

APRIL 2024



101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group Newsletter

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[First Swim-a-Thon Fundraiser](#)

On April 13th, we held our first swim-a-thon fundraiser at Canterbury Pool. Cubs, Scouts, Leaders and parents came to swim as many laps of the pool as they could in one hour. It was amazing to see the youth swim to meet and exceed their set goal of laps so that they can raise more money towards our camping gear fund. The gallery at the pool was filled with parents watching and cheering on.



So far, we raised over \$4,300 in pledges from the youth – this is amazing! We have such dedicated youth members and families and we want to thank you for your support. Also, a big thank you to Scout parent John Villeneuve who came up with the idea and helped secure the pool. Also a big thank you to Alta Vista City Councillor Marty Carr who also helped with the pool and even came to watch. Thank you everyone!!!

[Beaver Tales](#)

April has been a busy month for the Beavers. Meeting number one was a neighbourhood walk and cleanup. Soon after the snow melted, the Beavers met at Weston Park to walk the streets around the park and St. Aidan's to pick up some trash they found along the way. We managed to fill a whole large black garbage bag. Good job!



The second meeting was back at the church for a hot wheels night. Most Beavers brought in their hot wheels from home as well as some ramps and loops. We also used the ones we have from a past Beaver who donated a boxful of hot wheels to the colony. The Beavers were very keen to try racing their cars and seeing how far they can launch them. They had fun trying to make the longest tracks they can trying out the different models on them. It was really nice to see how collaboratively they played together and the Leaders took a more hands off approach to just let them structure their own time and play.

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On April 13th, several of our Beavers joined seven other colonies from around the former Rideau Area for a Spring Beaveree at the Science and Technology Museum. The theme of course was science and the Beavers spent the afternoon at the museum rotating between four activities. It included a visit to the planetarium where they saw planets and constellations.



The Beavers also had an activity of making a code using papers that directed a car – very fun. And finally, they were able to spend some time touring the

museum and of course the favourite were the locomotives. Oh – and there was a snack.



Another activity was a great craft using pennies – yes remember those?



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The following week, we went to Hutton Park, just on the other side of Smyth Road from St. Aidan's and played some games. They started with relay races of one lodge versus another.



Then it was a sort of obstacle course around the park. Bubbles did it first to demonstrate. Go Bubbles go!



After that, the Beavers let their artistic side go by making art from recyclable materials that they brought from home. We have some really creative Beavers among us and it was really neat to see what they created.

We rounded out the month with a hike along the trail at P21 in Mer Bleu. Beavers love to hike and while this trail is one way there and back, it was nice to get in early spring for such a nice hike.



Cub Corner

April? Wait, April is finished? Holy Cow! What did we do?

We started April by Swimming at the Splash Wave Pool! No waves but the slide was open. Lots of fun and definitely a do again meeting for next year! No pictures in the pool as it was a public swim and we forgot to take a selfie BEFORE the swim so we had to take one AFTER the swim. Many thanks to Scout Andrew who was our responsible person in the male change room to keep the male Cubs focused.



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The second week of April found us sanding Kub Kars. Papa Panther and Mr. Panther came in to help us make the last few cuts to a few cars as well. Cubs were to decorate them at home.



Between our second and third meeting we had our First Annual Swim A Thon to raise money for camping equipment. Scouter Sunshine had asked each Cub how far they thought they could swim. Your Scouters are so proud of you Cubs – ALL of you exceeded your goals. By A LOT! So proud. Money is still coming in but we're over

\$4,000. That's a lot of tents. Akela hopes we can do this again next year.



Third meeting was a hike starting at NCC P20. Mang led us through a 5km hike. Yes..... 5km. Cubs refilled the local birdhouses/feeders thanks to Mang's handy birdseed (she keeps it in her car for emergency bird feeding. Way to go Mang!) A few Cubs even go to hand feed some birds! Who knew our Cubs could stay quiet and still long enough to do that!



We still need to work at staying with the slow walkers (cough cough Akela) but we understand there were bathroom priorities. What a lovely trail. Might be a do again. Maybe in the fall to see the difference.



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Finally, what everyone was waiting for and what we've been working towards, the Kub Kar Rally. We met up at the church in Osgoode, got our cars weighed right inside the door, then registered them, found their spot on the tables – ours ended up pretty much all together! Scouter cars also got weighed and registered. Akela went over the rules of the track – don't cross the green line and do not jump over the track! Cubs, you do not know how proud Akela is of you. We didn't catch a single one of you doing that. Unlike some other Cubs that were not ours. So proud.

Our fourth meeting in April was our last huzzah at getting Kub Kar Rally ready. Thanks to Papa Panther and Mr. Panther, we had a Kub Kar track up and were able to do a few races. Are we ready for Saturday's rally? Hope so!



