



### Provincial Commissioner's Report

Girl Guides of Canada a movement, our movement and organization, building a better world full of adventure and leadership opportunities. A place where girls are empowered to take the lead, jump into exciting activities while exploring what matters to them in a safe, supportive, inclusive space. Guiders are the catalysts who enable this opportunity by your gift of time, mentorship, patience and encouragement to the girls and leaders of our organization. Our Provincial Membership's strength draws from each individual's contribution to our success over this past year and the history of Guiding within our province.



2017 has brought a year of memories, new challenges, making allowances for different life experiences and realities while providing a safe space for all to share, learn and grow together, Guiding has a rich history in our country. During the year 2017 Canada celebrated 150 years of a cultural mosaic of which Girl Guides of Canada has been recognized with 107 years as an Organization. Newfoundland and Labrador Council has been around as a member of Canadian Guiding since 1949 when we joined Confederation in this great country. This history has been shaped by GGC Members who continue to be responsive to the changing world around us.



This past year's experiences have been immense, from representation on the National Youth Forum through Mackenzie Furey as well as Mackenzie being a part of the National International Selections Committee to Carissa Haines being a member of the National Cookie Committee our Young Adults have represented us with passion and commitment, our future is bright moving forward. Erica Bennett, a member of the Provincial Youth Council designed our two new Provincial Program Crests, Geocaching and the Heritage Challenge, creativity at its finest. Our Provincial Youth Council celebrated as they ran a successful Ranger, Pathfinder weekend where they led their own sessions of interest from girl empowerment to inclusivity and personal development sessions.



Newfoundland and Labrador Committees have challenged themselves to provide engaging, supportive and adventurous opportunities to our programs. Our Camping Committee hosted a Provincial Camp where 250 girls and Guiders came together for "Camp Holidayze"; our Safe Guide Committee working alongside Risk and Compliance Adviser are strengthening our abilities to provide safe opportunities within our Province. Training Committee reached out to Guiders via webinar to reach geographically challenged areas as well as time constrained adults. Program Committee has supplemented our Guiders with a Program Calendar assisting with monthly plans for units. In addition we have seen the development of the Canada 150 Challenge as we celebrated 150 years of a Canadian Cultural Mosaic.



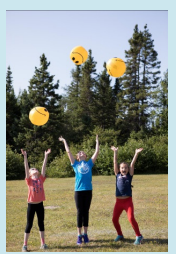
Girls were selected to travel Internationally, Carina Korchoski, Irish Girl Guides International Camp, IGGNITE 2017 Ireland and June Mayo, our Provincial Camp Adviser was selected as a Guider participant. Mackenzie Furey was fortunate to attend the Summer Friendship Event, 2017 at Our Cabana, World Centre in Mexico. One very privileged Ranger Kaitlyn Harvey was chosen to attend the "Pilgrimage to Europe", courtesy of the Royal Canadian Legion. Carissa Haines, a transitioning member at the time, received the Barrett Family Foundation National Scholarship and Brandi O'Keefe, a young Guider, received the Bayer Inc. Science Education National Scholarship for Postgraduate Marine Studies. Mackenzie Furey received our Provincial Betty Spencer Memorial Scholarship.



In March we were privileged to be part of history in the making when the Tim Horton's Brier came to town and a group of 14 Rangers and Pathfinders participated as flag and placard carriers for all the provinces and territories. A once in a lifetime event, much enjoyed by both the girls and athletes.



Social Media rules, through Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter, NL Council and its members are being liked, followed, and shared through every means possible. We are part of the leading opportunities in today's fast moving technology based world. Public Relations and Membership will certainly be strengthened by these opportunities.



Our Cookie Campaigns continue to offer the supports provided to all our members. Thank you all for continuing the door to door campaigns, cookie drive through, mall centered sale tables and every other possible event that provides the funding for every program and opportunity every girl and adult member benefits from.

