



Coastlines

Feb 2016



NEWSLETTER OF GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA - NS COUNCIL

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Cookie Update by Cindy O'Hearn, NS Cookie Adviser

COOKIE ALL STARS

The registration site for Cookie All Stars will open on February 1, 2016. To access it, login to Member Zone at www.memberzone.girlguides.ca -> Unit Support Resources -> Cookie All Stars.

(Note: The Cookie All Stars (CAS) site is accessible to all Unit Contact Guiders, however logging in to the CAS site also requires a password. A Member Zone password will not automatically work for Cookie All Stars, unless it is set up that way by national. Every contact Guider that requires a password should send a request to **cookieallstars@girlguides.ca**. Login to the CAS registration site requires an iMIS number and NOT an email address. If an email address is being used you will be directed to the online registration site)

NEW All Stars Rewards for Mint 2015 / Classic 2016!

Each girl who sells 80 or more cases of cookies individually will have a choice of the following rewards: GoPro Hero + **or** Best Buy gift card valued at \$250.



COOKIE DAY IN CANADA

Since Easter (and subsequently cookie deliveries) is early this year, the date of Cookie Days in Canada has been moved forward one week to **April 2 & 3**. The Cookie Days in Canada event will see a major overhaul this campaign. Units will still have the opportunity to book space for the event with our partners – Sears Canada and SmartCentres properties- however we will be adding a component where units will be able to take part in the event by organizing their own selling event on that weekend- be it in a local store, or even door to door. In addition to the units that book at our partner properties, National will be sending out promotional materials to anyone that registers their event on the Cookie Finder Map for the weekend of April 2 & 3, and will offer a new Cookie Days in Canada crest to all units that complete this step and fill in our survey once the weekend is complete.

Membership Report

By Jo Swinemer, Membership Support & Community Development

The Numbers Are In – Census 2016

Girl Guides of Canada's national count took place February 1st. Nova Scotia maintained its girl registration and adult membership from 2014-15. This is great news, especially with variances from Areas to Areas – no one area stayed the same – some gained, some lost, and they all balanced out!

A detailed analysis will be presented to Provincial and Area Councils, which will help local councils identify pockets where membership efforts can be focused for 2016-17, and acknowledge successes – which are spread throughout the province.

Nationally, Girl Guides of Canada had a gain of about 1% for a total membership (girls and adult members) of 94,222. Nova Scotia remains in fourth place for provincial membership totals, behind Ontario, British Columbia, and Alberta (respectively).

Our numbers by area are below. The 2014-15 numbers show last year's count that has been adjusted to show changes in district and area boundaries for the restructure for comparison purposes.

Area	2014-15 Girls (Adjusted for restructure)	14-15 Adults (Adjusted for restructure)	ADJUSTED 14-15 TOTALS	2015-16 Girls	2015-16 Adults	15-16 TOTALS
Ceilidh	674	158	832	603	136	739
Dartmouth Shore	963	199	1162	995	207	1202
Harbourside	971	210	1181	932	220	1152
Harvest Trail	810	192	1002	908	206	1114
Maplewood	507	111	618	579	115	694
Tri-Waters	800	156	956	707	142	849
Province	3	127	130	0	125	125
TOTALS	4728	1133	5881	4724	1151	5875

I would like to thank all the Commissioners and Guiders who worked with us to get girls and adults registered and make sure count was accurate. I really appreciate the effort!

And now, on to 2016-17 – and the target of 6000 total members!

Meeting Spaces

By Jo Swinemer, Membership Support & Community Development

We have such good things happening in our units all over the province, but still, we have girls who are missing out because the units are full. The two biggest barriers to growth in Nova Scotia Guiding remain 1) lack of leaders and 2) lack of available meeting spaces. We will address leader shortage in future articles, but I would like everyone to consider potential meeting spaces for a minute:

In Nova Scotia we have groups that meet in schools (gyms, cafeterias, music rooms, libraries, and AV rooms), church halls, community/recreation centres, fire halls, Guiders' homes/businesses, a day care centre, a community room in condo building, a museum, and GGC owned facilities.

