SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

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

Apple Day Results

Our annual Apple Day fundraiser took place on October 2nd and it was another resounding success. We collected a total of just under $3300 in donations and we keep about 60% of that after expenses. Thank you to all of the youth and parents for helping making this a success. A thank you as well to the Venturers who helped manage the day and count the donations are they came in.

Beaver Tales

Welcome back to returning and welcome to all the new Beavers – and we have lots of them this year. Our colony grew from last year and the Leaders have been busy getting to know everyone and planning a fun program of meetings and activities. In September, we had our first introductory meeting, we did a neighbourhood walk to Weston Park, and we prepared for our first camp of the year.

We did something a little different this year and went to Lac Philippe in Gatineau Park. We had a good turnout of some 14 Beavers. After arrivals and setting up our tents, we went on a hike – we saw bear scat and a beaver lodge.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

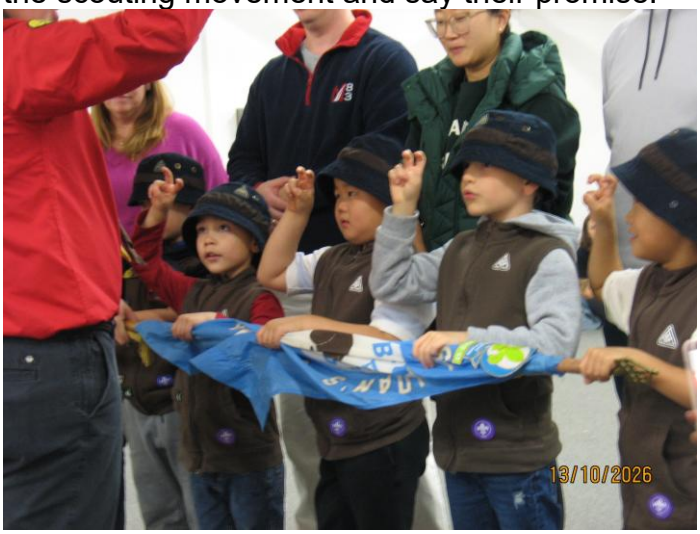
101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

After dinner, thanks to Bubbles, our camp master chef, we had a nice campfire where we sang some songs, learned some cheers and the Beavers entertained us with some skits that they had practiced. For many, this was new how we do campfires in scouts and different from what they have done with their parents when camping. After that, the s'mores came out.

On Sunday morning, we had breakfast, packed up and had a short Scout's Own quite moment of reflection that we do at the end of every camp.

We ended September with a nice hike – and saw a couple of beavers swimming in the pond next to the trail. We started October with our Fall cleanup of Canterbury Park with the Cubs. The Beavers worked hard and the park was spic and span after they picked up every inch of trash that they could find. Great job Beavers keeping our adopted park clean for all to enjoy.

After that, we held our investiture ceremony when the Beavers officially become members of the scouting movement and say their promise.



Thanks to the parents who came to watch, participate, make this moment special for the Beavers and welcome to our scouting family.

SCOUTS CANADA
It starts with Scouts.

101ST OTTAWA ST. AIDANS

101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

After that meeting, we did a cool tie die craft thanks to Ringtail and then it was Halloween party time. We had some spooky costumes.

Looking forward, we have lots more fun activities for the Beavers planned as well as more important community service.

Cub Corner

A Giant welcome to our pack! We have 7 returning cubs, ready to step up and help our 18 new cubs! We have an energetic pack, ready to learn and have fun! We started our year with our Code of Conduct meeting, so we all are on the same page on the safest ways to have fun, while respecting everyone, and the meeting locations.

Next we jumped right in to our First Aid training, where we practiced useful skills like how to use an epi pen (and how not to be shocked by

seeing an epi pen), and how to call 911, and when 911 should be called. Very important, especially given our next meeting.

After starting our next meeting going over some fire safety rules, we all got to practice lighting a fire using matches, and some of the Howlers (our third year cubs) even got to try to make some sparks with a flint and steel. There was, of course, a tasty reward once the fires were all set up.

Our next few meetings took us away from our home base, and we branched out to take a hike at a brand new to Akela location, which is always fun! We love exploring! We also linked up with the Beavers to do our annual Fall Park Cleanup (and playground inspection). A giant thank you to all that could make it to help keep the park beautiful!

We also had our first weekend overnight camp, where we went to Camp Sheldrick, and got to explore the grounds, and learn some archery skills! Every cub who could make it was able to hit the target at least once! Way to go! I have it on good authority (my stuffy) that while we were out playing and having our campfire, the stuffies also got up to their own fun, but she's being very tight lipped on exactly what they got up to while we weren't in the cabin.

We ended October with our Investiture and our costume party. During Investiture, we announced our Lairs (we have 5 this year), and welcomed our newer pack members. We also welcomed Ikki, and welcomed back Baloo. Always a pleasure to have them helping us guide the pack.