Cubs raced 10 times and handed in their cards for point counting. Then they had to vote on Best Design. There was some outside play time while the Beavers and Scouts raced, and then we had the finals for the Cubs. Proud to say that Rhys and Melody



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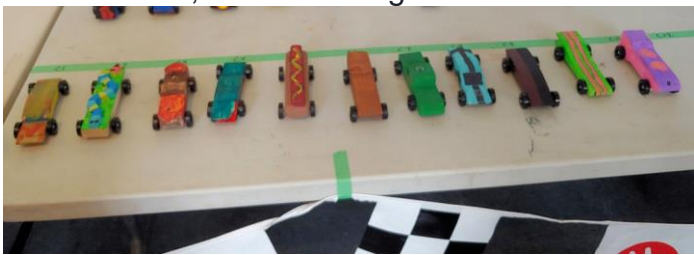
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made it into the top 25. Melody ended up placing 5th in the Speed Category! WOOHOO!



Then we had lunch – Cubs will say FINALLY, they'd been asking for their lunch tickets since 10am! We'll bring snacks to the next rally. After lunch the Scouters got to race – and we did get to race just the 101st Scouters! Akela with her car, Rikki Tikki Tavi with Mang's car, and Bagheera with Raksha's car. Mang's car came first, Raksha's second and Akela brought up the rear.

Once the Scouters had raced, prizes were handed out for fastest cars and what they called Best in Show, so Best Design.



Congratulations to Tommy for winning 2nd Place, Best in Show Kub Kar! His car was a wrecked pirate ship! After that, it was pick up and Cubs went home.



Our last meeting in April was Knots! Kaa challenged the Cubs to learn several different knots. We saw several instances of Cubs helping each other get through this challenge. Well done Cubs! We finished off the evening with a reef knot challenge! Cubs vs Akela – who can tie their necker the fastest! Akela is pretty sure she won, but there may have been a tie or two. Oh, sorry about that pun!

Lots of things planned for May! See you then!



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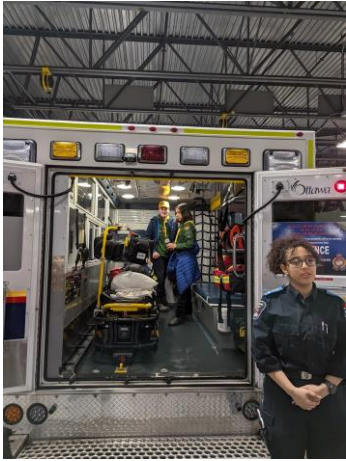
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Scout Trails

Is April over already? What did the Scouts do? Well, short story is, lots of course. Long story goes like this.



April started with a tour of the Ottawa Paramedics headquarters. It was given by the Ottawa Medical Venturers – or MedVents for short – which is a specialized Venturer Company linked with the Ottawa Paramedic Service. There was two parts to this tour. First a first aid demo and the second – and more interesting for the Scouts, a tour of the huge garage with all of the different vehicles the paramedics use.



The next week was a meeting hosted by Wolverine Patrol. They put on a chess tournament. First, Curtis and Griffin led the presentation on the game of chess with some of the basic rules and strategy. Great initiative guys!



Then we got down to the tournament. This went to four rounds of chess games, all timed so that we can finish within the time we had. In the end, we had a



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There was some pretty intense play but fun too.

The following week was a mandatory hike for the Scouts participating in the Rideau Challenge Journey. More on that next month, but the Scouts gathered at P19 on Leitrim Road, which is notoriously wet and nasty at this time of year. They needed to come with their bags packed as if they were participating in the Rideau Challenge. Let's see how this practice hike helps them during the actual challenge.



The next two meetings were back at the church. Raccoon Patrol led a meeting of building little houses out of recyclables. Again, their creativity impressed us. Then those Scouts going to RSVP Camp got together

to prepare for their camp and those not going did some map and compass work. May is a really busy month for the Scouts so lots to come in the next issue.



Venturer News



The highlight for the Vents in April was our day trip to Montreal in the middle of the month. We had so much fun visiting the Biodome, the Science Centre and Point-à-Callière, an archeological and historical museum



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in Old Montreal. We enjoyed some Mexican food before heading home.



The Vents also met up with Scouts for a hike at NCC P19. We took a different trail and observed the devastation of the area from the most recent

tornado. We spent part of the month talking about preparations for a portage camping trip in June, but we've recently had to pivot due to unforeseen circumstances and will now be planning a land-based camp in Charleston Lake at the end of May.



Thank a Volunteer Today

Want to say thanks to a volunteer – you can do so online and the volunteer will receive a special recognition. It's easy – just go to this website and fill out the information. You do need to know their real name – not just their leader name and if you're not sure ask them or another volunteer or parent. www.scouts.ca/thanks

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