be smaller than 10 points. All applications must be in typed format or completed with black ink due to the fact that these forms are to be photocopied and distributed to the Provincial Council and the Nominations and Search Committee.
- ♦ All applications should be addressed to Germaine Fisher, Chair of the Provincial Nominations and Search Committee, Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador Council, 63 Roosevelt Avenue, St. John's NL A1A 0E8 or by email to: provoffice@ggcnf.org and copy to germainefisher@yahoo.ca and must be received on or postmarked by **January 30, 2015**. This is a firm date.

Attachments to Applications:

- ♦ In keeping with the National policy, please enclose with your application a copy of a valid Police Reference Check (no older than five years), or indicate that it is on your iMIS record. Please note that the Police Reference Check does take some time to secure.
- ♦ A Curriculum Vitae/Resumé should be attached, if available
- ♦ Ensure that your iMIS record is up-to-date by contacting the Provincial Office, or submit your experience on a separate sheet.
- ♦ All applications will be acknowledged.

ELECTION PROCESS

- ♦ All applicants will be considered carefully and acknowledged, and may be called for an interview. A slate (short list) of nominees will be developed by the Nominations and Search Committee. This slate, along with supporting application documents, will be forwarded to Members of the Provincial Council prior to the election.
- ♦ The Provincial Council will vote from the slate for new Member(s) at the Annual General Meeting held in April/May.
- ♦ All applicants will be advised of their status prior to the Annual Meeting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ♦ A Provincial Council Member is elected for a three-year term, which begins in May. One new member is elected each year.
- ♦ Meetings of the Provincial Council are held in St. John's, usually three times per year: Winter, usually February (via teleconference call), Spring, usually April/May and Fall, usually October. The meetings generally take place on a weekend.
- ♦ Uniform is worn at all meetings.
- ♦ The Provincial Council Expense Policy includes reimbursement for travel, accommodation and meals.

ADULT ELECTED MEMBER APPLICATION 2015

PLEASE BE SURE TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL SHEETS. PLEASE USE A COMPUTER GENERATED FORM, TYPED FORMAT (ALL BLACK COLOUR TEXT) OR BLACK INK PEN IF HANDWRITTEN. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 30, 2015.

Name:

(Last name) (Given name) (Middle Name)

Address:

(Street/Box) (City) (Postal Code)

Telephone Home: _____ Business: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell _____ MIS Number _____

Current Position(s) in Guiding:

Previous Position(s) in Guiding and responsibilities:

Volunteer Experience outside Guiding and responsibilities: _____

Education/Training (formal education, seminars, workshops, certificates, courses, Guide training, etc.

Employment Experience, including main responsibility of position(s):

Achievements/Awards (Girl Guides of Canada and other):

What excites you about Guiding?

List skills that you can contribute to Provincial Council. How specifically can these skills be applied?

Think of times when you worked as a group or team. Describe your style as a member of the group and how you feel you contributed to the group.

What do you think are the three top issues for Guiding in Newfoundland and Labrador? What do you believe is the role of the Provincial Council in addressing them?

Please list three (3) references not related to you. References must be from both within Guiding and outside of Guiding, and have knowledge of your qualifications and your capacity to perform the role of Adult Elected Member of Provincial Council.

Name: _____ H: _____
Address: _____ W: _____
Email: _____ C: _____ Fax: _____
How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Name: _____ H: _____
Address: _____ W: _____
Email: _____ C: _____ Fax: _____
How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Name: _____ H: _____
Address: _____ W: _____
email : _____ C: _____ Fax: _____
How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Police Reference Check is enclosed Yes ☐ No ☐ See iMIS Record _____

If no, please explain:

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date : _____

SOAR 2014

Interprovincial and International Guiding Camp Opportunity

The Spirit of Adventure Rendezvous, commonly referred to as SOAR, is an amazing camping experience held in British Columbia every three years. This year (2014) it was held in Enderby and provided a life changing experience to over 2600 Guiding members from all across Canada and even all over the world. With interprovincial members representing Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia; and international members representing Grenada, the United States of America, Britain, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia.

SOAR presented numerous activities for each participant to further develop friendships, knowledge, and Guiding principles. I personally took part in six amazing programs; which include: photography (fine arts), culinary (three day Ranger out-trip), leather craft (arts and crafts), Okanagan gleaners (service project), archery (physical



recreation), and wildfire prevention/management (environment). During each of these activities I was able to enhance my knowledge and further develop friendships.



