

Hello British Columbia Trefoil Guild Members!!

Welcome to the Winter Edition of our Bulletin.



Hoping to see the world of Trefoil Guilds continuing to grow and be a valuable part of this organization. Keep the adventures going. Let's get out and assist with Girls on their adventures!! Wishing everyone a fabulous 2023!! Best wishes for the New Year.

Treoil Guild News from our BC Guilds.... Cheers to you all as we welcome 2023!!

As we conclude 2022, I personally am looking forward to what our BC Trefoil Guilds will do in 2023. I'm hearing plans of attending GGC properties for Adult Retreats; more meetings and lots of new challenges.

We continue to welcome new Adult Members to Guild Rosters; as well as lots of interest from Link Members now aging out of the Link Activity and wanting to continue with their involvement in the organization. I would ask all TG Members to talk up what Guilds are all about and welcome these Link Members to our Adult Member Activity.

We have had a bit of interest from Adult Members to join a Guild so appropriate introductions have been made. Process to join a Guild ~ please advise the BC iMIS Liaison to add the new Guider to your Guild roster. Have had a request to open a new Guild in the Nanaimo area. Stay tuned.

I have heard that a few Guilds have ordered Spring Cookies to support Girl Programming and GGC properties. Again, thank you for supporting GGC Members and activities.

Our BC Girl Guides Trefoil Guilds FaceBook page is still going strong. **207 Members to date.** For those not on FB, we will continue to use email and this Bulletin to communicate with Guild Members.

As a reminder, the traditional National TG News publication has been revamped. It now shows up in various Guide Posts which are emailed out to all GGC Adult Members with emails. If you have Guild Members without email, perhaps you could print a copy for them to read.

I continue to meet virtually with my Provincial Trefoil Guild Liaisons and our National TG Liaison Sharron Callahan.

As mentioned, a Project Proposal was submitted for 2023. I requested approval for some funds to travel to visit Guilds. This was not approved, travel for Adult Members is not permitted. I'm still available for any Zoom meetings. Love to join you!!

Some further thoughts on some of these items are written below.

BC Council Girl Guide Provincial Volunteer Opportunities

As reported in the December, 20/2022 GuidePost; take on a new Guiding volunteer challenge! Each year, BC Council prepares for the conclusion of provincial council member and adviser terms (typically three years in duration), and the start of new adventures as new volunteers come forward. We have exciting opportunities coming up in spring 2023 (with start dates anticipated in May/June 2023 for most positions) as Guiders finish their terms and move on to new Guiding experiences. We invite applicants with diverse skills and perspectives to apply.

One of those positions is mine ~ BC Trefoil Liaison.

Calling on all Guiders and Youth Members to help shape the direction and leadership of Guiding in BC! Have you been waiting for the chance to share your great cookie skills? Do you want to help take care of our beautiful Guide House? Do you have fabulous program ideas that you just need to promote across BC? Do you have other hidden talents waiting for a platform? Now is your chance to join one of our exciting BC Committees, or to take on a BC Council role!

We're looking for people with passion, experience, and commitment from diverse communities, who want to help grow Guiding and be a catalyst for a better world, by girls.

If you'd like to join us, please complete the short online application form.

All positions are open until filled. The next round of application reviews and selections will take place on or after January 30, 2023.

Upon request, GGC will make available reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities during the recruitment process.

If interested, I welcome all to apply. I have truly loved this position and will be here to support our new representative at BC Council.

BC Trefoil Guild Education Grant

Donations can be made by individual Guild Members or Guilds as a group. I do know the process to obtain an official tax receipt; and if you donate and require one, another reason to let me know.

Thank you to all Guilds who have donated to this Grant. We do receive wonderful thank you notes from Guiders who apply and are selected. I will share those notes soon....

For Guilds with a Unified Banking account, you can simply transfer funds to Area/Prov electronically. For Guilds without an account, forward funds to your Area Treasurer and she will be able to electronically forward funds. In either case, please ensure that this General Ledger (G/L) account number is included with the donation. Both financial platforms have comment boxes to use to write down where the donation should go. Please include the following in the comment box – **“02600-10-1003104 - EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS - BC Trefoil Educational Grant.”**

Please email me as I have screenshots I can share as well.

