

May 2023

Blue-Print



For Guiding in Alberta, Northwest Territories and Yukon

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada | Alberta Council | girlguides.ca/ab

A message from the Provincial Commissioner

Tracy Burton, Provincial Commissioner

**"Come with me with the fire burns bright,
you can even see better by its own light.
You will find more meaning in a campfire's
glow, than you'll ever find in a year or so."**

These words from On My Honour always resonate with me. Every spring one of the things I look forward to most is going to camp with my Sparks and Embers. There is something magical about camp with your unit. I am always amazed by how much the girls grow and change from this experience. The friendships that develop at camp are friendships that last a lifetime. I especially love sitting around the campfire singing our Guiding songs and remembering the campfires I have enjoyed through the years. No matter how large or small the camp, I always remember the campfire. I remember being a girl at Guelph '93 and having a large group campfire where we all had tissue paper on our flashlights in the colours of our site. We looked like an amazing rainbow all together. I hope that all of you get the chance to enjoy this experience with your unit.

As we start gearing down this Guiding year, we are winding up our spring registration. I love seeing the excitement of the girls as they get to register for next year, and also see who our new faces will be. Please encourage all of your members to register early to guarantee a spot. I want to thank you for all of the work that you have done this year. I know that every year brings

unique challenges, and this year was no different. I want to thank you for sharing your time, your talents and your energy with us. I hope that you will continue with us in the fall – perhaps in the same role or consider a different role to fit where you are in the fall. There is a form coming from the National membership team to help determine what your plans will be in the fall to help with planning. Please fill this out to help with planning or speak with your District Commissioner about your plans.

I hope that the spring and summer will bring you the chance to finish your unit with fun and friendship, and the chance to get a break to rest and rejuvenate. I look forward to seeing you all in the fall!

Tracy Burton Provincial Commissioner

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12th Calgary Guides Celebrating 100 Years

Submitted by Barbara Morris

The 12th Calgary Guide Unit has met at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Calgary since the fall of 1923. The current Guides are busy designing a special crest and looking back through the Unit archives to learn more about the girls and women who have attended this unit.

Long years of service to Guiding are a common thread with many of the Guiders:

Janis Fenwick led the unit for 52 years.

Phyllis Davis for 27 years plus her years as a Guide in the Unit.

Helen Earnshaw for 26 years.

Margaret Lamont for 18 years.

Our current leadership group involves three Mother/Daughter pairs, four of the six having been Guides in the unit!

If you, or someone you know, was a member of the 12th please contact us at 12thCalgaryGuidesturn100@gmail.com so that we can keep you updated as our celebration plans evolve.



Guides Friendship Camp

Submitted by Hannah Li, Alberta Council Youth Forum Member

I recently had the opportunity to help out at a Guide camp, and it was honestly one of the most enjoyable camps I ever experienced. My unit leader initially reached out to me a few months ago, asking if I wanted to junior lead the 2023 Guides Friendship Camp. I was apprehensive at first, because I had no experience working with younger Girl Guides, or younger children in general. I would come to realize I had been wonderfully wrong in my worrying.

It was a two-and-a-half-hour drive to Tangletrees, our camp site, and trying not to fall asleep on the bumpy bus only heightened my worry. Upon our arrival, we unloaded the bus during the freezing February night. This brought us (myself and the three other junior leaders) to our first problem; we had our own cabin... but no bathroom in the cabin. This meant that anytime we needed to wash up or

anything else, we trudged through the cold all the way to the main lodge. Unfortunately, we needed to make some sacrifices to have our own private sleeping quarters.

My first task of the weekend was leading the girls through an origami session I planned beforehand. Immediately, I found it hard to get the attention of all the girls in my group, which was understandable since all of them were probably super excited to be at camp. The room was in chaos, but another junior leader and I managed to pass out origami paper and start instructions. At first, it was a bit frustrating because some girls seemed otherwise occupied, but I quickly realized that all of them were trying their best. They all ended up making beautiful origami figurines, and I was proud of both myself and the girls.

The second day of camp, a girl walked up to me and gifted me a handmade card; this melted my heart. I did not know it was possible to form a connection with someone in such a short period of time. Later that day, another girl paused in the middle of me helping her and told me that she thought I was “cool”. Strangely, I felt touched by that compliment, and I could not help but be proud that a 10-year-old, probably one of the most judgmental types of people to exist, thought that I was “cool”. I also ended up bonding a lot with my fellow junior leaders. We stole leftover snacks from the kitchen and took them back to our own cabin to eat. One girl even brought teabags and sugar from home so we could have our own little midnight tea party. We talked and laughed into the wee hours of the night, even though we had to wake up at 8 a.m. the next morning.