As Rangers, we were given our own SOAR sub-camp (S.S. Red Star) along with the opportunity to attend exciting out-trips; which took us offsite for three days with new friends to participate in an activity of common interest. I attended the culinary adventure that took us to a local organic berry u-pick, a local cheese factory, and finally we were hosted on a fully operational organic farm for two nights. On the farm we helped with daily chores like collecting eggs, weeding carrots,

milking cows, moving animals to different holding areas, feeding pigs, collecting vegetables, feeding weak sheep, and much more. We were also given the amazing opportunity to cook a delicious three course meal with an award winning chef. Chef Perry Bentley, of the Okanagan College, is a very patient instructor and helped us achieve great culinary success on outside cooking equipment. These kinds of opportunities don't come around very often and I am blessed to have experienced them.

This was the first time Newfoundland Girl Guides were represented at SOAR. We sent a half patrol and meet up



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with another half patrol from Northern British Columbia to create one full patrol. The five Newfoundlanders (four girls, one leader) barely knew each other and then we were going to meet five ladies from British Columbia (four girls, one leader) to make a full patrol of ten. Within twenty minutes, we knew everyone's name and were helping set up. We considered ourselves the family of Red Star 3 and not just a patrol. We couldn't have asked for a better partner group to spend the week with; all ten of us were there to have a great time and we did exactly that!



I have enough stories and memories to last a lifetime. It seems like I always tell a different story to everyone that I talk to. Guiding has always been a big part of my life but I could not have imagined that I would be traveling all over the world meeting new sisters in Guiding who share in the same passion. I have created memories and made friends that mean everything to me. I owe all these wonderful experiences to the Girl Guides of Canada, the Girl Guides of Newfoundland, the Con Ba Su area, my guiders both past and present, my wonderful references, and my sisters in Guiding. Thank-you to everyone who has and continues to support me and others in the Girl Guide program, everything you do for us is never overlooked and we all truly appreciate it! It is because of **you** that people like me can make our mark in Guiding, in others, and all over the world.

Story and Photos by Carissa Haines

Girl Guides of Newfoundland,

By definition, Girl Guides are members of the Guiding Association. Sometimes I question this definition... are we really just "members of the Guiding Association"? In my heart, Guiding means something more. Guiding is an international bond between girls allowing them to grow, learn, trust, and have fun. It is impossible to explain how over 2600 people from seven different countries could feel so close after only seven short days.

I believe that Guiding is growing and expanding all over the world. I met a girl from Grenada who I became really great friends with. Sometimes I question if people my age care as much about Guiding as I do and this girl answered this question for me. We were talking after an archery adventure and she looked at me and said "that was so much fun! When I go back home I am going to try to get an archery range; I think that the other girls would really enjoy it and it is a great skill to learn." She loved the activity, loved making new friends, and continues to think about how she could enhance the Guiding program for others in her community. This really made me realize that Guiding will continue to strive because of us; we are the future of guiding in this world.

SOAR is an interprovincial and international camp that helps girls connect, learn, and have fun. The memories and friends that I have made will last forever! They mean the world to me and nothing will ever be able to destroy the bonds that were created in only one short week.

I am so proud to be a member of the international Guiding Sisterhood and also a

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member of the Girl Guides of Newfoundland. It didn't really hit me until I was carrying the Newfoundland flag at the opening and closing ceremonies how proud I am to be a member. I feel so proud to be the next generation of Guiding in this world. Sitting with the honourable guests and listening to their positive comments and talking to them about Guiding made me the proudest person in the world; to know that I am helping create this international sisterhood makes me glad to wear my uniform. There is an unexplainable feeling in your heart when you carry a flag in front of over 2600 people representing the presence of Guiding in your country and province.

It is because of people like **you** that we are able to participate in events like this to enhance our Guiding experience and pass it on to other members. I cannot even begin to try and thank you for all that you have done for me in this process. You supported and believed in me enough to let me represent Newfoundland at such a well known event. I would like to thank-you all for everything that you do and continue to do for the Guiding Movement, you are appreciated each and every day.

Forever in guiding,

Carissa Haines

Girl Guides of Newfoundland Member

Selected girl representative; SOAR 2014

35th World Conference in Hong Kong

I was sitting at my desk at work one winter morning this past January when my cell phone buzzed to tell me a text message had arrived. It was from our Chief Commissioner, Sharon Callahan, asking me to call her at home. I turned red, stopped breathing and broke into a sweat, because I was sure that she was calling to tell me whether or not my application to be part of the Canadian delegation to the 35th World Conference in Hong Kong was successful. With trembling hands, I called Sharon who told me that I HAD been selected and would be off to Hong Kong in July. This was the start of what became an amazing personal and Guiding experience.