This year we are continuing in a time of change as we partner with our National Strategic Priorities focused on making Guiding more inclusive for all, optimizing our staff across the country while implementing our new Girls First program. Girls First is aimed at allowing girls to shape their own Guiding experience by putting their interests front and centre enabling them to develop their own skills. We have a good representation in our province at all levels for Test Units with Girls First and had a great turn out for our Girls First National Staff when they visited our province this past fall. Our Girls First Champions are working diligently preparing a schedule to bring their new found knowledge to everyone in our province. Excitement is mounting with eager anticipation for the arrival of Girls First beginning in the fall of 2018.

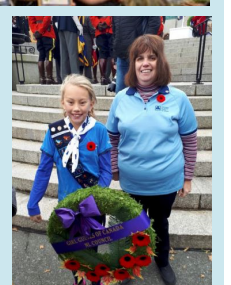


To all our vibrant leaders who have given us our foundation and to those girls and women who are striving to provide and support the infinite possibilities of tomorrow, thank you all for your passion and commitment to a world full of opportunity and positive influence.

Thank you all for enabling "Everything she wants to be", supporting the vision "A better world, by girls" and our mission "To be a catalyst for girls empowering girls".



Margot Walsh  
Provincial Commissioner



## Eastern Bays Area - Acting Commissioner, Deputy Provincial Commissioner Deanna Cain Hewitt

- Green Grange District celebrated year end with a banquet and presentation of badges
- BNB District presented a cheque on behalf of GGC NL at the Janeway Telethon in June
- Eastern Horizons District enjoyed a fabulous Canada 150 camp at Burry Heights
- Units throughout the Area held successful Bring a Friend Nights, rallies, movie nights, skating, multi branch sleepovers, and participated in Remembrance Day and Christmas Parades.
- Eastern Horizons District collected a car full of supplies for St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- Cormack District hosted "Flat Autumn" from a Unit in Ontario. Flat Autumn participated in the Christmas Parade and had her own costume like the girls.
- All girls in the Discovery District participated in a Stuff a Stocking service project

## Con Ba Su Area - Commissioner Georgina Laine

- Kelligrews/Foxtrap made Guatemalan worry dolls
- Chamberlains took Action on Poverty by participating in various food drives and delivery, Rangers visited The Community Food Sharing Association and packed thousands of pounds of food
- Hopewell made a wreath and marched in Remembrance Day Ceremony and have been testing activities for the Girls First pilot
- Paradise hosted a paint night, Urban camp downtown, made buddy burners and used them on a hike on the East Coast Trail, had a NL search dog visit, tin can tab drive for Ronald MacDonald House, and took part in the Guiding Granny Challenge
- St. Thomas visited the new Fire Hall and had sleepovers/camps

## Awards presented in 2017

### Committee Chair Pamela Eavis

- Letter of Commendation - 5
- Gold Thanks - 20
- Bronze Unit Guider - 39
- Silver Unit Guider - 12
- Gold Unit Guider - 5
- New Guider Appreciation - 52
- Commissioner/ACL - 5
- Bronze Merit - 29
- Silver Merit - 7
- Gold Merit - 9
- Team Award - 21
- Medal of Merit - 4
- Dedicated Service Award - 3
- Ranger - 1
- Kay Penney Love of Guiding - 1
- Certificate of Appreciation - 7

## Youth Forum - Elected Member Amy Tuck

- The Youth Forum has organized 2017 Ranger Gathering 'Every Girl is a Superhero'
- Two service projects completed: collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House in St. John's and collecting toiletries and children's books for women shelters across the province.

## Member Services - Coordinator Deborah Smith

- As we celebrate our 2018 milestone the goal of Member Services is in to be more visible and increase membership, we are down 89 members for the 2017/2018 Guiding year.
- An ad celebrating Volunteer Week was placed in the Western Star special feature, and a thank you gift was sent to all adult Members.
- The Membership Growth Coordinator attended several expos in 2017: Downhome Expo, NL Sportsman Outdoor Expo, NL Kids Expo and Regatta Day.
- Promo postcard packages were sent to all elementary grade schools in the fall.
- Training has been busy getting Guiders prepared for being unit leaders and commissioners. We held our annual training weekend in the spring of 2017 for planning and professional development, attended Committees Conference in September to lay out some short and long-term plans. We hosted "Oh the Places You'll Go" Training Conference at Burry Heights in October and throughout the year offered Safe Guide, Financial Management and other enrichment sessions both face to face and via webinar.

