



## Service projects spread cheer throughout the holiday season

In Northern Lights District, Pathfinders did some cooking for Meals on Wheels (right) and many Guiding families including girls from all branches generously prepared 64 gift-filled shoeboxes for children in need (below).



Photo courtesy of RoseAnna Cirino



Photo courtesy of RoseAnna Cirino



What are these Brownies from **Secteur Argenteuil** up to?

Find out on [page 10!](#)

(Photo credit: Sara Ogilvie)

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## Highlights:

- [PC holiday message](#)
- [2014 Girl Award recipients](#)
- [Introducing the Twinning 2020 project: Amigas del Mundo: Connect, Grow, Impact](#)
- [Save the date! Provincial Brownie Day is in the works!](#)

## Riverview District hosts provincial Girl Recognition Event

The 2014 Girl Recognition Event on November 23 celebrated the achievements of girls from across the province. It recognized girl members who completed their Lady Baden Powell, Canada Cord or Chief Commissioner's Award in the 2013-2014 Guiding year.



Photo credit: Valerie Zaloum

Girl Award recipients in Candiac, QC

It was also the inaugural year for the presentation of the Youth Commitment Award, recognizing Rangers with ten years of completed membership in Girl Guides.

Many thanks to Riverview District for a fantastic event!

See [page 4](#) for a list of recipients.

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Register now for **Symposium 2015!** See [page 3](#) for details

## *Happy Holidays from Valerie Z*

Hard to believe that I have been in the PC chair for over 7 months already! It seems a good time of the year for reflection and appreciation, particularly from the vantage point of this role. Having attended provincial and national meetings as PC-Elect, I have already had a year's worth of the PC experience, and can comfortably say, having held many other roles, that it is the most privileged job in Guiding!

From this vantage point I get to be part of celebrations, travel and lead toward new directions, share the victories, be in on the news (even IN the news!) and deal with the challenges. The job may look huge, but don't be overly impressed! Most of it is accomplished alongside an extraordinary and intricate support network – all the Guiders, the members, in Quebec!



I'm taking this moment and this season to thank all of you – and I am proud to say I know, have trained, have conversed and planned, dreamed and strategized, laughed and fretted with more than half of the adult members in the province. (Note to self: Complete with the other half! You have 2 5/12 years.)

Thanks for all that support are in order!

To my deputies, Pam & Stacie, and the Provincial Council, the DCs and the Advisers and Chairs, who make the many faces of business in the province move forward, and address the needs of our members of all ages.

To the GGC QC office staff who handle all the real world needs and obligations of business and governance for us, and support communications and promotion that bring us together, keep us informed, allow us to be seen, and assist all of our plans and projects to progress.

And to everyone: who posts photos, writes blogs, sits on task groups, runs a Unit, cares for Wa-Thi-Ane, reads and/or composes: minutes or spreadsheets or Safe Guide forms; who takes Guiding into new communities, who leads games, takes pictures, donates, sings their voices out, hikes, bikes, bakes, pitches tents and incinerates a marshmallow or two.

Keep Calm – Keep on Guiding!

We really do make a better world – for 2015 and for girls' futures, near and far.



**- Valerie Zaloum, Quebec Provincial Commissioner**

Registration is now open!

## JANUARY 17, 2015



**What is Symposium?** It's a get-together of adult members and Ranger-aged girls from across the province. The event is offered by Quebec Council for **free**—everyone is invited!

This year we are looking at the **international face of our organization**, and how we bring that world view to our Guiding communities. The day includes lunch, learning sessions, discussions with special guests Sharron Callahan, National Chief Commissioner and Pamela Rice, National Chief Commissioner-Elect, a swap meet, event bling, and shopping at the "Duty Free" shop! Details [here](#).

### [SYMPOSIUM 2015 REGISTRATION FORM](#)

**Deadline to register: January 12**

#### Your choice of afternoon activity sessions:

((iMIS\*) indicates TEAM sessions for which recognition of completion will be recorded in iMIS)

**WAGGGS Challenges Made Easy** - Bring WAGGGS challenges to your unit in a fun, creative and engaging manner. Learn how you can get a double bonus by tying the challenges in with your branch programming.

**International Guiding (iMIS\*)** - Guiding is so much bigger than a unit meeting. Share the excitement of our international organization from Sparks to Rangers. Learn about the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), the World Centres, international travel and how Canada fits into the big picture of Guiding around the world.

