JANUARY 2019

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

Newsletter

Beaver Tales

What a way to start out the new year. The Beavers held their first meeting preparing for their second camp of the year – the famous All Sections Winter Camp we hold each year. Friday night started out with a Mug-Up and welcome to camp and a bedtime story – although the Beavers hardly went to bed!

The next day, we went snowshoeing and saw lots of cool animal tracks (mouse, squirrel, deer and fox).

Of course, there was plenty of tobogganing – twice during the weekend. Despite the frigid temperatures we had a beautiful sunshine and barely any wind.

The Beavers played a great game with the Cubs and the Venturers even took them on the frozen lake – a first for most.

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The Beavers made a sit upon craft for the big campfire on Saturday night and did great with their skits, song and cheers.

Time spent in the cabins were mostly goofing around.

The meeting after camp, we were all tired so played board games. Some Beavers brought a friend to the meeting too.

On January 19th, four Beavers and three Scouters attended the Rideau Area Winter Beaveree at the Greely Legion. A Beaveree is an afternoon of games with other Beavers from around the region.

The theme was "Beavers on an Iceberg" and yes, it was cold but they spent most of the time indoors. They played cool games, including an Inuit game, made crafts, and traded badges. It ended with an indoor "campfire".

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Then we traditionally do Beaver Buggies in the second half of January, so with the help of parents, the Beavers built and decorated their Beaver Buggy.

The last meeting of the month was reserved for the big Beaver Buggy race on our race tracks. A highlight of the year for many Beavers.

Cub Corner

January has come and gone with a crazy amount of activity for the Cub Scouts. We started the month off with preparing the Cubs for winter camping, tested their abilities to think on the fly with a competitive game of Scattagories.

The Cubs had a great turnout for winter camp, and enjoyed putting on sled racing for the Beavers.

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And learning about fire-making from some excellent Scouts.

They did great campfire skits and storytelling with each other, making deeper bonds of friendship along the way. They sewed their own neck warmers to defend against the cold, and earned their OAS Winter Skills 2 badge in the process.

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But it was an adventure for those who never been to Ope.

Cub Scouts also worked on preparing the Kub Kars, painting and decorating them to get ready for the rally that will happen in February.

The youth used their teamwork skills to see who could build the tallest tower of cups, and managed to get one tower 15 cups high!

As a Pack we worked on the personal achievement badge in art as the Cubs did some still life sketches of animals. They were incredibly creative and some quite interpretive.

We finished the month by taking advantage of a break in the weather to go tobogganing at Dempsey. February is set to be a busy month with skating, a Kub Kar rally and our in-house Flex leadership training.

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Scout Trails

The Scouts are a very active bunch and started 2019 off the right way – with a winter camp. The "best camp ever" say some Scouts. In their cabin at the top of hill at Ope, the Scouts were in their element despite the very cold temperatures. On Saturday, there was of course the mandatory tobogganing time.

Of course, food is no issue at Ope and being teenagers, the Scouts got their fill – well almost! They were very helpful in setting up the dining hall for meals but needed a few reminders to clean-up.

On Saturday afternoon, they took part in a scavenger hunt organized by the Venturers and got the traditional prank of having their cabin filled with string and yarn. But, they recovered quickly and organized a capture the flag and fire-building activity for the Cubs, which got rave reviews from the Cubs.

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On Sunday, the Scouts took a walk on frozen Lake Christie. The sounds the lake makes as the ice shifts and forms was a unique experience for many Scouts who never experienced such a thing before.

Some Scouts are also very cool at all times, even on a frozen lake.

What do you do after a winter camp? More tobogganing of course. Even on a cold winter night, a dozen Scouts braved the cold to go tobogganing and had grand time with hot chocolate to warm up. Unfortunately, the snow storm the following week forced us to cancel our meeting. But the last meeting of the month, the Scouts met to plan their Chinese New Year feast they will cook the following week and took a field trip to T&T Supermarket.

The Scouts worked in patrols after picking a recipe and had a budget to work with. For some, it was quite an experience going to this Asian grocery store. Looking forward to the feast the following week.

