



BC Council Annual Report 2017



Vision

A better world, by girls.

Mission

To be a catalyst for girls empowering girls.

Promise

I Promise to do my best,
To be true to myself, my beliefs and Canada
I will take action for a better world
And respect the Guiding Law

BC Girl Guides

*When We
Shine*



Leslie Bush, BC Provincial Commissioner



When We Shine is the theme of our 2017 Annual General Meeting and annual report. When We Shine recognizes that at any level, as an individual or as a small group at the unit, district, area or provincial level, we can do amazing things. Individually, members can be the spark that ignites an interest, provides an opportunity for growth or is the smile that welcomes a girl into a new circle of friends. As a group, we can be the ignition source to make a difference in our communities and to people around us, near and far. As Girl Guides we can effect change by bringing awareness through our actions to the communities we live in. When We Shine, we are powerful!

A shining moment for BC Girl Guides this year was the establishment of the BC Youth Forum. These members provide the youth voice and insight to BC Council initiatives. Their first impact was taking the lead and delivering on the BC launch of Mighty Minds.

In 2017 we happily welcomed 378 new members to experience Guiding in BC. Our 2.18 per cent increase in membership compares favourably with the 1.5 per cent increase in national membership and continues along the path of slow but steady growth in the province.

Here are some other shining examples of what members did in 2017!

We Shine through Experiences, Events and Adventures

- ★ Rivers North Area hosted SOAR 2017, and everyone involved, from steering committee

and core staff to participants, showed the communities of Smithers, Houston and the Hazeltons what it was like to be Girl Guides. And all attending became honorary Smithereens.

- ★ We met new friends at large events like Rally in the Valley, Hands Across the Border and Mix it Up Girl Guide and Girl Scout encampment.
- ★ New experiences like snow camping, snowshoeing, hiking, night treks and zombie nights provided opportunities to learn new skills and push beyond normal boundaries. And perhaps it sparked a new interest in adventure!
- ★ At BC Girl Guide nights with the Vancouver Canucks and the Vancouver Whitecaps, we showed everyone we are here and How We Shine when together.

We Shine through Global Awareness

- ★ Our members showed that by their actions they can help to make a better world through attending events and activities that raise awareness of global issues that affect our world, such as attending the Me to We Take Action Academy, participating in local pride festivals and attending Mighty Minds events throughout BC
- ★ BC members travelled to Ireland, Europe, Mexico, Ecuador and across Canada and came home to share their experiences. These types of trips are amazing as girls find lifelong friends and share what it is like to be a Canadian and a Girl Guide. Through service they help to support and enhance a local community.
- ★ Units and councils fundraised for Canadian World Friendship Fund to support our sisters in other countries. World Thinking Day activities and Cupcakes and Candles shone the light on our worldwide organization.
- ★ We supported awareness of a need for action closer to home by participating in local Hikes for Hunger and Food for Friends drives. We prepared and served meals at soup kitchens and outreach centres. We made our local communities a bit brighter by adopting parks and roads, planting bulbs and volunteering at community and shoreline cleanups. We welcomed new friends at refugee welcoming events and visited local seniors to play games and sing songs. By these actions we show that we care about the people and the places in our community.

We Shine through Education

- ★ We provide a spark that helps our members explore new things or known things in a new way through our programming. Guides and Rangers got to investigate university life at GUEST and Ranger Rendezvous. Through STEM activities as well as through art and drama we got to experience many different things presented in many different ways. New challenges developed by our provincial committees continued to be very popular right across Canada.
- ★ Adult members got the chance to take leadership to a different level by challenging themselves at the Outdoor Activity Leadership Module 8 Snowshoeing training. The skills they developed and the members' confidence will assist girls in adventuring!

We Shine through Training

- ★ By participating in training, our adult members get the opportunity to explore new interests, learn or enhance their skills and share the spark of learning so all can shine. In 2017, there were workshops held to assist advisers at the area and provincial level to inspire other members and to do the vital work that keeps BC Guiding strong. BC Camping developed and delivered a webinar on working with special dietary needs at camp; it was very successful with lots of participation from across the province.
- ★ Strong mentors continue to support leader development with new Guiders; this vital role helps to ensure all members feel supported and valued. Two areas developed their own shining moments—one by developing a diversity and inclusivity team to help identify barriers to welcoming more girls to experience Guiding, and the other by developing a team to help Guiders support every girl to be successful in Guiding. These local initiatives were the spark of initiative and show the strength and commitment of our members to ensure everyone has the chance to experience Guiding and be successful in it.