## Tuckamore Area - Commissioner Catherine Barry

- Pleasantview District hosted a Thinking Day rally for over 75 Members. The theme was the Newfoundland Heritage Challenge. Units celebrated by wearing their uniforms to school and learning the history of Girl Guides at their meetings. Girls also visited to Ronald McDonald house, made valentines for seniors, tested activities from the Girls First program, and learned of financial management
- Parkside District held a literary dress up night, an International dinner night for the fundraiser for the trip to Switzerland in 2018, an Easter Egg hunt and a paint night, and a heritage night led by the Pathfinders
- Killick Coast District girls participated in the Newfoundland Geocaching challenge, Remembrance Day service, went to the Petty Harbour Mini Aquarium and the Salmonier Nature park. Units have been working the Newfoundland Heritage challenge, making ugly sticks and mummering
- East Coast District learned baking skills, went door to door for the cookie blitzes and had Pathfinders disappointed with the lack of snow because they had planned to winter camp!

## Ocean's Edge Area - Acting Commissioner, Provincial Commissioner Margot Walsh

- 2017 highlights include: Spark and Brownie 'Islands of Adventure' Fun Day; the Brownie, Guide, Pathfinder, and Ranger 'Barbie Challenge' and the Guider Cruise Fun Day.
- Girls participated in Action on Poverty, Pancake Breakfasts, Canada 150 parties, Provincial Camp 'Holidaze' and the Santa Claus Parade.
- Girls visited the RNC Stables, Manuals River, went camping, snowshoeing, tapped maple syrup and made blankets for the Gathering Place, visited Lesters Farm, built bird houses, learned about braille, and went on scavenger hunts
- Goulds District celebrated 60 years of Guiding and hosted a tea party for all former Goulds Guiders.

## Long Range Trails Area - Commissioner Maureen Tiller

- Visit to Area by Provincial Commissioner, in May
- Area Commissioner Susan Hulan completed her 3 year term. Area Commissioner position accepted by Maureen Tiller
- Pinchgut Campsite - Contractor hired to remove buildings and septic systems onsite, spring 2017.
- Districts of Burgeo and Gros Morne closed in the fall
- Area crest designed via submissions from the girls
- Trefoil Guilds continue to participate and assist in events
- Humber Valley district had a 50% turnover of adult leaders, for 2017-18. The District Commissioner is very pleased with the new leaders - several are past youth members

## Cookie Report - Cookie Lead Cheryl Drover

- The 2017 Classic Cookie campaign saw 9940 cases of cookies come to NL, up from 8877 in 2016.
- The 2017 Chocolatey Mint campaign had a total of 9180 cases, up from 8100 cases in the 2016 campaign.
- The provincial cookie blitz week prize draws and photo contest are a hit, more Units are participating each year.

	Classic 2017	Mint 2017
Province	250	149
Con Ba Su	1372	1407
Eastern Bays	1471	1245
Long Range Trails	1120	1201
Oceans Edge	1335	1077
Northern Mosaic	615	809
Trefoil Central	1025	1016
Tuckamore	2752	2276
TOTAL	9940	9180

## Girl Engagement - Coordinator VACANT

### International Committee:

- Summer 2017 had 3 girls travelling on Nationally Sponsored Trips: to Mexico, Switzerland and Ireland. One Guider was also selected for Ireland. Everyone had a great time!
- The committee participated in many discussions relating to the fall 2017 revised trip application forms and process.
- All of our committee were able to attend the Committees Conference September 2017, and we had many productive discussions and made plans for 2018.

