

MARCH 2019



101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group

# Newsletter



## Beaver Tales

The Beavers' March started with a very special night for our White Tail Beavers. This annual sleepover without parents marks the beginning of the transition to Cubs. Five of our White Tail Beavers took part in the Rideau Area White Tail Sleepover at the Aviation Museum on March 2nd-3rd.



The night included various activities such as learning about ejection seats and how a plane turns, a craft, a tour in the dark with only flashlights.



## Scoutrees 2019

Every year, thousands of scouts and volunteers head out at the beginning of May to plant Scoutrees. This is a way for Scouts to make a difference for the environment and to beautify their community. Last year, the 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa planted 110 trees in a park off River Road.

But, Scoutrees is also an important fundraiser for our group. Each youth member will soon receive a pledge envelope to collect donations, of which our scouting group gets to keep 85% to fund our programs, camps, equipment, etc. Those who donate \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt. We encourage all youth to collect pledges of any amount to support our group and our tree planting efforts. Did you also know that 15% of pledges raised go to the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. These funds assist Scouts in developing countries run self-help and community betterment programs that are adapted to local needs and conditions.

Envelopes with pledges are due back on:

- April 30 for Beavers and Cubs
- May 1 for Scouts and Venturers

Stay tuned for details on our "Dig Day" when we plant trees on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

MARCH 2019

101<sup>st</sup> OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

There was also great indoor campfire where the 50 or so Beavers there led with their own songs and cheers and skits. Thank you to Sunshine, Tic Tac and Thunder for attending.



They also learned the rules and etiquette of trading – no trade is complete unless both parties are happy and they shake on it.



The following week, we met up with the Cubs at Pine Grove Trail for a hike in the Ottawa Greenbelt. It was a perfect night for a hike temperature-wise and some Beavers even donned their snowshoes.

After March Break, the Beavers were back at the church for a night of badge or crest collecting and trading. They made small pouches to hold their crests.

The month ended with a night of basic first aid led by Tic Tac. The Beavers restocked their mini first aid kits and those who did not have one, made one – all working towards their first level of OAS Emergency Preparedness.



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## 101<sup>st</sup> OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER



### Cub Corner

Well, March has passed by quickly. The Cubs started the month with a lovely winter hike with the Colony at the Pine Grove Trail. Scouter Sunshine filled them in on some interesting facts about the trail and the trees and we all warmed up with some hot chocolate. Given the brightness of the evening, the Cubs were challenged to hike back without the use of their flashlights, which they did brilliantly.

The next week was some very cool Robot Recyclables, designed and built by our first and second years, while the older youth took part in an information/planning session for an upcoming Howler Camp designed to help them achieve their Seonee Award.

Following March Break, we were, and continue to be, focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities. The STEM activities are based on a collaborative project between Scouts Canada and the Canadian Museum of Science and Technology around the theme of Space Exploration.



There are three STEM meetings planned in all, culminating in an outing to the museum in April.



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Two of our Cubs also took part in a very cool Paddling Night and really increased their overall knowledge and skill levels.



Scout Trails

The Scouts March started with some community service by serving and cleaning up after the St. Aidan's Pancake Dinner on Shrove Tuesday.

The members of the Parish and Scouters were again impressed with how polite and well-mannered were the Scouts. A special recognition to Henry for his extra efforts of cleaning up and to Adrian and Edoardo for doing a "double shift".

After March Break, the Scouts met at the church for a first aid night. Former Venturer Sam came to and covered lots of the basics.



