



"On the Same Page"

The NB Council Commissioner's Newsletter

10th edition - July 30, 2013

I hope you are all having a productive and enjoyable summer in spite of the unpredictable weather. This has been a busy summer for New Brunswick Scouting youth, with a sizeable contingent attending the Canadian Jamboree in Alberta, with over sixty youth participating in the New Brunswick Cub Camp, Scout Camp and Paddle Camp, and with four groups from Southeast NB linking together to rent a bus to visit the Tamaracouta Scout Reserve in Quebec. It is evident that we are putting lots of "OUT" into our Scouting program.

1. Acting Area Commissioner of the Miramichi Service Area

Because Lynn Gregan is retiring this fall and expects to be spending a lot of his time in British Columbia, he has resigned as Area Commissioner of the Miramichi, effective August 5.

I have appointed Ginette Culbert as the Acting Area Commissioner of the Miramichi, starting on August 1, 2013. Ginette will serve until a search has been carried out for the appointment of a new Area Commissioner.

Thanks to Lynn and best wishes for his new ventures and thanks to Ginette for being willing to step in.

2. August 24 Meeting of the New Brunswick Council

The next meeting of the New Brunswick Council will be held at Camp Cole on the Miramichi on Saturday, August 24, starting at 10:30 am and finishing around 3:30 pm. We will be meeting at Camp Cole at the invitation of the Miramichi Area and this will be an opportunity for the Council to see what is available for Scouting programs at Camp Cole, one of the three Council camps in New Brunswick, the others being Camp Holderville and the Yoho Scout Reserve.

Because everybody is so busy getting their Scouting programs underway in the fall, we tend to have fewer meetings of Council at this time of the year. The August 24 meeting at Camp Cole will be followed by the NB Council Annual General Meeting on Saturday, November 30, in the Fredericton area.

We want to use the August 24 meeting to kick off our Popcorn Campaign for the coming year and all Area Popcorn Coordinators are invited to attend this meeting, where they can discuss the popcorn campaign with NB Popcorn Coordinator Brenda Graham and with DCC Admin Leo Johnson. At the meeting, we will also be considering the nomination of Honorary Members of Scouts Canada and will be reviewing our training plans for the fall, as well as plans for next summer's Wood Badge Part 2 course. There will be a meeting of the

NB Youth Network as part of the program. An agenda will be sent out in mid-August. Lunch will be provided by the Miramichi Area.

Directions to Camp Cole will be sent to you in mid-August.

All interested Group Commissioners are invited to participate in this Council meeting.

3. Group Commissioners' Conference on September 14, 2013

There will be a conference for all Group Commissioners and Area Commissioners on Saturday, September 14, 2013 at the Yoho Scout Reserve. At the beginning of our 2013-14 Scouting year, this will be an opportunity to orient new Group Commissioners to the job that lies ahead of them, to review some of the training issues involved for Group Commissioners and to give new and old Group Commissioners an opportunity to discuss the nature of their jobs and best practices they have used to support adult volunteers and to build their Scouting groups.

The conference will start at 9:30 am and will finish by 5:00 pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. We will be meeting in the O'Quinn Wing of the Scout Lodge, which has also been booked for Friday night, so anyone who wants to arrive on Friday evening can stay overnight in the Baird Loft. If you want to stay over, please let Peter Kent know. There will be no charge for this conference.

It is planned that the conference, in addition to giving Commissioners an opportunity to compare notes on their jobs, will also contain the essence of the Part I Wood Badge Course for Group Commissioners.

4. Pending List of Adult Volunteers for 2012-13

There are still too many continuing adult volunteers who have not been fully screened or completed their training who are designated as "pending" and not "active" on MyScouts.Ca. Area and Group Commissioners have been working to convince volunteers to complete their requirements. Our goal is to have no one left on this Pending List by August 31, 2013, so that we can start the new Scouting year with a clean slate. Remember, adult volunteers designated as "pending" are not to wear the Scout uniform or participate in any Scouting activities where youth are present.

5. Recruiting, Screening and Training New Adult Volunteers

I hope that all groups are currently recruiting and preparing their new adult volunteers for the fall. New adult volunteers must have been fully screened with their Police Record Checks, interviews and reference checks, must have accepted the Code of Conduct, must have been trained in Child and Youth Safety and Accessibility and must have completed the appropriate Gilwell Part I course for their section BEFORE they may wear a uniform or work with youth members in September. Please give your full attention to preparing your new adult volunteers.

6. Membership Numbers in the New Brunswick Council

Attached to this newsletter is the membership count of the NB Council as of June 30, 2013, prepared by Tom Austin. We are still about 20% below the numbers of last year. Can you please check over the numbers for the different groups to see if there is any possibility that there are youth members who have not yet been fully registered and, if so, get them

registered before August 31 when the Scouting year ends. In recruiting youth for the fall, please aim to increase your Group's youth membership by at least five percent (ten would be better!!)

7. Award Ceremony on November 2, 2013

The New Brunswick Award Ceremony will be held in Fredericton, in the Legislative Assembly Chambers, on Saturday, November 2, this year.

At this ceremony, youth who have been awarded the Chief Scout Award and the Queen's Venturer Award during the past year will be recognized for their achievements by the Lieutenant-Governor.

For youth to be recognized in this ceremony, applications must be sent to Executive Director Rob Lemmon **on or before September 1, 2013**. The application forms can be found on the New Brunswick Council website.

8. New Brunswick Pioneer Award

The New Brunswick Pioneer Award is presented annually, at the Award Ceremony, to the Scout Troop or Venturer Company in the province which has carried out the most adventurous and innovative outdoor Scouting activity, lasting at least three days, during the course of the year.

The application form is on the New Brunswick Council website and is to be sent to Executive Director Rob Lemmon **no later than September 30** of any given year.

If your group has had an exciting program, tell us about it. You might be a winner.

9. Changed Address for the Executive Director

Please note that the Executive Director's postal address has been changed and that not all forms on the NB Council website have been brought up to date. The old address for Executive Director Tom Heath was P.O. Box 21042, Quispamsis, NB E2E 4Z4. This has now been replaced by the following address for Rob Lemmon:

**Rob Lemmon
Executive Director
New Brunswick Council
P.O. Box 7034
RPO Brookside Mall
Fredericton, N.B. E3A 0Y7**

Enjoy the rest of the summer,

Yours in Scouting



Peter Kent
Commissioner