

FEBRUARY 2022



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

Newsletter

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BUY A BAG OF SCOUT COFFEE TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCOUTS. VISIT SCOUT-COFFEE.CA TODAY.



Scout Coffee Year-Round Fundraiser

Scouts Canada has brought back the Scout Coffee fundraiser as a year-round one. If you really love coffee – and may consider yourself a “coffee snob”, then you’ll love this. We’ve partnered with Equator Coffee Roasters in Almonte to sell fair-trade, organic coffee.

There are various roasts, sizes and even bundles available. And shipping is available to anywhere in Canada.

Go to www.scout-coffee.ca

At checkout, click on support local scout group and type in 101st Ottawa and select the youth section you want to support. 35% of proceeds come back to the 101st.



Beaver Tales

With January behind us now and into the second full month of winter, the Beavers never stopped meeting in person. Talk about a bunch of busy Beavers!

We continued our outdoor winter fun meetings starting the month with a meeting outside at the church to play some broomball. Most Beavers

had never played or even heard of broomball. Let’s say they had a blast.



Our second meeting was also meeting at the church and then taking the Beavers for a walk around the neighbourhood for a scavenger hunt. They had a list of things to find like houses with Christmas lights, or a library, as examples. The walk took us through the Elmvale mall, to Weston Park and back to the church. The Beavers used their keen observation skills and completed everything on their list.

Our next meeting was spent doing a perennial favourite for Beavers – going on a hike. We tackled the trail at P21 on the corner of Anderson and Ridge roads. They Beavers hiked over 2.5 KM that night – great job.



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Our last meeting was spent back outside at the church where we built a snow fort – in the freezing rain. Tic Tac certainly jinxed it a couple weeks earlier when he said we would be doing it in the rain. Surprisingly, we had the majority of our Beavers still show up that night.



We held a half day camp at Baxter Conservation Area. It started with a hike through nature to a lookout over the frozen Rideau River.



We ended the month by spending a morning on a beautiful Saturday in nature. They were very keen at first to gather lots of wood for the fire.



The Beavers had a scavenger hunt to complete along the way. They were tired after the hike and the snack and hot chocolate was a big hit of course.



It starts with Scouts.



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We took the Beavers out on the frozen river they were amazed with being able to walk on the ice.



We ended with a short Scout's Own moment of reflection and a new crest for their vest or blanket. What a month!

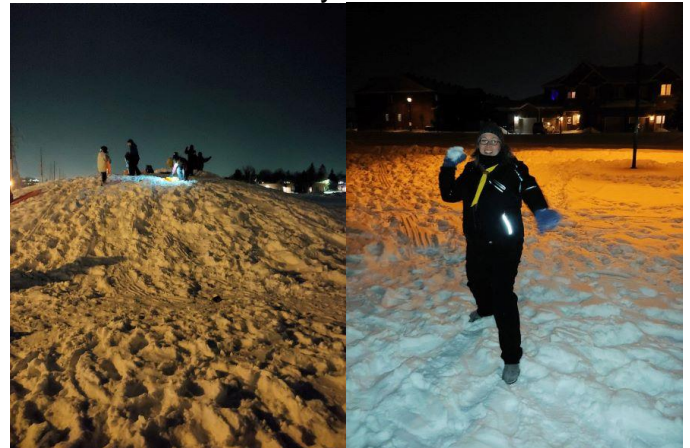


We built a campfire and sang some songs, which they loved to do. They even learned some new ones.



Cub Corner

We started February with some sledding. At a NEW HILL! We headed over to Stonehenge Park, a few of our Cubs live in that area. Akela thunked all of the Cubs on the head to double check for helmets, Rules of Engagement were said and the usual – have fun but don't get hurt was shouted before the Cubs scurried up the hill. Oh, we did take a moment for our traditional selfie before an activity.



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The Cubs seemed to have a good time. So did the Scouters – some of us *cough*Hathi*cough cough* got a little too excited about throwing snowballs! There was a brief pause for hot chocolate, and then a few die hard sledding fans returned to the hill until Akela said Last Call as parents were showing up. We need to ask the Cubs if this hill is a try again.

Our second meeting in February was also sledding! Cubs can't seem to get enough. This one was at our tried and true Dempsey Community Centre/Alda Burt Park Hill. Consensus is that Dempsey is a faster hill, but sometimes a small hill like Stonehenge can be good too. You certainly don't have to climb back up as far, that's for sure. We'll keep both hills in the rotation.



