



Girl Guides of Manitoba September 2009

100 1910-2010 Girl Greatness Starts Here 

Volunteer of the Month

Congratulations to the following volunteers of the month for July and August!

July 2009: Kathy Simpson, Pembina Valley Area
August 2009: Nicole Webster, Interlake Area

Congratulations!

Manitoba Council sends congratulations to Kelly Leask, who was accepted for a volunteer position at Our Cabaña from December 18 to February 25.

Way to go Kelly!

Canadian Girls Say...

Guiders, please make sure your girls are aware of this excellent opportunity!

Join in on the fun and participate in the Canadian Girls Say... photo contest and project. Girl Guides of Canada wants to hear what you have to say about your community! Here's how it works:

1. Think about your community.
2. Take photos of the things you like or dislike about your community.
3. Select one photo that best represents what you really care about and submit for the Canadian Girls Say... photo contest. Results due **Friday October 30**.



Top three reasons to be a part of 'Canadian Girls Say...'

Let yourself be heard! This is a chance for you to speak out about what you care about in your community.

Your photo may be displayed in a gallery! GGC will invite the three girls who took the top three photos and local Units to attend an unveiling of the project's photos at Casa Loma in Toronto. Photos will also be selected for an on-line gallery.

Help make a difference in your community. Your Unit will have the chance to take action as we celebrate the Universal Day of the Child on November 20, 2009.

For more information, girls can visit http://memberzone.girlguides.ca/Important%20News/GYSD_and_canadian_girl_say.aspx

Travel to Ecuador with GGC!

Girl Guides of Canada is sending Pathfinders, Rangers and their Guiders on an amazing adventure next summer and we want you to go! We are now accepting applications for the following nationally sponsored international event:

Participate in a local development project and explore Ecuador's unique ecosystem as you gain hands-on experience through this trip, in partnership with Me to We, a world-renowned youth leadership organization. We're sending 10 girls (aged 13 to 17) and two Guiders on this July 31 – August 15, 2010 trip.

Click here for the more information and details on how to apply <http://girlguides.mb.ca/Downloads/Resources/ECUADORADVENTURE2010.pdf>

Apply soon for your chance to go on an amazing international adventure in 2010! The deadlines are December 1, 2009 for Guiders and December 15, 2009 for girls and both deadlines are **FIRM**.

YMCA Youth Exchanges Canada

The YMCA has a fantastic opportunity for youth aged 12 to 17 to see another part of the country and learn first hand about local history, culture, and shared aspects of the Canadian experience.

Participants are twinned with same-age groups from another province or territory, and they take turns staying in each other's communities. The YMCA strives to include participation of all youth, including those from Aboriginal or visible minority communities, those from low-income families, and those who have a disability. Transportation costs are paid for by the YMCA in partnership with Canadian Heritage.

The application deadline is September 30, 2009. For more information please contact Zoë Rezac, Regional Coordinator of the Prairies, YMCA Youth Exchanges Canada at ZRezac@edmonton.ymca.ca or visit www.youthexchanges.org.

New Challenges Available for 2009—2010

There is so much happening in Girl Programs this year as we gear up for our 100th anniversary. There are a lot of great challenges for girls to participate in year round, such as:

- Canadian Girls Say...
- Uniform 2060
- Universal Children's Day
- National Day of Action on Violence Against Women
- Global Youth Service Day
- ...and more!

Please check out the provincial website, under Challenges for a full listing of available challenges for the upcoming year (<http://girlguides.mb.ca/Downloads/Challenges/NewChallengesfor2009.pdf>).

Reminder: Training on the RIDGE!

You are invited to join Pine Ridge Area for this training event that will help to kick off the Guiding year! Full details and registration forms are available on the provincial website under events.

October 23-25, 2009
7:00 pm Friday - 1:15 pm Sunday
Nutimik Baptist Camp, Whiteshell Provincial Park

Cost: **\$75** (\$25 will be paid for by Manitoba Council) – includes all meals and accommodation. **Deadline for Registration: October 2, 2009**

Cookie All Stars Success Stories!

Thanks to all the girls and Guiders who helped to make the Cookie All Stars a success. Like with anything new, the process continues to evolve and we will keep you up to date with any new information about the program. Here are some excerpts from the national cookie publication, Cookie Crumbles, about other successes with Cookie All Stars:

Cookie All Stars helped the 8th Barrie Guides from Ontario raise funds for a trip:

"Well, I'll start by saying that Cookie All Stars was a huge success in our unit! We have quite a large unit at 26 girls. We have been selling our fall and spring cookies to raise money for our end of the year trip to Ottawa. I was absolutely blown away when 1/2 of our unit ordered 5 or more cases. We also had 2 orders for 25 cases and 3 for over 10 cases. All of the girls said they ordered more because of the rewards and to help with Ottawa. We had an impressive order of 150 cases just for the girls to take home and then we ordered 125 for our unit to sell together. They are so excited for the fall that I have had several girls tell me that they are going to sell even more. Thank you cookie all stars!!!!!!"

