



Area Support Managers (ASM's)

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- ~ Council Groups (K)
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- ~ Loyalist (K)
- ~ Nepean (H)
- ~ Odawa (H)
- ~ Rideau (K)
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Voyageur Council

Area Support Managers Report

November/December 2014

IMPORTANT: Full Section? How to deal with this: If you have Sections that are full and cannot take on any more youth – please ensure that you are reaching out to other Groups around you and encouraging those parents that you are turning away to join a neighbouring Group that has room. If there are no neighbouring Sections that have room – maintain a waiting list of those that wish to join but can't at this moment due to space/ratio restrictions.

If you are struggling to find Scouters – hold a Parent Orientation meeting and invite parents to get more involved. As well - if you have to turn away a family due to issues making ratio – make sure you invite the parent to become a Scouter before telling them you don't have room. We should avoid ever turning anyone away from Scouting that wishes to join.

Recruitment and Bring a Friend Events: All Groups that are not full due to space requirements are encouraged to run a Bring-a-Friend night ASAP. If your Section needs more Scouters – running a BAF event will open the door to more parents who may wish to become Scouters – so just because you may not have enough Scouters to take on anymore youth does not mean you should not still be running recruitment events like BAF. The most successful and healthy-sized Sections are those that are open to recruitment of both adults and youth all year long. Resources to assist you with Bring a Friend events and Open Houses are attached and can also be found at <http://www.scouts.ca/js2g/>.

Any meeting can be a Bring a Friend meeting – but it works best when you pick a specific night to invite friends and deliver an action-packed program. There are all kinds of resources to help you with BAF events – including invitations for the youth to give friends (in your RTKs you received in the Spring) and letter templates for parents/guardians of the friends.

If your sections are full and you cannot take on any more youth due to not having enough Scouters – try a Bring a Parent Orientation night to see if anyone is interested in helping out. There are great resources to assist you with this. Links to resources will be sent in a follow-up written report

Program Standards/Program Quality Awards: Just a reminder to please ensure that your Sections are using the Program Standards to build their program. It is a great resource to help Section Scouters determine how to deliver a well-rounded, quality program. The Program Quality Awards are a great way to say thank you and recognize your leadership teams for the hard work they have put into planning and organizing a great program. All around – this is a great resource and all Sections should be actively using it and referring to it throughout the year. GC's are to collect the Program Standards checklist at the end of the year and submit to the Council in order to receive recognition. See the attached Program Standards documents.

Upcoming Meeting - Starting Bilingual Sections/Groups in Voyageur: We are looking at areas in the Council where we can expand our programming and tap into a new market offering bilingual and French-speaking programs – we have seen that there is a definite demand for this. As part of the initiative – we will be holding a meeting where all volunteers that may be interested in assisting with or Groups that may wish to start up a French section can come together and share ideas around how best to approach this. We need to engage a few French-speaking volunteers to assist with translation of some materials and networking with possible partners (i.e., French Immersion Schools)

Please circulate the attached invitation to your Scouters – anyone is welcome that would like to attend and we will have remote live access for those who can't come in person. Please RSVP to Heather Lee at hlee@scouts.ca

Incident Reports and Reviews – Incident Reports can now be sent electronically jsouthward@scouts.ca or by the fax number on the form. To further the culture of safety in Scouts Canada every major incident is now being reviewed after the fact. This is to gather information, identify any contributing factors and suggest preventative measures so that - if possible - a repeat of the incident can be avoided. ASMs will be provided a follow-up report to be completed and submitted to the Director of Safe Scouting within 30 days. We will be contacting the reporting Scouter and other people in the group involved to acquire quality feedback.