Here are some important considerations for meeting spaces:

- ⇒ Does your district/community use a *variety* of facilities? The more places your district has units gathering, the better. Some advantages are:
 - PR: We are seen in more places, by different people.
 - Options for Families: It gives families options, in regards to transportation / accessibility.
 - Backup for Unforeseen Circumstances: Having all your meetings in the same place can be troublesome when unforeseen circumstances arise. A flood in a meeting space could cancel meetings for weeks or longer; a church that is being sold could mean loss of meeting space on short notice. Having other spaces around provides some options.
- ⇒ Using only churches can exclude those with differing beliefs or non-religious families. Church halls have a lot of benefits, but it is important to consider that Guiding wants to welcome all girls/women.
- ⇒ It's always worth asking. If a hall/school/centre has said no in the past, they might just say yes this time. Leadership positions change. Bookings/commitments change. Policies change. In the Halifax School Board, for example, they aren't charging for community rentals in schools anymore!
- ⇒ Consider who is doing the asking. A local community group doesn't want to hear from the provincial office– they want the local connection. Maybe a Guider/parent is a member of a parish/church or community group and can provide the 'in' we are looking for.
- ⇒ Girl Guides of Canada can provide proof of insurance and the provincial office will look after contracts and rental agreements. Many facilities appreciate the professionalism of our organization.
- ⇒ Offer to be a contributing part of the facility and/or their governing body, not just another user group. Plant flowers out front, include them in a service project, and like Girl Guides do- "leave it cleaner than you found it"...
- ⇒ Spaces can be shared or traded as needed. Just because a unit has had the same space for 20 years, doesn't mean that they necessarily need to keep it. Consider demographics and unit sizes and make decisions based on what is best for the most people.
- ⇒ Make a plan. Review the list (above) of types of places we meet. At a District Meeting, map out all the potential meeting places and decide on best people to do the asking.

As always, your friendly Area Membership Advisers are here to help in the quest, and Commissioners can always speak with me about options and plans for development and growth.

CONNECT WITH GUIDING!

Happy World Thinking Day 2016!

On February 22 every year, members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) celebrate World Thinking Day in honor of the joint birthdays of our founders, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell.

Girl Guides of Canada members use this celebration to reflect on issues important to girls and women in Canada and around the world. This year's theme is Connect With Guiding. Connections unite us, creating the foundation of friendships and inspiring how we grow, share, learn and communicate with one another.

Units and girls can dive into the **2016 Friendship Flyer** – in the winter issue of Canadian Guider or available online (www.girlguides.ca -> Programs -> Specialized Programming -> Make a Difference Days -> World Thinking Day) – to celebrate this year's theme.

(The Friendship Flyer offers activities that will spark girls' interest in their Guiding connections. The activities can be used in unit meetings and by girls individually).



You can also find excellent resources on the WAGGGS website at www.wagggs.org -> Resources -> World Thinking Day 2016.

TWINNING2020 TWINNING2020

Atlantic Canada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

By Lashauna Smith, Twinning2020 Lead

For World Thinking Day 2016, #twinning2020 SVG/Atlantic Canada challenges all units/packs to share the love through service projects. We all know that Girl Guides are awesome at helping their communities, countries and the world, so this should be easy for us! Also, the WAGGGS World Thinking Day theme is "Connect" so let's connect with each other, and connect with the world through service in February 2016!

How many acts of service can our #twinning2020 partnership accomplish? Send Twinning2020 a picture, message or video showing how your unit/pack participates in service activities.

Are we doing similar service activities in SVG and Atlantic Canada? Check out these pic of SVG girls doing some service activities. And don't forget to check out our Facebook page - (Twinning2020: Atlantic Canada & Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) for more!





Tree Planting

By Mary Louise Johnson, Provincial Program Adviser

Looking for a great spring “green” activity for your unit or District? Why not make it a membership growth initiative? Girl Guides of Canada, along with TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF), have just what you need to get you started.

