



“On the Same Page”

The NB Council Commissioner’s Newsletter

7th edition – January 28, 2013

1. Meeting of the New Brunswick Council on February 16

The next meeting of the New Brunswick Council will take place on Saturday, February 16, at the Rivorton Scout Centre at 141 School Street in Fredericton. The meeting will start at 9:30 am, with workshop discussions on a variety of topics, including the development of Camp Holderville and other properties, the new approach to Recognition, program redevelopment and other issues as well as a separate meeting of the NB Youth Network. Group Commissioners are invited to attend. Please let me know of topics that you would like to discuss during the meeting.

Lunch will be provided and, after lunch, the formal meeting of NB Council will be held. The meeting should finish about 4:00 pm, giving people time to get ready for Tom Heath’s dinner in the evening.

Please let Apolline Savage (apolline.savage@hotmail.com) know if you will be attending the Council meeting.

2. Tom Heath’s Retirement Roast



Tom Heath officially retired as our Executive Director on December 31, 2012, after twenty-one years of service to Scouting in New Brunswick. Now, we need to “roast” him and send him off to retirement in style. Tom’s Retirement Dinner and Roast will take place at 6:00 pm on Saturday, February 16, following the meeting of the New Brunswick Council on that day. The banquet will be held in the Hazen Centre in Oromocto, which is located just behind the Oromocto Shopping Centre (map will be sent out closer to the time). Tom and Cathy Heath will be our special guests for the evening and we are also expecting some out-of-province participants.

All members of the New Brunswick Council and all Group Commissioners are invited to attend the dinner. The cost of the dinner will be \$30.00 each, with a special half-price dinner of \$15.00 for Youth Commissioners (half the price, double the food!!!) Spouses are more than welcome to attend. The dinner menu will be a buffet featuring Chicken Cordon Bleu, with a vegetarian alternative available.

Please let Apolline Savage (apolline.savage@hotmail.com) know if you plan to attend the Dinner and Roast and how many tickets you want for the event. Also please let Apolline know if you will require a vegetarian meal. Money will be collected at the Hazen Centre before the dinner.

Linda Boone and I would like to hear from any people who would like to speak at the banquet, especially people who have good stories about Tom.

For those who do not want to drive home that night, Day’s Inn in Oromocto offers a nightly rate of \$99.99 plus tax.

3. New Brunswick Council Summer Camps for 2013

A message to the Area and Group Commissioners:

I am writing to ask for your help in promoting our NB Council summer camping program. As outlined below, we are seeking your assistance in promoting the camps and in providing sponsorship for youth in your Area or Group who may require financial assistance.

In 2013, for the third summer in a row, the New Brunswick Council will be running week-long summer camps for youth, based out of the Yoho Scout Reserve. Our Cub Camp and our Scout Camp will run **from June 30 to July 5**, with the Cubs using the Main Lodge and the Scouts using the Miller Camp Site. All will use the waterfront and will share the other resources of Yoho. Our Paddle Camp, designed for Venturers and older Scouts, will run **from July 7 to July 12**, starting at Yoho and followed by a canoe trip down the St. Croix River.

Our camps in the past two summers have been very successful in spite of the fact that they have not attracted a large number of youth. We would like to increase

the number of attendees this year. We are prepared to accept up to 30 youth in the Cub Camp, 40 youth in the Scout Camp and 10 to 14 youth in the Paddle Camp.

To encourage attendance, we are advertising the camps earlier this year and have placed them at the end of June/ beginning of July to ensure that they do not conflict with family holidays and some other Scouting activities later in the summer, although they will be running at the same time as CJ 13 at Sylvan Lake, AB.

Last fall, we surveyed Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Venturer Companies in the province and found that, while there are some Groups who hold annual camps in July and August, many Groups close down from June until September and most of their summer camping is done in June in connection with the Linking Camp. We concluded that the NB Council Summer Camps would not interfere with many Group activities and that they could serve to enrich and expand our youth camping in New Brunswick.

One innovation this year is that we are encouraging Groups to send a number of youth to these camps along with one Scouter from that Group and are offering a discount on the price as well as waiving the fee for the Scouter who will assist the camp staff with running the camp activities. Because we will have a number of people on staff, we will use the staff and the Scouters from the Groups to maintain our ratio and will not require any Group to send more than one Scouter for the discounted fees. We will also accept individual Scouts and non-Scouts as camp participants.

Please encourage sections in your Groups to take advantage of the discounted group rates and, where possible, show your support by sponsoring youth from your sections who may require financial assistance.

It is our hope that, through these camps, we can encourage more active camping in our Council in the summer months and that these camps can serve as a model for other camps to be offered in Areas and by Groups in years to come.

If you have any questions about the camps or about this program, please direct them to John Boyne, the Chair of the NB Council Camping Committee, (johnbo@nb.sympatico.ca). Further information on the camps may be found at the NB Council website: <http://nb.scouts.ca/summer-camps>.

4. New Brunswick Council Crest

With the new Scout uniforms, it has become necessary to resize badges to be in proportion to the new shirts. This raises the question of the New Brunswick Council badge, which is now larger than it needs to be for the new shirts. We are going to have to have some new badges made and this raises the question of whether we want to change the NB Council badge in any way other than downsizing it a bit. It seems to me there are three options that we might consider:

- a) We could keep the same badge, which is the official New Brunswick emblem, and just reduce its size



- b) We could return to an earlier New Brunswick Provincial Badge which featured the head of a moose



- c) We could hold a competition to design an entirely new badge.

We are conducting an informal survey to see what people would like to do. You can either post your opinion on the NB Council Facebook page or you can send me an email with your opinion. At the Council meeting on February 16, we will report the results of the survey and then ask the Council to decide what is to be done.

Enjoy our January deep-freeze

Yours in Scouting

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Kent", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Peter Kent
Commissioner