



## Welcome to SVI News!

The SVI News is sent to every adult member and Ranger in SVI Area. It comes out after Area meetings and in between Lamplighter issues. It contains information that is time sensitive or that Guiders need to know. All issues of the SVI News can be found on our website ([www.svigirlguides.bc.ca](http://www.svigirlguides.bc.ca)) under "Guiding in SVI).

**WELCOME OR WELCOME BACK** - We welcome you to a new Guiding year filled with potential and promise. For this year let's use the Spark's Promise as the motto for all of our Guiding volunteer work and *Promise to Share and Be a Friend.*

## BIG NEWS! Children's Art Tax Credit - Important information for registrations

The program offered by Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada is eligible for the new Children's Art Tax Credit (CATC) announced as part of the 2011 budget, tabled by the Federal government on June 6, 2011. In order to claim this non-refundable tax credit taxpayers will require a receipt containing specific information, please be sure to check that your receipting process provides this information (likely more than current process), and keep duplicate copies, to avoid a tax time rush of having to prepare receipts to parents.

These receipts must include the following:

- The name Girl Guides of Canada followed by your unit, district or area
- The name of the program or event (i.e. annual registration, unit camp, etc.)
- Amount received, including amount eligible for CATC (which is most often the same)
- Date payment received
- Full name of person who has paid
- Full name of the child
- The child's year of birth
- Authorized signature (i.e. Guider in Charge, District Commissioner, or District Treasurer)

Area Council is creating receipts that fit this format and your District Commissioner will know more when the new receipts are here – we are working very hard to make this happen for your registration events.

Further information regarding the Children's Art Tax Credit can be found on the Canada Revenue Agency website at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/qncy/bdgt/2011/qa01-eng.html>

## BC Council Pays National Fee for Adults

Beginning the 2011 – 2012 Guiding year, BC Council will be paying the \$50 National membership fee for all adult members. This fee has been previously paid by either the member themselves, the District or the unit. BC Council recognizes the valuable contribution of you, the volunteer.

## COOKIE NEWS

**Increase in selling price-** effective spring cookies 2012 the cost per box will be \$5.00.

**The Area, District and Unit cookie share will remain the same with no increase to those levels.** The additional \$12 per case raised will be divided \$4 to National, remaining \$8 to go to Dare as manufacturer, to the Cookie Price Stabilization Fund (held at National to cover fluctuations in commodity costs and volume of cookies sold) and perhaps provinces pending further consideration by National Board. The major change here is that National did not previously take a share of the cookie profits.

## Cookie Background

In 2003, GGC signed a new contract with Dare to produce Girl Guide Cookies. For the first time the price was set at \$4 a box all across Canada. This contract price was guaranteed for five years and the contract was extended for an additional three years. This contract with Dare runs out at the end of 2011.

## Up Coming Events and Useful Informaiton

### Guide House Office

will be reopening September 7, 2011 for Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 10:00am – 2:00pm.

### The Great Cookie Debate!

Come down to Spirit Square (Victoria City Hall) from 1:00 – 4:00 pm on September 24<sup>th</sup> and check out this public Guiding event. Invited dignitaries and special guests will be present to participate in the debating of the merits of our Girl Guide Cookies. We will also have displays and hands on activities available from many segments of Guiding – camping, program, international etc. Media and the pubic will be invited to experience what we are all about. Please join us!

### Volunteers needed for Vancouver Island Baby Fair Stroller Parking

This is a service project ideally suited for Trex or Ranger girls. Leaders are required to organize and supervise our “stroller check” station at the event on September 24 and 25 at Pearkes Recreation Centre. The days are organized into 3 shifts and at least one leader and two girls are needed for each - so 12 girls in total. Younger girls (Pathfinders/Guides) could be paired with older girls. Proper uniform must be worn ie: no shorts, casual tops etc. Leaders will be responsible for staffing up the table – PR will do setup and provide materials and instructions – and dismantling and taking home on the Sunday. Area cookies are usually sold at this event as well. (the service component along with the PR opportunity). Please contact Lynda Ireland 250-472-8041 or [ggclieland@uniserve.com](mailto:ggclieland@uniserve.com) if you can help or for more information.

### Milnes Landing Camp cleanup

**September 24th, 10am to 3 pm.**

**Some chores are: cleaning cabins inside & out, sawing & stacking wood, and levelling area around cabins and driveway with rakes, shovels and picks.**

**Bring your own tools if possible.**

**Hope lots of adults show up for a great day !**

### International Night

Thurs Nov 3 at Guide House, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Come and join us to hear about this year's past trips Arielle McKenize who travelled to Honduras and the Trex group which ventured to Seattle.

Learn about upcoming for 2012 trips.

Guides, Pathfinders, Rangers, Trex - come together as a Unit. Trefoil and Guiders are always welcome.

### SVI Community Connections Challenge-

**Every Guider should have received their copy of this booklet** and now the Program Committee has completed a cross reference chart showing how the activities of the Connections Challenge can be used for program. This will be a very useful tool to help Unit Guiders plan the new Guiding year. The cross reference chart as well as the Connections brochure and Girl passport will be posted on the SVI website soon. Use it to help plan next year's activities. It is great to see girls in uniform out in the Community making connections.

**Fort Rodd Hill** has service opportunities in their Gary Oak Restoration program. Contact [frh.volunteer@pc.gc.ca](mailto:frh.volunteer@pc.gc.ca)

SVI Area Council thanks you for the time, energy and effort to help **Girl Greatness Start Here!**