

SEPTEMBER 2023



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

Newsletter

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[Two 101st Venturers attended the World Scout Jamboree 2023 in South Korea](#)

This summer, the World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) was hosted in South Korea. WSJ is a camp welcoming scouts aged 14-17 years old from almost every country in the world every four years. This year, there were 43,000 scouts attending which makes this camp the largest youth get together in the world.

Among all these people, there was a contingent of 235 Canadian scouts, including Sofia Laconi and myself, Indira Marier. You may know us as the older Venturers but four years ago we were keen scouts hosting a British unit that had attended the previous WSJ, wishing to get the opportunity to attend the next one.



The planning process was daunting, it was all leading up to the moment when we were sitting in the Ottawa airport waiting for our delayed flight in order for

us to make our connection in Toronto, that I actually started to feel excited (but mostly anxious) for the journey ahead. We had to run to make the flight but we managed and had 14 and a half hours to catch our breaths. When we finally got to Korea we had to take a bus for two hours to our accommodations.



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For the next four days, we explored the city of Seoul, seeing a lot of tourist attractions (like the palace - that was so cool) and seeing the beautiful scenes of the country, walking across a huge suspension

bridge (kinda scary).

On August 1st, our unit, composed of scouts from Vancouver, Edmonton, Quebec City, Kingston and Halifax arrived at the site in the south-west of the country - still wet from the flooding in late July. I won't sugarcoat anything - the heat was unbearable. It was at least 40°C without the 100% humidity that we suffered.



Other than that, we participated in all kinds of scouting outdoor activities. We also got to meet people from all over, and now we have friends from Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, Korea and Sweden!



Unexpectedly, typhoon Khanun was announced to hit our region and in one day, the whole jamboree was evacuated. As much as the media made it seem very bad, and there was truth to these statements for certain people, I can still say that my experience was positive. We got put



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in a dorm at the University of Ajou in the city of Suwon and I could not have wished for better accommodations. I mean a hot shower, a real mattress, air conditioning and a laundry room - a girl can only dream! Over the next few days we were able to profit from the unfortunate situation and really appreciate South Korean culture. We explored museums and galleries and we watched traditional musical performances which allowed me to gain more knowledge on the roots and why society worked the way it did in this corner of the world.



At the end of these three weeks, all 43,000 of us made our way to the FIFA stadium in Seoul for the closing ceremony and a K-pop concert that featured 20 artists (it was amazing). Finally, Sofia and I boarded the plane ready for our nearly two day trip back home. It was cold when we got back despite it being mid-august. I slept a lot. All in all, I had to overcome certain hardships but I am so pleased that I had the chance to attend this once and a lifetime event. I won't ever forget all the beautiful memories, faces, culture and history that I've met and learnt.



Maybe in four years time when the next world jamboree takes place in Poland, we will be sending one of you scouts.



Beaver Tales

Welcome back Beavers! We are ready for another year of adventures and we have Beaver Colony of about a dozen Beavers so far, including some new ones. We got right down to business at our first meeting, meeting the new Beavers and seeing how much our returning Beavers grew over the summer. Must be something in the water! At our first meeting, we got to know each other, played a couple games so that we can see how energetic are these Beavers this year – and yes, they are full of energy.



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Our second meeting was a walk to a local park. Thanks to Bubbles for laying out a trail for us to follow from the church to the park. We talked about how to safely walk around your

neighbourhood whether there are sidewalks or not and how to cross busy streets.

We walked to Hutton Park and played a couple rounds of “soccer baseball”. This is basically baseball using a soccer that the “batter” would kick and then run the bases. Took a bit to get a hang of it for those Beavers who never played baseball before, but we got there. We then set them loose on the play structures.



We held our first Beaver camp at Baxter Conservation Area. The weather was just fantastic with a nice warm day and not too cool night as the Beavers and a parent slept in tents. At camp, we had a nice hike through the forest and long the shore of the Rideau River. We even got to walk across a marsh on a boardwalk. Along the way, the Beavers had a checklist of items as a scavenger hunt to look for.



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After the hike, the Beavers played a few games, including challenging Echo to a tug-of-war. Nine against one – guess who won? After some free time, we had a nice dinner outside thanks to Bubbles and this was followed by a fun campfire. We sang some songs and did some cheers. We had the Beavers put on a classic skit – The King's Royal Papers, and even got a couple stories. To cap it all off, there were s'mores – lots of s'mores. The Beavers were pretty tired after that day and went to bed by 9pm – way past their bedtime! The next morning, we had breakfast, packed up and had a Scout's Own before closing camp. What a great way to start the year off.



Our last meeting of the year was another nice hike through the woods, this time at the trail on the corner of Walkley Road and Ramsayville Road. Another fantastic early Fall evening and a great view of the moon.



Cub Corner

Once again the Cubs were off to a Roaring start to the year! We did our normal meet and greet, learned each others names and welcomed a handful of new Cubs as well as 3 new Scouters! Warm welcomes go out to everyone joining us. We would like to introduce you to Mang (Melissa Beverly); Bagheera (Adrienne Briere) and Rikki Tikki Tavi (Heather Barkley). We also welcome back Kaa (Angelica Haggert), Raksha (Amanda Jamieson) and Akela (Cindy Dark). This is going to be a fun year.



