

Girl  Guides

# BC Council Annual Report 2018



## BC Girl Guides

### **Vision**

A better world, by girls.

### **Mission**

To be a catalyst for girls empowering girls.

### **Promise**

I Promise to do my best,  
To be true to myself, my beliefs and Canada  
I will take action for a better world  
And respect the Guiding Law

**Celebrating  
Girls Being  
Girls**

# Leslie Bush, BC Provincial Commissioner



Celebrating girls being girls is the theme for this year's Annual General Meeting. Girls being girls honours the commitment of all our members to encourage girl members through activities and experiences to be everything they want to be. This theme was chosen, in part, because of a video produced and developed by a BC Girl Guide in which she explained how Girl Guides has allowed her to be all she can be. She used the unicorn as a whimsical symbol of individualism. You might have seen it at the Girls First Launch Party in September or as our New Year's greeting in January.

In BC we continue to make conservative but steady increases in our membership. This year we welcomed 212 new girl members and 36 new adult members to experience Guiding, a 1.6% increase overall.

Our new Guide House provides a bright and vibrant space for girls to be girls! Since we opened the doors the building has been a busy location for meetings, trainings, sleepovers and girl experiences. As one of the staff commented, there is a bright "vibe" to the building; it is a welcoming and friendly space for our members to come to.

This year, whether girls chose to explore travel, challenge themselves through adventures, increase their awareness of social responsibility through service locally or globally or took steps to make a difference in our world through learning about different cultures or by helping to preserve our environment, they were girls being girls.

Here are just some examples of girls being girls because of Guiding.

## Girls Being Girls Globally

- ★ Girls travelled—boy, did they travel! Girls visited Japan, Africa, Europe and Mexico.
- ★ They also experienced the world while staying at home through internationally themed Thinking Day events and the BC-sponsored Colours of the World, where participants experienced the multicultural side of the Lower Mainland.

## Girls Being Girls through Service to Others and Our Environment

- ★ Girls volunteered at local Canada Day celebrations.
- ★ They honoured active members and veterans of our Armed Forces by making holiday cards for members stationed overseas and attending Remembrance Day and other ceremonies remembering our veterans' service in conflicts overseas.
- ★ They supported our seniors by visiting care homes for fun, friendship and singalongs, making tray favours for Meals on Wheels, local hospitals and care homes, and joining a group of seniors taking in a holiday light tour.
- ★ They gained awareness of those with less by carrying out pyjama and sock drives and by making ready-to-use birthday in a bag kits for food banks and transition homes, to provide an instant birthday celebration for kids. They made and distributed hygiene kits in purses for women in shelters or without homes and also participated in Hike for Hunger food drives, and they made and/or filled holiday hampers at Christmas Bureaus.
- ★ They helped to make our world better by planting trees, removing invasive plants from community parks and participating in annual shoreline and community cleanup events.
- ★ Girls took direct action by learning about recycling and by volunteering at the SPCA.

## Girls Being Girls through Learning

- ★ Girls experienced STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) through attending Science Games

at Simon Fraser University and LEGO Robotic Workshops.

- ★ They learned about work and life opportunities through presentations by women working in engineering, search and rescue, medicine and public health.
- ★ GUEST (Guides Exploring Science and Technology) was held for the first time in two locations: Northern BC and, for the first time, the Lower Mainland.
- ★ Girls learned practical skills they can use immediately through age-appropriate FoodSafe and first aid courses, and they talked about money and budgeting with a financial planner.

## Girls Being Girls through Experiences, Events and Adventures

- ★ Girls got to just be girls while experiencing BC-sponsored summer adventures like Pathfinder Paddles, a canoe adventure held at Murtle Lake, in Wells Grey Park; a Mt. Assiniboine backpacking adventure for Rangers; Roam: Follow the Gold Rush; and Trex Rendezvous.
- ★ They made new friends at Pathfinder Summit, Amazing Arts Again and More Seaside Fun, and they learned camping skills at Guide Jubilee and Let's Camp S'more; these, as well as West Coast Area's Holiday camp and Fraser Skies Area's Rally in the Valley, were girl-powered events extraordinaire!
- ★ BC Council partnered with the Vancouver Canucks to hold an amazing Girl Guides at the Canucks Day and a sleepover at the BC Hall of Fame.
- ★ Sleepovers at the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre and Vancouver Aquarium are always popular learning and friendship events.
- ★ At the unit and district levels, girls got to be girls at teas and balls, Spark sprees and revelramas, a Pathfinder fall frolic, a Ranger urban adventure and Iron Chef events! And some got to explore the mysteries in Gastown.
- ★ I can imagine how girls felt trying active life skills like yoga and Zumba, learning self-defence moves and going cross-country skiing, tubing and horseback riding!

★ They also learned skills in Salish Weaving and in painting through unit-based workshops.

- ★ West Coast Area girls attended Planes Trains and Automobiles, a transportation-themed day at the BC Institute of Technology's aerospace campus.