Everyone came dressed to scare or impress for the Hallowe'en party, including one very spiffy cub coming as the best thing ever, a 101st

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

cub! Always a pleasure to see someone so excited about their scouting journey :)

Scout Trails

The Scouts are a very busy and active troop, so this year along with many returning scouts, we welcomed several who came up from Cubs and some news ones who also joined us brand new.

September started with a bang – first meeting of getting to know each other and code of conduct, followed by community service of shucking corn and helping at the Alta Vista Corn Roast at Balena Park.

Then we had a camp, participating a large camp of several troops from around Ottawa and surrounding communities at Camp Sheldrick. The theme was "Alien Survival Camp" where the focus was on working on outdoor skills that can then be used at future camps.

101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

It was a good camp with badge trading, a campfire and more.

Even if we were still in September, the weather was a tad cold dipping to minus digits overnight. Nonetheless, our Scouts are campoholics so they are happy to be there together in no matter what weather.

We ended September with a hike around the network of trails off P20 and started October with our investiture ceremony in the Dominion Arboretum on the shore of Dow's Lake. All of the Scouts, including Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders said their promise and we welcomed Scouter Tom as the newest member of the Troop leadership team.

After that we worked on our knife permits where new Scouts got the chance to earn their permit to use a pocketknife. We went through how to safely handle, pass and use a knife to cut rope and whittle a piece of wood – a favourite pastime at scout camps.

The week after we went to Weston Park to play

capture the flag and after a few games, they ended up just goofing around on the play structures. Then we had a day hike at Morris Island Conservation Area on the Ottawa River. About a dozen Scouts came for a beautiful hike, doing some orienteering and ending with cooking a lunch before being picked up. What a great way to spend a Sunday.

SCOUTS CANADA
It starts with Scouts.

101ST OTTAWA ST. AIDANS

101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

Then we ended the month with a Halloween night with great costumes, snacks and a movie (The Goonies).

The last two meetings of October were spent first working in patrols to build the most innovative house using only cardboard – to be judged by the Scouters and Venturers.

Venturer News

The Venturers started the year jumping right into revamping the shields for Rovent, after a prep meeting to set their duties for the year. A lot was learned about how much paint is actually needed from a spray can to cover the shields properly.

We ventured out after Rovent to Apple day, Investiture and Geocaching, before heading back to home base for a boardgame night before catching a scout themed movie for Hallowe'en.

SCOUTS CANADA
It starts with Scouts.

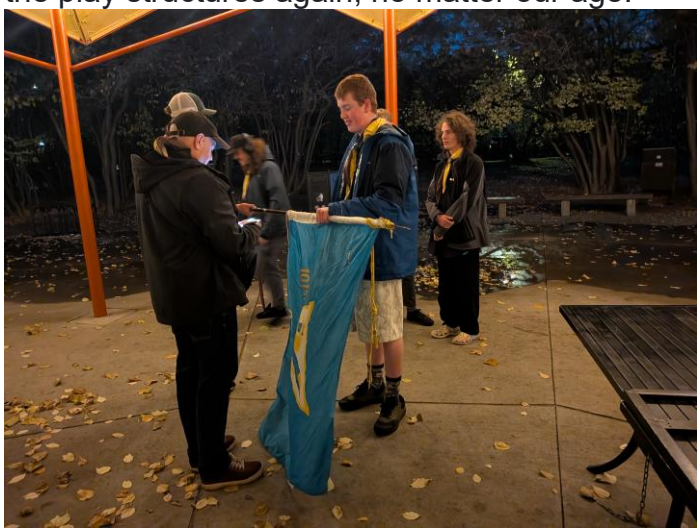
101ST OTTAWA ST. AIDANS

101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

101st OTTAWA (ST. AIDAN'S) SCOUTING GROUP NEWSLETTER

During Investiture we welcomed our new Venturer, Harrison, and our new Advisor, Scouter Melissa, and then took a fun hike to Hog's Back Park. Sometimes it's fun to hop on the play structures again, no matter our age!



Geocaching downtown was a mixed emotion day, where we found 2 of the 3 geocaches we were looking for, but we also said goodbye to Chace. We wish him all the best on his future adventures. Even if we aren't with him on the adventures anymore in person, we are with him in spirit.

We are looking forward to what November holds, see you next newsletter!

Thank a Volunteer

Anyone can thank one of our hard working, dedicated and passionate volunteers. Click on the link below and fill out the online form.

They ask you for some basic information:
Volunteer's Name: If you don't know it, just ask
Council Name: Voyageur Council
Group Name: 101st Ottawa
Link to the page: Thanks

Volunteers Needed

We are searching for volunteers for a Web Designer: our website needs a reboot and we are looking for someone with web design and maintenance experience to migrate our site to a new platform and redesign it. If this role is of interest, please email Scouter Francois at frmarier@rogers.com

SCOUTS CANADA
It starts with Scouts.

101ST OTTAWA ST. AIDANS

101st Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group
Scouting since 1961