**International Themes for Camp** - Plan a trip to India, create an international marketplace, play camp games from around the world, camp at an imaginary World Centre. The possibilities are endless when you take an international theme to camp. Join us to explore just how the girls and Guiders can expand on the countless international theme possibilities.

**Dramatic Arts with an International Theme (iMIS\*)** - Bring out your inner drama queen - The dramatic arts are a fantastic way to travel the world while really getting girls engaged! "Theatre, in all its varieties", is a wonderful means for girls of any age to express themselves. Come discover how to enliven your international programming through the dramatic arts. You will leave this session inspired!

**Promise & Law – a Global Angle (iMIS\*)** - *I challenge myself to the Guiding Law...* - 10 million girls and women in 145 countries have accepted the Guide or Girl Scout Promise and Law based on spiritual values, personal development and a commitment to helping others. Come on a journey to explore the Promise and Law around the world. Learn how to take your unit on its own journey and BE PREPARED to integrate the Promise & Law and WAGGGS into your regular Guiding activities.

**Leading Active Games with a Global Feel (iMIS\*)** - Come and join us to learn more about WAGGGS, games around the world, practical ways to include active games in your unit, being more inclusive in our games, leading games efficiently and what active games can teach our girls.

**Fly Air GGC – the Domestic Fly-over, Coast to Coast** - Explore the Spring 2014 GGC National Survey – how Guiding is valued and viewed by girls, parents, Guiders and the public, across Canada. With these insights, be involved in a visioning session on how to focus our energy and our membership growth efforts to best serve GGC going forward.

**Young Women in Guiding: Opening the Door to Your Future** - Guiding gives so many new experiences and opportunities, but have you ever thought about how many doors it can open, within and beyond your Guiding community? Come learn about volunteering at the World Centres, travel opportunities, scholarships, Young Women's Forum, Link activities, etc. Learn about how to enhance your CV with skills that you've learned through Guiding!

## TWO winter camping events as part of SNOW TRAILS 2015

### February 13-15: Québec Winter Camp 2015

- For Pathfinders, Trex, Rangers and their Guiders
- *Want to learn more about winter camping skills and winter sports, but still sleep in a toasty warm (indoor) bed at night? Then this is the camp for you!*
- Two nights at Base de plein air de Saint-Lazare (formerly Les Cèdres)
- Cost: \$95; Click [HERE](#) for details including registration information and forms

### February 21-22: Québec Quinzee Sleepout

- For 3rd year Pathfinders, Trex, Rangers and interested Guiders
- *Would you enjoy building a Quinzee (a shelter made by hollowing out a pile of settled snow) and sleeping in it overnight? Do you want to experience 'real' outdoor winter camping? Then this is the camp for you!*
- One night; location TBD (off island, west of Montreal)
- Cost: \$45; Click [HERE](#) for details including registration information and forms

Registration forms are available on the [Camping page](#) of the provincial website.

Any questions should be directed to:

[camping@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:camping@guidesquebec.ca)

Thank you!

- QC Provincial Camping Committee



## Girl Award Recipients

Congratulations to all the girl members who were presented awards in the 2013-2014 Guiding year!

(Names in bold were in attendance at the provincial Girl Recognition Event in Candiac on Sunday, November 23, 2014.)

### Lady Baden Powell Award

**Melissa Bradley**  
**Mary-Michelle Brown**  
**Erica Chan**  
 Hope Cornell  
 Kristina Del Paggio  
 Julia Dow  
**Olivia Gavanski**  
 Chloé Gemmel  
**Cassandra Harty Lavalliere**  
**Mikayla Messercola**  
**Jasmine Rivard**  
 Emily Schamerhorn  
 Ayla Shanks  
 Grace Singer  
**Gemma Webster**  
**Roxanne Wesener**  
**Isabelle Workman**



### Canada Cord

**Nicole Almanza**  
**Rebecca Hepworth**  
**Erika Malnasi**  
**Michelle Malnasi**  
 Julia McDonald  
**Nicole Murray**  
 Brittney Nicoll  
 Jillian Quigley  
**Melissa Schembre**  
 Kaylee Seyfert  
**Allegra Spensieri**



### Chief Commissioner's Bronze Award

**Madison Perras**

### Chief Commissioner's Silver Award

Andrea Downey  
**Erica Lesiak**  
**Katie Murphy**  
 Daphne Sauvé



### Youth Commitment Award

(for Rangers with 10 completed years of GGC membership)

Trista Coull  
**Rebecca Hepworth**  
**Erika Malnasi**  
**Michelle Malnasi**  
 Julia McDonald  
**Alexandra Meredith**  
**Nicole Murray**  
**Madison Perras**  
 Tricia Riach  
 Nicole Waldie





