



Girl Guides

Newfoundland and Labrador Council

Annual Report 2020-2021



Provincial Commissioner's Message

2020-2021 Guiding year was a year to remember. The transition to virtual Guiding and the resilience of our volunteers marks this year. Girls and Guiders educated each other on new ways of communication and programming. A learning curve for all members, but girls and Guiders have taken on the challenge and Guiding has continued.

This year has been a different one for our members, with new Covid-19 guidelines and regulations. Meetings started in outdoor I, moving to outdoor II, Indoor I, Indoor 2, back to virtual Guiding and again meeting in person. Our members have taken part in Guiding through all platforms this year and although Covid-19 has affected membership and meeting space availability, the units that were able to meet have adapted to the new ways of guiding and have made the most of this Guiding year. Girls continued to be involved, excited and resourceful. Girls continue to work towards badges and awards, redefine boundaries and challenge opinions. Campfires, hiking, girl driven programming, and community involvement has all been able to continue and be part of the Guiding program this year, they have just learned to modify, adapt and adjust. Girls are resilient!

Guiders, thank you! Thank you for all you have done this year. It has not been easy, but you have made the most of a difficult time. Thank you for continuing to volunteer and give of your time and resources to girls and this organization. Guiders are the backbone of all that we do, and that could really be seen this year, when everything else was changing, you were still there to lead a hand and create a safe, inclusive space for the girls, online or in person.

Newfoundland and Labrador Council, thank you for your continued involvement, drive and passion for Guiding. Thank you for having the members of NL's best interest in decision making and conversations. Council members really stepped up this year, having monthly meetings, making national decisions and always putting Newfoundland and Labrador's girls first.

Let's continue to strive to be "Everything she wants to be", through being "a catalyst for girls empowering girls" and believing in "a better world, by girls".



Con Ba Su Area – Vacant

In Chamberlains District, units spent the fall outside hiking, playing games, and working on camp skills. Virtual meetings were well attended in all units. Brownies held a magical forest enrolment and every unit has participated in community service projects. The District held a virtual talent show for Brownies & Guides in March.

Every Unit in Long Pond District completed the Guiding Granny challenge, and the District saw a steady number of members compared to last year. Unit activities included sending cards to military service members, planting garlic bulbs, learning about composting, making Christmas hampers for seniors. The Pathfinders participated in the "Write for Rights" campaign and wrote letters to Amnesty International as part of their international service for their Canada Cord.

Eastern Bays Area – Sheri Higdon

Discovery District started the year with "Anytime Guiding" craft kits. During Outdoor Guiding, the District participated in a Community Clean Up sponsored by Pitch-In Canada, scavenger hunts, made emergency shelters and completed nature activities. Guides & Pathfinders planted red & white tulip bulbs at the War Memorial. The Green Trees camp property in Trinity has been newly renovated. Work was completed on the interior and exterior, allowing units to meet at the property during Indoor Guiding, where they had enrollment and made cards for seniors.

In Heritage Run, units in Burin welcomed members from Marystown. Sparks and Brownies focused on being healthy to help understand Covid-19 safety. They also enjoyed crafting, a paint night, and sent cards to soldiers. Guides and Pathfinders also held a paint night, planned their enrollment, and continued with online meetings. During online meetings they were visited by the Provincial Commissioner and International Advisor. The only Ranger planned a food drive with all the units to help their local food bank, donating over five boxes of food.

Long Range Trails Area – Maureen Tiller (acting)

Throughout the area, there were hikes, clean-ups, crafts, BBQ's, carolling, paint nights, snowshoeing, movie nights, STEM nights, board game nights, outdoor games nights and special celebrations.

In Blomidon District, Rangers had virtual meetings with female guest speakers regarding Climate Change and Child's Rights from the Child and Youth Advocate Office. Guides and Brownies visited a farm, a pumpkin patch and had hay rides.

Rangers in the Stephenville District created a virtual Family Feud game which will also be used by the Pathfinders. Guides built fairy houses, which the Sparks and Brownies hunted to find.

In the Humber Valley District, the Pasadena Rangers made scrub bags for front line workers so they could place their scrubs in them at the end of the shift and toss them right in the washer. The Pasadena Pathfinder and Ranger units also painted mason jars and stuffed them with personal care items and donated them to the local woman's shelter.

Unfortunately, units did not open in the Wreckhouse District.

In December, construction of the Pinchgut Lake Campsite was completed! It is located just 20 KM west of Corner Brook or 65 KM east of Stephenville. We are looking forward to utilizing this beautiful building which is wheelchair accessible and has electricity, showers, full kitchen, washer/dryer, basement and tenting area with screened-in cookhouse. It can accommodate 33 people in bunks and additional "floor" campers in the basement.



Northern Mosaic Area – Heather Mesher-Brown (acting)

Lake Melville District held four virtual advancement ceremonies in June 2020 – delivering badges, awards, and cookies to all District members and held a Bee Kind challenge during the summer. All units made posters for the Take Back the Night March, and all Spark, Brownie, & Guide units visited a Winterlights Display. The District held a uniform challenge for Thinking Day. Units also held virtual meetings, including completing the WAGGGS WTD Challenge, STEM Challenge, and had mug cakes to celebrate Thinking Day.

