

Scouting Facts: Canada



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Scouting started in Canada in 1907 and it quickly spread across the country. The Canadian Scouts were a Branch of The Scout Association until October 1946, when the Association was recognised by the World Scout Conference. Subsequent changes altered the name of the Association to Scouts Canada, who also act as the Federation, and the Association des Scouts du Canada (Association of Scouts of Canada).

Scouts Canada:

There are five Sections in this Association:

Beavers aged 5 - 7 years - the first Beaver Colony was started in 1971 with 13 boys and 3 leaders and now has an official programme, which is based upon developing a sense of belonging and sharing in small group activities.

Wolf Cubs aged 8 - 10 years their programme is fun with a purpose.

Scouts aged 11-14 - they develop self-discipline and the skills of working co-operatively with others.

Venturers aged 14-17 years - have a self-activated programme based on adult level activities.

Rovers aged 18-26 - devote themselves to



service.

There are two awards based on knowledge, skill and service - the Chief Scout's Award for Scouts and the Queen's Venturer: Award for Venturers. There are no separate programmes for rural areas, Sea Scouts or Air Scouts, but the flexibility of the programme allows the leader to adapt to the needs of the groups. Scouts with disabilities are encouraged to join existing groups - adapting the programme as the need arises.

Motto: Be Prepared.

Promises:

Beavers: "I promise to love God and to help take care of the world".

Wolf Cubs: "I promise to do my best, to do my duty to God and the Queen, to keep the law of the Wolf Cub Pack and to do a good turn to somebody every day".

Scout: "On my honour I promise, to do my best to love and to serve God, my Queen, my country and my fellowman, and live by the Scout Law.

Venturers: "On my honour I promise to develop myself so that I may better love and serve my God, respect and help my fellowman, honour and render services to my country".

The Scout Association

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Rover: "On my honour I promise I will do my best to do my duty to God and the Queen, to help other people at all times and to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law".

Laws:

Beavers: "A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps his family and friends".

Cubs:

1. "The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf."
2. "The Cub does not give in to himself".

Scout: "A Scout is helpful and trustworthy, kind and cheerful, considerate and clean, wise in the use of his resources."

Uniform:

Beavers: Brown vest with blue trim over street clothes, blue scarf and blue colby hat.

Wolf Cubs: Green cap, grey jersey and slacks, national or group scarf.

Scouts: Green beret and shirt, blue slacks, red badge sash, national or group scarf.

Venturers: Beige shirt, navy trousers, loden green badge sash, green tie or group scarf.

Rovers: Red beret, grey shirt, grey or blue slacks, red tie or group scarf.

Association des Scouts du Canada (Association of Scouts of Canada): French-speaking Scouts in Canada were officially recognised in Quebec in 1936, though they had been in existence since 1918. This French speaking Association was founded in 1961 and recognised in 1969. Its members are mostly Catholic although it is open to all religions.

Their programme is based upon the development of global knowledge and competence rather than gaining proficiency badges in various fields. There is a progressive badge system that starts when the boy joins the Troop or after his first "Grand Project" (Big Project). He is given a badge to which metal stars are added as he progresses. The Pionniers pass from the "Commitment" state to the Service and Animator badges.

There is co-operation with the Guides in training, administration and publications and many joint activities are undertaken with other organisations in the protection of nature and with community development. Scouting with the handicapped is very well developed and these children are encouraged to join regular groups.

Both Associations have pioneered in carrying Scouting to the Arctic, among the Inuit and lone Patrols in the mining camps of the far north; much of the country forms a paradise for outdoor Scouting, canoe trips etc, in the thousands of lakes.

Motto: "Sois pret" (Be prepared).

Promise: Je m'engage avec l'aide du Seigneur et de mes freres a vivre la loi scout. (I pledge, with the help of the Lord and my brothers, to live the Scout Law).

Law:

1. A Scout is trustworthy and inspires trust.
2. A Scout fights for justice.
3. A Scout shares with everyone.
4. A Scout is a brother to all.
5. A Scout protects life.
6. A Scout has team spirit.
7. A Scout does his best.
8. A Scout spreads joy.