

NEWSLETTER OF GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA - NS COUNCIL

In This Edition...

- Pg. 1 Twinning2020
- Pg. 2 Membership
- Pg. 3 New Guiders
- Pg. 4 Safe Guide Tips
- Pg. 5 Active Living
- Pg. 6 Glow Stick Painting
- Pg. 7 Unit News
- Pg. 9 Trefoil Tales
- Pg. 10 Did You Know?
- Pg. 12 Kanada Reminder
- Pg. 13. This & That



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Twinning2020, by Lashauna Smith, Twinning2020 Lead

Have you had a chance to try out the Twinning2020 culture sharing activities? There's still time! Twinning2020 runs until June 2016 and our culture sharing activities can be done at any time. Perhaps celebrate the end of the Guiding year with a beach-themed meeting including Saint Vincent and the Grenadines activities! www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Program -> International -> Twinning2020

The next key pillar for Twinning2020 will revolve around International Day of the Girl in October 2015. Watch for more info on this over the coming months, as well as new Twinning activities and more information on Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Don't forget to keep up to date by joining our Facebook page at Twinning 2020: Atlantic Canada & St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Finally, thanks to all Guiders who participated in the Twinning2020 survey! Congratulations to our survey draw winner, Janice Betts, from Maplewood. Janice won a \$25 from the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Store (WAGGGS).



Membership Report Recruitment & Retention

By Jo Swinemer, Membership

Nova Scotia Guiding is doing really well. We grew by over 300 members this past year! An unofficial target of 6000 members has been set for 2015-16 (#6000strongin2016). To get there it doesn't just mean picking up another 200 girls along the way... we also need to keep the members we have! The table below shows new girls versus returning girls in each type of unit (plus adult members).

	New	Returned	Total
Multibranch	86	78	164
Sparks	859	420	1279
Brownies	412	1049	1461
Guides	190	1088	1278
Pathfinders	22	368	390
Rangers	5	136	141
TMBRs	1	13	14
Adults	256	898	1154
TOTALS	1831	4050	5881

So, 31% of our members for 2014-15 were brand new! As we break in to new areas, we often use multi-branch units, so that may explain the higher percentage of new girls in this type of unit. It is likely not surprising to see so few new members in the older branches either. It is still fun to see that we have 22 girls joining at the Junior High level, who had never been involved. But then again, if 31% were new to us, it meant that 69% of our members were not new! Here comes that <u>retention</u> word again. It is really important to focus a chunk of our membership efforts on these girls and women.

And now for some 'Membership Math':

- Adult membership in 2013-14 was 1068.
- In 2014-15 it was 1154.
- An increase of 86 total adult members
- Consider that we actually had 256 new adults this year.
- So there are at least 170 adult members that were not retained.

This same math applies to the girls. While we recognize Guiding may not be for everyone, and girls get busy as they grow up and have to choose among extracurricular activities, we need to make sure - as an organization – that we are giving girl and adult members the best experience.

Retention Tips:

- ⇒ Make sure your advancing girls know what's available to them! In addition to having girls attend a meeting at the next branch, remind families about the unit details (or options) for the next branch at registration time.
- ⇒ Have an extra-special event early in the Guiding year! Year after year, Quest continues to be a draw to get those Pathfinders registered. Wouldn't it be fun for your Guides to look forward to an exciting fall camp, horseback riding, or canoeing?
- ⇒ Check out the Bridging Challenge to see all the ways we can interact with other branches. Girls who know they are part of something bigger stay longer!
- ⇒ Say thank you to your fellow leaders. Nominate Guiders for awards. Support Guiders in new roles and challenges. Mentor new Guiders. Share ideas. Share in the Sisterhood.
- ⇒ Thinking about wrapping up your career as a Unit Guider? Speak to your Commissioner or Membership Adviser about other roles in Guiding.



Who Are They & Where Are They?

By Jennifer Boyce, Provincial Membership Adviser



Our Guiding year is winding down, but let's fast forward to September for just a quick second. Are you going to have enough Guiders in your unit? Are new units opening up and looking for Guiders? We know we can get the girls, but will we have the Guiders? If you recruit now for the fall, your Guiders can be completely screened over the summer, so they can hit the ground running in September.