The delegation worked over the next several months to prepare for the conference: we held conference calls to learn about the key national priorities for Girl Guides of Canada; we learned about how World Conferences are run and how decisions are made; we were expected to read and understand conference documents related to key decisions that were distributed in advance by WAGGGS. While it was a lot of information to take in, the work leading up to the conference allowed members of the delega-

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tion to get to know each other during these calls.

I left home at 5am (yuck) on July 2, met other members of the delegation in the Toronto airport and arrived in Hong Kong on the afternoon of July 3. Upon arrival, we explored the immediate area of the conference hotel a little, found something to eat (I mastered chopsticks!) and fell exhausted into bed. The conference sessions started on July 5, and so in our free time we had an opportunity to tour Lantau Island, the island on which the conference hotel was situated. I saw the biggest outdoor bronze Buddha in the world!

The delegation literally worked day and night at the conference, participating in decision-making sessions, delegation meetings, bilateral discussions of specific issues with other countries and WAGGGS, as well as small working groups on topics of interest to member countries and WAGGGS as a governing body. In plenary, we had the opportunity to hear from several incredibly talented and motivational women who shared their stories of leadership and advocacy. Listening to them speak, I found myself both



motivated to do more and disappointed in myself for not doing MORE as a woman and a Guider to address the issues of our world. I went to bed each night both exhausted and invigorated. Throughout all of the events of the conference, I felt intense pride to be representing my country at the event wearing the uniform of Girl Guides of Canada.

We all try to deliver the international aspects of the program to our units each year with WAGGGS challenges, Thinking Day observations, Twinning projects etc. Even with that, the international sisterhood of Guiding may seem a little abstract. I can tell you from personal experience that it is real! I have been sitting in a meeting room with women from literally all over the world discussing the challenges of delivering programs to girls. While we came from many different countries, we all shared the same goals and dreams for ourselves and our girls in our work as Guiders. It was one of the most profound and powerful experiences of my life to feel so connected with something so personal and so global. I wish I could bottle that feeling and send it to every Guider in the country to remind us all of why we do what we do in Guiding....we don't plan meetings, complete forms, keep track of money for its own sake....we do it because we are all working to "enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world" as the WAGGGS mission says.

Photo and Story Submitted by Jackie Perry

Eastern Bays Area Highlights

The Eastern Bays Area and its 8 districts have had a busy few months with many cancelled meetings and Guide Scout Week activities due to weather. After what seems like a really long winter, we are all happy to see improvement in the weather and able to get outside in more favourable weather for activities, clean-ups and of course cookie sales! All units are busy doing program work, had Valentines, St. Patrick's Day and Easter activities in various formats. Sliding parties, sleepovers, snowshoeing, learning about guiding, visiting various community buildings, having special guest in etc. A picture says a 1000 words, so here's several pictures of just a few of the activities the girls have done the last few months.

On May 24th, the Area held its AGM and Member Appreciation luncheon in Clarendville, along with their Area meeting in the afternoon. Provincial Commissioner Kay Penney was in attendance and presented the following with Recognition Awards: Margaret Duffitt, Cormack District Commissioner was presented with a Bronze merit award, Sherry Higdon, Heritage Run District Commissioner received a Gold Thanks Award, and Frances Sweetland of the Discovery District was presented with her 75 year Membership Pin. A few others who were unable to attend will be presented with their awards at a later date. Congratulations to all!



World Without a Passport Event

July 20-27th, 2014



Ten girls gathered from across the Province to attend the first **World without a Passport** event held in St. John's, NL at Girl Guide Headquarters in July. Girls spent a week exploring St. John's and the multicultural aspects of the city as if they were touring around the world. Each day was dedicated to a different region of WAGGGS (Commonwealth, Arab, Europe, Africa, Western Hemisphere and Asia Pacific) where the girls did activities and tasted food that was representative of that part of the world. The girls learned about Guiding in other countries and even participated in a mock World Conference! They used public transport (MetroBus) to get around as they would have done if they had traveled to any foreign city and went on tours, danced, hiked, explored and generally enjoyed the experience of meeting new people and making new friends. They also completed the Free Being Me challenge.

