

DECEMBER 2022



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

Newsletter

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Happy New Year!

We at the 101st wish all of our families a very happy, safe and prosperous 2023.

Reminder for those who have not registered to do so in order to continue scouting in 2023. This applies only to those who were registered in 2022 and not new members who joined us in Fall 2022.



Beaver Tales

December brought three meetings for the Beavers and we decided to go right up to the week leading in to Christmas. We started the month with a board game night at the church.



Each Beaver brought a board game and they all shared and played their games for the duration of the meeting. We had all sorts of games and even some of the Leaders got into it.



Our next meeting was a holiday party and we played games like a version of rock, paper, scissors where you turn into either a chicken, ostrich or eagle.



DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

This was followed by freeze dance and then capped off with delicious Christmas cookies.



Cub Corner

The Cubs started December by learning signalling. Morse code, the NATO Phonetic Alphabet and semaphore. Each Cub learned their names in all three codes. Easier for some (Pip) than for others (Persephone), but they all did a great job. Apologies to all the teachers the next day at school when Cubs were hopefully sharing all the short and long beeps they learned. We also had Scouter Sunshine guess which phrase we spelled out in Semaphore. Any guesses? BIG Hint – DYB.

Our last meeting was a walk downtown to see the Christmas lights and they were beautiful. We started at City Hall and walked through Confederation Park and made it up to Parliament Hill and then walked back. It was great night to be outside.



Bubbles, Echo, Rainbow and Sunshine wish you all a very happy holidays and see you in 2023.

Next on the Cub agenda was learning how to ride the LRT – Line 1. Yellow Lair completed the paperwork for this activity – using the map to find the stations, and where the best place to start our adventure was. They picked St. Laurent Station so we met in the mall, and continued on to getting our tickets and heading West towards Tunney's Pasture before coming back and



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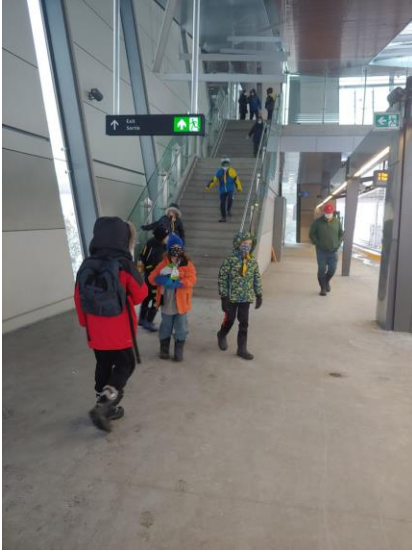


101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961

DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

checking out Cyrville and Blair Stations. Of course, our great plan of attack of checking out all the stations didn't quite work, but we rolled with it and still managed to see every station in about 2 hours.



This is a fun activity to do and it teaches the Cubs important life skills they'll be needing probably sooner rather than later. The Cubs did a great job.



Our last in person meeting for December was making Challah bread. Why Challah? Mostly because it's a very yummy bread, and this one was easy to make.



Cubs did have to take it home to bake, and we've heard differing accounts of how that might have worked – some bread never rose, others were super yummy and just fine. Good to know.



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Scouting since 1961

DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER



Though we have no meetings until January 10th, Akela sent out the Service Scavenger Hunt. In the 3 year history, wait – 4 YEARS! In the 4 year history of the Scavenger Hunt, only 1 Cub has ever cleaned a toilet. The challenge has been made to

the Cubs. We'll see what we get back in January.

Whatever holidays you are celebrating this season, may it be joyous, may it be healthy, and may it bring you much happiness.



Scout Trails

The Scouts also had three meetings in December plus they volunteered during a Saturday at a community event.

Following the week before theme of just having fun, the first meeting was a bowling night at Merivale Bowl. Who doesn't love to go bowling? Well, the Scouts certainly do.



We played two games and we have a lot of different bowling styles among the Scouts and Leaders. But despite the score on the board, whether it was under 50 or above 100, everyone had a blast – and lots of pop was consumed!



The first Saturday in December, our Scouts were invited for a second year in a row to help out at the Holiday Skate with Santa put on by the Canterbury Community Association and City Councillor Marty Carr.



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Scouting since 1961

DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

This was started by former Councillor Jean Cloutier who was also there to organize and run the event.



Our second meeting of the month was a movie night as our holiday party. We had a very strong request from the Scouts to watch Shrek and so we obliged with the original movie complete with some popcorn and pop to go with the movie. Scouts brought their comfy PJ's, blankets and pillows and just pilled on the floor of the church to watch the movie. We even heard some singing along to the soundtrack.



Our Scouts handed out free hot chocolate, gift bags and manned some fire pits where people can warm up as it was pretty cold day. Great job Scouts doing this community service.



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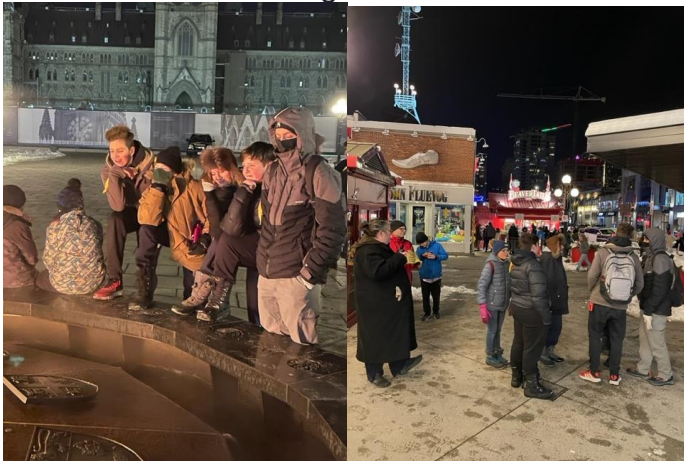
DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

Our last meeting of the month came just a few days before Christmas. We met downtown and walked around to look at the Christmas lights. The ones in Confederation Park and along Sparks Street were especially nice.



After going up to Parliament Hill, we walked down to the Market to get a Beaver Tail – YUM!



We then walked through the Rideau Center to make our way back to City Hall for pick up. We've had a great Fall and start to Winter so far and the Leaders want to wish everyone a very happy new year.



Venturer News

The Vents had a pretty quiet December, focused mainly on baking cookies, decorating and eating them.



They also advanced planning on some bigger trips in the new year, and spent some quality time hanging out.



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DECEMBER 2022

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER



All Sections Winter Camp

Our annual winter camp for all youth sections in the 101st is back for February 10-12, 2023. We are going to Camp Opemikon on beautiful Christie Lake near Perth. This is a very popular camp with loads of outdoor winter fun and great camaraderie. We have a total of 70 people attending. It's going to be great!



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 not sure ask them or another volunteer or parent. www.scouts.ca/thanks



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