

St. Barnabas Beaver Colony

Welcome!

St. Barnabas Beaver Colony meetings are held Monday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 PM in the hall behind St. Barnabas Church (95 Lorne avenue). Our registration fee for 2019-2020 is 255\$. This comprises of two components: the amount our Group pays to Scouts Canada per child (230\$) and the net group operating cost (badges, crafts, etc) for the year per youth (25\$). To register your child, please go to www.myscouts.ca and follow the instructions to create an account and register your child on-line.

In addition to the weekly meetings, we will be participating in several weekend activities. Participation in these additional activities by your child is optional, but they are usually the most memorable events of the year and are what distinguish the Beaver program from other extra-curricular activities. Some of our Beaver activities, along with the estimated cost, will include:

- Indoor weekend Fall camp next September 27 - 29 (65\$)
- St. Lambert remembrance day parade (free)
- Sleepover in December with a special visitor (~20\$)
- Indoor weekend Winter camp next February 7 – 9 (65\$)
- End of year weekend Spring camp May 22 - 24 (65\$)
- 1 or 2 weekend half-day activities, to be announced later

As information becomes available for these and other activities, you will be kept informed with periodic newsletters. We use a paperless system and rely exclusively on e-mail to communicate information to everyone. Please make sure that the e-mail address you provide is one which you check on a regular basis.

Families have the option of helping to organise and participate in a number of group fundraisers throughout the year. Those who actively participate in these fundraisers will be able to offset their child's cost of participating in group activities. The group fundraising options are:

- Fertiliser sale (March - April)
- Bottle drive (TBD)

Please note that parent participation in our overnight camping trips requires having a "consent to verification by police department" form verified by the police within the past three years, a signed "Code of Conduct" form, and having taken the "Safe Scouting for Parents" training module (this training module is available online at www.myscouts.ca). These three elements are Scouts Canada pre-requisites for adults attending camp. There is a nominal fee of 15-20\$ for parents to attend camp which helps offset the food costs. If not already done, please fill out the police form and code of conduct form and return them with your child's registration paperwork.

All the leaders are volunteers who give freely of their time to help with the Beaver meetings. We really have fun with what we are doing as Scouting volunteers and are always looking for other people who would be interested in helping out. At present, the leadership team is as follows:

Helen Allen (Beavers)	465-9489
John Bellingham (Cubs)	671-6670
Franck Desgranges (Beavers)	465-1012
Bronwynne Richardson (Cubs)	647-6500
Daniel Vuk (Cubs)	677-8162

Above all, your child should be having fun at the meetings. Some new children may be shy at the beginning of the year (which is normal and usually diminishes with time). Please contact us if you have any concerns.

Some parents may prefer staying at the meeting hall during the meeting – if you decide to do this may we suggest you observe from the conference room which overlooks the meeting hall and not from the edge of the hall. By doing this, you are giving your child more space and an opportunity to develop their self-confidence.

Our program follows elements of the Canadian Path (www.canadianpath.ca). Our group has taken the initiative of preparing a duo-tang containing key elements from this website which will help you and your child get started on their Scouting journey. The program for a typical weekly meeting is as follows (please respect the arrival time in order to give the leaders the opportunity to make last minute preparations for the meeting before the Beavers arrive):

6:29PM: Arrival
6:30PM: Opening ceremony
6:35PM: Lodge activities (in groups of ~ 4 - 6 Beavers)
6:50PM: Game
7:05PM: Craft period
7:20PM: Game (time permitting)
7:25PM: Closing ceremony

Here is a list of what we ask your son/daughter to bring with them to each meeting:

- Complete uniform, consisting of the Beaver vest, Beaver hat, Beaver t-shirt, Beaver woggle and the scarf which we will provide (at their investiture) and the Canadian Path duo-tang.
- **Non-marking running shoes** to wear in the hall through the winter when boots are worn outside.

Any uniform items that need to be purchased can be acquired at Scout Headquarters in Ottawa (mail order: www.scoutshop.ca or in person) or ordered through the Beaver Colony. If ordered through the group, we will have one group order in September/October which should qualify for free shipping otherwise the shipping charges are in the range of 9.50\$ - 12.50\$ per order. The cost of the Beaver uniform (not including shipping) is approximately 75\$. The entire leadership team is doing everything possible to make sure your child's Scouting experience with us this year meets all their expectations, but we can't do it without your help. We are all looking forward to spending a most enjoyable year together.

Here are some things your child will be learning at the meetings:

Beaver Promise: I promise to love God and help take care of the world.

Beaver Law: A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps their family and friends.

Beaver Motto: Sharing, Sharing, Sharing

Taps (closing song): Day is done, Gone the sun, From the lake, From the hills, From the sky; All is well, Safely rest, God is nigh.