

Minutes of Riverton Area Service Team Meeting – January 28, 2018

Saint John Evangelist Church; 75 Main Street

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Those present were: Chrystal Allen (AC), Cheryl Jacobs (Area Treasurer), Peter Kent, Karoline Barr, (Area Recognition) Keith Barr, Julie McDonald, Tom Austin (Area Registrar), John Boyne (Past AC and Secretary), Kerri Daamen (CC), Jason Oldford, Michel Clark, Alvin Ashfield, Catherine O'Connell-Cooper, Lisa Pollock and Emma Daamen (AYC).

2. Agenda: Reviewed and modified
3. Minutes from previous (December 11, 2017) meeting were reviewed and approved as circulated. Motion for approval by Keith and Michael.
4. Introductions: Members introduced themselves and briefly described their current role and history with scouting.
5. Top priorities: The focus/activities of the Area Team were discussed with respect to Scouts Canada's 5 priorities. The following items / information was discussed:
 - a. SC's 5 priorities (see attached)
 - b. Recognition: Importance of ensuring that all volunteers are recognized at least one a year. Opportunities for youth and parent helper recognition – Kerri gave example of how parent helpers had been recognized across the Province. The Recognition Guide can be viewed online at http://www.scouts.ca/wp-content/uploads/scouters/feedback-recognition/Recognition-Guide_web.pdf It includes information for Scouters to keep in mind when filing a submission for "thanks" and ideas for both formal and informal recognition of Scouters, Youth, Parent Helpers, Sponsors, etc.
 - c. Parent engagement
 - d. Membership growth and development: Kim Au has recently been appointed as Deputy Council Commissioner Membership Growth for the Province of New Brunswick. She will be focusing on Section Retention as well as membership growth.
 - e. Group Capacity: Ideally Groups will have at least 3 non-section Scouters on Group Committee to be able to fully support the program.
 - f. Training: Sherryl Eatmon – DCC Volunteer Development is willing to facilitate in-person training for anyone wanting it. GCs are to communicate training needs to Chrystal so that she can pass along to Council for follow-up. There is a need for opportunities for new scouters to meet and share information/experiences discussed. Examples of previous approaches to in person training discussed.
 - i. Possibility of holding a section specific forum on alternate months to Area Team meetings discussed.
 - ii. Possibility of organizing a wilderness first aid training course discussed; general consensus that this would be well received.
6. Bring a Friend Event: Planning for another attempt at Area Wide Bring a Friend Event at Killarney Lake. John will pick-up the previous work, but is looking for 2 or 3 additional persons to help with the planning and implementation. Chrystal to send out a request/invitation to all scouters for volunteers to participate on the 'Steering' group.

7. Round Table

- a. Proposal from Linda re: Howler and White Tail workshops, focusing on implementation of Cdn. Path principles. Discussion of proposed timing for these events and likelihood of good participation. Chrystal to follow-up with Linda re: proposed dates.
 - b. Linking Camp: Question of whether there will be a 'linking' camp this summer. Alternatives discussed, including possibility of holding linking camp on alternate years and a cub or beaver event on in-between years. Possibility of rotating the location of the spring 'linking' camp also discussed. Kerri will seek Council input on plans for spring camp (linking or cub) at Yoho this year.
 - i. Possibility of a Beavoree being planned in Wabanaki/Fundy East this spring mentioned.
 - c. Desirability of having a Provincial events calendar available discussed. Kerri mentioned efforts to implement a new Council website that will include links/pages for Areas and a provincial calendar. Areas encouraged to communicate event plans to Ken Elisseou so that he can include them in Council calendar. Kerri also noted that volunteers (adults or youth) are needed to help Ken run new website.
 - d. Recognition: Karoline distributed a number of certificates of commendation.
 - e. Yoho receipts: Cheryl asked if groups require receipts for Yoho rentals. General consensus was that simple e-mail acknowledgement of receipt of payment is sufficient in most cases.
 - f. FredKid event: Will be coming up in the Spring – does Area wish to participate?
 - g. World Jamboree: Peter has raffle tickets for sale to assist St. Margaret's in fund raising for Word Jamboree attendance. Questions were raised about how individual youth can attend WJ if their group is not going. Peter would be happy to help these individuals link up with either his group or others attending from NB.
 - h. Hospitality Hosting: Keith has submitted an expression of interest for the Area to host a group attending WJ at Yoho either before or after WJ. No confirmation yet received. It will be important to determine possible hosting dates asap, so that Yoho can be reserved as needed.
 - i. Area Youth Commissioner: Emma Daamen was introduced as our new Area Youth Commissioner. She will be working with the CYC on building up a Youth Network in Riverton. Another area of focus is on promoting Program Quality Assessments. Kerri briefly explained the new PQA process and plans to promote it. Kerri would be happy to demonstrate the PQA process (in myscouts.ca) to anyone interested.
8. Next Meeting: The next meeting is planned for late February– probably a Sunday afternoon. Chrystal will send out a doodle poll to try to identify a date that works for most people.

