

# ABOUT SCOUTING

## **The Story of Scouting**

There are more than 40 million Scouts, young people and adults, male and female, in over 200 countries and territories. Some 500 million people have been Scouts, including prominent people in every field.

### **Early Beginnings**

All this began with 20 boys and an experimental camp in 1907. It was held during the first nine days of August in 1907 at Brownsea Island, near Poole in Dorset, England. The camp was a great success and proved to its organiser, Robert Baden-Powell, that his training and methods appealed to young people and really worked.

In January 1908, Baden-Powell published the first edition of "Scouting for Boys". It was an immediate success and has since sold over 100 million copies, making it one of the best selling books of all time.

### **Expansion of the Movement**

The success of "Scouting for Boys" produced a Movement that quickly – automatically it seemed – adopted the name of The Boy Scouts. By 1909 "Scouting for Boys" had been translated into five languages, and a Scout rally in London attracted more than 11,000 Scouts. The first World Scout Jamboree took place in 1920 with 8,000 participants, and proved that young people from different nations could come together to share common interests and ideals. The Boy Scouts International Bureau, later to become the World Scout Bureau, was founded in London in 1920.

In 1922 the first World Scout Committee was elected at the 2nd International Conference in Paris, where 31 National Scout Organizations were represented. World membership was just over 1 million.

### **The Early Scout Programme**

Scouting began as a programme for boys 11 to 18 years of age. Yet almost immediately others also wanted to participate. The Girl Guides programme was started in 1910 by Baden-Powell. His wife Olave, whom he married in 1912, became Chief Guide.

A Wolf Cub section was formed for younger boys. It used Rudyard Kipling's "Jungle Book", to provide an imaginative symbolic framework for activities. For older boys, a Rover Scout branch was formed.

### **The '60s, '70s and '80s**

Many countries gained their independence during these years. Scouting in developing countries gradually evolved to be a youth programme which was designed by Scout leaders in each country to better meet the needs of their communities.

Scouts, particularly in developing countries, became more involved with issues such as child health, low-cost housing, literacy, food production and agriculture, job skills training, etc.

### **100 years and beyond**

In 2007 the Movement celebrated its centenary - 100 years of Scouting. What started as a small camp on Brownsea Island is today a growing Movement with members in nearly every country in the world. Through its unique combination of adventure, education and fun, Scouting manages to continuously renew and adapt itself to a changing world and the different needs and interests of young people across the globe. In doing so it continues to be an inspiration for young people to become active local and global citizens, helping them in creating a better world.

## **Scouting Structure**

### **World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)**

- 40 million members
- 224 countries
- Headquarters Geneva Switzerland

### **Scouts Canada**

- 85,000 members
- 20 Councils
- Headquarters Ottawa
- Incorporated by act of Canadian Parliament 1914

### **Pacific Coast Council**

- 5000 members
- 7 Areas:
  - Pacific Spirit
  - East Vancouver Burnaby
  - Richmond
  - North Shore
  - Sunshine Coast
  - Sea to Sky

### **North Shore Area**

- 700 members
- 13 Groups
- North & West Vancouver

### **1st West Vancouver Scout Group – **Who we are!****

- 110 youth members, 25 adult volunteers
- Founded 1927, oldest group on North Shore
- Currently largest Group on North Shore
- Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers

## **Scout Sections**

### **Beaver Scouts (age 5-7)**

- Beaver Scout Promise:  
*I promise to love God and help take care of the world.*
- Beaver Scout Law:  
*A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps family and friends*
- Beaver Scout Motto:  
*Sharing, Sharing, Sharing*

### **Cub Scouts (age 8-10)**

- Cub Scout Promise:  
*I promise to do my best, To love and serve God, to do my duty to the Queen;  
To keep the law of the Wolf Cub pack,  
And to do a good turn for somebody every day.*
- Cub Scout Law:  
*The Cub respects the Old Wolf, The Cub respects himself/herself.*
- Cub Scout Motto:  
*Do Your Best*

### **Scouts (age 11-13)**

- Scout Promise:  
*On my honour  
I promise that I will do my best, To do my duty to God and the Queen  
To help other people at all times, And to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law.*
- Scout Law:  
*A Scout is helpful and trustworthy, kind and cheerful,  
considerate and clean, wise in the use of all resources.*
- Scout Motto:  
*Be Prepared*

### **Venturer Scouts (age 14-17)**

- Venturer Scout Promise:  
*On my honour  
I promise that I will do my best, To do my duty to God and the Queen  
To help other people at all times, And to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law.*
- Venturer Scout Motto:  
*Challenge*

### **Rover Scouts (age 18-26)**

- Rover Scout Promise:  
*On my honour  
I promise that I will do my best, To do my duty to God and the Queen  
To help other people at all times, And to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law.*
- Rover Scout Motto:  
*Service*

## **Scout Method**

The Scout Method is a system of progressive non-formal self-education. It is a key part of Scouting, and is made up of seven different elements, which work together to provide a rich, active and fun learning environment. The Scout Method includes:

### **The Scout Promise and Law**

The Scout Promise is a personal pledge to do one's best to live according to the values of Scouting. The Scout Law is a concrete and practical way to understand and live out the values of Scouting.