This is a small sampling of experiences and opportunities that were offered to our members this past year. There are many more examples of how our members shine in what we do and how we do it: with laughter and fun, excitement to learn and compassion for others, making the world around us a bit brighter for all. None of this could happen without the dedication of our volunteers and the members who participate. Each brings their own unique spark that ignites the flame of Guiding, and together we all shine! Thank you.



BC Girl Guides

When We Shine

In 2017, BC Girl Guides had opportunities to ...

Shine through Events and Adventures

- ★ SOAR 2017
- ★ Unit, district and area camps
- ★ Bring-a-friend events
- ★ Rally in the Valley
- ★ Neighbourhood carolling
- ★ Bring a Mom Night
- ★ Ranger Revolution
- ★ Trefoil Guild Rendezvous
- ★ BC Girl Guides at Vancouver Canucks event
- ★ BC Girl Guides at Vancouver Whitecaps event
- ★ Santa Claus parades
- ★ Sleepovers (including at Science World, Vancouver Aquarium, Hostelling International-Vancouver Jericho Beach)
- ★ Girl Achievement and Awards events
- ★ Yoga Night
- ★ Snowflake Ball
- ★ Tea and bake sales
- ★ Community skating
- ★ Teddy Bear Picnic
- ★ Pajama Potluck dinner
- ★ Fun and Friendship weekends
- ★ Cupcakes and Candles camp
- ★ Snow camping, hiking, snowshoeing
- ★ Night treks (including NiteHike and Nite Trek)
- ★ District bridging events
- ★ Sparks Go Wild
- ★ Hike for Hunger
- ★ Establishment of BC Youth Forum
- ★ ParticipACTION 150
- ★ Zombie Nights
- ★ Oh the Things You Can Think

Shine through Global Awareness

- ★ Hike for Hunger
- ★ World Thinking Day celebrations
- ★ Fundraising for Canadian World Friendship Fund (CWFF)
- ★ Me to We Take Action Academy
- ★ Mighty Minds events
- ★ Hands Across the Border
- ★ Travel to Europe, Mexico, Ecuador and across Canada
- ★ Participation in Pride Festivals
- ★ Diversity Challenge (International)
- ★ Mix It Up Guide and Scout encampment

Shine through Service Projects

- ★ Adopting a road
- ★ Serving at soup kitchens
- ★ Creating Valentines for Vets
- ★ Volunteering at community events (including Canada Day celebrations and community days)
- ★ Visiting seniors: singing songs, playing games and making crafts
- ★ Participating in shoreline cleanups
- ★ Filling Christmas hampers
- ★ Hosting and participating in refugee welcoming events
- ★ Participating in Plant-a-Tree events
- ★ Filling Christmas shoeboxes
- ★ Planting bulbs for municipality
- ★ Making Christmas cards for hospital patients
- ★ Adopting a park
- ★ Working with Food for Friends
- ★ Organizing bottle drives
- ★ Making Good Night bags for women's shelters
- ★ Participating in camp work weekends



Shine through Education

- ★ Visits to universities
- ★ STEM activities
- ★ GUEST (Guides Exploring Science and Technology) on the Island
- ★ Geocaching Trackable Geocoin Challenge
- ★ Alberta Girls' Parliament

Shine through Training

- ★ Experienced Guiders acting as mentors to newer Guiders
- ★ Inclusivity webinar (camping)
- ★ Wilderness First Aid training (Rivers North)
- ★ Presentation and Communication Skills workshop
- ★ Properties workshop
- ★ Area Training Adviser workshop
- ★ Awards Advisers' workshop
- ★ Program Advisers' workshop
- ★ Safe Guide Assessors' workshop
- ★ Area Commissioners' workshop
- ★ Area Diversity and Inclusivity team formed
- ★ OAL training and tenting
- ★ OAL Adventure Module 8-Snowshoeing
- ★ International trip briefing





BC Girl Guides *When We Shine*

BC Council Membership for 2017

Patron Her Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC,
Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia

Honorary Officers

Pat Drugge	Judy Maurice
Elaine Hayden	Dolores Racine
Dawnette Humphrey	Marion Rogers
Elaine Killam	Georgia Runcie
Daphne MacGregor-Greer	

Provincial Commissioner

Leslie Bush

Deputy Provincial Commissioners

Tara Decker (May–Dec.)	Darlene Kent
Colleen Kellner	Helen Varga (Jan.–May)

Provincial Treasurer

Roanna McCormack (Jan.–June)
Joan Wallwork (Jul.–Dec.)