Highlights of the week included visiting the Mosque, going on a boat tour, hiking up Signal Hill, going on safari to Salmonier Nature Park, taste-testing ethnic foods at the Farmer's Market, swimming, using the Metrobus, seeing the Lantern Festival light show and making new friends. The event finale was attending the Victoria Park Lantern Festival and showcasing the lanterns that they had made during the week during several lantern making workshops.

It was a great week with a great bunch of girls. Special thanks to the adult volunteers who were able to give an hour, a morning, an afternoon, a night, a day and the whole week to give these girls a great guiding experience!



picture descriptions clockwise from top left: little girl statue on Military Road, Salmonier Nature Park, final lantern making workshop in Victoria Park, pizza at Piatto, visit to the mosque, Quidi Vidi Village en route to Signal Hill)

Twinning Challenges: Grenada and Curaçao

Our twinning project with these two countries is winding down. Units can still however work on the challenges that have been created to share friendship and learn about each other's country, culture and Guiding program at: www.girlguides.ca/challenges_and_activities. Crests are still available for purchase at the GGC e-store. Look for a new twinning project starting soon with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines!

WAGGGS/International Challenges

Are you looking to work on badges that Guides and Scouts in other countries can also earn? Information on how to earn the badges is available on the WAGGGS website and the badges can be purchased from the WAGGGS online store. Badges include: Climate Change Challenge Badge, Biodiversity Challenge Badge, Global Action Theme (GAT) Badges in Bronze, Silver and Gold, WAGGGS AIDS Badge, World Thinking Day 2014 Badge (Education Theme), Water – UN Challenge Badge, Hunger – UN Challenge Badge, Ocean – UN Challenge Badge, Nutrition – UN Challenge Badge, Forests – UN Challenge Badge, Surf Smart Badge, Free Being Me. Send a picture of your girls working on these challenges to your Area International Adviser!

2015 Travel Opportunities

See the world in a whole new way!
Apply now.

Deadline for applications is November 9.



Atención Pathfinders and all Adult Members Do you want to visit Nuestra Cabaña?

In addition to the Nationally Sponsored trips offered by GGC in 2015 we are also offering a Provincially Sponsored trip to Our Cabaña in July 2015. We are seeking applications from Pathfinders and adult members interested in this opportunity. Immerse yourself in the colours, sights, sounds and smells of a beautiful country rich with culture. Meet Guiding members from around the world when you stay at the World Centre and share a part of our culture as you learn more about WAGGGS, perform community service work and explore Mexican markets, food, festivals, history and more! One Pathfinder from each of the seven areas within the Province will be chosen for the patrol. Two Responsible Guiders will be chosen to travel with the girls on this international journey. Preference will be given to girls who have not had an opportunity to travel internationally. Applications are due November 9th, 2014 so don't delay!

Program Notes from National

International Day of the Girl - October 11th

Theme is 'Girl & Women Heroes'. Instant meeting and resources are available on the National web site. Crest is available in the GGC online shop.

Girls Count - Financial Literacy Challenge

This is the second year of the 3-year pilot project. One hundred and fifty units will be chosen this year from approximately 1000 who expressed interest in participating. Although the program is designed to be presented by TD employee volunteers, it is also being formatted so that Guiders can present it themselves.

Love Yourself Challenge

Look for changes in this challenge in the future. GGC and NEDIC (National Eating Disorder Information Centre) will be looking for feedback from Units who have done this challenge within the last year and/or in the coming year. (Please let the provincial adviser know if you have done the challenge recently ggnlprogram@gmail.com)

NEDIC will also be developing and filming five 5-minute videos (one for each branch) to help Guiders to deliver the challenge.

16 Official days of Activism against Gender Violence

This will run from **Nov. 25** (International Day Against Violence Against Women) to **Dec. 10** (International Human Rights Day) in order to symbolically link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that such violence is a violation of human rights. The 16-day period also highlights other significant dates: Nov. 29, International Women Human Rights Defenders Day; Dec. 1, World AIDS Day; and Dec. 6, which marks the Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre.

National staff is working on Instant meetings concentrating on Peace and Conflict Resolution; they should be ready by early November.

National Service Project

- ♦ The Operation Earth Action NSP website is no longer live as of Sept 1st. There are a few hundred crests remaining but they will not be re-ordered when they run out.
- ♦ The new NSP Theme is Literacy and will run until August 31, 2016; the launch will be on January 27th, Family Literacy day
- ♦ National is looking for 'Literary Agents', similar to the Green Agents for the last NSP. They will be the local champions of the NSP and provide Guider support. Ideally they would like to have 4 to 5 Agents per province. More information should be coming from National shortly.