Screenings, PRC's and PRC Exemptions

If you or your members have questions on PRC's, PRC Exemptions or any other Membership questions; please don't hesitate in contacting me. Any paperwork that you are not able to scan and send electronically, can be mailed to: Girl Guides of Canada

ATTN: Membership Screening
50 Merton St
Toronto, ON M4S 1A3

If assistance is required for a GGC Member to pay Membership Fees, update her status in Guiding, assistance with obtaining a PRC with BackCheck, etc; she can email GGC Member and Unit Support. Email is memberunitsupport@girlguides.ca. There are staff assigned to BC Members and Units.

As a reminder, all Adult Guiders would have received an email Sept. 16th on how to renew their Membership, and pay their fees. Please advise me if Guild Members require the links to complete this. If it has not been dealt with yet, some Members may find that they have been cancelled. Guild Leads should check their Rosters to ensure all Members are there.

Communication Chain Update

As you may know, I've been working on getting the Area Commissioners access to Guild Rosters so they can communicate with Guilds. We wanted the AC's to be able to contact Leads and Guild Members when assistance was needed. For Unit Guiders to know who to contact if assistance was needed. The National TG Liaison and my counterparts in other provinces have been working on this. To date nothing new to report about this access.

However, at BC Council, the concerns that communication to the Guilds was not happening at the Area level, there was a change suggested.

I can now report that Guild Leads should be contacting their ACs to ask for a list of Districts so that Guilds can offer assistance to District Commissioners directly. You may already know which District you are in, so that contact should happen easier for some. This was mentioned at the BC Council Meeting at the end of October. ACs know this request will be coming to them. If you need contact info for your AC, please let me know.

Member Information Management

A reminder to Guild Leads, continue to check your Guild Rosters on Member zone. You should keep them up to date to show which Members are in your Guild and who is not. It's also important to check on who has a PRC coming due or sometimes overdue. Also, it's a good way to see who has a significant Membership Pin coming up for presentation. Work with your Area Awards Advisor to ensure we honour our long-time Guiders.

**Note – for iMIS changes, please contact the BC iMIS Liaison – Sheralynne Muirhead for any updates. Her email is bc-imis@girlguides.ca . Area iMIS Liaisons should not be updating iMIS Rosters.

Gone Home News

Some sad news to report in this edition.

Doreen Higham, Como Lake Millennium Trefoil Guild –
Coquitlam, BC

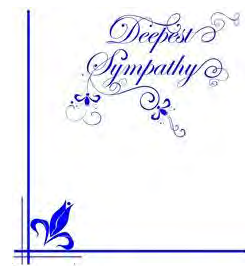
Mary Wright, Deep Fog Trefoil Guild – North Vancouver, BC

Margaret Spencer, Salt Spring Island Trefoil Guild – Salt Spring Island, BC
(Special note, Margaret may have been known as the daughter of one of the Crystal Palace Girl Scouts and the editor of her mother's autobiography.)

Florence Parker, past Member of Peninsula Pals Trefoil Guild and Kingswood Trefoil Guild, Sidney, BC

Jean Baldock, River City Girls Trefoil Guild and Kingswood Trefoil Guild –
Powell River, BC

Joan Glass, 1st Victoria Trefoil Guild – Victoria, BC and Christ Church,
BARBADOS



Memory Book for BC Trefoil Guilds



Just a reminder ~ should a Guild Member pass away, would you please share with me their name and if an obituary can be forwarded to me, I'd appreciate it. The Provincial Trefoil Liaison position has historically been keeping a Memory Book to share at future TG Rendezvous.



Promoting Trefoil to Guiding Challenge ** something to think about – some pieces are available online**



The purpose of the Promoting Trefoil to Guiding Challenge is threefold:

- to create awareness about Trefoil Guilds within Guiding, to help you connect with your fellow Girl Guide members, and for you to have some fun in Guiding.

You must complete at least four activities within each category (for a total of 12) in order to achieve the Promoting Trefoil to Guiding Challenge (but you're welcome to complete more!). Once you have completed them, email bc-trefoil@girlguides.ca to order a crest. We encourage you to do bulk crest orders with your Trefoil Guild/District/Area.

Don't forget to share your photos (with valid image release forms), We look forward to seeing what you get up to!

