APRIL 2022

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

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The 101st is now on social media. Follow us **@101stOttawa** on:

Save the Date – 101st Awards Night

We are happy to announce that after two long years, we will be hosting a year-end group event. It will not be a full banquet like past years, but we will take time to hand out our annual awards and recognize our volunteers. Dessert, coffee, tea and drinks will be served. See you on Wednesday, June 15th.

Beaver Tales

In April, the Beavers did a three meeting theme about dinosaurs – a favourite of Beavers. Our first meeting, we found out what dinosaurs are the favourite of each Beaver. We also played some dino-themed games and yes it involved some running and crawling.

And thanks to the Cub Leaders for inviting the Beavers to come race their Beaver Buggies against the Kub Kars.

The following week, we have a visit from a dinosaur and the Beavers were thrilled. Thank you Scout Andrew, even Bubbles loved the visit. The Beavers also did a fun Pterodactyl craft and yes Beavers love to do crafts.

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The last dino-themed meeting was an outdoor visit to the Museum of Nature. We walked around the museum and visited the two statues of the dinosaur and mammoth. The Beavers brought a sketch book and drew what they saw – and wanted to crawl all over them too.

The last meeting of the month was a spring hike at Pine Grove trail. We walked the forestry trail, identifying the different trees and made our way back to the start in a loop by a secret back way – but the Beavers were sworn to secrecy.

Finally, eight of our Beavers took part in the Rideau Area Spring Beaveree at the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum. This is the first Beaveree since the pandemic started so a great chance to meet other Beavers from other colonies. We were paired with the Beavers from 1st Gloucester for our tour and craft making.

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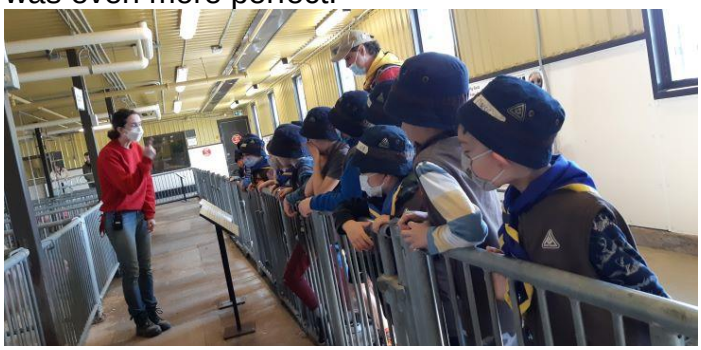
A Beaveree is a gathering of Beavers from around the area to do activities and have fun. The Farm was a perfect spot and the weather was even more perfect.



Some 80 Beavers from 9 groups attended and we got a guided tour of all of the barns and saw all the animals. And we got to pet a few as well.

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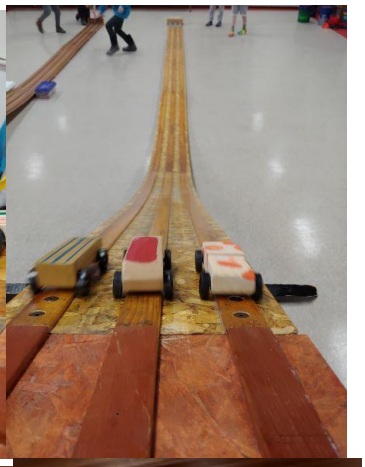
Cub Corner

We started April off with Kub Kar Races!

Nothing too official, we just wanted the Cubs to race their Kars. We even invited the Beavers to pop by after their meeting and a few did. Pretty sure this is one of the Cub's favourite activities of the year.



After all the excitement of racing, we thought we'd take it easy in the second week of April, so we went to space. Cubs learned the stories behind easy to find constellations and then made up a few of their own. The Lawnmower Constellation was particularly interesting. Certainly had a few variations on how it got up there.

The next exciting meeting was a special guest. Mr Dark (Akela's husband) came in to give an Arms and Armour presentation and a discussion on the worse jobs in medieval history. All of them gross.

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A huge congratulations to Esteban who volunteered for each and every job – with enthusiasm! Each Cub got a chance to wear armour or hold a weapon. Pictures were taken. Cubs seemed to have fun. Thank you Mr. Dark!

Finally, the last week of April found us planning our meals and activities for our Spring Cub Camp at Fitzroy Harbour Provincial Park. The Cubs will certainly be eating well! We're going to keep the menu a surprise until we can show pictures.

But some of the activities the Cubs asked for are bird watching, hiking, orienteering, and playing lawn games. Look for pictures of that camp in the next issue!

Scout Trails

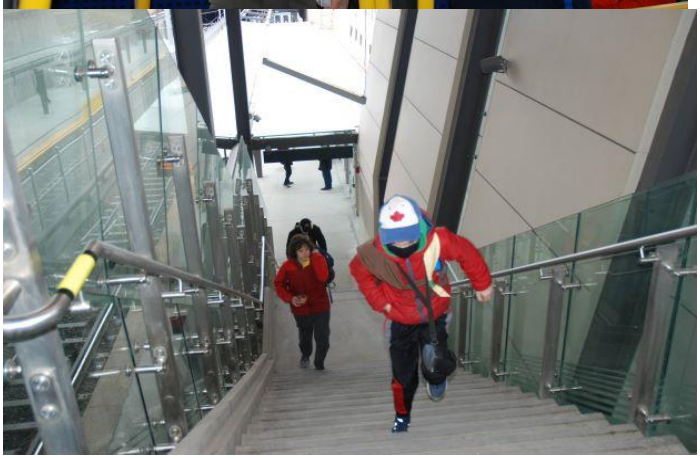
Scouts includes having the youth themselves lead our meetings and adventures. In March, we asked each of the four patrols to plan and organize a future meeting where they would be responsible for running it.