Tree Planting Grants

The tree planting grants will probably be available again this year (fall 2014). One change will be that larger groups e.g. a District, will be able to apply for 1 grant of \$2500 instead of 5 smaller grants of \$500,

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The grant is not simply applying and getting trees to plant wherever - TD requirements are that the trees are planted on public land (not in a private yard) and that there is a knowledgeable partnership with an Arborist, Conservation site, local nursery, city forestry department, etc, to ensure that the trees planted are native to the area, that they are planted at the correct time of year to ensure highest chance of survival. Please note that a public place *could* include the public facing property of a non-profit organization, e.g. the front yard of a women's shelter.

Global Youth Service Day, April 17-19, 2015

In partnership with the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up, GGC is developing a meeting guide around clean water

The Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up offers:

- ◆ New badge every year
- ◆ Opportunity for Pathfinders and Rangers to complete core programming, especially part of the Chief Commissioner's Gold
- ◆ Offers opportunity for Pathfinders and Rangers to provide leadership as coordinators for their program

This will probably run from April to August.

World Thinking Day, Feb 22nd

This year's theme is Inclusivity and Diversity. There will be a Friendship flyer, to be ready for the December edition of Canadian Guider.

GGC is looking for ideas for activities. Do you have a great, fun activity that you've done in your unit regarding inclusivity and diversity? Please share. Send to ggcnlprogram@gmail.com

Passages Canada:

On the Passages Canada web site, volunteers share their personal accounts of cultural identity, heritage, and immigration. You can invite a free guest speaker from Passages Canada to visit your unit to share his or her story. (Where not speakers are available, options include Skype visits, and an educational DVD.) The invitation indicates that they can help to fulfill a variety of badge requirements related to world issues and Canada's diverse communities. Learn more at www.passagescanada.ca

The best resource a Guider has is another Guider!

If you've done a program activity that worked really well, tell us about it and we will share it in the Signal. If you got the activity from the internet, please include the web address so we can credit the source.

And **PHOTOS** would be appreciated too! Just assure us that all visible members in the photos have signed photo releases. Please send photos to ggcnlprogram@gmail.com

Blomidon District Highlights

On May 1, 2014, the Blomidon District held their annual Leader Appreciation Banquet. Many Guiders attended the dinner and had a great evening of networking. In addition to those receiving specific award pins, all received their year pins and 'One Hour a Week Crests'.



Those in attendance included:

Front row: Linda Skinner, Tracey Sheppard, Nada Martin, Adriana Sacrey, Cindy Andrews and Tina Skinner

Second row: Stephanie Boland, Linda Rideout, Helen Bennett, Glenda Peddle, Lorraine Stone, Liz Porter (Provincial Trainer), and Susan Oates (Deputy Area Commissioner)

Third row: Loretta Brake, Stephanie Lovell, April Brake, Wanda Lee Marshall, Janice McCarthy, Terri-Lynn Stone, Melanie Young, Susan Roberts and Libby Fisher

Back row: Judy Bond, Lisa MacDonald, Doreen Churchill, Jennifer Stride, Nadine Rees, Jessica Leonard – Rowsell, Maria Leonard, Donna Eldridge, Charmaine Mitchell, Lori Parsons – Farewell and Carla Murrin.

On March 29, 2014, leaders from the Blomidon District participated in First Aid Training. The leaders involved were (kneeling l-r) Tracey Sheppard, Adriana Sacrey, Helen Bennett, Cindy Andrews, Donna Eldridge, Linda Skinner, Elizabeth Fisher, Wanda-Lee Marshall, Melanie Young. As well as, (standing l-r) Linda Rideout and Cheryl Drover.



The First Corner Brook Girl Guides held their Annual Awards Banquet on May 27, 2014.

All Girl Guides from this unit received the Cookie All Star Certificate in addition to their service pins.



Blomidon District Highlights

On May 10, 2014, units gathered in Margaret Bowater Park for a Blomidon District Gathering. The girls went on a hike, played games, sang songs, had a picnic lunch and ate Smores. The sea gulls were happy to have us visit as they were eating the candy that was thrown on the grass for the Moo Moo game. It was a cold and wet day but despite the weather all who attended had a wonderful time.



Moo Moo Game

Before the game starts have leaders throw candy all over the game area. Then divide girls in to even groups and give one girl a bag. Everyone then goes out into the game area to find the candy but only the person with the bag is allowed to pick up the candy, when the girls without the bag found a candy they had to stand by it and start mooing so that the girls with the bag could come to them to pick up the candy. Once all the candy is found then the girls divided it up amongst the group.