Sharing and Learning (Complete a minimum of 4 activities) 1. Tell three other Guiding members about your Trefoil Guild. 2. Attend a Guiding conference. 3. Complete an adult training session either in person or online. 4. Do some research on International Guiding and Trefoil Guilds (or their equivalent) around the world. Then visit a Pathfinder or Ranger Unit and share what you learned. 5. Invite current and retired Guiders to visit (and potentially join) your Trefoil Guild. 6. Plan or help with a District or Area-wide event for other Trefoil Guild members. 7. Help with cookie selling at a Unit/District event. 8. Provide IM'ing at Provincial events, i.e., Pathfinder Summit or Ranger Revolution.

Connecting with Each Other (Complete a minimum of 4 activities) 1. Brainstorm within your group and make a list of activities that you want to do as a Trefoil Guild for the year. 2. Connect with another Trefoil Guild in your Area. Consider doing a joint activity. 3. Create a closed or secret Facebook group page for your Guild and use it to stay in touch, plan activities and share pictures. 4. Organize a breakfast party with your Guild – PJs, pancakes, cheesy movies. 5. Participate in a cookie exchange – everyone brings a dozen cookies, with the recipe, and you all leave with an assortment of different cookies and new recipes. 6. Together, try something new that you've always wanted to do but never had the time— go karting, laser tag, rock climbing, kayaking ... the possibilities are endless. 7. Write a blog post about your Trefoil Guild and submit it to [GirlGuidesCANBlog](http://GirlGuidesCANBlog.com). 8. Post a selfie in uniform on Facebook or Instagram, and use the caption to describe one of your favourite Trefoil Guild memories. 9. Find a creative way to display the things you have done in your Trefoil Guild and send this to bc-trefoil@girlguides.ca to be included in the BC Bulletin.

- Back to Basics** (Complete a minimum of 4 activities)
1. Go camping with some of your fellow Trefoil members.
 2. Offer to share a passion (gardening, crafting, scrapbooking, etc.) with an age-appropriate unit.
 3. Participate a service project that helps those in your community.
 4. Participate in or plan a campfire or singalong event.
 5. Do a park clean up or spend some time volunteering in a community garden.

Encourage your Guild to earn this great BC Challenge. It is a lot of fun and will help us to retain Guiders and maybe even recruit some new members. Crests will be available at the BC Guide House. Crests will be \$3.00 for BC members. (\$3.50 for those outside BC)

Girl Guides of Canada, BC Council

107-252 Esplanade West
North Vancouver, BC
V7M 0E9

Note; the Provincial Office is open part time, so if you complete the challenge, you can order and pay for the crests. Online payment is being requested. Your District or Area Treasurers will be able to assist you in forwarding the funds.

Thanks, Darlene

Ps; I would like to see photos and hear about your success!!!



Return to Guiding – Current Guidelines - reminder

Current Guidelines can be found on Memberzone. Some common questions being asked.

Is there a COVID-19 vaccination policy for the 2022-2023 Guiding year?

There is no vaccination policy in place for the 2022-2023 Guiding year.

How will self-assessments work?

To prioritize the health and safety of our members, all girls and volunteers attending in-person Guiding activities are required to complete the Self-Assessment Checklist prior to each in-person activity.

Guiders will confirm that every girl's family has completed the self-assessment when girls are dropped off prior to each in-person activity. Families do not have to print a copy of the assessment to bring with them.

Guiders will maintain an attendance list that will include completion of all self-assessments and must retain this sheet with the rest of their unit paperwork.

Guiders will confirm that your family has completed the self-assessment prior to each in-person activity when your girl is dropped off. Anyone who has not completed the self-assessment or had the self-assessment indicate that cannot attend in-person activities, may not participate until they can pass the self-assessment. The self-assessment checklist and attendance form are available on Member Zone. *Thanks, Darlene*



I received a note...

Gloria Le Gal, Guild Member from Last Bastion TG wrote this article about 20 years ago. It seemed fitting this week to read it at our Trefoil meeting and they asked that I send it on to you for the newsletter.

“When I am an old woman I shall wear purple with a red hat which doesn’t go, and doesn’t suit me.” That is the opening for Jenny Joseph’s poem *Warning*. She goes on to describe all the things she would like to do and is unable to do as a “proper” woman.