Madeline from Ontario learned to appreciate hard work and to set goals:

"I liked the Cookie All-Stars program because I liked the opportunity to work hard to directly fundraise for camps/ activities in which I am participating. I liked the recognition of my achievement and the prizes!! It was a good idea to have a specific goal/target of cookie sales for each of the prize levels. That way I could choose what I wanted to work towards."

Danicka, Malena, Shelby and Kaylie from Saskatchewan found it easy to collect orders! Kaylie said:

"It was really easy doing the ordering. All I did was get on the phone to friends and family and I sold 3 cases in half an hour."

Safe Guide Revisions

Based on feedback from our Members, we've updated Safe Guide 2008 and have now released the changes. For the updated document on Member Zone visit: <http://memberzone.girlguides.ca/C8/Safe%20Guide/default.aspx>

Here are a few highlights:

- A list of all adults attending an activity or event must be included or attached to the Activity Notification or Authorization (SG.3). This includes any adult guests.
- First aid ratio for Yellow level activities has been revised. Only girls are counted for the purpose of the 1:25 ratio. For Red level activities, all participants (girls and women) are included in the ratio.
- New definitions for Activity Facilitator and Third Party Service Provider (TPSP). This means fewer activities will need to have the Activity Notification (SG.3). More information about the new process for TPSPs is below.

There are three new activity guides:

- Accommodations Activity Guide – This activity guide is for groups planning stays in hotels, hostels, university residences or community buildings.
- Residential Camping Activity Guide – This activity guide is for groups camping in residential facilities.
- Third Party Service Provider Activity Guide – This activity guide directs the process for engaging a third party service provider. This new process provides more support to Members for making a wise choice when they entrust the care and management of girls to an external organization or business. TPSPs are no longer assessed as Yellow level on the Activity Planning Chart. Many of the activities previously considered third party are now defined as being under the direction of an Activity Facilitator. This will mean that fewer activities will need an Activity Notification (SG.3) to be completed.

We recommend that Members print the General Planning for Activities section of the Safe Guide for handy reference.

Implementation

As of September 1, 2009 all activities must be planned based on the July 2009 version of Safe Guide.

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing safe and exciting activities to our girl Members.

Safe Guide Process

Safe Guide activities are broken down into green, yellow and red activities. Yellow and red activities require approval. This process utilizes the following steps:

- Complete required forms.
- Submit by email, fax or mail to the Provincial office at least **three weeks prior** to the time of the event. All forms should be sent to Stephanie's attention (sdion@girlguides.mb.ca is the email to send them to). The subject must say Safe Guide Forms and should include the date of the event.
- **Please do not send forms directly to an assessor.** The volunteer assessors all work on a rotating basis.
- Office staff will complete a checklist to ensure that all other required information is there. Guiders will receive an email confirming the initial receipt of the forms. If a Guider does not receive this confirmation, it is their responsibility to follow up and ensure the Provincial office has indeed received their forms.
- Assessors will follow up with Guiders on any missing information, and to approve the activity.
- The office will mail completed forms to the Guider and will email communication to the DC that the activity has been approved. Activity authorization forms will be filed at the Provincial office.

This process does mean that paperwork must be submitted in a timely manner. Please send forms in well in advance of your event date to ensure approval. **Starting immediately all forms submitted without sufficient time for assessors to review will not be approved and will require your event to be modified or cancelled.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Provincial and National Forms—Please Update

In an effort to assist Guiders, and to ensure that everyone is using the most up to date forms, we have gone through the provincial and national forms in order to alert you of updates to any forms. The updates are as follows:

Provincial Forms

Helping Hands General Information and Applications (updated July 2009)
Cookie Reserve Fund Application (updated July 2009)

National Forms (from Member Zone)

A.1	Membership Application Form (updated June 2009)
A.5	Initial Girl Registration Form (updated March 2009)
INS.01	Incident Report Form (updated June 2009)
STG/STA/STS	Nationally Sponsored International Event Forms (updated June 2009)
SG.1	Activity Plan (updated July 2009)
SG.3	Activity Notification or Authorization (updated July 2009)
SG.7	TPSP Interview Checklist (July 2009)
H.1	Personal Health Form and Permission To Pick Up Girl Members
IT.2	Intent to Travel Internationally
IT.3	International Group Trip Application Form
WA.3	Swim and Boating Test Verification for Groups

Please go through any forms you may have saved on your computers and replace with these new forms. In many cases, the new forms are a requirement, not a preference, and by not using the new forms you may be holding up approval or application processes. It is a good idea to check once or twice a year to make sure that you have the updated forms, or to access Member Zone and/or the provincial website each time you use a form, to ensure you are getting the most up to date version.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Cookie All Stars Updates and Information

The new year-long structure for Cookie All Stars will start for the 2009 chocolatey mint campaign and continue with the 2010 classic campaign. Guiders will track the number of cases girls sell during both the chocolatey mint and classic campaigns; how Guiders do this will be sent this fall. . In the spring, Guiders will submit orders for prizes based on each girl's total cookie sales for the year.