## Twinning 2020

GGC is excited to officially announce the new [Twinning 2020](#) initiative: **“Amigas del Mundo: Connect, Grow, Impact!”** So the big question on everyone’s mind is **What is Twinning 2020 and how can I be a part of it?**

Imagine a world where all girls are a part of a **global sisterhood** with common values, principles and goals. Imagine a world where **all girls have a voice** and can freely express it. Imagine a world where all girls embrace that global sisterhood and use their voices collectively to improve upon it. This is our Twinning 2020 vision and **you are invited to embark on the journey with us.**

Quebec has been partnered with the **Asociación Nacional de Guías Scouts del Perú** and we believe that together our girls can connect, grow their global knowledge and impact the world with their leadership.

Our first initiative is for Thinking Day 2015. Working with the [WAGGGS World Thinking Day resources](#) and the [GGC Friendship Flyer](#), we challenge all units to play the World Thinking Day game and **upload your fun experiences to our [Peru-Quebec Twinning 2020 Facebook group page](#)**. Guides in Perú will be doing the same.

Then, join me at Symposium 2015 on January 17 for more details on our upcoming Twinning 2020 initiatives and to learn more about our **Travelling Moose Challenge!**





- Lori Labelle, Provincial International Adviser | [international@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:international@guidesquebec.ca)



## Cookie News

From the December **Guidepost**:

 The Cookie **Twitter** account ([@GirlGuideCookie](#)) continues to receive questions about where to buy cookies. If your unit still has cookies to sell, send your contact information along with how many cases you have available to [ckhelp@girlguides.ca](mailto:ckhelp@girlguides.ca) and we will try to match you up with customers.

 Save the date – the **Cookie Days in Canada** weekend is tentatively set for **April 11 - 12, 2015**. More details will be shared in the New Year. Remember to take Cookie Days and Easter into account when ordering cookies, along with all of the other selling opportunities available.



With the classic cookie ordering period fast approaching, work with your girls to help them achieve their **Cookie All Stars** goals by ensuring sufficient cookies are ordered to meet those goals. The new Cookie All Stars registration site will open mid-February. Until then, be sure to use the [Unit Tracking tool](#) to record the number of cases sold by your girls during the Mint 2014 campaign.

In the news...

[U.S. Girl Scouts to sell cookies online, but Canada’s Girl Guides won’t follow](#) (CBC News)

Girl Scouts USA have unveiled plans to promote cookie selling online. Mike Sheeler from the GGC national office explained why GGC does not plan to follow that route. “...we do not want to lose the face-to-face interaction between girls and the supporting public.” Furthermore, the venture ‘would not be economically feasible.’



Photo courtesy of Heather Martin

Did you see our Fall Cookie Campaign [photo gallery](#) on Facebook?

## Provincial Training Week (November 17-19, 2014)

During the week of November 17, Liesse, Monklands, and Lachine-St. Lawrence districts hosted the trainings of our first Provincial Training Week. The districts chose their topics and the trainers delivered in their locations. These evenings were open to all Guiders throughout the province and topics included; Getting Outside, Girl Engagement, and Event Planning. The sessions were enthusiastically attended by a total of 53 Guiders. The Training network would like to thank the districts involved for making this event a great success and encouraging us to make this an annual event!

## Symposium 2015

We look forward to seeing many of you at the wonderful International-flavoured trainings being offered in the afternoon sessions of Symposium. Please see all of the session details on [page 3. Register](#) early to get your session choice! (Deadline is January 12)

## Training for New Guiders

Back by popular demand, a new Guider training will be offered early in the new year. Check the January *Piccolo* for details.

- Joanne Millette, Provincial Training Adviser | [training.formation@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:training.formation@guidesquebec.ca)

# Program News

Getting around to planning for the new year? Need some new ideas?

Why not use a [Meeting-in-a-Box?](#) Our newest one is:

## Barbie Goes to Pathfinder Camp

submitted by RoseAnna Cirino and Joanne Millette, with thanks to Barb Matheison.

[Have a look!](#)

We're always looking for new ideas, so if you've run a great meeting you want to share, please let us know at [programme@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:programme@guidesquebec.ca) or by answering the questions [HERE](#).



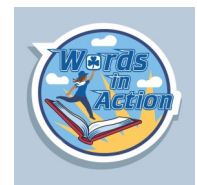
Did you run the **16 Days of Action Against Gender-Based Violence**

instant meeting or plan one of your own? If so, why not tell us about it?

