

NOVEMBER 2020



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

Newsletter



Scout Coffee Fundraiser

Our only fundraiser of 2020 was a great success. Thank you to all of the youth, Scouters and parents who purchased or promoted the Scout Coffee campaign. The 101st sold a total of \$2758 worth of coffee – that's a lot of coffee. We keep 35% of that amount, so about \$955.

A special thank you for the Cubs who raised about half of that amount. Also, special thank you to Rachel Samulack – mom of Beaver Gabriel, who submitted an article that was published in the October issue of the Vistas newspaper.



Beaver Tales

We were very excited to be able to get back to safe in-person outdoor meetings in November. To see the Beavers' faces in person was exactly what the Leaders needed in these times.

We started the month with our investiture ceremony that we had been holding off holding in the hopes that we could do it in person. It was cold night but the Beavers braved it and each got to recite their promise and receive their new badges and tails. We even welcomed a new Beaver to our colony.



The following week, we went to Canterbury Park on another cold night to do our annual Fall cleanup of the park. The Beavers were pretty keen to walk around the park and pick up all of trash – big and small – they came across. They filled two large garbage bags and we were especially surprised how many water bottles were found around the basketball court.



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The week after, the Beavers met at the church to learn some basic outdoor skills. That included how to safely hold and pass an axe and saw, how to be safe around a camp stove, safe hiking and what to do in an emergency.

Looking forward to more fun outdoor adventures.



Cub Corner

Still running virtual meetings, we took the opportunity to Follow the Sun around the world and explore different countries, and cities through online mapping software. We're also thankful for translation software that lets us learn a few words of the local language. Hello, Goodbye, Thank you and Where is the bathroom, are always important words to know. Cubs were left with a "homework" assignment to look at how other cultures and faith traditions celebrate occasions like Christmas, Hanukkah, Diwali, Kwanzaa, Solstice or any other type of festival. This will earn them the World Badge.

We also had a very interesting discussion on the Wonders of the World – the Ancient World, the Modern World and the Natural World. A possible meeting idea if I ever heard one!

OH MY GOODNESS! We got to meet again in person! Because our meeting was so close to Remembrance Day, we did a Hike of Remembrance.

Starting at Ottawa City Hall, we investigated and explored the Human Rights Monument, the

Aboriginal Veterans Monument, Animals in War Monument and the National War Memorial. While at the War Memorial, Chil told us an interesting story about Lord Baden Powell – who fought in the Second Boer War, 1899-1902. It was a great walk and so nice to be out and about together again.



The third week of November, was the long awaited Investiture! We are a very large group and there were some Provincial Group restrictions in effect so we did two investitures. The first for Blue and Yellow Lairs, the second for Red and Green Lairs.



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Not to be forgotten is Griffin, our lone Virtual Cub, who had an in-person investiture on his front porch! Congratulations to all of our Cubs!

The fourth week of November found us HIKING! Not only that, but we tried a new trail. We checked out Mckay Lake and The Pond in the Rockcliffe area of Ottawa. This was perfect as it had beach access to try out our Water Testing kits! Many thanks to www.waterrangers.ca for those kits, the Cubs really enjoyed this opportunity!



As per the instructions, we tested both the water temperature (7 C) and the air temperature (1 C), and then we dipped our test strips in the water for 2 seconds, counted to 20 and checked out the results against the graph!

We also, accidentally, learned what NOT to do when you're hiking as the Cubs happened to momentarily misplace Akela and Raksha. Nor did they come back to check what had happened to Akela and Raksha. Akela and Raksha also didn't Hug a Tree and stay put like they should have, but we eventually found each other and took a moment to discuss what went wrong and how we can do better next time.

We're happy to report that everyone made it out of the hike in one piece, and all together. Lessons learned.

We are also happy to report that our Cubs once again are the awesomest Cubs in the City. Check out the Food Donations for the Heron Road Emergency Food Cupboard. The Cubs collected food instead of dues for the last two weeks of November. Thank you Cubs. Your efforts are appreciated



Scout Trails

As you may have seen with the other sections, getting back to in-person outdoor meetings in November has done us a world of good.

Given this fell on Remembrance Day, we went ahead with plans to meet downtown and do a walk to visit the various war monuments. It was cold night and the Scouts walked a fair amount but the Leaders were all very impressed and proud how they all behaved by being safe on city streets, respectful and very interested in what each monument represented.



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We started by first visiting the Peacekeeping Monument and Scouter Dave told us of the importance of peacekeeping to the world.



We then walked to Parliament Hill to see the poppies projected on the Peace Tower.



The following week, we held our long awaited investiture outdoor at the church. All of our Scouts attended and said their promise. They received their new badges and for our five new Scouts who moved up from Cubs, they received their new woggles.



After that, we went to the National War Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and had a moment of silence. We visited the Korean War monument, the South African War monument, the Animals of War, the Aboriginal Veterans monument and finally the Human Rights one.



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We welcomed Henry and Chris as our Patrol Leaders and James and Eli as our Assistant Patrol Leaders this year.



They were very keen and some of them had never used any of these important camping tools.



The following week, the Scouts met at Weston Park for some outdoor games that they organized themselves. We spent some time preparing for our day camp and planning for the winter meetings.

Our six older Scouts worked individually with Scouter Bill who joined us for the day camp to earn their match and fire permit.

November came to a close with the Scouts holding a day camp at Baxter Conservation Area. The aim was for the Scouts to earn their outdoor skill permits. Our five new Scouts worked hard to learn how to safely handle and use axes and saws thanks to Scouter Paul as well as camp stoves and lanterns.



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It was a great day and we were very happy to be able to get together outside. Great job Scouts!



Venturer News

We started the month with an Extreme Movie Night where we all watched (online) a film about a young man who free-climbed three of the largest peaks in Yosemite National Park. The

discussion that followed was even more interesting and we learned that many of the Vents love to read and they had an opportunity to share which books they were reading and what they enjoyed about them.

The following week we were able to get outside so we headed to Weston Park to play some Bocce Ball. It was a chilly night but in the end the youth were so happy to see one another they decided to hang out, chat and catch up with one another.

The following week the Vents headed to Vincent Massey Park where they played Sardines, but Chloe, who was the one to find, remained elusive and no one caught her in the end!

We ended the month with a virtual meeting, in which the vents made powerpoint presentations of random images which they had to present for one another. The result was, as you can imagine, hilarious.



In December the Vents are hoping to get outside to take a nice winter hike in the Gatineau Hills and have begun to think about how they might serve the community during the holidays.



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Registration for 2021 Scouting Year

Due to the pandemic, Scouts Canada extended all youth memberships from September 1st to December 31st, thus avoiding the need to register and pay for Fall 2020. There is also a free trial for new members for Fall and we have 4 new members who've joined us.

Registration for the 2021 Scouting Year, which is January 1st to December 31st opened on October 26th for existing members. This is a two-week window to reserve your spot. Those doing a free trial will have registration open on November 9th and then for the general public on November 16th.

The registration fee is \$230 for the year and the 101st only gets \$15 of that amount as we aim to keep registration fees low and rely more on fundraising.

Important that due to group limitations imposed by local and provincial authorities, we are capping each youth section at 20 members. So, register while you can.



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/>



*"I already have my crossing-the-street badge.
How about I set up your Twitter feed?"*



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