The TD FEF Tree Planting Grant Program offers girls and young women a hands-on way to raise their awareness of environmental issues while supporting them to transform green spaces in their communities. Through grants of up to \$2,500 for girl-led tree planting and greening projects, this environmental initiative helps to bring girls and nature closer together as they make their communities greener and more liveable.

Many units across Nova Scotia (including my own unit) have received these grants and have created some wonderful green spaces. Access to funds, great learning opportunities for the girls, and a “ton” of program connections...why wouldn't you?

For more information, visit the national website at www.girlguides.ca -> Programs -> Specialized Programming -> Activities -> Tree Planting



Above: The Carter Guiding community enjoying their “tree-mendous” event!

Oxford Multi-Branch Enrollment

Jan 5th was enrollment night for the new multi-branch unit in Oxford! 26 girls were officially enrolled as Sparks, Brownies & Guides. Guiding has a long history in Oxford, but was inactive for a number of years. Thanks to the help of some dedicated past members, they are up and running again!



Thank you to Kristen for sharing some pictures from their recent enrollment and their yoga night!



UNIT NEWS

Glove Creatures, By Christian Brousseau, 2nd Bedford Guides

As part of our work towards the Being Responsible part of the program, 2nd Bedford Guides made "glove creatures" at a recent meeting. The girls had fun designing their creatures, sewing on buttons and other embellishments, and then stuffing them. At the end of the night, they brought their new friend home, along with a Responsibility Chart, for recording how they would take care of him/her in the upcoming week (thanks to Bluenose Guider for this very fun idea!).



Link Trivia Night



Link members hosted an exciting Trivia Night on January 22nd. A fun night was had by all, and \$250.00 was raised for CWFF! Several members also received their Link pins.



TREFOIL GUILD TALES



Happy New Year!

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

Happy New Year from the Trefoil Guilds of Nova Scotia! Just like everyone else, we have started the year with resolutions (mine being the usual unsuccessful one of losing weight). So far, "starting tomorrow" seems to be my mantra. Many of us celebrated the Christmas season with parties, gift exchanges, mystery gift auctions, raising funds to support girl events, ugly sweaters parties, and food...lots and lots of food (hence my yet-to-be started resolution).

We are in the midst of planning for our gathering in Newfoundland, called "Purple Heads East", in June. Just before Christmas we were informed that we are able to add one more delegate to our quota of 10, and we are thrilled. (It was disappointing when the initial gathering information was received and we were permitted only 10 delegates. Evidently, everyone wants to go to Newfoundland: this is the first time ever that all delegate spots have been filled). We have had two planning meetings with another scheduled and every time we meet our excitement grows. Eight of us will enjoy a pre-gathering sightseeing trip in our two vans, and have already booked our cabins/hotels/B&B's, and are prepared for...well...adventure!

Before we head off to Newfoundland, however, we will be holding our Semi-Annual Provincial Trefoil Guild meeting, hosted by the Saltwater Sisters- our new Trefoil Guild. We are looking forward to spending the day with our Guiding sisters and hope for a large turnout. This event will be held in Dartmouth...details to follow.

With Thinking Day fast approaching, many TG members will be participating in girl events, campfires, fun and games. One of our TG members, a ham radio operator, will be opening her home to girls giving them the opportunity to connect and chat with girls all over the world (GOTA). Trefoil Guild members will spend the day at her home keeping things organized while she does the "radio thing" with the girls. This is a very exciting event for all involved.

Now that the new year has started, perhaps we should take another look at the TG Move More Challenge. I am sure your New Years resolution would fit in there somewhere. You can find the challenge on the provincial website (www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Programs -> Challenges & Activities) or contact darleneduggan@eastlink.ca for a copy. The crest is very cool, so why not give the challenge a try? Five members in Ontario are already sporting their challenge crest!

In future editions of Coastlines it is my plan to recognize our long time members with a little profile of each. These ladies have been the backbone of our organization and have given many, many years of service: some of them have been members of Girl Guides of Canada for over 80 years! Imagine that! If there is someone you know who you think should be recognized, please, contact me.