If not, there's always time in the new year! Download the instant meeting [HERE](#).

### Things to keep an eye out for:

- An **Engineering Meeting-in-a-Box** for National Engineering Month (March)
- **Words in Action**—the new National Service Project centred around literacy. [Find out more](#)



- Charyl Hyndman, QC Program Adviser & Lizzie Knowles, Deputy QC Program Adviser | [programme@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:programme@guidesquebec.ca)

# Provincial Brownie Day

March 14, 2015

**IF YOU WERE SUPERMAN YOU WOULD BE MORE POWERFUL THAN A SPEEDING LOCOMOTIVE**

**IF YOU WERE WONDER WOMAN YOU WOULD HAVE GREAT REFLEXES AND SENSES**

**IF YOU WERE THE BLACK WIDOW YOU WOULD BE IMMORTAL**

**AND BE ABLE TO MAKE YOURSELF INVISIBLE...**

**WHAT IS YOUR**

# **BROWNIE SUPER POWER?**

**SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH**

**STAY TUNED TO NEXT MONTH'S PICCOLO AND ALL WILL BE REVEALED**

**AND IF YOU WERE SPIDERMAN, RIGHT NOW... YOUR SPIDEY SENSES WOULD BE TINGLING...**

## **SWAP MEET** - January 17 at Symposium 2015

**Be prepared for some swapping  
and make some new Guiding friends!**

This year, Guider Symposium will hold a SWAP MEET around lunchtime, so be sure to bring along some swaps for trading!



Participants are encouraged to bring (make, buy, create) at least a dozen swaps (aka camp hat crafts) to swap.

Check out [Pinterest](#) for a million ideas!

See [Page 3](#) for more about Symposium 2015



## Camp Wa-Thik-Ane 2015 reservations open January 5

Reservations for Wa-Thik-Ane site rentals will be accepted by email as of **January 5, 2015 at 12:01 a.m.** An update site rental rate sheet and reservation form will be available soon on the [Camp Wa-Thik-Ane page](#) of the provincial website.

## Camp Wa-Thik-Ane Employment Opportunities—Spring/Summer 2015

Interested candidates should forward CVs to: [dir-operations@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:dir-operations@guidesquebec.ca). Qualified candidates will be called for an interview.

Position	Qualifications	Responsibilities
<b>Site Manager</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 position</li> <li>• Weekends: Fri. evening, Sat. &amp; Sun. afternoon</li> <li>• May &amp; June (7 weekends)</li> <li>• July - possibility of Wa-Thik-Ane summer camp (3-4 weeks)</li> <li>• August - on call</li> <li>• September (4 weekends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. 21 years of age at time of employment</li> <li>• Good people skills, communication and problem solving skills</li> <li>• Bilingual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent the Camping and Property Committee at the camp</li> <li>• Meet and greet guests, solve minor problems and seek assistance for larger issues</li> <li>• Reside at camp from Friday afternoon to Sunday</li> <li>• Full list of duties available upon request</li> </ul>
<b>Waterfront Director</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 position</li> <li>• Weekends: Fri. evening, Sat. &amp; Sun. until noon</li> <li>• May (2 or 3 weekends)</li> <li>• June (4 weekends)</li> <li>• July - possibility of Wa-Thik-Ane summer camp (3-4 weeks)</li> <li>• August - on call</li> <li>• September (4 weekends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. 18 years of age at time of employment</li> <li>• Must hold a valid/current National Lifeguard Certification from the <b>Société de Sauvetage</b> (Lifesaving Society)</li> <li>• Waterfront specialty is preferred</li> <li>• Current Standard First Aid and CPR</li> <li>• Previous experience as a waterfront director and references</li> <li>• Must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Safe Guide procedures (GGC risk management)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervise all aquatic personnel and activities</li> <li>• Define roles and responsibilities of all aquatic personnel</li> <li>• Ensure waterfront equipment and management conforms to the Lifesaving Society waterfront guidelines</li> <li>• Ensure Emergency Response Plan is effective and general safety of all waterfront activities</li> <li>• Full list of duties available upon request</li> </ul>
<b>Lifeguard</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 to 3 positions</li> <li>• Weekends: Fri. evening, Sat. &amp; Sun. until noon</li> <li>• May (2 or 3 weekends)</li> <li>• June (4 weekends)</li> <li>• July - possibility of Wa-Thik-Ane summer camp (3-4 weeks)</li> <li>• August - on call</li> <li>• September (4 weekends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. 16 years of age at time of employment (Preferably 18 years of age)</li> <li>• Must hold a valid/current National Lifeguard Certification from the <b>Société de Sauvetage</b> (Lifesaving Society)</li> <li>• Waterfront specialty is preferred</li> <li>• Current Standard First Aid is an asset</li> <li>• Must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Safe Guide procedures (GGC risk management) for water activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that campers for whom you are responsible are well supervised in a safe and healthy manner at all times</li> <li>• Prevent emergency situations and where this fails, resolve emergencies in a timely and effective manner</li> </ul>
<b>Lifesaver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July - possibility of Wa-Thik-Ane summer camp (3-4 weeks)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. 16 year of age</li> <li>• Must hold a current Bronze Cross and Emergency First Aid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Lifeguard and Waterfront Director</li> </ul>
<b>Boating Specialist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 or 2 positions</li> <li>• Weekends: Fri. evening, Sat. &amp; Sun. until noon</li> <li>• May (2 or 3 weekends)</li> <li>• June (4 weekends)</li> <li>• July - possibility of Wa-Thik-Ane summer camp (3-4 weeks)</li> <li>• August - on call</li> <li>• September (4 weekends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. 18 years of age at time of employment</li> <li>• Must hold a valid/current certification from the <b>Fédération québécoise du canot et du kayak—Flat Water Level 2</b></li> <li>• Must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Safe Guide procedures (GGC risk management) for water activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that campers for whom you are responsible are well supervised in a safe and healthy manner at all times</li> <li>• Prevent emergency situations and where this fails, resolve emergencies in a timely and effective manner</li> </ul>