We started the month with our first such meeting with Moose Patrol being up. They had planned a series of games for the Scouts, including darts and a several very competitive rounds of musical chairs. They even had prizes for the winners of all the games. Congrats to Patrol Leader Dax and Assistant Patrol Leader Sam for organizing this.

On Sunday, April 12th, the Scouts did what we dubbed "The Great LRT Race". This is an Amazing Race style event where each patrol started at a certain time and LRT station.

They were given questions they needed to find the answers to at each station along the LRT plus some bonus questions. They were timed and got points depending on what order they finished and how many questions they were able to answer correctly.

They were on their own but not unsupervised. The Scouters rode the LRT up and down to check on them and make sure they were doing OK. The Scouters were very impressed with their ability to work together.



The winning patrol was Moose Patrol followed by Beaver, Coyote and Raccoon.

The following week was the turn of Coyote Patrol who ran a "shark tank" event where the other patrols had to bring some materials and work together to create a product and pitch it to the sharks.

They also had prizes for each of them. Great job Patrol Leader Eli and Assistant Patrol Leader Sophie for this meeting.

The next week was a mandatory practice hike for the Scouts participating in May's Rideau Challenge Journey. The Scouts needed to pack their backpacks in advance and come with it to the hike loaded with all of the gear they would carry during the much longer Rideau Challenge.

We split them into the three patrols that will be hiking, allowing our Silver Patrol hikers (3rd year Scouts) to hike on their own following a certain route. We all met at a pre-determined spot and chose the trail at P19 on Leitrim Road given it's tendency to be very wet – and it did not disappoint with huge puddles and mud to navigate.

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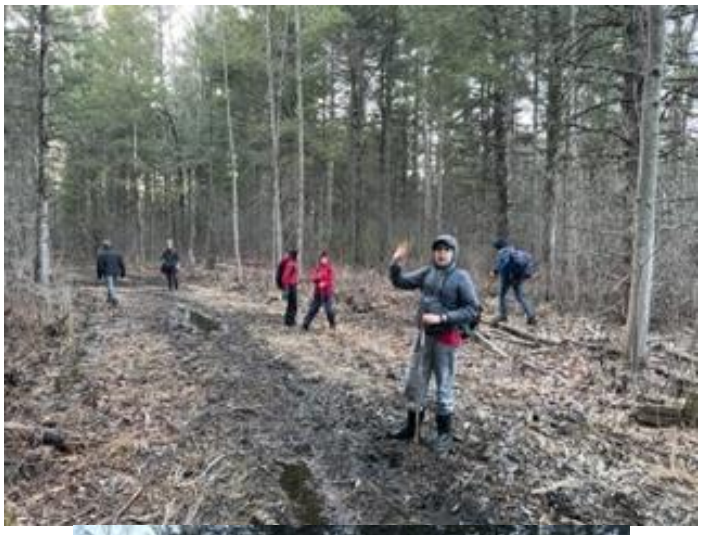

Our last meeting of the month was Beaver Patrol's turn to run the meeting. They chose to do a "siege" where each other patrol built a fort out of stacking cups and fortifications out of material like cardboard. They then built siege engines to launch corks at each other's forts in an effort to knock them down.

Thanks to Patrol Leader Chris and Assistant Patrol Leader Jacob for this – even as the rules evolved but forts got knocked down and we got two rounds or sieges.

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Venturer News

April was a month of revving-up for a more normal spring of Venturer adventures. The Vents managed 2 urban hikes. One to take the long route to get ice-cream : through the Arboretum and round Dows lake to DQ on bank street.

The second to go see the secrets of Rockliffe and the Ottawa river.

There were some firsts this month for this group of Vents. The planning meeting making friendship bracelets was very effective and there was even a demonstration of mopping the floor by Sam.

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They were the first of the group to be at Opemikon this month camping under the stars in "The Attic" campsite; and giving Barker a fresh coat of paint on the floors for the OPE work weekend. Everyone was very enthusiastic and said they found painting very satisfying!

The last first was a youth led trip to the Splash Wave pool sans Scouters. It's great to see them getting back to being confident and ready for Scouting adVENTures in the future.

Scout Coffee Year-Round Fundraiser

Scouts Canada has brought back the Scout Coffee fundraiser as a year-round one. If you really love coffee – and may consider yourself a "coffee snob", then you'll love this. We've partnered with Equator Coffee Roasters in Almonte to sell fair-trade, organic coffee.

There are various roasts, sizes and even bundles available. And shipping is available to anywhere in Canada.

Go to www.scout-coffee.ca

At checkout, click on support local scout group and type in 101st Ottawa and select the youth section you want to support. 35% of proceeds come back to the 101st.

Thank a Volunteer Today!

Did you know that the 101st has 21 dedicated Scouters and volunteers? Some of them have continued to volunteer even after their own children have left the program. Some of them have been Scouters for 35 and 45 years! And some of them volunteer behind the scenes like Sara Walker our Treasurer and Richard Lincoln our Registrar. Without them, the 101st would not exist. 2020 and 2021 have been years of a lot of ups and downs for them. If you can spare 5 minutes, click on the link below and thank a volunteer today. To help you fill out the form, the 101st is part of Voyageur Council. Thank you!

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

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Upcoming Events:

May 6-8: Scouts RSVP Camp
May 14-15: Scouts Rideau Challenge Journey
May 13-15: Cubs Spring Camp
May 27-29: Beavers Spring Camp
June 3-5: Scouts Spring Camp #1
June 15: 101st Awards Night
June 17-19: Scouts Spring Camp #2
June 17-20: Venturers Canoe Camp

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