First, let's talk about what makes a great Guider. Great Guiders are passionate, creative, organized, confident, crafty, and outdoorsy. BUT, not every Guider is, or has to be, all of these things, so here are a few things to think about when looking for a new Guider:

Look for someone who is going to add value to your unit, not just a warm body- someone who will compliment your skills. She can be crafty, organized, like to do paperwork, etc. But if she just shows up and stands in the corner, she is not a help to you. If you can't find someone who can commit to every week, find two or three women who can take turns. Let them know that flexibility works in your unit- but make sure they are going to be there when they say they are. Be honest in your expectations for them and ask them to be honest about what and how much they can commit.

Now that you know what to look for in a new Guider, where are you going to find them?

- Invite a mom to camp and include her in the planning so she feels part of the process; if she seems to be enjoying • camp, invite her to join your unit.
- Bring an Adult Friend night host a recognition event for your Guiders and invite them to bring a female friend. •
- Put a notice in your school newsletter now (don't wait until September when moms get so much paperwork)
- Use social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and even Kijiji •
- Tap into your local Rangers and Transitioning Members. Remember, at the age of 16 these girls can be counted • as ratio at green level activities. And the younger girls LOVE them.
- Tap into your local Trefoil Guild, these ladies may welcome the opportunity to come back to a unit. •
- High School and University students are looking to gather volunteer experience to beef up their resumes.
- Put a notice in local church bulletins.

- Put up a table at the mall, flea market, or school Spring Fairs. Include info for girls and adults, hand out magnets (and sell those last few cases of cookies if you have them).
- Tell people you are recruiting- widen your net by letting everyone know that you are looking for new Guiders. • You just never know who might have a friend, sister, wife, or mother who is looking for just this type of opportunity.

And last but not least, reach out to your Area Membership Adviser:

Ceilidh Area –	Ashley Burke
Dartmouth Shore –	Barb Kent (acting)
Harbourside –	Susan Sarty
Harvest Trail –	Kristy Haayer
Maplewood –	We are currently looking for a new AMA – is it you?
Area 6 –	Brand new area, looking for a brand new AMA – maybe this is you?

AND ME! Jen Boyce- your Provincial Membership Adviser.

May 2015

COASTLINES Page 4



afe Guide Reminders

By Joyce Custance, Provincial Safe Guide Adviser

From the number and variety of Activity Plans coming in, it is obvious Guiders are very busy providing wonderful and interesting activities for the girls in your units. It is also exciting to see the number of units making plans for Guiding Mosaic. Please take a few minutes to read through these important reminders. Together, we all want to ensure all activities are fun, exciting, and SAFE.

We are once again seeing some outdated SG.1, SG.2 and SG.3 forms. If your request is submitted on the old forms, you will be contacted by an Assessor and asked to resubmit on the updated forms. This slows down your acknowledgement process. Please make sure the forms you use have **Rev. 2014/09** on them. Safe Guide is amended each year, so watch in August for any revisions to forms and procedures. Although you do need to use the correct SG.2 for your parents, it does not need to be submitted with your papers for acknowledgement. Please ensure the activities listed on the SG.3 agree with what is on the SG.1 so that parents are clear on what is happening at your activity before they give permission for their daughter/ward to attend.

Please **respect the timelines** for submission of forms for acknowledgement. The 14 days for Yellow and 21 days for Water and Red activities have been determined for specific reasons. Sometimes paperwork may be very straight forward and assessed in a timely manner. Sometimes, because an Assessor may have to work a little more closely with you due to the nature of the activity, it can take the full time to get it acknowledged. At any given time, especially this time of year, our Assessors may have five or six sets of paperwork to be assessed. You should submit your SG.3 as soon as it is completed and that can get the process started. *It is to your benefit NOT to wait until the last possible day to submit your SG.3 – allowing time for unforeseen circumstances will give you some breathing space should an unexpected change occur.*

We have GGC units who sometimes attend non-Guiding activities. Please remember that you still need to complete the Activity Plans for these, clearly stating what the girls will be involved in. It is possible that a non-Guiding activity may have something as part of their plan that will not fall under our Safe Guide practices. If it is a "Conditional" or "Not Permitted" activity for Girl Guides as defined in Safe Guide, page 8, then it stays that way no matter who is providing the program. You can still attend, with the proper paperwork, you just may not be able to take part in all of the program. I would ask that you also see the reference to "GGC Sanctioned Activities" on page 6 of Safe Guide. These procedures are in place for the safety of both girls and Guiders and there is no opting out of them.