Yes, together we have hundreds of service years, years spent making new friends and keeping the old; making lifelong memories that carry us along as we continue "Keeping the Spirit Alive!"

TREFOIL GUILD TALES



Memory Lane Party Time at the Chickenburger!

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

Those of us who live in the Metro area remember good times at the Chickenburger in Bedford. I have been eating there since I was a kid...so...pretty much since they opened 70 years ago! One of our Memory Lane Trefoil Guild members is a manager there, and was working on the night we had planned our annual "Everybody's Birthday" party so we decided to have it there so she could participate.

Eight of us were able to attend and we were very visible in our purple shirts! We exchanged news (this was our first meeting since Christmas) of family fun with grandchildren, exciting news of a new grandson coming very soon, and had fun catching up. As usual, and most important, there was lots of laughter. Traditionally, we do a Birthday Gift Exchange with items purchased at the Dollar Store. We draw names as we arrive and you have to say something nice about the person whose name you have. The rest of us must guess who it is (sometimes not easy because we all are so special) and then that person is the next to present her gift. It is amazing what you can find at the Dollar Store- we had a great time.

We stayed long after our meal was finished, and considered our party a huge success. We will go again, in our purple shirts, still ***Keeping the Spirit Alive***.



Above: L-R on left side of jukebox: Colleen Lucas, Linda Hodgson, Claudia Porter.
L-R on right side of jukebox: Barb Power, Donna MacGregor. L-R second row:
Sharon Nash, Tina Joudrey, Front row: Darlene Duggan

This & That



Conference 2017 - Committee Members Needed!

On the weekend of Nov 5th, 2015, 200 Guiders, Link Members and Rangers met in Truro for Conference to learn, share and discuss ways to "Be Part of the Bigger Picture" in Guiding. Traditionally, we hold our Guider Conferences every two years, which means work needs to start very soon for the 2017 Conference.

Are you interested in being part of this team? Looking for a new role in Guiding? Want to share your talents and abilities? This may be the Task Group for you!



Current positions and application form are posted at www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Volunteer -> Volunteer Opportunities -> Committee Responsibilities. Completed applications can be sent to ggcns@girlguides.ns.ca

Quest 2016 - Volunteers Needed!

Quest 2016 is an exciting and challenging fall camp for Pathfinders. Pathfinder girls compete in teams of 4, over a 12-hour period, to complete outdoor challenges prepared by Guiders and Rangers. It's a great opportunity for girls to practice teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and endurance, in a fun-filled and active way.

**This year's camp will be held
Sept 30-Oct 2, 2016,
and we're starting our planning
now!**

This is an open invitation to volunteers who are interested in being a part of this vibrant, fun and busy camp. Like any larger camp being run for up to 300 participants, we need a collaborative team, and are hoping you would like to join us!

Our Quest Core Crew kick-off meeting will be on **March 6, 2016**, and we would love to see you there. All you need to do is apply by February 26th.

**Job Descriptions and the Volunteer
Application Form are posted online at
www.girlguides.ns.ca ->
Program -> Camping -> Quest 2016**

If you interested we'd love to hear from you, no matter what branch in the organization you're in (Sparks to Rangers, Link, Trefoil, come one, come all!)

This & That

continued...



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD - CANADA - NOVA SCOTIA

is a non-competitive programme designed to encourage young people ages 14 to 24 to develop positive life-long skills and habits. A concept of individual challenge, the award is a programme of voluntary activities which encourage personal discovery, growth, self-reliance, perseverance and responsibility.

If you are interested in becoming a Leader and offering the Duke Programme, or it has been a while since you have attended a leader training, we are pleased to offer one. (They have recently moved to Online Record Books and this will bring you up to date to work with the girls).

Date: March 12, 2016
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Place: Guide House
Cost: No charge

Please bring a laptop or tablet that can access the internet. You must have a browser other than Internet Explorer already loaded (the Online Record Book doesn't work well with Explorer). Safari, Firefox and Chrome all work. Also, please bring a bag lunch! While this is designed for Pathfinder or Ranger Guiders all are welcome.

