

Scout Program Quality Standards and Awards Application

Scouts Canada is committed to quality programs. This checklist will help you meet program standards. Upon successful completion, forward this form to your Group Commissioner (GC) for submission to your Area Commissioner (AC). Your Section will be recognized with the Program Quality Award.

Program Planning

The Troop has:

- Short-range (one month)
- Medium-range (three months)
- Long-range (one year) program plans which will reflect the program goals, as outlined in the B.P. &P.
- Weekly programs that are typically conducted as described in the *Scout Leader's Handbook*, and incorporate appropriate safety precautions.

Outdoors

Opportunities are provided for Scouts to participate in outdoor activities as often as possible. All activities follow Policies and Accepted Practices, as outlined by Camping/Outdoor Activities, Section 10000, B.P. &P.

Scout minimum standards require:

- One regular meeting per month outdoors
- One weekend outing every two months
- Six nights at camp annually
- Youth are provided opportunities to earn Year Round Camper badges.

Youth Input

- Scouts are regularly consulted and participate, when and where appropriate, in program planning and delivery
- Patrol leaders and assistants form essential parts of the leadership team
- A Court of Honour is employed during each medium and long term planning session at minimum and more frequently as required
- Youth are actively engaged in the creation of their section's Code of Conduct.

Badge/Award Program

- The program provides Scouts with regular opportunities to engage in and complete requirements of the Scout Badge/Award system
- Using the information from "My Path to Chief Scout's Award," all Scouts are encouraged to create personal plans.

Environmental Awareness

Opportunities are provided for Scouts to participate in activities which increase their understanding and awareness of their role in preserving the environment. All activities are conducted in a manner that reflects appropriate environmental awareness and "leave no trace" principles.

- Minimum standard: one project/activity annually.

Spiritual Emphasis

Spiritual emphasis is regularly incorporated throughout the program. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Use of Promise, Law and Motto, Scouts Own and Scouter's Five
- Religion in Life Award or Spirituality Award programs.



It starts with Scouts.

Family/Parent Involvement

Opportunities are provided for family/parent involvement with adherence to National Screening Guidelines for Parental Involvement.

- Minimum standard: two events annually
- Regular communication occurs to inform parents of program plans through contacts such as meetings, phone calls, emails, calendars and newsletters, etc.

Membership/Retention/Growth

- No youth who is willing to subscribe to the Promise and Law is denied membership (i.e. Scouts Canada does not want any waiting lists or youth turned away due to financial constraints)
- The Troop Scouter (or designate) personally invites Scouts back at the beginning or each year
- Those not returning at any time of the year are contacted by the Troop Scouter (or designate) to determine the reason why
- One activity per year focuses on increasing membership.

Linking

Unless distance/isolation prohibits, opportunities are provided for Scouts to interact with Cubs and Venturers, with the minimum standard being:

- One regular meeting and one other activity with a Cub Pack annually
- One regular meeting and one other activity with a Venturer Company annually
- A Scout is selected to serve as a Kim with a Cub Pack.
- Senior Scouts of advancement age have at least one other opportunity to interact with a Venturer Company.

Community Service

Opportunities are provided for Scouts to participate in community service projects/ events.

- Minimum standard: two held annually.

Training/Leadership

- All Leaders to achieve Wood Badge Part I level during the first year
- At least one Scout leader to have Wood Badge Part II (Scouts)
- Scouts Canada expects at least one member of the leadership team to hold a current, recognized first aid qualification and be present at meetings/ events
- The leadership team has the necessary attitude, skills, knowledge and/or training required to conduct programs, or has recruited a skilled resource person(s) with such knowledge to attend the outing/activity.
- Youth members (activity leaders, Scouters-in-Training, patrol leaders, etc.) are included as part of the leadership team
- Training is provided to assist patrol leaders and assistant patrol leaders in fulfilling the position.

Administration

The following are performed to administer the Troop:

- Maintain current and accurate Troop records, including attendance and Scouts' progress records
- Submit a plan and related budget to the Group Committee for a year's activities
- Maintain appropriate financial records, and submit proper financial statements to the Group Committee
- Provide an annual inventory of all equipment and property controlled by the Troop to the Group Committee
- Ensure a representative from the Section leadership team attends at least 90 percent of Group Committee meetings.

Name of Group _____

Area _____

Date _____

Leader Signature _____

GC Signature _____

AC Signature _____