REMINDER - if you wish to become an Assessor to help sister Guiders in the provision of fun and safe activities, I would be pleased to discuss it with you before you make that decision. You can contact me at <u>sgadviser@girlguides.ns.ca</u>. I urge you to continue to give our girls the variety of experiences that you are currently doing ... have fun yourselves ... and BE SAFE!



By Catherine Droesbeck, Active Living Adviser

Spring is an amazing time to make physical activity a part of your daily life, and encourage girls to be active too! The days are warmer, the sun is up longer, and it's easier to have some outdoor time in the evenings.

It is so important to find time to be outdoors every day. Research is showing that people of all ages who spend more time outdoors are more active, are able to handle stress better, and are over all happier. We all want this for ourselves and our girls.

Plan a walk/hike for all or part of an upcoming meeting. This does not take a lot of planning. The girls are just happy to be outside and to have a chance to walk and talk after a LONG winter. Plan your route ahead of time and make sure there are safe places to walk near where you meet. If there aren't any good walking spots near your meeting area, you could instead plan to meet at the beginning of a trail. There are so many great walking and hiking trails around our province. Go to <u>www.novatrails.com</u> or <u>https://hikenovascotia.wordpress.com/</u> for ideas.

Looking to see where physical activity can link into the program? Check this out!

<u>BRANCH</u>	PROGRAM
Sparks	Being Healthy Keeper
Brownies	Key to Active Living Interest Badges: Swim / Skate, Go For It, Food Power, Wheels, Special Interest Badge
Guides	Being Healthy, Cycling, Feeling Good, Fitness Fun, Swimming, Sport, Bird Watching, Canoeing, Hiking
Pathfinders	Let's Take It Outside, Living Well, On My Own Active Living, Beyond Baseball, Let Go & Chill
Rangers	Healthy Living



Looking for something new and cool to try at your next camp? How about light painting? The pictures shown here were created by having a girl move a glow stick when the shutter of a camera was open, allowing all the light to be captured in the photo. This is much easier than it sounds! To try this neat trick, you need a DSLR camera, a tripod and some dollar store glow bracelets. And dark, of course!

1) Find a dark spot. Any place will work, as long as it is dark and free of obstacles. Even a little light can mess things up, so you may need to block windows and other light sources (put a post-it over small LED lights).

2) Put your camera in bulb mode. Choose manual mode or shutter mode, then start scrolling your selector wheel all the way to the end of the shutter speeds. After 25", 30", it will show "bulb" or simply the letter "b". This is bulb mode. Tip: Google the model of your camera with "bulb mode" and you'll find directions.

3) Set up the tripod and camera. Try to zoom the camera so that the frame is captured between two objects (walls, chairs, etc) about 8-10' away from the camera. This gives the girls a better idea of where they can move as they draw, and is far enough away to hold the focus.

4) Have the girls stand in the frame. Press and hold the shutter, and tell them to move. Once they are done, let go of the shutter. Done!

<u>Tips:</u>

- Move the glow stick at a slow but steady speed. Try to hold it so the end is pointed at the camera , not the side.
- For writing names and words, reverse the photo on a computer after you are done.
- Basic shapes like hearts, stars, and single letters are a good place to start. The "body tracing" was also pretty easy. For younger girls, consider cutting shapes out of bristol board for them to trace.
- Use a finger from your other hand to mark where you started, so that you can "close" shapes. Or, have someone do this for you it's dark, no one will know!
- Writing is tricky! The key is to step sideways as you write, so that you move from one side of the frame to the other. This takes more time than simple shapes.
- For younger girls, try putting a glow stick on a string and having them spin it.
- Have someone working the light switch, and ask them to write down the photo number and name, so you can keep track of who is in which photos.
- Most cameras come with cable to connect to a laptop. This saves you from being trampled by girls wanting to see how their picture came out. Or, use an HDMI cable to connect your camera to a monitor for easier viewing.