She should have joined Girl Guides. If she had, she wouldn’t be waiting until she was old to have fun.

Personally, I have had 22 years of fun with Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders, Senior Branch members and fellow Guiders. In the girl’s estimation, I probably am old, having already pushed past the 50 mark. Guides and Pathfinders have joined me in the fun when I shot out the flame of a candle using a water pistol, made angels in the snow and walked the beach at San Josef at night marveling at the phosphorescence in the sand. I got the most outrageous bright green shawl at the Hornby Island Free Store only because we wanted to see if it would glow in the dark.

Brownies have tried to scare me with ghost stories and laughed at some of my craft attempts. Pathfinders and I have stood on the street in Vancouver, looking up at the sky and pointing, trying to see how many pedestrians would look up. We have slogged through mud on hikes and sang in rainstorms, laughing as we went. I have camped in sun and rain and slept with the whales at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Being a member of Girl Guides has given me the confidence to take on new challenges, to speak to groups of 100 or more, to share my Guiding knowledge as a trainer for new Guiders and to take on administrative roles. Throughout it all, I have had fun. The girls accept me in their fun and games and Guiders have become great friends.

So think of Jenny Joseph when she ends her poem “But maybe I ought to practice a little now? So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised when suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.”

Note: This was written as a newspaper article about 20 years ago, intended to promote Guiding. Now I wear Trefoil purple and the fun hasn’t stopped.

Gloria Le Gal

Last Bastion Trefoil

Trefoil Guild Reports: what you've been up to!!

Blazing Sages Trefoil Guild – Kamloops

Our Guild spent some time walking around town on a glorious Sunday afternoon. We learned about trees on the Urban Tree Tour through Riverside Park and downtown Kamloops. Roses were still blooming at the end of October.



Urban Tree Tour (Oct 30) – information & photo on Facebook

Snowflake craft (Nov 14) – information & photo on Facebook

Service Project – Women Helping Women (Dec 10) – information & photo on Facebook

Good Deeds Project: For this project, we're going back to Brownies – doing good turns, not limited to within Guiding. As a group, we have set a target for a number of good turns to 150. This project will run from Nov 15, 2022 to Feb 15, 2023, with a final letter shared to the Guild on Thinking Day summarizing the types of actions, quantity, etc to show the impact of our group. Good turns don't have to be just for Guiding members, this is about supporting our whole community.



BC Wildlife Park – Wildlites (Dec 28):

We had some ladies attend this event as part of the Guild. Some brought their families along also.

Generation Gap Trefoil Guild – Courtney/Comox

Every year just before Christmas our guild celebrates by going out to lunch together. We gather toiletries and warm hats, gloves and mitts for the needy. After lunch we attend a musical performed by a group from Yellowpoint. It is a tradition that we enjoy. Two members were unfortunately missing due to illness.

We try to meet monthly for a walk which we all enjoy. The principles of Guiding drew us together and created a bond we continue to enjoy.



Grapevines Trefoil Guild – Surrey/Langley

Our Guild got together to sort toiletries for the women's shelter. This is our annual Service Project. Got to practice taking selfies!!



Kanaka Trefoil Guild – Maple Ridge

We got together to see a play Mom's – Talking Turkey and dinner out.



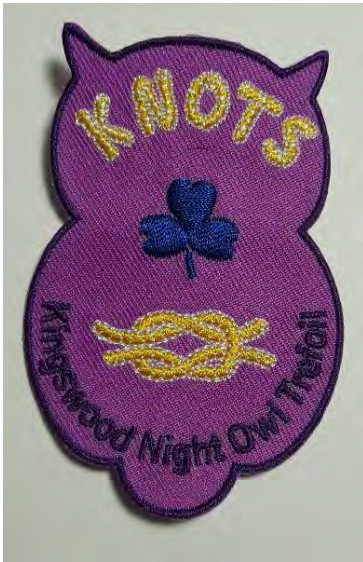
Kingswood Night Owl Trefoil Guild (KNOTs) – Victoria

some went axe throwing. “There knives and axes to throw. Who knew throwing sharp things at wooden walls was so much fun!!”