Winners for Spring Campaign

IPod shuffles

Tuckamore:

Gillian Murphy 4th St. John's Sparks
Braya District
Emma Harris 1st Larkhall Guides Braya District

Eastern Bays:

Claire Penney 2nd Bay Roberts Brownies BNB District
Lily Bennett 2nd Burin Brownies Heritage Run District

Con Ba Su:

Serrina Hillier 1st Chamberlains Pathfinders Chamberlains District
Ava Gaulton 2nd St. Thomas Brownies St. Thomas District

Ocean's Edge:

Rebecca Rideout 9th Marconi Guides Marconi District
Emily Woodfine 1st Goulds Guides Goulds District

Trefoil Central:

Rayne Willcott 1st Milltown Guides Coast of Bays District
Kira Drew 1st Milltown Pathfinders Coast of Bays District

Long Range Trails:

Beth Stokes 2nd Stephenville Guides Stephenville District
Kalley Parsons 1st Burgeo Guides Burgeo District

Northern Mosaic:

Anna Hillier 1st St. Anthony Sparks St. Anthony District
Victoria Dredge 1st VTA Guides Snowshoe District

\$50.00 Unit Prizes

Tuckamore:

55 St. John's Brownies

Eastern Bays:

1st Placentia Brownies

Con Ba Su:

1st Kelligrews/Foxtrap Guides

Ocean's Edge:

1st Witless Bay Brownies

Trefoil Central:

1st Grand Falls Rangers

Long Range Trails:

1st Deer Lake Pathfinders

Northern Mosaic:

VTA Rangers

Congratulations To Kailey Marche of the 1st Mount Pearl Sparks for being the top cookie seller in our province. She sold 27 cases of Mint and 53 cases of classic cookies making a grand total of 80 cases sold! Way to go Kailey!

COOKIE REMINDERS AND DEADLINES

1. Deadline for spring cookie orders is December 15th, 2014: please confirm that all information is completed correctly and that there is an emergency contact.

2. Remember to promote Cookie All Stars

Each girl who sells 80 or more cases of cookies individually will have a choice of the following rewards:

- a) Tablet
- b) Future Shop gift cards valued at \$250

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c) Guiding Mosaic Camp credit valued at \$300

3. In addition girls that achieve the 40-79 case level will have a choice between a \$125 Future Shop Gift Card or a \$150 Guiding Mosaic Camp credit. The other rewards remain unchanged.

4. Starting this campaign - Mint14/Classic 2015 Unit needs to sell 10 cases of cookies in total to qualify for a group sales crest (*under old rules it was 20 cases*).

5. Group Cookie selling picture: 1 prize for the province and deadline is November 14th, 2014

6. Promote the New Cookie Crest and Year Rockers: deadline to the office to order is November 14th, 2014

7. Remember to forward on the names of the girls with Unit, District, and Area by November 14th, 2014 for those who sold cookies during Cookie Week, October 18th - 25th, 2014

Pathfinders Clean Park



June 7, 2014 was the Annual Conception Bay South 3 Hour Challenge. 1st Chamberlain's Pathfinders took on that challenge and participated in the clean up at Chamberlains Park from 9am to 12pm. From left to right: Abigail Garrett, Nicolle Garrett, Connie Korchoski, and Carina Korchoski.

**Picture and story by
Connie Korchoski, Guider**

Citizenship Certificate

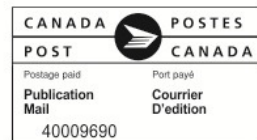


The 1st Chamberlains Pathfinders completed multiple projects working towards achieving their citizenship certificate. Meeting with Minister Paul Davis, sketching what it means to be a Canadian, their favorite part of the national anthem, making a flag of individual squares of their impression of Canada. This was sewn into a flag and presented to the Area Commissioner as a gift at year end banquet.

Picture and story by of Connie Korchoski, Guider

Spring Cookie Blitz 2014

On April 1, 2014, Blomidon District held a spring cookie blitz. These pictures show two of the girls from the 6th Corner Brook Sparks in action. Jaida Humber sold 6 cases of cookies and was, as always, super enthusiastic about selling cookies. Kaitlyn Sheppard is one of the super brave girls who agreed to be interviewed by NTV to promote our blitz. The leaders of the 6th Corner Brook Sparks owe a huge thank you to all the girls and all their great parents.



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