Hop, Skip, Jump, By Christian Brousseau, 6th Bedford Brownies

Last month, our unit, along with close to 200 Sparks, Brownies & Guides in the Bedford District met for a fun night at Hop, Skip, Jump– the new indoor play space in Bayers Lake Park. Branches were split into shifts, ensuring that all girls got plenty of time to play.

The girls had a blast playing on the huge, three level, multi color play structure which included a spider climbing tower (see pic!), ball blaster, wave slides and much more. It was so nice to bridge together and see the girls having fun with their fellow sisters in Guiding.

One little Spark was overheard saying "This was the best night of my life!"- a sure sign of a successful District event!





Supplies for School

The Digby Girl Guides donated four backpacks of literary supplies to Digby Elementary School as part of the Words in Action Challenge.

Here, the Guides are seen presenting the supplies to the Digby Elementary School principal.



Young Guiders Retreat,

By Denise Hirtle, Deputy Provincial Commissioner, Youth Support

The weekend of January 23-25, a small but mighty group gathered at Camp Harris for some fun, learning and sharing. We were down to six Young Guiders and two 'experienced' to keep things rolling and to keep the food coming.

We began our weekend with a delightful Ranger, showing that you do not need years & years of experience or formal training to present a great learning. We did improv for more than an hour and, as a result, were comfortable with each other very quickly and had a lot of laughs. We were fortunate to have our Provincial Commissioner, Kathy McKay join us for Friday night and this gave everyone an opportunity to realize the song is right 'we ARE Guides, all Guides' as she was an active part of our conversations, games and of course, pizza!

This is a very dynamic, passionate group of Guiders, who have different needs and experiences than the 'average' Guider. While it is often a term reserved for our more seasoned Guiders, these young women are truly "lifers" and a testament to the fact that Girl Guides of Canada is in good hands. The experience in that room was overwhelming: most are university students who carry a full course load, work part time, run a unit and still found the time to come out for yet another weekend (two also are co-District Commissioners, and three are Trainer candidates!).

I am always as anxious to get their opinion as they are to give it , and we discussed ideas for future events such as Link get-togethers, the possibility of a Girl Guide equivalent of Ted Talks and their input on what could be done to encourage girls to register for a D250 event.

Saturday allowed the opportunity for a few more formal trainings – not the least of which was the Foodhandlers Course, offered by Debbie Mellish. There was also time for World Cafe with topics such as outings, favorite websites, camp sites and service projects to name a few. Then in the evening was the ever-popular 'Open Mike'. This event began a few years ago as a venue for Young Guiders to get together and share the concerns that are unique to this age group.

In the next while a survey will be sent to see if we should continue – please take a few moments to be sure your voice is heard!



May 2015

COASTLINES Page 9



Memory Lane Trefoil Guild Hits the Big Time!

By Darlene Duggan, Memory Lane Co-President, NS Provincial Trefoil Guild PR

It was a cold, icy evening when six members of Memory Lane Trefoil Guild ("chaperoned" by our esteemed Provincial Trefoil Guild Adviser), attended a taping of CBC's "22 Minutes". As we signed in, we were invited to enjoy a glass of wine (or pop) while waiting to make our way to the studio. It was a lively, friendly crowd...but then we *are* Nova Scotians.

It was very interesting to be behind the scenes - very busy - and the staff were super friendly and welcoming...they must love working there! The studio holds only about 100 people, so we were separated into two groups but our purple shirts were very obvious. There were cameras (of course), lots of wires, and people bustling about...it was very exciting and that was before the show even started! A very lively, funny young man came out to get us "pumped" for the show with his jokes and interaction with the audience. And pumped we were!

Suddenly the "stars" took the stage to thunderous applause...yes, thunderous...and the taping began. These people are amazing! They get through most of their skits without a hitch and when they (seldom) have to do a re-take, they immediately go deadpan and repeat their lines as if it was the first time...regardless of how much laughter there was at the glitch. One moment they are laughing and the next they shut it off and go on with their skit. Some of the segments had been previously taped and it was interesting to see how they are fitted into the show.

