

SEPTEMBER 2020



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

# Newsletter



## Welcome Back to Scouting

Hello all youth members, volunteers and parents. Welcome back to another year of scouting at the 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa.

You've heard it said many times – things sure look different. Thanks to our extremely dedicated volunteers who returned this Fall, we are able to offer in-person meetings and activities while maintaining the safety protocols put in place by Scouts Canada.

How long will things be like this? Your guess is probably as good as ours, but we will make the best of it, enjoy lots of outdoor adventures and ensure it is all done safely.



## Scout Coffee Anyone?

Fundraising is critically important to our group's revenues. All funds raised go directly back into the program and ensuring volunteer readiness. However, 2020 has been hard for us so far. The annual Scoutrees pledge and planting was cancelled last spring and so is the traditional Apple Day this fall. Scouts Canada has moved

the annual Scout Popcorn campaign to next spring and replaced it with a new fundraiser: Scout Coffee.

All our coffee will be available for online sales from October 12<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>. Family and friends can purchase it online and it will be shipped directly to them. No payments or product to handle.

All of the coffee is 100% organic and fair-trade and roasted by Equator Coffee Roasters here in the Ottawa region. The 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa will get 35% from all sales and another 5% will go into the No One Left Behind Fund to support scouts in need across Canada be able to afford scouting.

Go to: [www.scoutcoffee.ca](http://www.scoutcoffee.ca) for the list of available products.



## Beaver Tales

Well, the Beavers have been busy since starting back up on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Despite their much smaller number this year, they are still busy beavers for sure.

Our first meeting was a chance to get re-acquainted with each other and learn the new rules and protocols in place for in-person outdoor meetings. One thing we heard was that the Beavers do not like virtual meetings and prefer to do things outside. We played a fun game called "Captain's Coming".

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Our second meeting has become a bit of an annual tradition. We lay out a route in advance on the sidewalk using chalk – thanks Tic Tac – and then the Beavers follow it all the way to Weston Park. This year, we added a rope for the Beavers to keep proper distance. At the park, we played a riveting game of soccer baseball. The excuse to kick a ball and run the bases was just what the Beavers needed.



The Beavers – being our boldest and bravest section – were the first out to have a day camp on the afternoon of Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. We went to Baxter Conservation Area for the afternoon.



After an opening and some camp rules, the Beavers go working on a craft. They gathered things they could find on the ground like sticks, leaves, pine and cedar needles, etc. to make their own beaver lodges. Some very creative beavers made great lodges and used copious amounts of white glue!



After that, the Beavers needed to move some more, so we went on a nice long hike.



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We went to see the marsh at Baxter and along the way they checked off things on their nature hike scavenger hunt.



On the way back to our group site, we went by a great lookout onto the Rideau River. It was a really beautiful day.



When we got back, parents accompanying their Beaver cooked dinner on the BBQ and we finished off with a short campfire. The Beavers

learned a few new songs and cheers and were regaled with a story about a pink gorilla.



Our third meeting of September was a nice hike. We met at parking lot P21, which is part of the Mer Bleu Conservation Area. Despite some damp weather, the Beavers toughed it out!



Cub Corner

It's so lovely to be meeting in person again! We welcome back our Cubs, our new Tenderpads, and our new and familiar Scouters! Baloo, Raksha, Hathi and Akela are joined by Chil this year! It's going to be an interesting year with all the precautions we need to take, but there's a reason the Cub Motto is DO YOUR BEST. We've got this Cubs, we've got this.

Our Cubs started the year learning about the Cub Promise – they had to manoeuvre their way to the promise hints in various strange and wonderful ways before putting the promise together.



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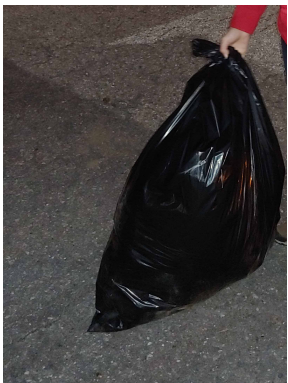


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The Cubs have two versions of the promise and it was very sneaky of Akela to put the two of them together so that the Cubs had to figure both out at the same time! They did it, and did a great job.