I also had a lot more free time than I expected; it turns out, when you become a junior leader and, you can opt out of some activities, like going outdoors in the cold snow. I used that time to catch up on math homework that was due the following Monday. I also used my free time to make some crafts for myself; I ended up with a button picture frame, a cross-stitched trefoil, a dozen origami crafts, and a handful of Kool-Aid lip balms.

Overall, I had a blast making crafts, playing with the Guides, and hanging out with the other Rangers. This experience really opened my eyes, and I am considering signing up to junior lead a unit in my own city.



Introducing the Area Training Advisers

Submitted by Rose Ward, Alberta Council Training Adviser

Each area has a training adviser or acting adviser that would be happy to hear from you if you have any Training requests. Many of you may know your local Training Adviser as a Spark, Ember, Guide, Pathfinder, TREX or Ranger Guider. Trainers have a wealth of knowledge they love to share and can find information to share for trickier questions that may take longer to answer.

The names and email addresses can be found on the ANY Council website; when you access the website, click the training button, on the next screen scroll down to see the list. Along with having names listed, the email addresses stay with the position not the person, so if an Adviser has changed the new person will get your request.

QUICK TIPS

How To:

1. Update your code of conduct.

When you log into MemberZone above the main menu bar you see three options, click on **My Profile**.

On the left side of the page you will see your last revision date for the code of Conduct, if it is almost or more than three years since you have updated this, click on the Code of Conduct tab, read the code of conduct and at the bottom is the check box “ I accept the code of conduct” then click save, this displays a new date on your profile the next time you look at it. Also, in your profile you can see all your activities – training, position, awards and so much more.

2. Check your expiry date for PRC (Police Record Check)

When you log into MemberZone above the main menu bar you see three options, click on **My Profile**.

a. On the left side of the page you will see your last update for your PRC – if it is less than a month away reach out to screening@girlguides.ca letting them know you have not received notification to renew your PRC. They will contact you with the information to do the update.

b. Your PRC needs to be up to date! To avoid removal from Guiding activities, make sure you update your PRC before it expires. **The good news:** You regain access to the activities once the Code of Conduct and PRC are up to date again.

3. Access and find information on the Program Platform for the girls.

From any page on the National web site – scroll to the bottom of the page and under LINKS click on Program Platform. The next page asks for your log in screen for the Girls First platform (note that this is a different log in than your MemberZone information).

Once you have entered your information and can see welcome the page

From this point to search you have several options.

a. scroll down to select what type of search you would like to do

By Branch, By program type, By program area.

Or Click on Explore – again you will see that you can select by the same as above.

b. Not sure what to select – there are documents to assist you with your searches. Along the top on the menu bar to the left you will see **Explore/For Guiders/For Girls/Families** – click For Guiders.

The next screen has many documents and videos to assist you in your search.

4. Find Training Opportunities.

To find provincial trainings – face-to-face or virtual check the ANY Council training calendar or look for updates when the GuidePost or Blue-Print arrive in your inbox. If you are not sure, reach out to your Area Training adviser or the Provincial Training Adviser.

Many Area and District meetings advertise local training opportunities when they come up; these trainings are also shared on Facebook and the local Area websites. Are you looking for a specific topic? Reach out to your Training Adviser or the Provincial Training Adviser to let them know. They may even direct you to opportunities for training that await.

Some Provincial Training sessions are also advertised on the National Web Training calendar – these are usually virtual sessions, and you will also find sessions from other provinces and from National here.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

INTRO TO TANDEM LAKE CANOEING on July 8 with a rainout date of July 9 (listed on the Alberta Council Training Calendar)

The canoe is an iconic Canadian symbol. By learning how to paddle a canoe safely, girls and Guiders gain confidence, communication skills, an appreciation for Canadian heritage, and the ability to rent or own their own canoe in future. They will earn the minimum certification to participate in most GGC canoe out-trips, and the basic skills necessary before they take the Intermediate Tandem Lake Canoe course which will enable Guiders to take girls canoeing on sheltered, near-shore lakes.