Of course, there is a lot of interaction between the cast members themselves, as well as between them and the audience. One example was when Shaun Majumder asked about our purple shirts (although I am sure it was our laughter that drew his attention) and we told him were we Girl Guides (well obviously not girls). He knew all about Girl Guides, he said, because he had been a Brownie. Yes... he was! His Mom was a Brownie leader and since she could not find anyone to babysit him (he was such an angelic child, he said) she took him along to the meetings with her. He knew all about the Brownie ring and the Toadstool...and the Sign (as you can see in the photo). We agreed later that it was a good thing he did not mention any Girl Guide songs or we might have broken out into a rousing rendition of Black Socks (maybe next time).



L-R: Trish MacDonald, Tina Joudrey, Darlene Duggan, Donna Macgregor, Barb Power, Claudia Porter, Sharon Nash.

The taping took about two hours and we enjoyed every moment. There is no admittance fee: you order your tickets online for a specified date and time which is posted on the "22 Minutes" website. If you are looking for a very entertaining...FUN...outing give this one a try. Have supper before and go for dessert after and you have a great evening, another adventure with your friends, and have learned something new...Trefoil Guild always Keeping the Spirit Alive.







Last month we learned about HST requirements for Girl Guides. Read below for Part 2– all about HST planning, paperwork and how to get it right the first time!!

HST Planning & Paperwork

by Angela Stoddart (aka Ms Moneybags), Provincial Treasurer

Your Area, District or Unit has decided to have a fantastic fun-filled event, and in the planning stages it is decided it there will be a fee associated with the event. Now what? To reduce the headaches regarding HST requirements, here are some important myths and facts to help get the HST paperwork done right the first time around!

MYTH: Units are responsible for collecting and submitting HST revenue for a multi-group event.

FACT: The group organizing the event is responsible for determining the HST on the fee, for collecting the HST revenue (from districts, units, etc.) and expense receipts, for writing the receipts to the parents, and for submitting the HST remittance package.

MYTH: I can use any form I find online to prepare the HST remittance.

FACT: The National form is not acceptable for Nova Scotia Guides due to the HST math calculation and processing fees. **The only form accepted at Province House is on the provincial website:** www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Volunteer -> Guider Resources -> Forms -> Interactive HST Forms.

When Putting the HST Remittance Package Together:

- Original expenses must be submitted (CRA requirement), and the receipts must include the company HST Registration #. If the receipt does not have it (i.e. Dollarama, Frenchies) ask for it, or it cannot be used. The same rule applies for the 50% HST Rebate forms original receipts only! Keep copies of the receipts for the Area / District / Unit Financial Records.
- The Official receipt that is to be filled out has three parts:
- \Rightarrow White to be given to parents
- ⇒ Yellow for retaining a copy for the Area / District / Unit Financial records
- ⇒ Pink for HST remittance packages sent to Province House for processing prior to submitting to CRA. Make sure to include the pink copies with your HST remittance forms!
- ⇒ If 50 girls attend, then there should be 50 HST receipts written up, regardless of how many paid full fees and how many were subsidized.
- \Rightarrow (Contact your Area Commissioner or Area Treasurer to obtain the official receipt book)

continued on next page ...

May 2015

COASTLINES Page 11



HST Planning & Paperwork continued...

by Angela Stoddart (aka Ms Moneybags), Provincial Treasurer

How to Calculate (there are two options):

- 1. Total Camp Fee, tax included \$20 x <u>15+115</u> = \$2.61 HST + \$17.39 Fees. The formula <u>15+115</u> is used to calculate pre-tax figure you need.
- 2. Camp Fee plus tax \$20 x 15% = \$ 3.00 HST. Total Camp Fee is \$23.
- If charging different rates use a different line on the remittance forms:

Туре	Fee per participant	HST	# Participants	Tax Collected
Plus HST	\$ 5.00	\$ 0.75	1	\$ 0.75
Plus HST	\$ 10.00	\$ 1.50	5	\$ 7.50
Plus HST	\$ 20.00	\$ 3.00	15	\$ 45.00

Total

21	\$ 53.25

INCL HST	\$ 5.00	\$ 0.65	1	\$ 0.65
INCL HST	\$ 10.00	\$ 1.30	5	\$ 6.52
INCL HST	\$ 20.00	\$ 2.61	15	\$ 39.13
Total			21	\$ 46.30

• HST paperwork is required to be handed in by the 15th day of the following month following the event.