Venturer News

Back in December, the Venturers contributed with their own money and went shopping for some donations for a local charity, Christie Lake kids. The Venturers first visted the new Dollarama at Elmvale Acres and spent a lot of time carefully planning what art supplies to buy for the after school program. They then took a trip to the Metro and managed to buy $75 dollars of grocery cards for the snack program. Every dollar spent will be matched by Metro, so that is $150 dollars of snacks! In the New Year the youth will drop the supplies off to the Christie Lake office.

Christie Lake Kids serves economically disadvantaged children and youth by providing

recreation and skill-building programs at no cost and with all barriers to participation removed. They are a charity that the 101st has supported over many years with the Mitten Tree donations. Some of their programs include summer camps at Christie Lake (near Opemikon) so the youth can really relate to the program they are supporting. https://www.christielakekids.com/.

2019 - will be known as the Vents 'Year of the Hikes'

The Venturers started the year with their usual enthusiasm for the outdoors by planning a winter hike in the Gatineau Park the first weekend of January.

It was great practise for the Adirondacks with snowy trails, steep inclines and icy waterfalls to cross. It was a good workout getting to the top, but worth it for the views and for the fun of sliding our way back down.

The outdoor fun continued at Ope... with preparations for a climb in the Adirondacks still on their minds, the Vents set out on numerous hikes around the beautiful Christie Lake. They took full advantage of the rarity of being allowed on the ice, going out on it two nights in a row, and also leading the Beavers in a stroll on Saturday. However the sounds of the expanding ice spooked many and all ages!

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They also led the Scouts in a scavenger hunt hike around Ope, culminating in arrival at the Scouts cabin, which the Vents had pranked!

A hike to the Vent cabin, one to McMannus Rock and then onto Eagles Cliff rounded out their weekend.

At least the boisterous games of Risk at the cabin allowed some rest for their weary leader!

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The Vents don't sit around for long, so the following Wednesday they decided to work those leg muscles on a cold brisk urban hike downtown, visiting Parliament Hill and the eternal flame for some warmth. Their motivation of course had nothing to do with the hot chocolate and beavertails enjoyed down by the Rink of Dreams.

In the midst of exams they decided to end the month chilling and watching a movie at the Church Hall. A well earned rest. For sure, 2019 will be full of Outdoor Adventures for this band of Merry Venturers.

March Break Camp at Opemikon

Camp Opemikon is again offering a fully animated program for all youth to enjoy. Crafts, games, survival, winter sports and FUN!! Fully heated facilities, catered meals and amazing animators make this an experience of a lifetime! Activity options may include:

- Quinzee Building
- Tobogganing
- Broomball
- Snowshoeing
- Geocaching
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Outdoor Cooking
- Camp Wide Games
- Maple Tree Tapping

Outdoor Activities are based on ages, weather conditions and temperatures. Programming offered will be adapted to suit environmental conditions and age of youth. Programming will include Winter Outdoor Adventure Skills for the Canadian Path. Boys and girls, ages 8 - 14 EVERYONE is welcomed at OPE, both registered Scouting Members and Non-Members looking for a great March Break adventure! This is an overnight camp (Monday – Friday).

Space is limited. More information and registration is available at this link: http://voy.scouts.ca/ca/march-break-camp

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March Break Badge Trade-O-Ree

Local Scouters are holding a free event for scouting families with Scouting youth that love to trade badges and memorabilia. There will be displays, lots of traders, a chance to visit the National Scouting Museum and an auction to support the museum and the No One Left Behind Fund. Admission is free and refreshments will be available for purchase.

The Badge Trade-O-Ree is on Friday, March 8th from 6:00-9:00pm and Saturday, March 9th from 9:00am-2:00pm at Scouts Canada Headquarters (1345 Baseline Rd.)

Dates for your Calendar

- **February 2:** Scouts Day at the Ottawa 67's
- **February 10:** Campfire at Balena Park Winter Carnival – come see us on Sunday afternoon
- **February 23:** Rideau Area Kub Kar & Scout Truck Rally
- **March 1-3:** Venturers Adirondack Adventure
- **March 2-3:** Beavers White Tail Sleepover at Aviation Museum

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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