## Valois-Dorval and Pointe-Claire Girl Guides on the airwaves!

By Diane Oki, Provincial Public Relations Co-Chair

Bright and early on the frosty morning of November 14, a group of 15 Brownies, Guides and Pathfinders, their leaders (and very accommodating parents) gathered at the bus terminal at Fairview Mall in Pointe-Claire. **CBC Radio's Daybreak** morning program was

broadcasting live and we were invited by a Guiding parent, Shari Okeke, to come and participate. This was a great opportunity to publicize our activities and get some free air time so the West Island districts jumped at the chance.



The fast-paced scene, with microphones, laptops, and boxes and panels of recording and broadcasting equipment jam-packed into a normally humdrum environment, fascinated the girls.

They sang a campfire song, did some voice intros and Guider Charyl Hyndman was interviewed about the aftermath of the Wa-Thik-Ane break-in, our Open House activities, and our fall Girl Guide cookie campaign.

Guider Esther Szeben, who helped to organize the event, set up a table where transit passengers were shown how to make a healthy "gorp" snack, and Guider Heather Martin brought along a whole bunch of delicious Girl Guide cookie-flavoured muffins to hand out. The girls enjoyed their brief spot in the limelight and managed to get back to school in pretty good time!



**Lennoxville Girl Guides and Brownies** were recognized by their local newspaper for their holiday service project.

via [The Sherbrooke Record](#):

*A huge thank you to the Lennoxville Girl Guides and Brownies who decorated and stuffed Christmas stockings to help Santa with his deliveries to children in several local families. They have exhibited the true spirit of Christmas.*

Ever wanted to get your hands on this official GGC font?

## SANS CULOTTES

is suitable for print materials and for web. Click [HERE](#) to download the font for your computer. By installing it on your computer you'll also be sure to view all GGC material as it was intended to be displayed. Read more about GGC Brand Standards and Style Guidelines on [Member Zone](#).

## Have you heard? We have a new Guiding Unit in Québec City!

Below, Sparks from the **1st Québec Guiding Unit** put together a puzzle with the Promise on it and the group plays the game 'Evolution'. Thanks to Guider Jennifer Donaldson for sharing these photos!



### What's the 'Evolution' game all about?

Guider Jenn explains:

*All girls start at the first stage (we chose caterpillar - crawling on the floor). Two caterpillars play one round of "Rock, Paper, Scissors", and whoever wins evolves into the next stage (cocoon - standing, arms wrapped across body). Cocoons can only battle other cocoons, and when they do, the winner becomes a butterfly (flapping arms). We ended the game when everyone was a butterfly. There are variations to this game—e.g. How many evolution stages, which animals chosen, etc.*

**This group put a twist on the game!** To help the girls learn how to make the Girl Guide sign and handshake, they were to shake hands before they battled their new opponent.