Date: July 8 (July 9 if it rains)

Location: Camp Westover Lake Calgary Area

Cost: \$65

Kit list: will be sent once registration has been confirmed.

Session Lead: Susan Ryan susan.ryan@shaw.ca

Commissioner Workshop dates coming to you in future publications.

Girl Guides

1953 – A Coronation Year

Submitted by Janet Alcock, Alberta Council Archives Lead

In the most recent issue of Blue-Print, I based my article on one found in the November 1952 Woodsmoke. What a coincidence, in the current coronation year, to find an article in the January 1953 issue by the Chief Commissioner, Imperial Headquarters, London, about the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The late Queen was a member of the sisterhood of Guiding as a Guide, a Ranger, a Sea Ranger Commodore and the Chief Ranger and the coronation was eagerly anticipated by Guides in the Commonwealth countries.

The Chief Commissioner called on all Guide members in the British Commonwealth to show their loyalty and devotion by participating in a Tribute to the Queen. It would take the form of local service projects performed over a three-month period – from Thinking Day to June 2 (the date of the coronation). This plan had been presented to the Queen and given her approval. Members adorned a badge once she started on her project, and she would keep a record card of services performed to be handed in at the end of the project. Some of these cards would then be selected and sent to the Queen.

This issue also contained a quiz on the Royal family in the form of a Patrol relay team game.

Two issues later (March) there is more information about the Tribute and some suggestions for service projects. There is also an article giving in detail the expected ceremonial protocols of the coronation, part of which follows...

In the Coronation Chair the monarch is anointed, vested with the symbols of her sovereignty, and crowned. The symbols are many – the Lord Great Chamberlain touches the heels of the sovereign with the Spurs of St. George, made of solid gold strapped in scarlet velvet, the symbol of chivalry. King Edward's

ring is placed on the third finger of her right hand, pledging her marriage to the people. She is girded with the jewelled sword of state, and presented with the Orb and the cross, the Sceptre with cross and the Sceptre with dove. The Orb is a golden ball six inches in diameter, circled with pearls and set with clusters of gems, the sceptre with cross is set with the Star of Africa and placed in the right hand, and the sceptre with dove is placed in the left hand.

The climax of the ceremony comes, of course, when the crown of St. Edward is placed on the Queen's head. The crown was made for King Charles II following the Restoration, as the ancient crown of Edward was destroyed by Cromwell.

The theme for the June issue of Woodsmoke: Coronation. There is a special ceremony which could be used when the Tribute cards are handed in, a list of some of the actual services performed, an article on some previous queens i.e. Elizabeth I, Anne and Victoria, a special coronation story for Brownies (now Embers), a Coronation Pageant written by Barbara Cormack (who wrote the Alberta history Landmarks), and a reminder to order Coronation books, pencils, and note books.

Guide members from across Canada were selected to tour the United Kingdom and to be present in London on Coronation Day. Karen, a Guide from the 2nd Lloyminster Guide Company, represented Alberta and Lena, from Whitehorse, represented Yukon. I assume that there was also a representative from Northwest Territories, but we have no record of this. It was a very extensive trip and looking at all the places in Scotland and England that they visited may well have lasted two months.

The October issue of Woodsmoke includes Karen's article outlining this trip. Here is her description of Coronation Day.

"We were up at 3 a.m., to be in our places at 6 a.m. Our seats were on the Mall, a wide avenue leading up to the palace. The procession to the Abbey passed us at 9 a.m. We heard the service in the Abbey over loudspeakers and followed it in our programs. The pouring rain did not discourage us at all. At 4 p.m. the procession returned. It was much more complete with troops from all over the world. The R.C.M.P. were wonderful and we cheered loudly for them.



The specially made beaded purse worn by Lena, who represented Yukon at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

The Queen and the Duke in the golden coach were beautiful. I have never seen such a sight. The Guards in their red jackets and black bearskins lined the route in front of us and added the finishing touch to the procession..."

The following day the Guides were invited into the forecourt of the palace to see the Queen and Duke off on one of their state drives. We had a lovely view of her which was a great thrill for us all.

As an afternote it is interesting to know that in 1998 Lena donated the uniform and the specially made beaded purse that she wore on Coronation Day to the Yukon Girl Guides. In 2007 it was recognized that the purse needed professional care and conservation and it was accepted into the Yukon Government Permanent Art Collection. It is now part of the MacBride Museum, Whitehorse, collection.