And girls can't be girls without Guiders being Guiders!

## Guiders Being Guiders and Growing Skills!

- ★ Over 200 Guiders and presenters attended the BC Guiders' Conference in Richmond.
- ★ Fifty-six Girls First Champions and I attended Girls First training in Edmonton, learning about girl-driven programming. The Champions have in turn spread that knowledge to unit Guiders across the province and will continue to deliver this training through 2019.
- ★ Guiders participated in a variety of training opportunities, including financial, FoodSafe and first aid sessions to build their skills.
- ★ Adviser- and committee-based workshops, area commissioner/district commissioner workshops and specialized skills training like Dynamic Presentations built knowledge and skills across our organization.
- ★ OAL (Outdoor Activity Leadership) Adventure trainings prepared our leaders to provide opportunities for girls to challenge themselves. This year, flexibility and change were the bywords for these events; challenged by Mother Nature, Guiders adapted!

This is but a small sampling of the myriad of opportunities our members have experienced this past year. Girls being girls, showing compassion for others and excitement to learn, having fun with other girls and challenging themselves physically and mentally, in a safe, all-female organization led by women who want girls to be everything they want to be.

Like girls in the Cyndi Lauper song, Guiding members in BC "just want to have fun." No matter their ages, they are at heart girls being girls!

# BC Girl Guides

## Celebrating Girls Being Girls

### In 2018, BC Girl Guides celebrated ...

#### Girls Being Girls through Events and Adventures

- ★ Revelrama
- ★ Amazing Arts Again
- ★ More Seaside Fun
- ★ Holidayze
- ★ Let's Camp S'more
- ★ Pathfinder Fall Frolic
- ★ Iron Chef
- ★ Ranger Urban Adventure
- ★ Nite Trek
- ★ Trex Rendezvous
- ★ Pathfinder Summit
- ★ Colours of the World
- ★ Guide Jubilee
- ★ Pathfinder Paddles
- ★ Roam: Follow the Gold Rush
- ★ Mount Assiniboine backpacking trip
- ★ Extreme Air event
- ★ Mysteries in Gastown
- ★ Yoga
- ★ Self-defence
- ★ Zumba
- ★ Snowshoeing
- ★ Cross-country skiing
- ★ Drama workshops
- ★ Tubing
- ★ Salish Weaving workshop
- ★ Painting
- ★ Escape room
- ★ Horseback riding
- ★ Sleepovers (including at H.R. MacMillan Space Centre and Planet Lazer Tag)
- ★ Sparks Go Wild at the Palace Day Camp
- ★ Cookies and Milk Ball
- ★ Snowflake Ball
- ★ Snowflake Tea
- ★ Spark Spree
- ★ Rally in the Valley
- ★ Christmas campfire singalong
- ★ Brownie tenting camps

- ★ BC Sports Hall of Fame sleepover
- ★ BC Girl Guides at the Canucks
- ★ Planes, Trains and Automobiles at BCIT
- ★ Passport to the Arts Camp
- ★ District bridging events

#### Girls Being Girls through Global Awareness

- ★ World Thinking Day events
- ★ African Adventures 2018
- ★ Trips to Europe
- ★ Hike for Hunger
- ★ Trip to Our Cabaña
- ★ Discover Japan

#### Girls Being Girls through Service Projects

- ★ Collecting donations for pyjama drives
- ★ Delivering Santa baskets
- ★ Planting trees
- ★ Observing Remembrance Day
- ★ Volunteering at Canada Day events
- ★ Volunteering at the SPCA
- ★ Making cards for veterans
- ★ Visiting seniors care homes
- ★ Learning about recycling
- ★ Removing invasive plants from community parks
- ★ Volunteering at the "Coldest Night of the Year" food drive
- ★ Making trays for Meals on Wheels
- ★ Accompanying seniors on a holiday lights tour
- ★ Filling purses with toiletries for the homeless
- ★ Participating in shoreline cleanups

#### Girls Being Girls through Education

- ★ Presentation by BC engineers
- ★ FoodSafe training
- ★ First aid courses
- ★ Talks by female engineers, councillors, search and rescue volunteer, physician and health inspector



- ★ GUEST (Guides Exploring Science and Technology) in the North and in the Lower Mainland
- ★ STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Workshop
- ★ LEGO Robotic Workshop
- ★ Planes, Trains and Automobiles event
- ★ Science Games
- ★ Budgeting education with financial planner
- ★ Alberta Girls' Parliament

#### Guiders Being Guiders through Training

- ★ BC Guiders' Conference
- ★ Girls First training
- ★ Guider training
- ★ OAL (Outdoor Activity Leadership) training
- ★ AC/DC (Area Commissioner/District Commissioner) Workshop
- ★ Moneybags Workshop
- ★ Area Training Advisers Workshop
- ★ Dynamic Presentations Workshop
- ★ Presentation and Communication Skills Workshop
- ★ Trex S'more training