## Girl Guides are active again in Kawawachikamach! We're excited to share the news that new units have re-opened in this



northern Quebec community. They're looking forward to penpals and exchanges with friends—old and new!

### Congratulations to Guider Alison Van der Wee

She has been selected to attend the **Juliette Low Seminar** at Sangam WAGGGS World Centre in Pune, India in February 2015!

Alison is a Guider with the 1st Kirkland Pathfinders in Lakeshore District.

Thank you to Guider Jessica Mitchell for sharing this photo with us!

Thank you to those who shared stories about their unit and district open house events from Provincial Open House Week last month! Here are a few of them:

**Lakeshore District** - "After a successful Open House/Bring-a-Friend week, Lakeshore District is thrilled to welcome all their new members! This past week the 3rd Beacon Hill Sparks held a 'Mini Enrolment' for their new Sparks!" (photo at right)

- Carol Kelly, Deputy District Commissioner

**Lennoxville District** - "Bring-a-Friend night was awesome! Good activities, all the girls had fun. About a quarter of the girls brought a friend, one of whom asked about registration right in the middle of the meeting! We were getting ready for an upcoming outing, so that got her interest peaked! ;)

The bracelets were a HUGE hit! Each guest also received a goody bag with GGC stickers, pamphlets (girl + volunteer), an extra/discontinued crest/badge from our leftovers, tattoos and either a magnet, pencil or bookmark. Parents got to see the meeting start out with a game and they got a little show at the end when we had a short campfire. Sparks and Brownies left with a Recipe for a Happy Me and Guides left with an SG.1 form for the hike!"

- Esther Keller, District Commissioner and Guide and Pathfinder Guider

**Northern Lights** - "We had a district "Bring-a-Friend or two" and Halloween party in the same week... 22 new friends came to party with us. We had a sign-in sheet for new friends, so we used that to call them all afterwards, thanking them for coming and advising them that they were given a free meeting pass, that they could come and try out another meeting anytime. We gave all the girls— old and new—the Quebec bracelets (which they loved) and I still see the girls wearing them weekly. We got 4 new girls that joined right away, and we have one that came last week to try a free Brownie meeting."

- RoseAnna Cirino, District Commissioner and Pathfinder and Ranger Guider



Photo courtesy of Carol Kelly



(Left) The **1st Montreal Sparks** and **9th Montreal Brownies** held the GGC instant meeting for the **International Day of the Girl** last October and have added to their hero tree a few times since then!

Thanks to Guider Jill Ainsworth for sending in this great photo.

(Right) **Secteur Argenteuil Brownies** mixed science, community service and fun!

Thanks to Guider and District Commissioner Sara Ogilvie for sharing this story:

"The experiment: we microwaved Ivory soap, broke it down to a fine powder, added water to turn it into a "mush" and then we put it in the tree molds. It'll take a few days to dry and then the final product will be delivered to our local women's shelter to be handed out at their Christmas party. What FUN!"



Fresh from our [GGC Québec blog](#):

## Kirkland Pathfinder Ayla is Québec's first Discovery Girl!

It was the experience of a lifetime! Ayla Shanks, a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kirkland Pathfinders, was chosen to attend a leadership summit in California last August hosted by [Discovery Girls](#) magazine. It's a publication aimed at tweens that covers issues that matter to young girls, promoting healthy self-esteem, community engagement and the development of leadership skills. Sound familiar? Indeed, Ayla quoted the Girl Guide promise in her application as it deeply reflects her values and aspirations.

[Read on...](#)



## Twist - a Small Spin!



Guest blogger Jill Ainsworth, a Spark and Brownie Guider in Westmount, tells us all about how her units put their spin on programming:

*Just as the journey of a thousand kilometres starts with a single step, sometimes an entire meeting grows from a single idea. Last summer I found a box of small spoons at the dollar store, and started piecing together a meeting focused on miniature or small things.*

[Read on...](#)



## From the [Riverdale District Facebook page](#):

(Far left) "Brownies planned a day of meals and snacks following the Canada food guide. We then shopped for all the items using flyers and talked about how to save money by comparing prices. They are ready for the holidays!"

(Left) "The Brownies enjoyed some weekend woodworking at Home Depot. Anyone need some help with home repairs?"