Spark units in the District painted rocks, celebrated Holidays Around the World, did a town clean-up, and tried some science experiments. Brownie units held a nature scavenger hunt, made frog huts, tested pond water, visited a vet clinic, made piñatas to celebrate 100 years of Brownies, painted poppy rocks & laid them at the Legion Cenotaph, delivered cookies & crafts to seniors, collected hygiene products, learned to change lightbulbs & batteries, and learned to help light a fire. Guide Units completed the Geocache challenge, built snowmen, went berry picking, had an egg drop competition, made dog cookies for SPCA, completed the Positivity Patrol Challenge, did snow science experiments, and designed their own badges. Both Guide units held day camps at Gosling Lake where they went Geocaching and learned canoeing skills. The 1st Happy Valley Pathfinder unit painted wooden pumpkins for the Long Term Care facility, had a cupcake decorating competition, and made paint chip mosaics. The 1st Happy Valley Rangers made lip balm, had a day camp at Wilbourne Bay which included a campfire masterchef challenge, carved pumpkins, had a tree toss competition, and made tiny cactus figures.

Ocean's Edge Area – Lisa Engram

Ocean's Edge Area has been busy with Outdoor, Indoor, and Virtual meetings. The Area held a Virtual Thinking Day event for Pathfinders and Rangers in February and a Virtual Guider/Trefoil fun night in March to celebrate International Women's Day. The annual Area LBP weekend was held virtually for 3rd year Guides in April.

Goulds District began the year with an outdoor enrolment and district wide nature programming with scavenger hunts, outdoor crafts, and campfires. Units participated in a Halloween obstacle course and enjoyed many in-person and virtual meetings from Yoga to the Petty Hr. Mini Aquarium.

In Shamrock District, the Fermeuse- Renews multi-unit had a skating party at an outdoor and made snowmen outside Fahey's Seniors Home. The Ferryland Units have covered topics including BLM, women empowerment, literature, the guiding movement, community service, crafts and lots of BINGO. Two highlights include pumpkin carving and sliding.

Marconi District held campfires, hikes, and scavenger hunts to kick off the Guiding year. Over the winter, they completed activities for the District Thinking Day challenge. The challenge consisted of indoor, outdoor and virtual activities so everyone could show their true guiding spirit! Units have held paint nights and aquarium nights!

Witless Bay District made postcards for deployed military members, made valentines for essential workers and enjoyed virtual craft meetings. Units learned about Search and Rescue and held Yoga nights to reduce stress and anxiety. They also learned about Self Care and increasing self-confidence.

Trefoil Central Area – Melanie Moores

Trefoil Central Units and Districts worked together to ensure youth members were able to enjoy a Guiding year!

Units embraced the outdoor stage of Return to Guiding, enjoying hikes, campfires, winter sliding and even a mushroom foraging meeting with local foragers.

With many options for online activities, Units have participated in that wouldn't typically be available to them. Youth are taking part in the Climate Collective with Johnson Geo Centre, Skills Canada NL Virtual Programming, and other offerings from across the country.

Units have taken part in food drives, town clean ups and events to cheer up seniors in the communities.

The Lady Baden Powell, Canada Cord and Trailblazer Awards are all being earned by members this year. There are also 5 youth who began their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



Tuckamore Area – Stephanie Lawlor

Members in Killick Coast District collected essential items and donated 39 care packages to Stella's Circle!

Jelly Bean Row District has a very high retention rate, especially among Guiders. Some units had a virtual sleepover which included a camping cake decorating challenge.

Waterford Valley District held a Guider appreciation night at Cineplex.

Braya District made sit upons, learned about Guiding History and built birdhouses.

Pleasantview Guides made no sew rainbow scarves.

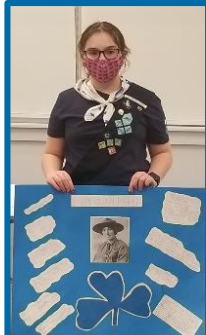
Training Committee – Sara Hawkins

The Training Committee held virtual trainings throughout the fall & winter. Guiders also participated in the National Virtual Training held in November 2020.



International Committee – Mackenzie Furey

As travel didn't happen this Guiding year, the International Advisor offered Global Guiding sessions to Pathfinders and Rangers where they could virtually travel to the World Centers!



Program Committee – Karleena Squires

The Program Committee continued conversations with the Provincial Government on awarding Rangers with high school credit for completing Ranger programming. The Committee is also working on ensuring Provincial Challenges fit within Girls First Programming Platform



Membership Committee – Deidra Howlett

The Membership Committee launched a social media Thinking Day Scavenger Hunt with participants from across Canada.

Cookie Committee – Daphne Slade

The Fall 2020 cookie campaign moved online for the first time. Majority of units in the province opted to have their cookies delivered for in-person selling. Into Spring 2021, units continue to sell the mint cookies as part of the bulk shipments received across the province.



Youth Forum – Nicole O'Brien

The Youth Forum was unable to host their annual Youth Gathering. Every member who signed up for the event received a personalized thank you card and event crest.



Camping Committee – Andrea Greening

Virtual provincial camp is being planned for July 2021.

Elected Member,
Properties - Vacant

PR & Communications-
Victoria Battcock