



VOLUNTEER BURNABY

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
STARTS HERE

www.volunteerburnaby.ca

For more than 100 years, Scout Leaders have brought a world of adventure, outdoor experience and friendship to 17 million Canadian youth. It starts with Scouts.

Scouts have fun adventures discovering new things and experiences they wouldn't discover elsewhere. Scouts is the start of something great.

Volunteer & Leadership from the Heart: Scouts Canada

by Kelina Kwan
Volunteers are the heart of organizations. They not only provide manpower, but also the passion in helping to provide services to communities. One of the largest volunteer-run organizations is Scouts Canada. They have 27,000 volunteers nation-wide, over 12,000 in the Pacific Coast Council and two to three hundred volunteers in Burnaby alone.

In fact, Scouts Canada is the country's leading co-ed youth organization offering programs for boys, girls, and young adults aged 5-26. For more than 100 years, Scouts Canada has brought a world of adventure, outdoor experience and friendship to 17 million Canadian youth. Scouts Canada offers challenging programs for youth that support healthy, active living, leadership and the environment. They offer five programs including: Beaver Scouts - 5 to 7; Cub Scouts - 8 to 10; Scouts - 11 to 13; Venturer Scouts - 14 to 17; and Rover Scouts - 18-26. Behind all the programs

and activities are caring and dedicated volunteer leaders who help to shape tomorrow's leaders and encourage youth to be more engaged in their community to make it a better place.

Recently, I spoke with three leaders from Scouts Canada - Viki Fanous, Area Support Manager; Verna Adamson, Burnaby Area Commissioner; and Melissa Nemeth, Youth Spokesperson for Scouts Canada, Pacific Coast Council. Nemeth is also a Beaver Leader with the 6th Burnaby Centre Lake Scout Group. It transpires that a lot of volunteers began as participants in Scouts Canada's programs, "and then they want to give back to the community because they received so much as participants" said Fanous. "A lot of our volunteers are parents of children who are participants, who want to spend more time with their children and do some quality outdoor activities with their children." Adamson said that she herself became involved because her children were participants.

"Now they are grown up and gone, and not in scouting, but I am still here and having so much fun! I want to contribute to my community, and seeing the faces of children and their smiles as they learn something through play, and they get that 'Aha!' moment - it's just totally amazing. They also give back to me because of the joy they bring, knowing that I am helping to build them into confident young people. I feel that I am making a big contribution to young people's life and it's definitely worth my time."

And that's the feeling Nemeth has too. "I am essentially playing with kids and I am teaching them things. Last week, we made paper airplanes and we played games trying to figure out which way it works best. I get a lot of fun hanging out with them. But we are really helping to shape tomorrow's leaders." Through Scouts Canada's programs, children are developing into confident, capable young people. "That's the real impact our volunteers are having - encouraging kids to be more engaged and more involved in their own community, developing a

sense of belonging, and getting in touch with their community both local and even globally." And that's what's in the hearts of all the volunteers.

All Scouts Canada's programs are designed to be age-appropriate. They teach children about leadership, environment, active living, physical health, nutrition, community service, and provide exciting adventures and more. "When they go to these weekly meetings, they are playing games, they are doing crafts, they are role-playing, and they are going out to the community on tours, hikes and camps. They don't realize it but they are learning through the activities" Fanous said.

Scouts Canada always needs volunteers. You don't need to be a scout to volunteer. However, you do need to go through a screening process that includes a clean police record check, an interview, and reference check. You will also be given 16 to 20 hours of training, some of which will be program-specific. There are opportunities for everyone both short and long-term - you can

work with younger kids, or older youth who are involved in different projects, including international projects. There are 18 different groups in the Burnaby area alone and they have a lot of programs ramping up at the moment including the Cub Car Rally and snow camping in Manning Park. "It's a survival camp and kids come out of the other end incredible proud of what they have accomplished" Adamson said. And that's what you feel from the heart when you volunteer.

For more information about our programs or how you can make a difference in the lives of children in your community, please visit www.scouts.ca. Or call Viki Fanous at 604.220.8381 or Verna Adamson at 604.294.5550.

For more information on how to get involved in your community, please contact Volunteer Burnaby through their website at www.volunteerburnaby.ca.



Volunteer

...you'll be glad you did

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

MOSAIC needs a Cameraman to film and prepare a video for an event at the Burnaby location with experience in filming and/or video recording and production. The volunteer will be recognized in the video and agency flyers, gain experience and a letter appreciation for the contribution. MOSAIC empowers immigrants, refugees and newcomers through leadership and innovation in service delivery, community-building and advocacy.

Explore: www.volunteerburnaby.com



Volunteer of the Month...

Scouts Canada would like to thank Benjamin Ng for his service to Burnaby Scouting. Benjamin volunteers as a Scout leader for the 28th Burnaby Sea Dragons, as well as serving as the Burnaby Area Youth Commissioner. He leads youth leadership development and senior youth events, and shares his love of sailing as an instructor. Benjamin serves as an outstanding role model to the youth in our community. Congratulations, Scouter Benjamin!

VOLUNTEER BURNABY | 203-2101 Holdom Avenue Burnaby
604.294.5533 www.volunteerburnaby.ca

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SENIORS DAY
on first Tuesday every month

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Fax: 604 435-8150

Hours of Operation:
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Thurs. 8:30am to 7:00pm • Sat. 9:00am to 4:00pm

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