*Safe Guide: our risk management program! Safety is the responsibility of all!*

## Welcome to our new Safe Guide Assessors:

Janice Douglas, Kirsti Harris, Patricia Tellis, and Kaitlin Winter

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

**When a unit hires a truck and float to put girls on in a parade, it is a Yellow level activity.** You will need to check that your driver is licensed and insured for this activity. Let the driver know that GGC has no insurance for their part of the activity; they are responsible for maintaining adequate insurance; any physical damage to the vehicle or liability is the responsibility of the vehicle owner. It is a good idea to ask the driver to provide a certificate of insurance on his vehicle.

When developing your supervision plans as part of managing the activity, consider the age of the girls who are participating and make appropriate arrangements. It may be a good idea to have a barrier around the edge of the float. It is likely that at the end of the parade it may be crowded with other parade participants so you will need to determine how to keep track of the girls and get them back to their parents.



### NEW GUIDERS:

It is compulsory for new Guiders to complete Safe Guide training within the first six months of becoming a leader. For Guiders who cannot attend a face-to-face training, you have the possibility to do it online. You will receive instructions from the provincial office along with a PIN to complete the online (e-Learning) training. Don't forget to **send proof of completion** to [imis@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:imis@guidesquebec.ca). (A certificate will be emailed to you once you've completed the online training.)

Many new Guiders are due to complete their Safe Guide training in the months of January, February, and March 2015. If you would like an in-person Safe Guide training in your district, speak with your DC and start planning!

**REMINDER:** Safe Guide forms should be sent to [sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca) for assessment.

For any questions concerning Safe Guide, email [sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:sg.gs@guidesquebec.ca).

## Minion Mayhem! Looking for a fun new challenge to try with your girls?

Check out this one created by **Girlguiding Lesmahagow in Scotland** 'to celebrate the cute and colourful minions which our girls all know and love so much.'



Find all the details on their [Facebook page](#).

### Team Work

There is no 'I' in team; collaboration is the name of the game for minions. They work together to get the job done.



- Try some new games based on the principle of team-work such as [tadpoles](#)
- Hold a minion party, dress up as your favourite minion; give prizes for the most original design, best use of materials or cutest minion.
- Work as a team to create a large scale piece of art depicting a minion such as a crop circle, junk sculpture or wall hanging.
- Collectively with your group collect items which can be easily recycled or re-used such as reading glasses or aluminium cans; set yourselves a target and raise awareness of your group by asking the local press to feature you in an article or track your progress.



# First Aid Training

Complete details of First Aid Requirements for Safe Guide Activity Levels are found in the [Safe Guide document](#), July 2014 update, found on the GGC national website. Pages of interest in Safe Guide relating to First Aid include, but are not limited to, pages 9 - 13 and 29 - 33.

**N.B. All First Aid Qualifications must be entered into iMIS [before](#) your Safe Guide Activity!**



**Red Cross First Aid Courses  
from Pulse Aide Inc.  
Tailored to the needs of GGC  
as per Safe Guide July 2014**



## Upcoming courses:

### Emergency First Aid Course (8 hours)

- Location: Pierrefonds  
Saturday, January 24, 2015, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., \$105
- Location: NDG (or elsewhere if a district wants it nearer to home)  
Saturday, February 7, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$105
- Location: NDG (or elsewhere if a district wants it nearer to home)  
Saturday, March 28, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$105

### Standard First Aid Course (16 hours)

- Location: Pierrefonds  
Sat., Jan. 24 and Sun., Jan. 25, 2015, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., \$125
- Location: NDG (or elsewhere if a district wants it nearer to home)  
Sat., Feb. 7 and Sun., Feb. 8, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$125
- Location: NDG (or elsewhere if a district wants it nearer to home)  
Sat., Mar. 28 and Sun., Mar. 29, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$125

The following one-day **Recertification Courses** are only for those who hold a CURRENT (unexpired) Red Cross certification. Participants must re-read their manual and brush up on the theory BEFORE attending the course! Certification is for another 3 years. The Red Cross manual you received in 2012 is mandatory - a new one must be purchased if you cannot find yours. Dates or location may change upon request.

### Recertification Courses (8 hours - see criteria above)

- Location: NDG - Standard or Emergency First Aid—Sunday, March 22, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$85
- Location: Saint-Lazare - Standard or Emergency First Aid—Sunday, April 19, 2015, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$85

For details and to register, or to book a course for your own district or Guiding community, please email Joan Lax at: [pulseaideinc@gmail.com](mailto:pulseaideinc@gmail.com)

## Treasurers' Trove

For Unit and District Treasurers

### Year-end

Year-end is December 31, which is coming soon, so make sure your books are up to date before the holiday rush! That will make it easier to wind things up for December 31, when they must be closed for review.