# BC Girl Guides

## Celebrating Girls Being Girls

### BC Council Membership for 2018

**Patron** Her Honour, the Honourable Janet Austin,  
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

#### Honorary Officers

Pat Drugge	Judy Maurice
Elaine Hayden	Dolores Racine
Dawnette Humphrey	Marion Rogers
Daphne MacGregor-Greer	Georgia Runcie

#### Provincial Commissioner

Leslie Bush

#### Deputy Provincial Commissioners

Colleen Kellner  
Darlene Kent  
Tara Decker

#### Provincial Treasurer

Joan Wallwork

#### Advisers of Provincial Standing Committees

Camping	Joy Andersen (January–April) Cindy McInnes (May–December)
International Membership	Teri Craig Gerry Koepke (January–May) Claire Sokoloski (September–December)
Program Public Relations and Communications	Colleen McKenna and Susan Stephen Sue Street
Training	Tamara Sweet-Letts

#### Provincial Risk and Compliance Adviser

Fiona McFarlane

#### Provincial Coordinators

Girl Engagement Coordinator	Kate Tobin
Member Services Coordinator	Siobhan Peck

#### Area Commissioners

Fraser Skies	Jenny Hall, Bev Lindsay and Marion Weir
Kootenay	Tammy Cox (January–February), Sue Fielding and Heather Hall Carol Williams
Lions	Natalie Baxter
Lougheed	Julie Thomson and Barb Wilson
Monashee	Barb Wood
Pacific Shores	Phoebe Painter
Rivers North	Adrienne Blandford (January–July), Wendy Halpen (January–July) and Gillian Hurwood (January–July)
Southern Vancouver Island	Debra Desjardins, Leslie Hall, Margaret Patten and Judy Teshima (January–June); Karley Mathieson (July–December)
Thompson Nicola	Hilary Feldman and Elaine Lake
West Coast	

#### Members

Christina Armstrong and Lynne Wright	
Youth Forum Coordinator	Lisa Wechzelberger

### 2018 BC Council Bursaries, Grants and Scholarships

#### Bursary of Honour

Sophie K., *Lions Area*

#### BC Council Bursary

Vivian C., <i>Lions Area</i>	Meagan M., <i>Lions Area</i>
Meghan I., <i>Lions Area</i>	Amy S., <i>Thompson Nicola Area</i>
Nerissa K., <i>West Coast Area</i>	Breanna S., <i>Pacific Shores Area</i>
Lauren L., <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>	Kyla W., <i>Rivers North Area</i>

#### Margery Dumfries Scholarship

Anastasia P., *West Coast Area*

#### Eve Pound Scholarship

Ardis M.-L., *West Coast Area*

#### Pat Drugge Adult Bursary

No applications submitted this year

#### BC Trefoil Guilds' Education Grant

Carissa Konesky, <i>West Coast Area</i>	Christina Manning, <i>Lougheed Area</i>
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#### Aliza, Chaim and Tova Kornfeld Scholarship

Chloe Faught, *Southern Vancouver Island Area*

#### Leslee Jean Arnet Bursary

No applications submitted this year

#### Awards

##### BC Awards

Peggy Hartman, *Pacific Shores Area*  
Gerry Koepke, *West Coast Area*

##### Medal of Merit

Erin DeBruin, <i>West Coast Area</i>	Maura Lum, <i>Fraser Skies Area</i>
Roanna McCormack, <i>Pacific Shores Area</i>	

##### Fortitude

Nancy Bothamley, *Pacific Shores Area*  
Susan Clegg, *Rivers North Area*  
Morag Foster, *Lougheed Area*  
Laura Freeman, *Rivers North Area*  
Cheryl Hancock, *Monashee Area*  
Kristina Larsen, *Rivers North Area*  
Brenda Matthews, *South Vancouver Island Area*  
Gail Moerish, *Lions Area*  
Gail Rose, *Monashee Area*  
Barb Wood, *Pacific Shores Area*

##### Honorary Life

Kathy Brown, <i>Pacific Shores Area</i>	Alison Speirs, <i>Lions Area</i>
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##### Book of Honour

Joy Andersen, <i>Kootenay Area</i>	Rosa Hossack, <i>Pacific Shores Area</i>
Jean Bannerman (in memoriam), <i>West Coast Area</i>	Robi McKnight, <i>Rivers North Area</i>
Barbara Gallant, <i>Lougheed Area</i>	Ruth Seabloom, <i>Pacific Shores Area</i>

##### Also presented to

##### BC members in 2018

Gold Merit	16
Silver Merit	11
Bronze Merit	23
Gold Thanks	74
Team Award	64

##### Membership in 2018

Girls	13,536
Adults	4,312
Total Members	17,848

##### Girl Guide Cookie Sales

Classic cookies	58,800 cases
Chocolatey mint cookies	52,845 cases
Total cookie sales	111,645 cases