



1st Port Nelson/20th Burlington Scouting Newsletter



Welcome to the new Scouting year!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome back all our returning members and extend a warm welcome to all the new parents and youth. I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and that your families have been enjoying some of the nice sunny weather September and (so far) October has brought us.

The fall is a wonderful time of year to be outside enjoying the colourful landscape, fresh air, warm days and cool nights ~ *perfect camping weather*. As such, our groups have started off the year in full swing with our Scout group having attended two camps including Fort George Scout Brigade, and along with our Venturer Company, Burlington Area's 30th annual Co-op Camp.

In an effort to increase our communication about our Scouting groups we are launching this newsletter to share with everyone in our 'Scouting Family' what each of the sections are up to and share news from the Group Committee.

We hope to bring you some photo's, stories and news about our groups. In this edition you'll find information about registration, our fundraising efforts and plans for this fall.

YIS,
Colin Ballantyne - Group Commissioner – Venturer Advisor



Our Scouts at the 25th annual Fort George Scout Brigade Camp – Scouts from all over Canada & the USA learn about life as a soldier in 1812-1814



Our former Group Commissioner Scouter Bob & his wife Danielle are settling in nicely out east in New Brunswick. At our banquet last spring we presented Bob a with a thank you plaque from all the groups he had worked with in Burlington.

Group Composition

Each group has a community sponsor, 20th Burlington is sponsored by the Burlington East Presbyterian Church and 1st Port Nelson is sponsored by Port Nelson United Church.

We are fortunate enough to offer a program for every section that Scouts Canada offers! Our group consists of a Beaver Colony, 2 Cub Packs, a Scout Troop, a Venturer Company and a Rover Crew servicing youth and young adults ages 5 through 26.

To provide these programs we have a large number of leaders who commit their time to help our children. In a future newsletter we will introduce our leadership teams, in the mean time, if you have a desire to help out, have a lot of laughs, and make some new friends we're always willing to accept new adult members as a leader.

What's Happening...

Cub Pack Halloween Party – On Oct 28th the Venturer Company will once again organize and run a Halloween evening for the 1st Port Nelson Cub Pack. *Be sure to wear a costume!*

Mistletoe Mart - Port Nelson United Church runs their annual artisan fair on November 8th at which the Scout, Venturer and Rover sections help with setup and tear down. This support is highly appreciated by the Church and the Mistletoe Mart committee. *Many hands make short work...* All are asked to help out in this activity.

Remembrance Day - One of the ways that we show our appreciation of our sponsors support is to attend church services at special times of the year where we parade our flags into the Church. 20th Burlington will be attending a Remembrance Day ceremony at our sponsor Church on November 16th.

All Sections Camp weekend - December 5th, 6th & 7th is our annual camp where all registered members are invited to attend a weekend of fun and activity at [Manitou Scout Camp](#). Our senior sections will be organizing events and activities for the younger members and a great turkey feast is planned for the Saturday evening. More will be going out about this weekend in the near future and we look forward to meeting everyone at camp.

There are many other activities planned within each section, your leaders will be sharing the plans with you and your families, we are sure that an exciting scouting year is ahead for you all.

Fundraising

Our groups operate to a budget managed by our group committees. The cost of operating our programs is covered solely from fund raising activities and fees paid by the event participants. The membership fee that was paid at registration does not support our group operation but goes directly to Scouts Canada to provide insurance for its membership, among other things.

We have attempted to maintain program fees at a level that are affordable which means they are subsidized by group funds, which again are generated from fund raising activities. For this reason, it is very important that all members participate in fund raising as actively as possible.

We have already completed our first fund raising activity at Ribfest in which the 20th Group was able to exceed budget expectations with the sale of neon glow items.

October 15 -17 are the Burlington Apple Drive days, This is a National fund raiser for Scouts Canada and is mandatory for all groups to participate. The 1st Port Nelson / 20th Burlington Groups work to cover the south central area of Burlington. All the groups share the funds raised equally by the hours worked. For this reason it is very important that all members make themselves available to help at this fund raiser for as many hours as possible over the three days. This three day activity represents the largest single source of income from which we run our programs.



Our Venturer Company was out this summer and early fall at the Burlington Farmers Market selling rain barrels as a fundraiser for their [Service Project](#).

If you would be interested in one let us know!



Fundraising Continued...

Another fund raising activity is currently underway. By this time all members have received their Popcorn sales packages. This is another National program that is mandatory for all groups to participate in. Our returns on sales is in the area of 60% of the funds raised. The popcorn product is very popular and well received, it is not difficult to sell a couple of hundred dollars of popcorn to friends, neighbors and colleagues.

Lastly on fundraising, 20th Burlington continues to participate in a program called FundScrip (www.FundScrip.com). Many churches and schools use this program to earn much needed cash. Members simply exchange cash for a prepaid card of their choice to be used at local, common retailers. Our Group automatically earns a percentage (from 2 to 10%) of the value of the cards purchased. The members go on to use their cards as cash when shopping. There is **no cost** to this program. See website for more details or contact Allison Bossert (bossert@cogeco.ca). We order on a monthly basis, next order date in early-mid November. *Please join and help us earn!*



Our New Patch!

To reflect the combining of the 20th Burlington and 1st Port Nelson groups we have had a new patch designed. We hope to have these ready to give out to everyone for the upcoming all section camp.

Get your needles and threads ready!

A little housekeeping to close:

Our registration is down this year and that means we have to cover a greater amount of fixed costs with less participants for activities. If your child has friends that may be interested in joining they are welcome to attend up to three meetings to decide if it is for them.

Guests are always welcome & we'd love to help more youth in our community.

For the most part we have good leader coverage, but we can always use a little help. The [20th Cubs](#) are in need of another couple leaders this year. If you're interested please talk to your [Akela](#).

Our Group Committee meets the second Monday evening of every month. Perhaps you would be able to help at an administrative level... if so we'd love to hear from you! *That said we are looking for help in organizing for this year's Scout banquet.*

I would very much like to hear your thoughts on this newsletter for sharing information with our groups. Please send along your thoughts, stories and photos.

Let me close by wishing everyone a fantastic Scouting year!

Yours In Scouting

[David Klynkramer](#),
Group Administrator, Venturer Advisor (& newsletter editor)

You can find more information on
camps & about the group at:
20thburlingtonscouts.com
&
[Burlington Area Scouts](#)