

DECEMBER 2017



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

Newsletter

Christmas Appeal (Mitten Tree)

Many thanks to all those who made donations for our annual Christmas Appeal/Mitten Tree. Your generosity shows the true spirit of the Holidays and they will be put to very good use by those less fortunate. They were delivered to Christie Lake Kids in time for their Christmas Party. More than 60 packs of toques, mitts and socks were donated. The staff of all three organizations were very appreciative of the gifts and how meaningful they were as it was youth behind the donations.



Beaver Tales

The Beavers month of December was jam packed with some great activities including a treasure hunt on the streets next to St. Aidan's. Three of the four "treasures" were found by the Beavers. The Beavers then went to their annual visit to the Perley Rideau Veteran's Home.

The Veterans love seeing the Beavers' young smiling faces as they sing Christmas carols for them. It is a highlight of their holiday season.



The Beavers sang four carols for them and also watched the Cubs give a performance of their rendition of "t'was a night before Christmas".



The next week, the Beavers and Cubs got together for a joint Holiday Party at the Canterbury Community Centre where they watched the Cub's play once more, sang a couple carols, made a Christmas ornament craft and shared in some cookies and juice.

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Fine actors all of them, including Baloo who beautifully executed the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies with Cub Sophie and Cub Kaeda, we were tremendously proud of their hard work and artistic expression.



It was a great way to end four months of adventures for the Beavers and they now get to look forward to their second camp with all of the other Scouts in the 101st. The Beaver Leaders wish the Beavers a very happy holiday season.



Cub Corner

December was a pretty singularly focused month for the 101st Cub Pack, as they spent much of it perfecting their Holiday Play for the Veterans at the Perley Rideau.



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We ended the month partying it up with the Beavers, eating cookies and making crafts. It was a great end to a busy, and adventure-packed Fall.



In the New Year, we are looking forward to the 101st All Sections Winter Camp, and starting work on our Kub Kars. We encourage the youth to continue working on their Personal Progression Badges over the break and look forward to seeing them all in January. Have a safe and happy holiday!



Scout Trails

The 101st Ottawa Scouts enjoyed a varied and eclectic range of activities through the month of December and welcomed their newest member Edoardo, who was a Scout in Italy.

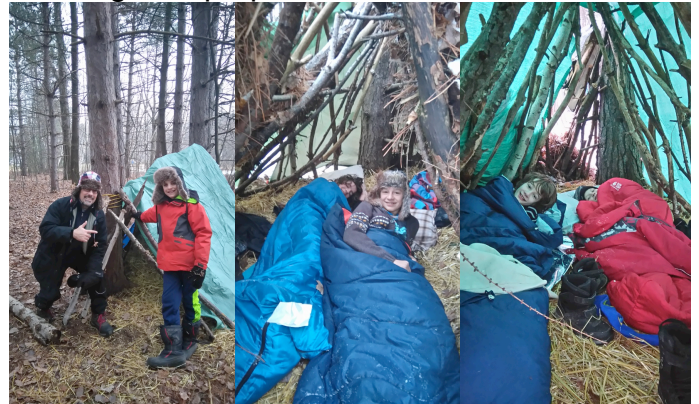
The month began with the Scouts returning to the Perley Rideau to help the Legion run weekly Bingo night. The Scouts shined as community volunteers, helping the residents with managing their game cards and serving desserts and refreshments. This was our second Bingo night at the legion this fall, and it was so highly

anticipated by the residents that the room was packed. It was another really special gathering of youth and senior citizens.

The following weekend, the Scouts endured perhaps their toughest challenge in their scouting lives: camping in improvised shelters.



With temperatures plunging into the negative double digits, and significant snowfall overnight, this "pre" winter camp was every bit the challenge we prepared for.



The Scouts, well prepared and incredibly resourceful, braved the elements in their branch and pine-needle lean-tos and EVERY Scout made it through the night.



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Special thanks to Scouter Jean for bringing bales of straw for the Scouts to make their comfortable beds. Food was plentiful and delicious, featuring for the first time ever a jambalaya feast for supper.



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In our last meeting of 2017, the Scouts enjoyed a mind-bending experience at the Mystery Motel down in the Byward Market. This escape room experience challenged the Scouts to solve cryptic puzzles to solve the mysterious disappearance of Rose LaFleur and her spectacular diamond. The Scouts outdid themselves deciphering codes, clues and unlocking mysteries in a nail-biting 45-minute challenge.



The following Wednesday saw our coldest winter temperatures before this past week. Several of the Vents and Advisors braved the frigid winds on Parliament Hill to try out the new skating rink. The ice was great but sorry, no photos - it was too cold to take the gloves off!



Venturer News

A highlight of the December Venturer's calendar is the Christmas shoe boxing evening at Billings Bridge plaza. The 'shoe boxing' refers to previous when the Vents would fill a shoebox for a particular youth or adult. This year, the Vents like all the 101st Sections, bought gifts for Christie Lake Kids. Hats, gloves, mitts and treats were purchased for four youth. This is one of the most important dates on the Venturer calendar, and an opportunity for the Vents to help out in the community.

January and February will be snowshoe outings, Ope 'cabining' at the All Sections Camp, and a trip to Lake Placid for the annual Adirondack Adventure. The Adventure will see the Venturers summit one of the 4500 ft. + peaks close to the town. Now if the temperatures could just warm up to -15 or so!



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Beaver Leaders Needed

The 101st Colony is in need of new Beaver Leaders. Share this experience with your child or do you know a cousin, uncle/aunt or grandparent that would be a great role model? We cannot do it without our volunteers and our Beaver Leaders need help. Please see Sunshine/Francois.



All Section Winter Camp

Our highly anticipated annual All Sections Winter Camp is scheduled for the weekend of **January 12-14** at Camp Opemikon on Christie Lake near Perth. This is the first weekend after we return from Winter Break. This is the only such camp during the year when all of the youth get a chance to be together at a camp. For those who signed up, expect directions, a map of camp and packing list the first week of January.

Dates for your Calendar

- **January 12-14, 2018:** All Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon
- **February 2-4:** Venturers Adirondack Adventure
- **February 24:** Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally
- **March 24:** Beavers White Tail Sleepover at Aviation and Space Museum



Saying Thanks to a dedicated Scouter is easier than you might think...

<http://www.scouts.ca/thanks/>

Visit our website regularly for updates:

<http://www.101ottawa.com/>

**New Year's Fireworks
Scout Style
Happy New Year!**



"Rubbing sticks together was a great idea.
After 40 minutes, I'm so warm I don't need a fire!"



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