### Financial Reviews

There is a **new Financial Review Checklist** this year, with questions about the collection of taxes. It will be up on the Quebec website by the end of December.

**Unit books** should be reviewed within the district, as long as those doing the review meet the requirements for independent reviewers as outlined in the handbooks. District Treasurers should send the Annual Financial Reports and copies of the Financial Review Checklists for each unit to the provincial office.

**District books** will be reviewed by the District Treasurers at a book review day this year. Please send all documentation (see list on the Annual Financial Report) to the provincial office **by January 31, 2015**. We will probably meet in February, at the same time as the DCs, but I'll let you know.

**Trefoil Guild books** of Guilds with their own bank accounts should also be reviewed at year-end. They should be treated as unit books and be reviewed within the district.

As always, if you have any Guiding financial questions, email me at [finances-support@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:finances-support@guidesquebec.ca)

Dawn Coffey  
District Treasurer Support Specialist

# News from the Office

The **Design-a-Crest contest** is back!

Be a part of history and design the  
**2015-2016 GGC Québec Membership Crest!**

Every girl member who registers for the 2015-2016 Guiding year will receive the crest, possibly created by you! Here are the guidelines:

1. There must be a trefoil in your design.\*
2. The following bilingual text must appear: **'Québec Guiding 2015-2016—Guidisme Québec 2015-2016'**
3. Email your crest design to **communications@guidesquebec.ca** before **February 27, 2015**.

\* The winning design may be adjusted to comply with GGC Brand Standards

*Let the spirit of Guiding inspire you!*



The winning entry will be featured in *The Piccolo* and the winner will receive \$30 to spend shopping at the Girl Guide store!

## Call out for second hand uniforms



If you have Guiding uniforms in your closet, in your unit, please consider donating them to communities where uniforms don't always fit in the family budget.

The office will accept these gently used uniforms, any branch, current or previous style, for distribution where there is a need.

*Thank you for thinking of the sister you've never met!*

## Provincial office holiday closures

The provincial office will be closed for business on Monday, **December 22 through till January 2**, reopening on Monday, January 5.

## Thank you, Mélissa

Please join us in thanking Mélissa Guichard for her work as Administrative Assistant with Québec Council these past couple of months. It has been a pleasure having her in the office and we're sure those who have interacted with her have appreciated her diligence and positive outlook. We wish her all the best as she explores other opportunities.

## Welcome, Véronik!

We are pleased to announce that Véronik Guichard has joined the Québec Council staff as Administrative Assistant. She brings with her several years of administrative experience in various settings. We hope you'll join us in welcoming her to the team.

## GGC Québec provincial crests

Crests are \$1.50 each. Fill out an [order form](#) (available on the [Forms](#) page of the QC website) and send it to us at [info@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:info@guidesquebec.ca)



## Camp Wa-Thik-Ane Supporter crests



It's not too late to order your special edition crests! They are \$3.00 each, plus shipping (when applicable). Download an [order form](#) and send it to [info@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:info@guidesquebec.ca)

## BackCheck FAQ

Frequently asked questions about PRCs and BackCheck are now available on our [provincial website](#) under:

*Current Member Volunteers > FAQ > Screening*

## January 2015 *Piccolo*

Please note that due to the holiday break, the January 2015 edition of *The Piccolo* will be published on Thursday, January 15.

All submissions should be sent to:

[communications@guidesquebec.ca](mailto:communications@guidesquebec.ca) no later than January 8.



## GGC Québec Council—2014-2015 Important Dates

<b>December 19</b>	<b>Deadline to register for Snow Trails 2015 Winter Camps</b>
<b>January 17</b>	<b>Guider Symposium, Champlain College—Saint-Lambert</b> <b>Register by January 12!</b>
<b>February 13-15</b>	<b>Snow Trails Winter Camp</b> (Pathfinders, Rangers, Trex and Guiders)
<b>February 21-22</b>	<b>Québec Quinzee Sleepout</b> (3rd year Pathfinders, Rangers, Trex and Guiders)
<b>May 2</b>	<b>Festi-Guides</b>
<b>May 7</b>	<b>Québec Council Annual General Meeting</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Camp Opening Day at Wa-Thik-Ane</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Young Women’s Forum</b>

### *Girl Guides are always up for a challenge!*

When an invitation to learn the [Penguin Shake](#) came our way, we sent out the challenge to members across the province. Here’s what Mille-Îles District sent back to us! Click the image below to watch them strut their stuff!



Members enjoying a free advanced screening of *Penguins of Madagascar*