Advisers of Provincial Standing Committees

Camping	Joy Andersen
International	Christine Harrison (Jan.–Feb.) Teri Craig (Feb.–Dec.)
Membership Program	Gerry Koepke
Public Relations/Communications	Colleen McKenna and Susan Stephen Sue Street
Training	Kerrie Glover (Jan.–May) Tamara Sweet-Letts (May–Dec.)

Provincial Risk and Compliance Adviser

Fiona McFarlane (Feb.–Dec.)

Provincial Coordinators

Girl Engagement Coordinator	Kate Tobin
Member Services Coordinator	Siobhan Peck (May–Dec.)

Area Commissioners

Fraser Skies	Siobhan Peck (Jan.–May) Jenny Hall, Bev Lindsay and Marion Weir (May–Dec.) Shelley Balfour (Jan.–Jul.) Tammy Cox, Sue Fielding and Heather Hall (Jul.–Dec.)
Kootenay	Carol Williams
Lions	Natalie Baxter
Lougheed	Julie Thomson and Barb Wilson
Monashee	Barb Wood
Pacific Shores	Phoebe Painter
Rivers North	Adrienne Blandford, Wendy Halpen and Gillian Hurwood
Southern Vancouver Is.	Anne Fox (Jan.–Nov.) Debra Desjardins, Leslie Hall, Margaret Patten and Judy Teshima (Nov.–Dec.) Hilary Feldman and Elaine Lake
Thompson Nicola	
West Coast	

Elected Members

Sarah Beirsto (Jan.–May)	Lynne Wright (May–Dec.)
Stella Vallee (Jan.–May)	Christina Armstrong (May–Dec.)
Lisa Welchzelberger	

2017 BC Council Bursaries and Scholarships

Bursary of Honour Meika H.G., *Lions Area*

BC Council Bursary

Amanda F., <i>Lions Area</i>	Christina M., <i>Lougheed Area</i>
Breanne E., <i>Lougheed Area</i>	Courtney S., <i>West Coast Area</i>
Camille C., <i>Lions Area</i>	Megan P., <i>Monashee Area</i>
Christie V., <i>West Coast Area</i>	Molly R., <i>Lougheed Area</i>

Margery Dumfries Scholarship Gabriela R., *Monashee Area*

Eve Pound Scholarship Katarina P., *West Coast Area*

Pat Drugge Adult Bursary Audrey Wang, *Lougheed Area*

BC Trefoil Guilds' Education Grant

Maryna Ell, *Southern Vancouver Island Area*
Eliesse Harpaz, *West Coast Area*

Aliza, Chaim and Tova

Kornfeld Scholarship Audrey Wang, *Lougheed Area*

Awards

BC Award Sheralynne Muirhead, *Fraser Skies Area*

Medal of Merit Toki Menendez, *West Coast Area*

Fortitude Jennifer Bartels, *Monashee Area*
Debra Manulak, *Lions Area*

Honorary Life Bea Robertson, *Fraser Skies Area*
Donna Samson, *Thompson Nicola Area*

Book of Honour

P.J. Borghardt, *Lougheed Area*
Maryann Brock, *Monashee Area*
Jean Cosgrove, *Southern Vancouver Island Area*
Joan Crouch, *Fraser Skies Area*
Lois Godfrey, *Rivers North Area*
Barbara Harris, *Rivers North Area*
Bernice Hogendoorn, *Lions Area*
Myla McClinnis, *Fraser Skies Area*
Tamara McLean, *Kootenay Area*
Joyce Muffly, *Kootenay Area*
Marjorie Phelps, *Rivers North Area*

Also presented to

BC members in 2017

Gold Merit	3
Silver Merit	20
Bronze Merit	21
Gold Thanks	88
Team Award	27

Membership in 2017

Girls	13,324
Adults	4,276
Total members	17,600

Girl Guide Cookie Sales

Classic cookies	61,750 cases
Chocolatey mint cookies	48,567 cases
Total cookie sales	110,317 cases



For more information or to contact us:

Girl Guides of Canada – BC Council
1-800-565-8111 or www.bc-girlguides.org