Action Items

- GC's to identify training needs in their group and communicate these to Chrystal.
- Chrystal to send request for volunteers to work on Steering group for spring Bring a Friend event.
- Chrystal to follow-up with Linda re: proposed dates for Howler and White Tail workshops.
- Kerri to seek Council input on spring linking or cub camp.
- Chrystal to send doodle poll re: next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by J. Boyne

Making Scouts Canada bigger and more vibrant than ever before.

At Scouts Canada, our Mission is clear: to help develop well-rounded youth, better prepared for success in the world. We do this by enabling thousands of young Canadians to engage in safe, youth-led, adventurous programs in hundreds of communities across this great country. As Volunteers and staff supporting these programs, our aim is to ensure Scouting remains vibrant and continues to expand its reach: providing more youth with an opportunity to learn and to experience things at Scouts that they cannot experience elsewhere.

In order for Scouting in Canada to be as impactful as possible, we have identified five key areas of focus and associated measures of success that will guide our work over the next 3 years.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

We are committed to ensuring that every child has an opportunity to participate in Scouting, and we will work together to meet or exceed an annual 10% growth in full-time youth membership. To achieve this goal, our Sections and Groups must engage regularly in recruitment activities and keep a close eye on member attendance and retention. In practical terms, we can exceed our growth goal by adding one youth to each of our Sections across the country every year.

SAFETY LEADERSHIP

We are committed to safe Scouting for all members. To achieve this, we will ensure that all major safety incidents are reviewed rapidly, that learnings are shared regularly, and that 100% of volunteer applicants have met all membership requirements within 90 days of applying for membership. Our focus will remain on being prepared, engaging youth, and doing things the “right” way.

PROGRAM QUALITY

We are committed to a program that meets the needs and aspirations of today’s youth. The Canadian Path is our path to success: ensuring that all four elements (Youth-led, Plan-Do-Review, Adventure and SPICES) come to life is our fundamental focus. Success will be marked by at least 50% of our Sections reviewing their programs at least three times annually using the self-assessment contained in the Program Quality Standards.*

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

We are committed to providing meaningful support to our thousands of outstanding Volunteers. Our goal is to establish meaningful relationships with our Scouters, ensuring we understand their needs and that we are providing the support necessary to improve volunteer engagement. We will regularly obtain volunteer input on engagement and are aiming for an increase in the willingness of our volunteer Scouters to recommend Scouts Canada to others as a great place to volunteer.

GROUP CAPACITY We are committed to strong and healthy Groups that enable our Section Scouters to maintain focus on what matters most – our youth. Healthy Groups have the capacity to seek out and obtain the resources necessary to support a high quality program (e.g. facilities, Volunteers, finances, community). They recruit Volunteers regularly and maintain a strong focus on program quality. To

support healthy Groups, our aim is to ensure that there are a minimum of 3 dedicated non-Section Scouters on each Group Committee.

*this target is specific to the 2015-16 Scouting year; this changes to 65% in 2016-17 and 80% in 2017-18.