In the second week of meetings, the Cubs Scouts gave to me... our Semi-Annual Canterbury Park Cleanup and Play Structure Inspection! I don't know if it was because we were earlier in doing this than in other years, but we got A LOT of trash! A bit more than an industrial

size black garbage bag! Great job Cubs!

Not to be outdone, our Tenderpad Griffin – our only Cub currently going Virtual- was also busy tonight co-ordinating his family to help pick up trash at his local park. Great job Griffin!



All of a sudden it's the last week of September! We had a special presentation by William telling us all about the Seonee Project he did this summer. Great job on the shoreline cleanup AND the project presentation William.



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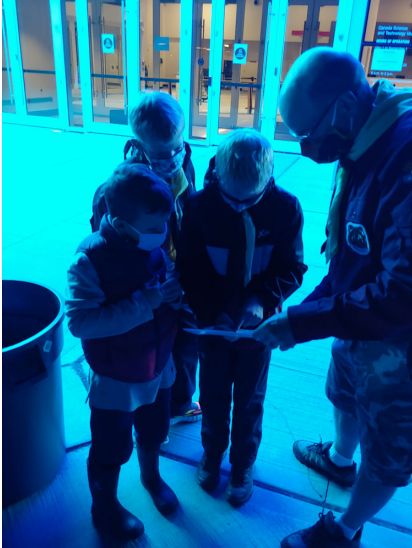


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Then it was off for a hike to the grounds of the Science and Technology Museum! Our original plan was to sketch, but there was a threat of rain and wet paper isn't the best sketching medium, so we learned about compasses and walked on a bearing!



We made sure to find all our old favourites on the grounds, the radio antenna, the train and the lighthouse. Totally forgot there was a water turbine! Apparently, we need to spend more time on those grounds!



Our Tenderpad Griffin went ahead with our original plan and found some leaves to draw. The challenge now is to identify what kind of tree it came from!



October will bring our First Day Camp, Investiture and a Hallowe'en Hike! Bring it on!



### Scout Trails

The Scouts are back! Smaller in number than last year, but still keen to go on adventures and get together for weekly outdoor meetings.

Our first meeting at the church was to a welcome back and a chance for the Scouts to see each other after the spring and summer. We also welcomed five new Scouts who moved up from Cubs.



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The Scout did some planning of their schedule by working in their new patrols. There were some very interesting ideas and hopefully we can make them happen.



Our second meeting was a chance for some much needed community service. Given that the usual food drive and church dinners are all

cancelled, we wanted to fit in a night of picking up litter at Dow's Lake as part of the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup.



The Scouts were paired off and picked up what trash they could find along the shore and trees of the arboretum. The most interesting finds: underwear (yuck!), beer cans and a canal skateway sign.

Our final meeting was back at the church for some more patrol work, planning, and preparations for our investiture the following week and day camp that weekend.



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The Scout Leaders are very happy to see the Scouts back safe and sound.



**Venturer News**

September has gotten off to a great start for the 101st Venturer Company. Now 12 members strong, the Vents used their first meeting to take a walk to Weston Park where they spent the evening getting reacquainted and discussing possible plans (and back up plans) for how they wanted the fall to progress in this new COVID-environment. They came up with some creative and interesting ideas such as practising their vertical skills with a trip to an ariel/ziplining park in early October, or doing a virtual movie night via Zoom.

The weather was cooperative, so for their next meeting the Vents did a leisurely 4 km hike at Pine Grove Trail.

We ended the month with an urban hike in downtown Ottawa, where the senior Vents collected ideas for an Amazing Race they are planning, and took a tour of the downtown core.



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**Cub Spends Summer Holidays Cleaning up Wasaga Beach**

One of our Cubs – William Collin – and his family vacationed on Wasaga Beach this summer. And what did William do during this time on beach? We helped clean it up by picking up all sorts of trash. It was even featured in the local newspaper. Great job William and your Scouters are very proud of you for living up to your promise as a Scout!

**Dates for your Calendar**

- **October 3:** Cubs Day Camp at Morris Island Conservation Area
- **October 3:** Scouts Day Camp at Baxter Conservation Area
- **October 4:** Venturers outing at Arbraska at the Lafleche Caves
- **October 12-November 15:** Scout Coffee Online Fundraiser
- **November 27:** Scouts Day Camp at Baxter Conservation Area



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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