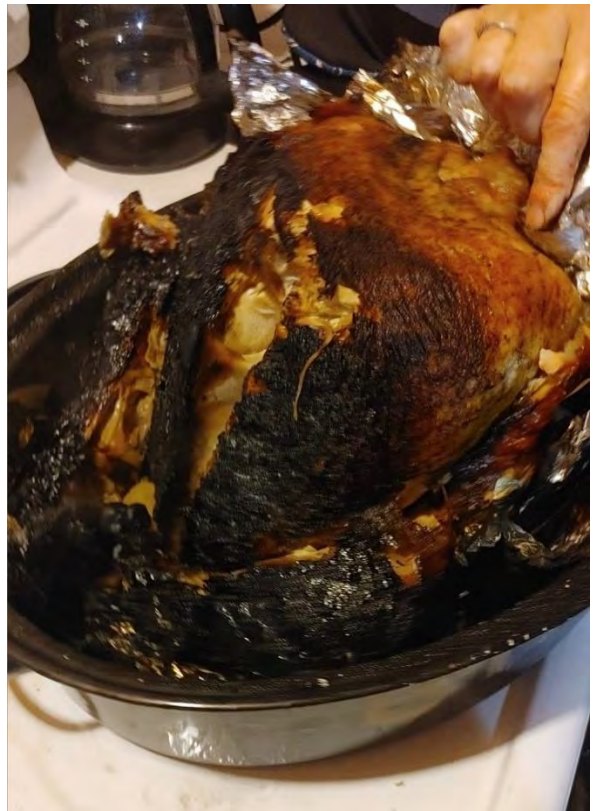


KNOT's also have a new Guild crest... they are looking to trade....



Kootenay Area TReXoil Trefoil Guild – Kootenay Area

Kootenay TReXoil has a camp and cooked a turkey over the fire.
It was a fantastic weekend!! Dinner.....



LA Lakers Trefoil Guild – Coquitlam

Our Guild put together 127 toiletry bags for a women's shelter; while enjoying their first pot luck dinner in a few years.



Last Bastion Trefoil Guild – Nanaimo



After meeting via Zoom for the first half of the year, Last Bastion gathered at the waterfront home of Barb Wilson for our annual June potluck luncheon. We enjoyed delicious food plus fun and laughter as we played bocci, ring toss, and Scattergories.





In September we gathered in a circle at the Colliery Dam Park to enjoy our bag lunches and hear updates of our members various activities. We welcomed Kelly Lowery to our Guild and presented a 40-year membership pin to Lynn Reeve.

And we held our Christmas luncheon at a local pub, enjoying games and just being together once again.



Our Guild recognized Carol Klapstein for sewing over 1,400 COVID masks (presently 1,880) with a donation of \$100 to the BC Trefoil Education Grant.



North Shore Energetic Wanderers (NSEW) Trefoil Guild – North Vancouver

Continuing our exploration of the commemorative art work that is gracing all new structures in North Vancouver City, our group came upon this model of a camel, representing the last camel to travel to the gold rush at Barkerville.

Later we traveled over to Vancouver to see close to 50 exquisite floral displays in the Downtown core for the Christmas Season

Our service project this year was to buy many grocery gift cards for the food bank which were gratefully received. We will be helping to sort out the donations to the Harvest Food Bank, an annual service project for us, in the New Year



Tillicum Trefoil Guild – Vernon

Our Guild Members got together to prep for the Monashee Area Brownie Science Camp.





Together Again Trefoil Guild – Surrey/Langley

Our Guild has gotten together to make winter planters and then assisted at a Sparks Enrollment. We also got together to assist some Rangers run the SparkLE event for a District.

While others attended local Farms and Cidery to pick pumpkins, see the farm animals and of course enjoyed some cider tasting.



And headed to the theatre to see “Sleeping Beauty”.



Too-Many-Hats Trefoil Guild – Prince George

Our Guild was out hiking in the Fort George Canyon. It was a crisp 2 degrees but well worth it for the gorgeous fall colours.



Then a few days later, the Guild attended the Harmony District Hike for Hunger. Everyone enjoyed the evening despite the cold wind.