Now that Cookie All Stars is a year-long initiative, girls have the entire year to achieve their cookie selling goals, making it easier for them to earn prizes for their hard work. Girls will now receive prizes for selling quantities of cookies at the following levels:

7 cases sold
15 cases sold
30 cases sold
40 cases sold

Prizes will be determined based on the feedback received from girls, parents and Guiders and will be announced in the fall.

Recognition certificates

Every girl that participates in Cookie All Stars will receive a recognition certificate. The certificate will be available in the spring for Unit Guiders to download and print. Girls that sell 40 cases or more will receive a certificate signed by the Chief Commissioner. The signed certificate will be mailed with prizes in the spring.

Cookie Payments tracking Form

A payment Unit tracking form is available on the provincial website at <http://girlguides.mb.ca/Downloads/Forms/CookiePaymentsTrackingForm.pdf>

Cookie Rising!

The new Cookies Rising Badge Program is designed to help Sparks, Brownies, Guides and Pathfinders develop life-skills, confidence and leadership through activities that build interest in cookie selling and better integrates cookies into regular GGC programming. All of the Cookies Rising badges are based on fun, cumulative learning objectives that are purposeful and ensure that girls receive the maximum learning benefits.

This program was pilot tested during the spring 2009 classic cookie campaign and will be launched in September, just in time for the fall campaign. Look for this exciting new program on Member Zone – and the new badges designed by girls – this coming fall!

GGC Launches Online Film Festival

Earlier this summer we gave you a sneak preview of one film that was to be part of our first and annual GGC online film festival – *Perspectives on a Girl!*

If you don't remember, or missed our earlier notification, the online film festival is a series of short films. Each film was created by a talented Canadian female artist who generously donated her efforts to creatively explore some of the challenges faced by girls today and see them through the eyes of a girl. Because Girl Guides of Canada enables girls to be confident, resourceful and courageous, *Perspectives on a Girl* illustrates why today, more than ever before, Girls need Guides.

We are now ready for the launch of Phase 2 and our official unveiling to the public with five films (4 new). We wanted to share them with you first and sincerely hope you enjoy them.

Please visit perspectivesonagirl.ca to view these short films. While you're there, be sure to sign up for updates to stay informed about new films we will be adding over the next few weeks. (And don't forget to pass the site along to all your friends!)

Provincial Screening Nights

Based on overwhelming feedback from last year, we are continuing to hold provincial screening nights at the provincial office for any new Guiders coming on board for the 2009—2010 Guiding year. The dates for the provincial screening nights are available on the provincial website, under events (or click here: <http://girlguides.mb.ca/Events.aspx>).

How can you help? If you have any new members, please send their contact information to Elaine at the provincial office and she can follow up with them to schedule them for screening. If you have the correct forms (please see the Provincial and National Forms—Please Update section) you can certainly hand those out to new members.

For rural members, the provincial office will still be handling the screening, so the same format applies as above.

If you would like to volunteer to assist with the screening nights please contact Elaine.

Who to contact at the provincial office...

As we head into a new Guiding year, please be sure to update your contacts so that when you are sending your new members, *Safe Guide* forms, Girl and Returning Girl registration forms, etc, to the right place!

We have run this section before, but are still finding that information isn't being directed to the appropriate person. While staff are certainly able to forward information if it's sent to the wrong place it is important that, for the most part, e-mails and phone calls are going to the correct person so that the information can be received in a timely manner.

Please take note of where to send things and update your e-mail address books and telephone numbers accordingly:

If you have questions about iMIS (inputting, report generation, etc), forms retention, the *Safe Guide* Assessment process, meeting room space or any other general inquiries, please contact Stephanie at sdion@girlguides.mb.ca or at (204) 774-4475, extension 3.

If you have questions about provincial events, membership initiatives/events, Kids Helping Kids challenges, and any other special events or activities, please contact Monika at mtheissen@girlguides.mb.ca or at (204) 774-4475, extension 2.

If you have questions about BackCheck and BackCheck Online, PRC renewal process, adult member screening and any other administration or operations questions please contact Elaine at ecullingham@girlguides.mb.ca, or at (204) 774-4475, extension 1.

If you have questions about cheques, expense forms, donations and receipts, or anything else financial, please contact Jill at jsayegh@girlguides.mb.ca, or at (204) 774-4475, extension 4.