Our second week of Cubs was on September 19th – International Talk Like A Pirate Day! This, of course, means we have to dress up. What better time to talk about the Cub's Code of Conduct. We also played a great game (Ship to Shore), read a story and Akela brought in a genuine Pirate Sword! (Age of Piracy Era sword,



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can't comment on if it was actually used by a Pirate.)



We had our first "Overnight". 12 Brave and Adventurous Cubs joined Akela, Raksha, Mang, Bagheera and Rikki at the Red Blacks Football game on September 22nd.



We enjoyed the game, it ran for about 2 hours, and the Red Blacks won! - then got a chance to play and explore the field and then Gentle Readers, we camped out on the field!



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Knowing that the Beavers would be tenting, and that the Scouts had talked about camping this same weekend, Akela grabbed a couple of canopies and we all slept under those. Many thanks to Parent Judy for providing

access to a second canopy.

It was very odd to sleep without walls and ultimately, it was a great experience in a very safe space. We were served a little breakfast after waking up and cleaning up and then headed home. Some of us for naps.



Our final September meeting was our first Hike. This was to the grounds of the Science and Tech Museum. We did some basic compass work and discussed the rules of hiking. There was much running around and tag playing, so we're calling this one a win.



Stay tuned for all of the excitement that is October!



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Scout Trails

Welcome back to all our Scouts and we are happy to see all of the new Scouts who moved up from Cubs. We are a Troop of some 21 Scouts this year and 5 Leaders.

Our first meeting was both an introductory and planning meeting. We went over our code of conduct, and split the Scouts into their patrols to do some planning of the kinds of activities they would like to do this year. In Scouts, they are more involved in the planning and delivery of their program.

The Sunday, September 17th, we had a big group of Scouts come out in two shifts to the Alta Vista Corn Roast at Balena Park put on by Councillor Marty Carr. Our Scouts shucked lots of corn, helped the Enbridge crew with the BBQ and picked up lots of trash. This is part of our community service and we got lots of thank you and praise for helping out.



The next meeting was a linking meeting with the Venturers. We got together at Hog's Back Park and walked past the falls and along the Canal. We must of walked about 5 KM that evening all the way to Hartwell Lock and back.



This was good preparation for a fantastic day hike the following Saturday. 11 Scouts, plus Scouter Kerry and Scouter Dan, braved a foggy early morning drive for a clear and sunny day at Morris Island Conservation Area. Near Arnprior, the conservation area surrounds a quiet bay on the Ottawa River, near the Chats Falls hydro dam.



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Provided with trail maps, the Scouts explored the looping trails in small groups. They admired the views, learned a little about the area, and found animals such as frogs, snakes, turtles and geese. Throughout the day, they were kind, helpful and cheerful with each other and with the other visitors to the park.



Our last meeting of the month was a night of learning how to safely and properly use a pocket knife. Scouts can earn four permits to use tools such as a pocket knife by learning and demonstrating its safe and proper use.



They learned how to safely hold, open and close, pass to someone else, cut rope and whittle a piece of wood with their knife. All the new Scouts earned their permit and the returning Scouts got a good refresher on their skills. They will now be allowed to bring their pocket knife to future camps but as Scouter Sunshine always says: "a permit earned is a permit that can be taken away" if they do not safely use their knife.



Venturer News

Well the Scouting Year has started again and this year's Company is ready to rock and roll. Our ranks have swelled with several new youth moving up. We are happy to have Venturers Van, Dax, Chris, James, Sophie, Dante and Sam, as well as Venturer Advisor Dave Yarker join us!



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In September, the Vents met to do some initial planning, led a linking hike at Hog's Back with the Scout Troop and enjoyed themselves with a spirited game of Laser Tag. The new Vents will be invested at the next meeting by our senior youth - Venturers Indira, Luca and Sofia, and will hold an election to bring two of the younger members onto the Executive Council. It's shaping up to be a fun Scouting year, and we can wait to see what the youth bring to the table.



[Thank a Volunteer Today](#)

Want to say thanks to a volunteer – you can do so online and the volunteer will receive a special recognition. It's easy – just go to this website and fill out the information. You do need to know their real name – not just their leader name and if you're not sure ask them or another volunteer or parent. www.scouts.ca/thanks



SENS Scouts Day 2023

This year SENS Scouts Day is Saturday October 21; 13:00 at the Canadian Tire Centre

Come see the Sens vs. Detroit Red Wings. Scouts Day 2023 is open to family and friends. All scouting members will receive a commemorative badge!

Link to purchase tickets: [Sens vs. Detroit Red Wings - SCOUTS DAY 2023](#)

CQ CQ CQ calling all Scouts and Scouters interested in becoming an Amateur (HAM) Radio operator

Getting your Amateur Radio license opens the door to radio enabled science. Learn about electricity, electronics, astronomy, geography, and meteorology. Get introduced to new sports like radio orienteering, Parks on the air, mountain Summits on the Air, and things like Radio Field Day camping. Learn new skills like using hand tools, measuring with multi-meters and how to solder. This is the original social media with Youth on the Air, public service and emergency preparedness being part of it. They say Amateur Radio is a thousand hobbies in one. Open the door to your inner technologist

Our next course will be starting **October 1st**, cost is \$80 for Scouts or full time students, \$100 for Moms and Dads. Classes will be held in-person at the National Office, 1345 Baseline Road, Ottawa (Home of Scout Radio station VE3SHQ) Sunday afternoons. A Zoom session will be hosted for those who can't make it to the in-person class. More details at oarc.net/courses or contact VE3SHQ@Scouts.ca



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