

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

Newsletter



Beaver Tales

January for the Beavers started with getting prepared for winter camp. This is an important event in the year for Beavers and for some, their first taste of winter camping. So making sure they pack the right gear is important given the roller coaster of weather we got this year.



At camp, the Beavers had a full schedule with snowshoeing (first time for some of them), tobogganing, fun linking activities with the Cubs and Venturers (the snolf was especially fun), making sit-upons for the great campfire and of course eating great food.





The following Tuesday, we were still a little tired from camp, so the Beavers took it easy and played some board games.

Then we got into building and painting their Beaver Buggies before the big race at the last meeting of January. This is always a highly anticipated event and a favourite night of the Beavers.



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The Beavers raced their Buggies to their heart's content and most wished they could do it again and again.





Cub Corner

The first month back of 2018 after the holidays has been focused on Kub Kar design and production, and the always awesome winter camp at Opemikon. We have also been brushing up and filling in with our OAS Emergency Skills component and our Personal Achievement Badges (which we should all be working on at home!!). Every year, the Kub Kar adventure gives the cubs the opportunity to get their creative juices flowing to produce some wild and whacky designs while challenging the capabilities of twenty-first century wood-working. A big shout out to Akela Chris Hayes who once again has dedicated his time, skill and effort in making these daring dreams a reality, carving the intricate details from hand-drawn designs into wooden blocks that will become the Titans of the track in the forthcoming weeks. Perhaps we will soon discover our next Jacques Villeneuve or Lance Stroll ...

Opemikon holds a special place in the 101st hearts; our time spent there creates a lifetime of memories through the bonds we create with others, the variety of activities that we participate in, and the great food in our bellies! Most of us arrived on Friday amidst some challenging (but no less magical) conditions, giving us just enough time for mugup and each cub's very own traditional 'Spreading of Clothes Over the Floor' ceremony.





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Saturday morning saw a reversal of the latter thanks to the second annual room inspection carried out by our resident neat-freak Mang (aka Major Jeremy Drouin). After a hearty breakfast of sausage and pancakes, the pack headed out to the slopes for some tobogganing on 7cm of freshly laid snow – slow going at first, but once a few tracks were laid we soon got into the swing of things. After lunch we linked with the Beavers, and in our first activity made good use of them as measuring sticks for a snowtower building contest.



Snow football followed, with a chaotic but closely fought contest that ended 0-0 (just like a regular soccer game!), after which we headed down to the water's edge to join the Scouts for a healthy game of Capture the Flag. Suitably exercised and rosy-cheeked, we headed inside for the Greatest Fajitas on Earth (irrefutably).

The evening's entertainment had all sections gathered around the cozy campfire (built by the capable hands of Scouter Bill and the trusty Scouts), with a variety of skits and songs to keep the cold at bay. The Cubs were in fine voice, and the Bravest Cub award was a big hit, awarded by the fearsome Sunshine (who not even the Bravest Cub could face!!).

In January, we warmly welcomed Andrew and a new Cub Leader Scouter Cynthia (Andrew's Mom) into our Pack. February sees us finishing off our Kars for the Big Race, as well as getting some healthy outdoor activity in the form of skating and snowshoeing.



Scout Trails

2018 started the best way possible with a camp at Opemikon.



Despite the cold the Scouts managed to stay warm building the toboggan run, building large catapults with the Venturers in the afternoon and helping the cubs with their 'capture the flag in the snow' game.





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The following week the Scouts stayed outside and had a skating party at Weston Park. It was the perfect night; the ice was amazing and the hot chocolate warmed our souls.



For the last two weeks of January we were back at the church hall where we invested Edoardo and Thomas to the Troop. In starting to think about the upcoming bridge competition and understanding the science of bridges and structures, the Scouts had a competition to see who could build the tallest free standing tower from only 24 sheets of newspaper and tape.







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There were some interesting designs and the Scouts discovered some of the ways to make structures strong. The bridge competition is a Rideau area event held at the end of March and over the next 2 months the youth will design and build popsicle bridges which will be tested with weights until they break at the competition. We look forward to the ingenuity and flare that the Scouts put into their designs!

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!

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).

Space is limited. More information and registration is available at this link: http://voy.scouts.ca/ca/march-break-camp



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Dates for your Calendar

- February 2-4: Venturers Adirondack Adventure
- February 11: Balena Park Winter Carnival
- February 24: Cubs Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally at St. Thomas the Apostle Church
- March 24: White Tail Beaver Sleepover at Aviation Museum
- March 28: Scouts Bridge Buliding Competition at Rideau Park United Church



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

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

Visit our website regularly for updates: <u>http://www.101ottawa.com/</u>

1015 OTTAWA ST. AIDANS



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