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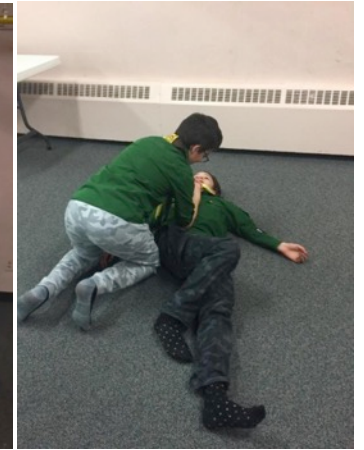
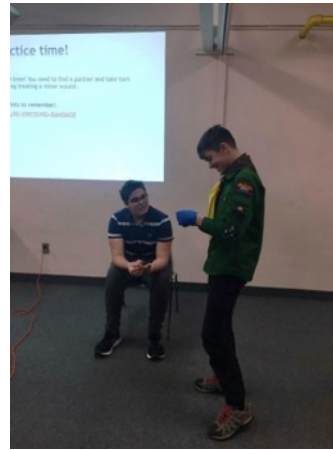
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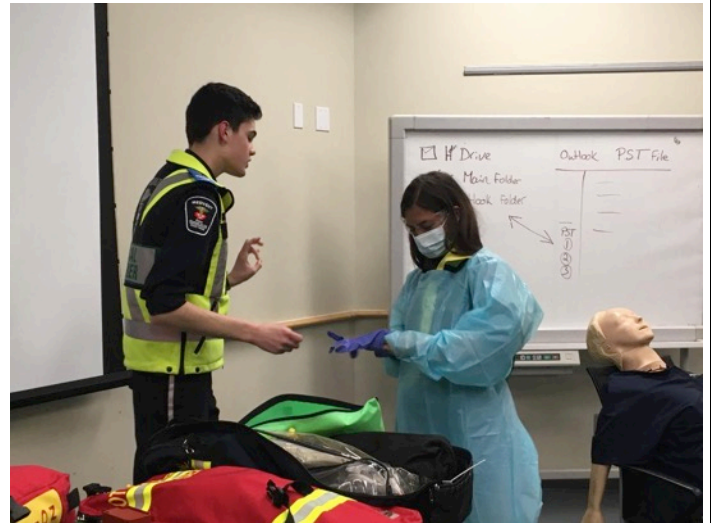
There was also lots of opportunities to practice what they were learning, including minor and major wounds and splinting.



A favourite of the Scouts was the methods to use when dealing with a person who is potentially unresponsive.



The last meeting of March was a special tour of the Ottawa Paramedics Headquarters. The Scouts got to tour the garage and see all of the different types of vehicles and equipment the Paramedics use.



The Scouts also got to learn about the option of becoming a MedVent – something a couple of our former Scouts have done.



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They also got a special tour of the Communications Centre courtesy of Scout Kaleb's mom, Molly, who works there. Thank you! It was certainly a highlight.



### Venturer News

The Venturers started March with their big trip to the Adirondack High Peaks in Lake Placid. After preparing their own eggs for breakfast and packed lunch at the Motel we headed for the Adirondack Loj.

With blue skies and only a few degrees below zero, the weather conditions couldn't have been better as they set out from the Loj towards the trail for Wright Mountain.



The trails were beautiful with all the snow in the trees but with Wright mountain being the 16th highest peak in the Adirondacks at a 4,587 feet (1,398 metres) it was no small stroll in the park!



Most of the hike was in snowshoes and as they neared the top there was more need for the microspikes to tackle the ice on the exposed peak.



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There was one sheet of ice that was particularly challenging that the youth helped each other and their leaders to climb.



Their team work and encouragement for each other over the obstacles to the top was beyond impressive. The weather changed quickly on the peak and it was soon time to head back down.



Although physically tired the group made quick work of the descent, with a few steep bum slides; and although exhausted they still managed to muster the energy to clean-up and head into town for pizza and ice cream. For most this was a first to climb a high peak, so to have tackled it in winter is something they should be proud of.



The rest of month they just planned to have some fun; but of course not sitting around...improving their bowling skills and trying out the Xtreme trampoline.



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### Summer Camp at Opemikon

Camp Opemikon offers summer camping programs for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturer aged youth. Camps includes crafts, swimming, hiking, canoeing, campfires, theme weeks, and so much more. A truly memorable summer camp experience. Information is now available at: <http://voy.scouts.ca/ca/camp-opemikon-summer-programs>

### Year-End Banquet

Our annual Year-End Banquet is set for Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm at the Canterbury Community Centre. Cost will be \$5 per person to attend. Each section will reflect on the year gone by, give special awards to the youth and we will recognize our volunteers without whom, nothing would be possible. See you there!!

### Dates for your Calendar

- **April 14:** Scouts Soapbox Derby
- **May 3-5:** Scouts & Venturers RSVP Camp
- **May 4:** Scoutrees Dig Day
- **May 11-12:** Scouts Rideau Challenge
- **May 24-26:** Beavers Spring Camp
- **May 31-June 2:** Cubs Council Camp
- **June 1-2:** Scouts Spring Camp
- **June 7-9:** Cubs Seonee Camp
- **June 11:** Year-End Banquet at Canterbury Community Centre
- **June 14-16:** Scouts Canoe Camp



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

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



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