Joining the Youth Forum

Submitted by Eva Pigeon, Alberta Council Youth Forum Member

Joining the Alberta Council Youth Forum in Fall 2021 was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I felt so accomplished getting that post-interview email: I had done it; gone against my nerves and applied, finished the interview, and soon would attend my first virtual meeting. What I could not predict were the friends I would make, the projects I would work on, the passions to discover, and the difference I could really make.

Signing up for the projects which I wanted to work on was the first step after being admitted to the Youth Forum. I wanted to jump straight into it: the Youth Forum challenge, You in the World; learning social media skills and making posts; signing up for the year in review video, though that project would not start until later; and joining the Youth Forum Newsletter team. This year, I am working on the year in review video again, recording a Youth Forum podcast, advising on a songbook which

the Youth Forum is making, and as always, I am helping with our social media.

One of the most valuable things I learned in the Youth Forum is social media skills, including: how to make posts and graphics, learning Girl Guides' brand standards, and finding things to post even when the Youth Forum was not super active.

I have also taken training on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), which has helped me make sure anything I post aligns with GGC's principle of secularism and includes everyone who could potentially see that post. Many of these skills are easily translated into other PR situations, and I can even put them on my resume!

After situating with our Youth Forum crew, it was time for our first ANY Council committee meetings. For my first year, I was on international committee. I got to sit in on meetings, offer input as a youth member, and work together to make a slide for the committee's WAGGGS' Country of the Month project. It was a fun experience and a manageable commitment while I was still finding my place within ANY Council. This year, I decided to do something different, and chose the membership committee. After just one meeting, I brought a project to the Youth Forum to design a crest for their "I Saw it in GuidePost" challenge. Bouncing ideas off each other and designing crest mock ups was so much fun! By being on Provincial Council committees, I have been able to network with even more Guiders and ANY Council Advisers than I would have by just being on the Youth Forum. I find it to be a valuable experience, not just by being a go-between for the Youth Forum and your committee, but by increasing the connections you have.

Some of my favourite Youth Forum projects have been ones that allow me to be creative with what I do and work closely with other Youth Forum members. The year in review video allowed me to work with a friend one-on-one and input all my thoughts as to how we could construct it. Our new

Youth Forum podcast has allowed me to do the same. It is fun to build something from the ground up and see what you have created after all the hard work is done. In our working groups, we can get to know each other better; how each person works, what their passions are, even what they enjoy outside of the youth forum. Working closely with other forum members allowed me to build lifelong friendships that I can joke with and depend upon, even if we do not live close to each other.

The majority of the Youth Forum work happens online because everyone lives in different parts of ANY Council. However, this can lead to a feeling of disconnect for some individuals. I know I prefer seeing everyone in person – and that happened for the first time last October. Our Welcome Weekend was a huge success and insanely fun in the process; it allowed us to plan our projects for the year, complete some training modules, and get to know one another. We did some fun team-building activities, like pitching a tent while everyone had different restrictions on their movement, as well as working together to build a mattress fort (and later cleaning all the mattresses we used). We also attended an Arkells concert at Rogers place for the low price of a case of girl guide cookies!