### Camping Committee:

- The major highlight of 2017 was Camp Holidaze with 180 girls and 70 guiders in attendance. The programming, out trips, and finale Carnival Day kept all who attended engaged and enthusiastic.
- The Camping Committee also paired up with the Training committee to offer some webinars and in person training sessions.

### Program Committee:

- The NL Heritage and Geocaching Challenges launched in 2017 and have been well received by adult and youth members.
- The committee has created monthly planning calendars to assist Guiders. These calendars have included ideas for holidays, seasonal challenges, GGC Instant Meetings, and craft ideas. Each set of activities includes program connections for each branch, where possible.

## Trefoil Central Area -

### Commissioner Dawn Oldford

- Sliding and snowshoeing
- Advancement ceremonies and closing BBQ
- Brownies in Lewisporte attended Fall Rally at Max Simms camp, Pathfinders hiked Woolfrey's Pond
- Remembrance Day Parade and Service
- Members participated in a fabulous Wacky Olympics, a rocking Mokie Dance Party
- joint campfire and Baden-Powell Rally
- district-wide Campfire Advancement
- District Guiders felt that our members had a great year; learning many new skills, earning badges, and completing challenges. All members were treated to a day at the movies heading into the holiday season.

## Northern Mosaic Area - Acting Commissioner, Deputy Provincial Commissioner Deanna Cain Hewitt

- Labrador West District Thinking Day event was planned by the Pathfinders, they made some inspiring wall art.
- In March, Labrador West District participated in a cross-country event for all levels at the Menihok Nordic Ski Club.
- Labrador West celebrated their year end with a Canada 150 themed party
- St. Anthony Brownies held their camp at Gros Morne. They took a boat ride from Norris Point to Woody Point and visited the Touch Tank at Bonn Bay Marine Station, Pathfinders went to L'anse aux Meadows to Geocache at the UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- November saw many Units and District celebrate Veterans by attending Remembrance Day Services
- Lake Melville Brownies had a paramedic visit which included a tour of an ambulance. Brownies also had a guest speaker who was a community elder discuss living off the land. Guides in Lake Melville went hiking on the Birch Island Boardwalk.

## Special Events - Chair Judy Shannahan

- Presentation of Girl Awards on June 11, 2017. Girls from four Areas received the following awards - 61 Lady Baden Powell; 29 Canada Cord; 13 Chief Commissioner's Bronze Award; 2 Chief Commissioner's Silver Award; 6 Chief Commissioner's Gold Award.
- More than sixty Members served refreshments at the Lieutenant Governor's Garden Party In July
- Canada 150 was celebrated by Her Honour with a visit to Government House for a number of Brownies and Guides
- Units throughout the province made decorations for the Girl Guide Tree at Government House. Her Honour welcomed Girls and Guiders on November 24 to help decorate the tree

## Risk and Compliance - Officer Kay Graham

Topics currently being worked on include:

- Risk Inventory
- Risk Management Plan
- Risk Oversight Committee Terms of Reference
- Risk Management 101 training package
- Risk Assessment tools

## Elected Member, Property Compliance - Stephanie Walsh

- Submitted to National for sale of Pinchgut Lake campsite, owned by Long Range Trails Area
- Corresponded with Marine Contractors Ltd, potential buyer for Pinchgut property with respect to additional questions posed by National office, as well as questions from Marine Contractors Ltd.

## Trefoil Guilds - Adviser Gloria Learning

- Currently there are 20 Trefoil Guilds in NL
- The Provincial Trefoil Guild Gathering was in May at Lion Max Simms Camp, with 50 members attending from 8 Trefoil Guilds.
- Mrs. Penny Crane, a member of Centennial Trefoil Guild, celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and 80 years in Guiding.
- Guilds participated in many activities including:
  - Travel to Millertown to learn the history of the Beothucks
  - Hosting a Fancy Nancy Tea Party with Brownies and Guides
  - Santa Claus Parades and the Mount Pearl Frosty Festival.
  - Escape NL - Break Out Night
  - Campfires for Girl Members
  - Service Projects for their communities including diaper drives, writing a cookbook, pillows for cancer patients, food drives and food bank assistance.