1st Victoria Trefoil Guild – Victoria

To keep in touch with our less mobile Guild members we had decided to meet at Joan Glass's home in the Fall. Sadly, Joan Glass passed away early in September. We miss her.

On Saturday September 10 many of our Guild participated in a work party at Camp Jubilee.

Then many lent a hand along side the greater community clearing Uplands Park of invasive species September 13.

Donalda had ankle surgery while her husband was out of town so 1st Victoria rallied around her, setting up a two-week rotation of daily visits and meal deliveries and even a mini clean before our meeting September 26.

October 31 found our Guild meeting at the food court of Hillside Mall. Hard to hear in such a noisy place. We met there because we had been worried about being able to afford to rent Guiding properties for the coldest months and knew our minimal annual dues would only stretch so far. All our worries were alleviated later and we were able to book Bowker Hall for Nov-Feb. As a GGC Guild we were also compliant with the policies of recognizing ALL Faith's, Holidays and related celebrations.



November 10th, we walked from the Fickle Fig business to the Lost Airmen of the Empire at Hospital Hill on the north side of the airport on Mills Road. Victoria sculptor Illarion Gallants 25-piece 12' steel Cooper's Hawk feathers are each engraved with the names of airmen lost accidents nearby while serving there during WWII. We will remember them.



November 28th, we gathered in Bowker Hall to plan a Winter Tea.



December 5th, we hosted other SVI Guilds at our Winter Tea. Each 1st Victoria Trefoil Guild member took on set up, plating savory and sweets, tea service and clean up. Sharon Doty, Sheilagh Finnigan and Suzanne Iverson gave a slide presentation of their recent trip to Our Chalet.

December 12 saw some of our Guild volunteering at Soap for Hope.



2nd Victoria Trefoil Guild – Victoria

No news or photos to report. Guild Members do wish everyone and their Families a Merry Christmas.

We won't be holding a Virtual Thinking Day Zoom event this year. With so many Guilds now meeting in person, we didn't feel it was needed.

BC Council is hosting their World Thinking Day celebration: Guiding Lights Across BC - February 22, 2023!

Celebrate with BC Girl Guides in your community as we shine our Guiding lights in support of girl empowerment.

Local landmarks across the province (like stadiums, bridges, structures, and buildings) will help us celebrate by lighting up in "Guiding blue" after dark on the evening of February 22.

Details on the BC GGC Website and FaceBook. Looking forward to seeing Guilds out at the Blue Lights locations in your cities and towns.

Don't forget to snap photos of your activities – share them on social media by tagging @bcgirlguides and using the hashtag #ShineYourGuidingLight!)

And send them to me for the next Bulletin. Or perhaps a special edition to showcase BC Trefoil Guilds!!!

BC Trefoil Guild's Rendezvous - 2023

I have been approached for a hybrid style (both virtual and in person) type of BC TG Rendezvous for 2023. Details are still in the planning stage.

Anyone interested in assisting our Planning Committee, please get in touch with Darlene. Question has been posed.... This is a project I need to work on.

BC TG Rendezvous – 2024

In the last Bulletin the call was made for a Host Guild for the Rendezvous in 2024. I am excited to announce that the Sparkling Spirits Trefoil Guild from Monashee Area is taking the lead role. They will be approaching other Guilds in the Monashee and Kelowna Areas to assist. Further details to come....

Who's Game for a Road Trip?? Organizing Committee has begun to look into details.

National Gathering for TG is June 2024 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Email sent out on April 29, 2022 to Guild Leads to share. I can confirm it will be at a downtown Winnipeg hotel. University dorms are not an option. Date they are hoping for is June 12-16/2024 (and alternately June 19-23 depending on what is available when we get the ok to book).

Remember

If you have a question or topic for the Bulletin, please email me.

Need from You!!

I hope to have an updated BC TG Handbook ready in a few months. It will be shared with Guild Leads to forward to their Members.

Please keep doing what you can do to continue Guiding. We need to continue to look at ways to increase the exposure of Guilds Members and to continue to assist Girls and Unit Guiders. We remain strong and will continue to grow.

I have truly enjoyed my virtual meeting with various Trefoil Guilds. I'm up to being involved in others.

Questions? Comments? Thoughts? Contact Darlene at bc-trefoil@girlguides.ca

Yours in Guiding, *Darlene*