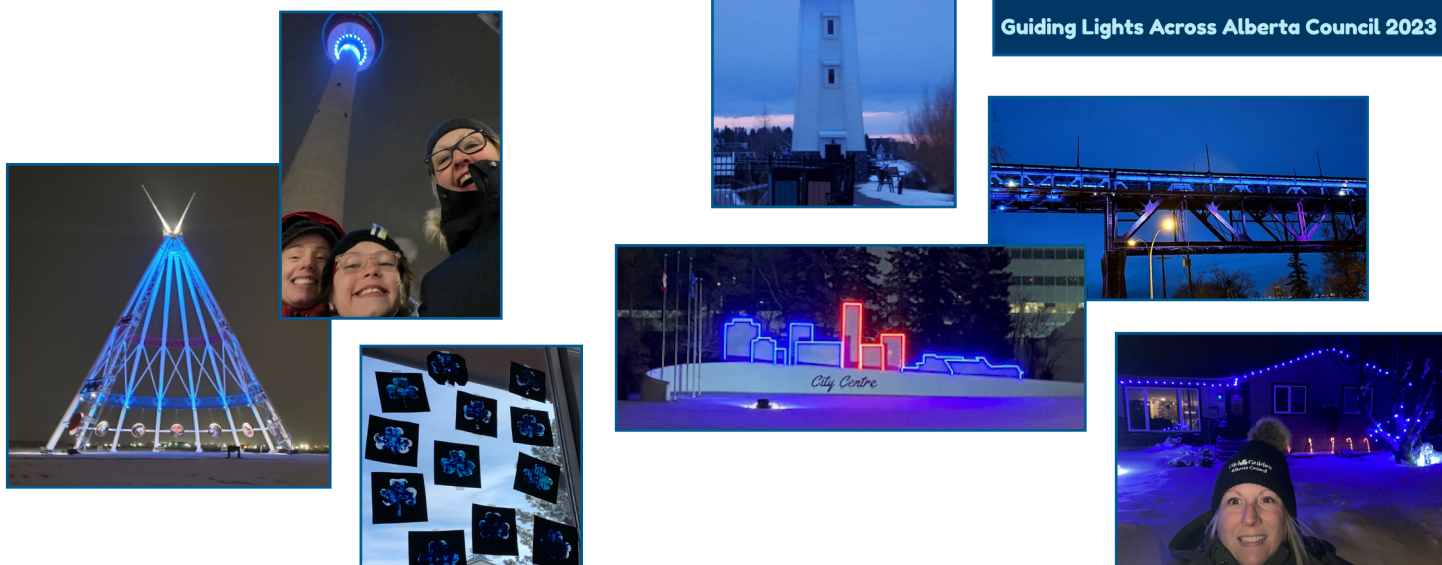
Overall, my time on the Youth Forum has been fun, productive, and educational. If anyone is on the fence about it, I assure you it is one of the best things I have done within Girl Guides. It is a nice way to give back to an organization that has been part of my life since I was in kindergarten. The only thing I wish I had done differently is join in my first year of Rangers rather than my second.

Guiding Lights Across Alberta Council for World Thinking Day 2023

Submitted by Veronica Hoffman, Alberta Council Public Relations and Communications Adviser

This year for World Thinking Day, buildings and structures across Alberta Council turned their lights Guiding blue for our annual "Guiding Lights Across Alberta Council" celebration! As part of the celebration, Alberta Council held a photo contest for the best Guiding spirit displays across Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Yukon! Here are the photos submitted from our photo contest winners!

Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's "Guiding Lights Across Alberta Council" World Thinking Day event!



Locations and members across Alberta Council that took part in our celebration:

- Calgary Tower
- Calgary Area Guide Centre
- Reconciliation Bridge in Calgary
- Badlands Training and Fitness Centre
- Ross Glen District Guiding Hall
- Medicine Hat Public Library
- Steward Optical in Medicine Hat
- Saamis Teepee in Medicine Hat
- Rocky Mountain House Town Hall
 - Sylvan Lake Lighthouse
 - Red Deer City Hall
 - Airdrie City Hall
- High Level Bridge in Edmonton
- Grande Prairie Downtown Sign
- Grande Prairie Sundial
- 215 Deerfoot Embers in Calgary Area
 - Jenn M.
 - Tanya W.
 - Kimberley C.
 - Betty G.
 - Emmy A.
 - Tammy M.
 - Pat D.
 - Linda G.
 - Cindy O.
- Members from East Bow District in Calgary Area

Creative Arts and Crafts Competition

Submitted by Sandra Bazian

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

See the attached poster for the rules and regulations for Calgary Stampede's **CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION**. Submit your entry electronically or by mail by **June 19, 2023**. The theme for 2023 is **"All Things Calgary"** and the competition is open to all artists over the age of 12.



2023 CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION


CHECK OUT SOME OF OUR NEW CLASSES FOR 2023:

- WOODWORKING
- LEATHERCRAFT
- INTERLOCKING BRICKS
- 3D PRINTING
- METALWORK
- DIGITAL ART
- JEWELLRY
- UPCYCLING

WITH MORE CLASSES ADDED TO OUR NEW FIBRE ARTS SECTION;
INCLUDING SEWING, SPINNING, DYEING, FELTING AND MORE

REGISTER BY MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023

CALGARYSTAMPEDE.COM/CAC-SIGNUP
ARTSNCRFTSCALGARY@GMAIL.COM



INFORMATION/RULES BOOK

CS
Calgary Stampede



**The next article submission
deadline for Blue-Print is
September 15, 2023
Send your submissions to
any-blue-print@girlguides.ca**

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