*For questions and to register, please contact Denise Hirtle at
dpc.youth@girlguides.ns.ca*

Congratulations to the following Duke of Edinburgh Recipients!

Bronze:

Hailey Armitage
Hope Gorveatte
Kiera Sparks Lucas
Natalie MacDonald
Paige Stewart
Kaitlyn White

Silver:

Michelle Coleman



This & That

continued...

International Women's Day Challenge

International Women's Day is coming up on March 8th! Recognize the day with your Guide, Pathfinder, or Ranger Unit by completing the new **GGCNS International Women's Day Challenge!**

The challenge consists of four sections (Considering Myself, In My Community, Thinking Nationally, and Global Perspective) and comes with a wide variety of suggested activities to ensure completing it is fun and impactful for Girl and Adult members. Ordering information will be available soon on www.girlguides.ns.ca.

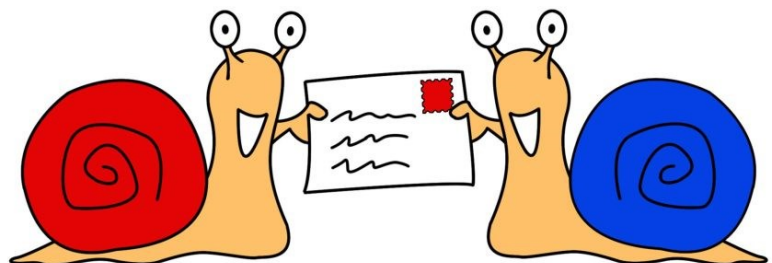


A Note Regarding Pen Pals

By Margaret Gullage, International Adviser

International Advisers often receive requests for assistance with establishing pen pals. National placed this program on hold some time ago while they addressed safety, privacy and administrative concerns.

If you are seeking to establish pen pals, we ask that you only connect with other *confirmed* Guiders within Canada, or to establish pen pals with other Guiders that you may have met at Guiding-related events (nationally or internationally). This will ensure the initial point of contact is always based on a personal connection between two Guiders. You are strongly discouraged from using social media for the purpose of establishing pen pals.



This & That

continued...



Library Sessions

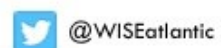
10 Common Myths Girls Have About STEM & How to Bust Them

Halifax Central Library, BMO Room - Wednesday, February 10th, 2016 @ 7:00

Keshen Goodman Library, Thomas Raddall Room - Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 @ 7:00

Open to parents, teachers, and girls in grades 9-12.

WISEatlantic will discuss the common myths girls have about STEM, tips on how to bust them, and strategies that can be used to guide girls through STEM subject and career decisions.



This & That

continued...

PHOTO CONTEST!

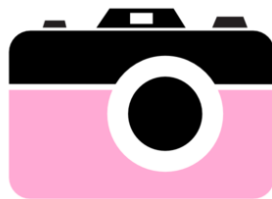
**Attention Nova Scotia Guides,
Pathfinders and Rangers!**

Do you like taking pictures?
Do you want to show the province what you
enjoy the most about Guiding?
Do you want recognition?
Do you want to win a great prize?

***THEN OUR PHOTO CONTEST
IS FOR YOU!***

We will have one grand prize winner followed
by a winner in each of the following categories:

- ⇒ Camping
- ⇒ Program Fun
- ⇒ Cookies
- ⇒ International



Check out the rules and regulations at
www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Program -> Challenges
for more information on entering the contest!

*Volunteering is
a work of heart*



... Happy Valentine's Day!

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GGCNS/](https://www.facebook.com/GGCNS/) (Facebook)



@GGCNovaScotia
(Twitter)



Ggcnovascotia
(Instagram)

Editor's Note:

Hard to believe we're well into February, and another cookie season will soon be upon us! Don't forget to send me what your unit's been up to! 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 /
2nd Bedford Guides