### **Learning by doing**

Learning by doing means developing as a result of first-hand experience as opposed to theoretical instruction.

### **The Patrol (or Team) System**

The patrol is the basic organisational structure in Scouting. Each small group, normally comprising six to eight youth members, operates as a team with one member acting as the team leader.

### **Symbolic Framework**

In Scouting, a symbolic framework is a set of elements, which represent concepts which Scouting seeks to promote.

### **Personal Progression**

Personal progression is about helping each individual to be consciously and actively involved in his or her own development

### **Nature**

The natural environment (woods, plains, sea, mountains, deserts, etc.) provides an ideal setting in which the Scout Method can be applied, and for developing one's physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual potential.

### **Adult Support**

Scouting is a youth movement, where young people take part in activities with the support of adults. The role of adults in Scouting is to be activity leaders, educators and group facilitators.

The Scout Method is a system of progressive non-formal self-education. What does that mean?

In the aftermath of World War I Baden-Powell was moved to write "*...one cannot help recognizing.. the failure of religion to direct, and of education to balance, the actions of men.*" The world had changed greatly. Baden-Powell designed Scout Training to help young men face the new challenges by developing "*personal initiative, self-control, a sense of honour and duty, responsibility, and self-reliance.*" The world is still changing and our young people will face new challenges we cannot foresee. Scouting still provides a way to prepare our young men to face these challenges.

## Does the Scout method work? Here are some CEO's who were Scouts:

- Rex Tillerson Eagle Scout CEO Exxon Mobil
- Hank Paulson Eagle Scout CEO Goldman Sachs, U.S. Treasury Secretary
- Steven Spielberg Eagle Scout Founder of Dreamworks
- Michael Bloomberg Eagle Scout Founder of Bloomberg LP, New York City Mayor
- Sam Walton Eagle Scout Founder of Wal-Mart
- Bill Gates Eagle Scout Co-Founder of Microsoft

Scouting is primarily learning by doing; developing as a result of first-hand experience as opposed to theoretical instruction. **Doing things, instead of talking about doing things.** Scout Leaders present challenges to the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. Provide them with the basic training needed to deal with these challenges, and then let them find their own solutions.

**Every boy is interested in something.** The Scout Leaders' job is to find out what that is, encourage it, and then help the boy expand his interests into other areas. A Scout is more likely to:

- Calmly survey the scene, assess the situation and then say "I think we can deal with this."
- Work as a leader or team member to solve any problems that arise.
- Have healthy self-esteem and be keen to try new things.
- Have the resiliency to deal with changing situations.
- Be the type of person you would like to have on **your** team.

*(A clarification – "Eagle Scout" is an American designation. The Canadian equivalent is "Queen's Venturer." In 2016 the 1<sup>st</sup> West Vancouver Venturer Company had 5 Venturers who earned that award.)*

## How You Can Help:

Scout Leaders are volunteers who are trained and prepared to spend the time required to deliver the best Scout program possible. Parent's participation is required to make the Scout program work. Some ways you can help are:

- **Be a Leader!** More work than the other positions, but then we get to have all the fun! Great training available, and then you get to spend weekends at camp with a bunch of kids having good old-fashioned wholesome fun, sleeping in the great outdoors, seeing some of our wonderful scenery, and listening to your son and his friends as they sit around the campfire each night. No experience necessary; we'll help you learn all you need.
- **Meetings:** Being a member of a beaver Colony, Cub Pack Scout Troop is a privilege and a commitment! **The expectation is that all Scouts attend every meeting, camp, hike or other activity.** Your child, the leaders, the other Scouts, group morale and the program itself all benefit from full attendance by everyone. Therefore, attendance is expected. Please contact your Contact Scouter ahead of time if your child cannot attend a meeting or event due to sickness.
- **Group Committee Member:** Administration for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers is handled by the Group Committee, comprised of parents and other interested adults, as well as a representative from each Section (Cubs, Scouts,.....). The Group Committee's responsibilities include registration, finance, volunteer screening, and liaising with the North Shore Area Scout Council. Meetings are on average once every month; Please tell your Scout Leader if you'd like to help.
- **ChristmasTree Sale:** Our big fund-raiser is our Christmas Tree Lot. The proceeds fund all our activities and equipment purchases for the year. Parents must accompany their children for a 2 hour shift at the lot and can help with scheduling, lot set-up and a variety of other tasks.
- **Driving to Camp:** Parents are responsible for transporting Scouts to and from camp and other activities
- **Uniform and Equipment Exchange Coordinator**