Our third meeting was a Neighbourhood Scavenger Hunt. Originally done by the Scouts and Beavers, the Cubs had to take a crack at it. Our route took us through Elmvale Mall, Weston Park, up, down and sideways and I think the only thing we didn't find was one street. We could have done it with 10 more minutes of walking, but parents were waiting and Akela was about to turn into a pumpkin and no one wants

to see that. We may not have gotten pictures of this hike. Hmm. We may have to do it again.



Our fourth meeting in February coincided with freezing rain. There was some question as to if we would have a meeting, but we did! In the freezing rain! We were only out for an hour, but we were there and we had fun! We played soccer in the parking lot, then Kaa taught us a game

called SPUD. As she's writing this, Akela seems to think there was a 3rd game, but it's name is a blank.

On to the piece de resistance! Our Half Day Winter Camp! What an AMAZING afternoon! Cubs arrived and began to play on the Rideau River.



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It was frozen solid so totally safe, and then they started into building a fort without us even suggesting that shelter building was part of the reason we got them out here! We had 3 full teams – and one solo – building.



One team used sticks and a tarp on a found frame; the second team dug out a small snow hill and used the fly from a tent for the roof; the third team used a snowed in picnic table and found themselves a little hole; and our solo artist worked on the ice to build a little shelter. All of our Cubs did a FANTASTIC job. Very proud of them all.



Eventually we did stop to have banana boats. For those who have never had those, it's half a banana – cut long ways – in foil with toppings. Ours were chocolate chips, marshmallows, graham cracker crumbs (for that s'mores taste) and there was also the option of sugar cone to add to it. Yummy!



After the Cubs had their snack, came some more time to play - one Cub came back with an amazing treasure – a skull. Current theory is that it is a fisher or a marten skull. Great find! We hope he told his parents he was bringing it home and didn't just spring it on them at the dinner table after!



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We had a small Scouts Own where Cubs who wanted to could share their feelings on the day. Akela took a moment to thank Chil for running the snow shelters; Kaa for running the fire; Scouter Sunshine for the hot chocolate and the paperwork for the camp, and thanks to the Cubs for coming. It would have been a dull day if they weren't there. Eventually the Cubs packed themselves up and we walked over to the Beach Parking Lot to meet parents. An absolutely fantastic day!

March will hopefully bring our First Annual Gourmet Pancake Challenge, some games and Robot Recyclables and even more adventures! Stay tuned!



Scout Trails

February – the shortest month of the year, but don't tell that to our Scouts. The Leaders love that they are such an engaged and active Troop.

We started the month with a neighbourhood scavenger hunt. We split the Troop into two groups and they went separate ways to find a list of things in their neighbourhood around the church. It wasn't a race but one group finished first and bragged about it a bit.



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That was followed by an idea born out of the minds of Scouts – “extreme hide and go seek” in the woods. The setting for this was Pleasant Park Woods. Some were so good at hiding (or getting lost) that it took some searching to find them as we got close to pick-up time.



The next meeting was a chance to get in some tobogganing at Conroy Pit one more time. The hill was pretty icy so it was fast – really fast. Even better for some of the Evel Knievel types. Some hot chocolate was a welcome way to wrap up a great night outdoors.



The last meeting took the Troop to a public swim at Splash Pool. There were no waves but that didn't stop the Scouts from making their own. After horsing around in the pool, they relaxed in the warm shallow section before heading back to the change rooms.



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Venturer News

February proved to be a great month for the Vents. We began the month with a hike at NCC P19 on a lovely mild evening. It was a route less travelled by us, so it was nice to be under some tall pines and enjoy the evening with a change of scenery.

The following week, the Vents decided to go tobogganing at the Conroy Pit, and when they got tired, took a stroll through the woods.



Regrettably their weekend outing to L'Ange Gardien was cancelled due to an extreme weather warning, but the following week they decided to have a meet up/coffee planning meeting where they hashed out some ideas for future adventures. They ended the month with a virtual cooking night, where Venturers Sofia and Sam led the group in making homemade pasta

with bolognese sauce. We all learned a lot and made a tasty dish!



Registration Information

Registration is open for 2022. New members joining us this Fall will have 2022 included in their registration fee so do not need to register for January. Returning members will need to register to continue scouting in January. Our registration fee for 2022 is \$235.

Go to: <https://www.myscouts.ca>

Thank a Volunteer Today!

Did you know that the 101st has 21 dedicated Scouters and volunteers? Some of them have continued to volunteer even after their own children have left the program. Some of them have been Scouters for 35 and 45 years! And some of them volunteer behind the scenes like Sara Walker our Treasurer and Richard Lincoln our Registrar. Without them, the 101st would not exist. 2020 and 2021 have been years of a lot of ups and downs for them. If you can spare 5 minutes, click on the link below and thank a volunteer today. To help you fill out the form, the 101st is part of Voyageur Council. Thank you!

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



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