

NOVEMBER 2021



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

# Newsletter

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## [Beaver Tales](#)

The Beavers had a pretty busy November. The Leaders try to balance outdoor meetings with indoor ones and giving them a variety.

We started with a meeting devoted to community service. The Beavers were asked to bring in some small items that would be packed in a shoebox and sent to a child in need as part of Operation Christmas Child. We filled four boxes for boys and girls ages 5-7.



## [Scout Popcorn Fundraiser Results](#)

Our annual Scout Popcorn fundraiser ran from mid October to November 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all of the youth and their families who took part. We had a very successful campaign this year.

Youth sold a total of \$965 in online sales and another \$3840 in-person sales for a total of about \$4800 plus another \$300 in donations. Of the popcorn sales, we keep about \$2100 with the group and individual sections to support programming and volunteer readiness.

Our top sellers in each section that will get to pie Scouter Sunshine in the face are:

Beavers: Myles Briere  
Cubs: Pip Barrington  
Scouts: Alexander Kurz  
Venturers: Indira Marier

A special shout-out to Scout Alexander Kurz who sold over \$1000 going door-to-door in his neighbourhood. Great initiative!!!



The following week, our meeting fell a couple days before Remembrance Day, so for the first time, we took the Beavers downtown to visit the National War Monument and some other monuments dedicated to our veterans.

The Beavers were very well behaved, followed the direction of the Scouters when walking downtown and very respectful and curious about the monuments they visited.

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After that, we did some basic first aid, thanks to Tic Tac, who is a first aid instructor. The Beavers got to put together a small personal first aid kit and how to treat small cuts and wounds.



We got really good feedback from the Beavers and parents who accompanied us as a special and memorable experience.



The last week of the month we met at Weston Park the following Tuesday for some games in the dark. The Beavers played versions of “what time is it Mr. Wolf?”, “burning bridges” and “sardines”. And of course, they got time on the play structures after a safety talk.



**Cub Corner**

November brought our long awaited Investiture! A record of 10 Cubs were invested and made their Promise! Two more Cubs were absent, we'll catch them at a later meeting.



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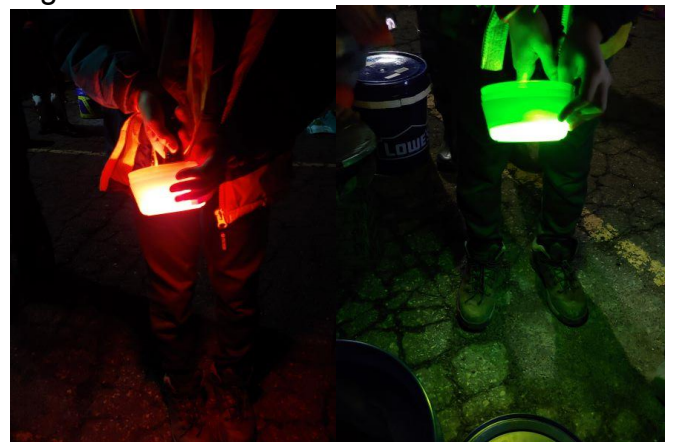
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The third November meeting saw us going back to the Around the World in 60 Days ideas. Red Lair led the meeting by setting up Twolfie and the flags, starting the Grand Howl and O Canada, and leading us in games – Zombie Tag, and Red Light Green Light – where we were lucky enough to actually HAVE a red light and a green light to play with! We also tested our hypothesis that coloured paper – or bowls and water bottles! - would change the colour of the light from our headlamps and flashlights. Some colours work better than others and some materials work better than others. We also invested the two Cubs missing from Investiture Night!

Our second meeting in November was our Hike of Remembrance. With stops at the Canadian Tribute to Human Rights, also known as the Human Rights Monument, the National Aboriginal Veteran Monument, the Canadian Animals in War Memorial and of course the National War Memorial, the Cubs, always happy to be out and about, really enjoyed the evening. A few parents and families joined us too!



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Our fourth November meeting saw us once again working on an Around the World Challenge. This one on Survival. Yellow Lair, Chil and Kaa set up a fantastic Obstacle Course for the Cubs. Slack Line, Egg and Spoon Race, Disc Golf, Parkour, and blowing up an air mattress all before running back to Twolfie to serenade him with a cheer! Great fun for everyone! Some good cheers out there too!



And there was a fifth Tuesday in November this year! Green Lair ran the show this week and our focus was on the Around the World in 60 Days Challenge of Water De-Nile – or how we move water – which is done a lot for agricultural purposes.

December will only have 2 meetings, but we know they'll be fun and exciting so stay tuned!



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Scout Trails

November for the Scouts started out with a camp – yes, a camp in November. We do that in Scouts! We went to Camp Trill near Athens just north of Brockville. A beautiful spot by Charleston Lake and we had the whole place to ourselves. Now, this camp was supposed to happen in October but that was another deluge weekend and we postponed to early November and we had beautiful weather. Sunny days and clear nights. Yes, it got down to the freezing mark at night but if you were prepared (the Scout motto), you were nice and toasty.