Do you still have questions? Find more resources at www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Volunteer -> Guider Resources -> Admin & Processes -> Finances & You.

COASTLINES Page 12



A reminder for those of you who registered for this! Please print and keep this sheet for reference, as it contains pertinent details for the event. Please also watch for additional information by email and the Facebook event page, as June 6th draws nearer.

KANA'DA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

What To Bring: Leaders

- First Aid Kit for your Unit
- Health Forms for each Girl
- Name Tags for each Girl (which *must include* Girls name, Unit name, Guider contact name and phone number while on site.)

<u>Girls</u>

- Day Pack to include:
- Full water bottle
- Lunch if needed
- Camp Hat

What does the \$10 get me?

- Event Crest
- Lunch (*hotdog/hamburger & drink*) (please have anyone with special dietary needs, bring a bagged lunch)
- Program Material
- MEMORIES!

Can you Help?

Would you be willing to help out the day of the event? Let us know!

We would love to have you!

Questions?

Email: campkanada50th@gmail.com

Or Like and follow our Facebook Page: Camp Kana'da Celebrates 50 Years!

WHO?

All Members Adults Sparks Brownies Guides Pathfinders Rangers Trefoil Guild Honorary Life Members Invited Special Guests

WHAT?

A day of celebration and fun Round-robin activities 50 years of Kana'da Memories

WHERE? Camp Kana'da 600 West Petpeswick Rd. West Petpeswick NS.

WHEN? June 6, 2015 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Units can arrive and leave at any time as there will be no set schedule

WHY? Celebrate 50 Years of Camp Kana'da



Please watch for additional information by email and our Facebook page, as we get closer to the event.

Parking will not be available on the <u>site the day of the event</u>. There will be alternate parking areas at the Eastern Shore District High School, and the Musquodoboit Harbour Rink.

Food Allergies? Hot dogs and hamburgers are being served for lunch with juice.

Please advise the Guiders and girls, <u>NO substitutions</u> will be available.

Safe Guide Reminders:

Please ensure ratio is met. Unit Guiders are responsible for their unit/girls AT ALL TIMES. Girls are not to be left alone or unsupervised.

May 2015



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada, Nova Scotia Council

The Nova Scotia Provincial Council 2014 Annual General Meeting will be held at Mount St Vincent University-Rosaria Dining Hall, Halifax, NS, on Saturday, June 13th 2015 starting at 5:00pm. Following the Annual General Meeting, dinner will be served commencing at 6:00pm.

While all Guiders are invited to attend the AGM, those wishing to attend the dinner should forward \$30.00 per person to the Guide Office with the name(s) of attendees by May 29th 2015. (*Please advise of any <u>dietary concerns</u> at time of ordering dinner ticket*).

Watch for more info on this event at www.girlguides.ns.ca.

Hope you can come celebrate with us... see you at the AGM!



Congratulations to Margaret Gullage (International Adviser, Bedford District Treasurer, and Brownie Guider), and Sophia Waddell (Bedford Ranger), who were both nominated by Bedford District at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony

WAGGGS - 50 Reasons for Becoming a Girl Scout Leader

Check out this article that was recently posted by WAGGGS (http://guidezone.e-guiding.com/ jmfifty_reasons.htm). Why not adapt it for Girl Guides and your own unique situation?

Editor's Note:

Hard to believe that May is here, and that the snow is finally gone! Hope you have been able to get out and enjoy the beautiful sunshine.

With the Guiding year winding down, we'd love hear all about your year-end activities, including advancement and camp! Photos and submissions are due by the 1st of the month, and can be emailed to me at **coastlines@girlguides.ns.ca**.

Yours in Guiding,

Christian Brousseau, Coastlines Editor / 6th Bedford Brownies

