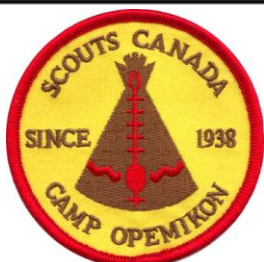


January 2017



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

Newsletter



All Sections Winter Camp

Our highly anticipated annual All Sections Winter Camp is scheduled for the weekend of **March 3-5** at Camp Opemikon on Christie Lake near Perth. This is the weekend before March Break starts. This is the only such camp during the year when all of the youth get a chance to be together at a camp.

The cost is \$40 – a bargain for a very fun weekend of winter activities fully catered by the OPE kitchen staff. **Deadline to register is February 22nd. Spaces are limited.**



Beaver Tales

January's first meeting back after a two week break for the Beavers was a chance to play board games. The Beaver Leaders have almost made this a tradition to ease into things after the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Beavers brought their favourite games and they varied from chess to battleship.



The next two meetings were devoted to Beaver Buggies. This annual event is highly anticipated

by the Beavers who get to use their creativity to build and design their own Beaver Buggy. Thank you to the parents who helped out nailing in the wheels and with the painting.

This is all in preparation for the big race night. We set up our two racing tracks for the Beavers to race their Buggies.



They really get into it and love to see their Beaver Buggy going down the tracks.



Even the simple concept of gluing together some pieces of wood and nailing in plastic wheels is enough to capture Beaver's full attention.

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We also had a "pit stop" for those Buggies needing adjustments to wheels or when things came loose. Really, the Beavers wanted their Buggy to go faster.



On January 22nd, 15 of our Beavers joined about 120 other Beavers from 11 scouting groups at the Rideau Area Winter Beaveree.



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It was held at the Greely Legion on a beautiful mild day. The theme of the Beaveree was Canada 150 and it included games and activities around that theme both indoors and outdoors.



During the snack time, we introduced the Beavers to badge trading, a favourite activity typically of the older youth. Getting them started on this very fun scouting activity was the intention and they really got into it.



So much that we are planning a badge trading night in February to introduce it to the whole Colony and they will love it.

We close off January with some good old outdoor winter fun of tobogganing at Dempsey Community Center.

Cub Corner

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something."
Neil Gaiman

Leaving a successful 2016 behind, we began 2017 with a bridge building contest to signify the crossing from the old year into the new.



A bridge represents many things, such as progress, teamwork and acceptance, and our Cubs showed all of these characteristics as they worked diligently in groups to achieve the bridge-building task set for them, using only a



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few strips of construction paper, some tape and popsicle sticks. On the way, we learned about different types of materials (metals, polymers, ceramics and composites), their properties (e.g. strength, electrical conductivity, density etc), and the importance of shape in structures to provide stiffness.

Kaa demonstrated the latter by successfully balancing a few feet off the ground on a beam formed into an I section from three pieces of sheet metal.



In the end, all the Cubs' fantastically designed bridges met all the required specifications, with the winning bridge supporting 15 lbs of weight - coincidentally the same amount of weight as that of the paperwork required when leaders fall from large heights.



Bridge building was followed by ice-sliding at Dempsey where, despite some tricky conditions, all the youth had a blast and made it through unscathed, and we rounded off the month with a quiet meeting (if there can be such a thing), with each lair planning their own meeting that they will have to run entirely on their own sometime later in the year.

The emphasis was on cooperation and patience, and it was a pleasure to watch all the Cubs operate in such an effective manner; in particular, the Sixers were on fine form, ensuring that everyone had their say and that all ideas were discussed and incorporated where possible.

A few of the Cubs joined the Scouts on the final Sunday to watch the Ottawa 67's overturn a two goal deficit in the 3rd period and beat the Niagara Ice Dogs 5-4 in OT.



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Rally specifications whilst still trying to be unique and fast.



As February approaches, we will be heading into Kub Kar territory with all the excitement those little blocks of wood on wheels bring, as well as participating in a linking activity with the Beavers on a hike at the Pine Grove Trail.



Scout Trails

For the first time in a number of years Scouts have been designing and building their Scout Trucks for the rally on the 25th February. It has been an opportunity for them to show off their personalities, creativeness and a great chance for them to hang-out and chat. There are two main categories (i) Most creative design and (ii) Top 3 Fastest Trucks. Scouts will need to ensure their Truck dimensions and weights meet the



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The Scouts also took part in the Ottawa 67s Spirit Day at Lansdowne Park. Some of the youth and parents were early birds and managed to make it to the pre-game skate at 8:30am and then came back in the afternoon to watch the 67s win in overtime.



Looking ahead to February, if weather conditions co-operate they will be outside again; skating, tobogganing or hiking.

March Break Camp at Opemikon

Camp Opemikon is again offering a fully animated program for all youth to enjoy. Crafts, games, survival, winter sports and FUN!! Fully heated facilities, catered meals and amazing animators make this an experience of a lifetime!

This year's theme is Vikings. Activity options may include:

- Quinzee Building
- Tobogganing
- Broomball
- Snowshoeing
- Geocaching
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Outdoor Cooking
- Camp Wide Games
- Maple Tree Tapping

Outdoor Activities are based on ages, weather conditions and temperatures. Programming offered will be adapted to suit environmental conditions and age of youth. Programming will include Winter Outdoor Adventure Skills for the Canadian Path. Boys and girls, ages 8 - 14 EVERYONE is welcomed at OPE, both registered Scouting Members and Non-Members looking for a great March Break adventure! This is an overnight camp (Monday – Friday).

Deadline to register is February 25th and space is limited. More information and registration is available at this link:

<http://voy.scouts.ca/ca/march-break-camp>



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First Aid & Babysitting Courses

Voyageur Council is putting on two standard first aid courses and a babysitting course for Scouts and Venturers during March Break. Enrollment is online and the group will cover registration costs. Those Scouts going for their Chief Scout's Award require standard first aid.

- **March 13-14:** Standard First Aid with CPR Level C and AED Course for 3rd & 4th Year Scouts and Venturers, from 8:30am to 4:00pm at Scouts Canada HQ, cost \$55
- **March 15-16:** Standard First Aid same as above
- **March 15:** St. John's Ambulance Babysitting Course for 1st and 2nd year Scouts, from 8:30am to 4:00pm at Scouts Canada HQ, cost \$35

Spaces are limited and deadline to register is March 3rd. Registration is through this link:

<http://www.voyageur.scouts.ca:8080/c-calendar.asp>

Dates for your Calendar

- **February 12:** Campfire at Balena Park Winter Carnival in the afternoon – everyone welcome
- **February 18:** Cubs Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally at Jim Durrell Arena
- **February 25:** Scouts Rideau Area Scout Truck Rally at St. Timothy's Church
- **February 28:** Scouts serving Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at St. Aidan's
- **March 3-5:** All Sections Winter Camp at Camp Opemikon
- **April 29:** Scoutrees Planting (Dig Day)
- **May 26-28:** Beavers Spring Camp at Legewade
- **June 6:** End-of-Year Banquet at Canterbury Community Centre



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/>



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