The objective of the camp was to work on outdoor skills. The first year Scouts worked on earning their stove and lantern and their axe and saw permits by learning hands on how to safely use these important tools. The older Scouts refreshed their fire building skills.



Some of the Scouts went on a long hike to the shore of Charleston Lake at the perfect time.



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Others worked in small teams to build a temporary shelter, although none of them slept in it at night. A couple Scouts lashed some spars together to make a large tripod.



And of course, the campfires at night are always fun and we had a telephone game on Saturday night that produced some pretty funny results.



Back to our weekly meetings, the Scouts went downtown for their annual pilgrimage to visit all of the war monuments.



Scouter Dave, a veteran himself, talked about each one starting with peacekeeping. We also made a stop on Parliament Hill.



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The following week, the Scouts met at the church for some work in their patrols building space landers that would hold an egg out of various recyclable materials. Each patrol then had their landers dropped by Scout Helper Max to see which eggs would survive the fall.



### Venturer News

November, like many months with Venturers, involved lots of fun physical energy, while chatting. We started with a hike along part of the Poet's Pathway in New Edinburgh. This pathway commemorates Canada's poets, with engraved plaques along the way. At the end, Scouter Bill read aloud (at the insistence of the youth) a poem about one of the Vents' favourite activities – canoeing. Happy for the opportunity to be back in the church, the Vents next played a few games inside, including the ever-popular chess. Us leaders also took this opportunity to train some on how to do the 'fun' part of our job – paperwork!

Next it was time to burn more energy, with a game of Laser Tag! The first game was everyone for themselves. After that we were "randomly" added to groups and the REAL competition began! Let's just say that experience won out.

An idea triggered inspired research by a youth, which led to planning and then a fantastic day trip to Montreal for the Venturer company. We headed out very early, arriving in the city with much excitement.

The Biodome was first on the list, and it did not disappoint. After many months of being shut out of museums, our youth were thrilled to be inside the living ecosystem.

Raccoon Patrol won the challenge and got the pick the movie for the next week's movie night – Sonic the Hedgehog. Not an Oscar winner but it had its funny moments, and the Scouts had a blast just hanging out and watching a movie.



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We even got to see a beaver inside it's lodge and see them from underneath as they swam. They are like swimming barges with webbed feet!

They spent almost 2hrs admiring the penguins, the huge Sturgeon and other sea creatures, the beavers, otters, and birds of Canada, and finally the tropical animals.



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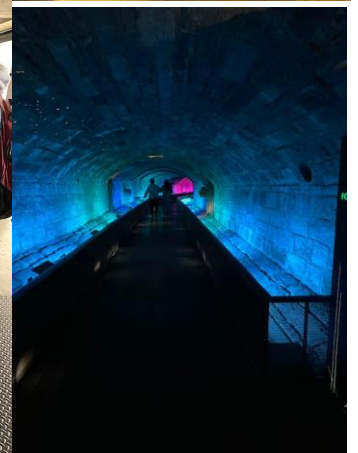
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After a delicious local lunch, we were re-energized and ready to wander Ile-Ste-Helene. We checked out the area around the Biosphere, where Scouter Bill had visited a few years prior, in it's inaugural year. The youth were taken by the park, the photos showcasing biodiversity and by the view of the Port area from across the water.



Next came a visit to the Montreal Archeology museum, which shows us the evolution of Montreal from its early years. While it is built to incorporate much of the city's early sewer system, thankfully it was not stinky.

It was very interesting, with a tunnel that led to another street and many interactive areas, transforming our Vents were pirates, and explorers.

They could see the actual original building blocks of the city under their feet. In one fascinating exhibit, you could see how the city and building structures evolved over the years.



When it was time to wander through old Montreal and see the outward beauty of the Basilica Notre-Dame, our youth were tired and eager take in the view from the bench.



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After another replenishment, we rejoined the subway (which had led us through the city) and headed back to the vehicles and home for the night. It was a long day and we logged between 20-26,000 steps (that's 15-20km!) It was also a fantastic day. We were all thrilled to be out, enjoying life.



Not realizing just how much walking was involved in the trip, our Vents (naively) had planned another hike for the coming Wednesday. We were not surprised when we had a few Vents miss out, as some had spent much of Sunday relaxing, and had some homework to catch up on. Not to worry – the next week was fun too, with bowling at Orleans Lanes. We are always in awe, watching the youth learn their strengths, while others just truly enjoy the activities regardless of their skill level. The scores varied, one even joining the “200” club, and a leader celebrating a turkey, but all laughed and smiled. That is what Venturers is about.

### Registration Information

Registration is now 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>



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

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



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