

Hello everyone,

welcome to 2024! Here's the first edition of Beaver Tales for this year.

# Beaver Tales

## Hogs Back Scout Group - Colony A

72<sup>nd</sup> & 115<sup>th</sup> Beaver Colonies

### Happy New Year

Welcome to 2024 and a new scouting year. We are looking forward to a new year of fabulous adventures and fun.

### Friendly Reminder

Please send a pair of **indoor shoes** with your child to each meeting so they can play the games safely. The gym floor is rather hard especially if you hit your head on it.

If your child needs a uniform – **vest and hat** – we will be putting in an order later this week. We will provide the badges and neckerchief when the child is invested. Please let us know what size you will need no later than **Thursday Jan. 11** so we can place the order ASAP. When we place a group order over \$500, we can avoid the shipping fee. Please let myself or Scouter Ros know ([Rosalindmaguire@gmail.com](mailto:Rosalindmaguire@gmail.com)).

### Winter Camp

Registration for winter camp is now open. Registration closes **JANUARY 9**. THERE ARE STILL A FEW SPOTS LEFT FOR THE FULL WEEKEND. Weekend cost is \$80 (we are fully catered-the Ope crew cooks all of our food and they do a fantastic job! All you can eat!). The cost for Saturday-only is \$45. Please email Scouter Henry ([henry.starzynski@sympatico.ca](mailto:henry.starzynski@sympatico.ca)) to register. If paying via e-transfer, send to [72ndpayments@gmail.com](mailto:72ndpayments@gmail.com).

**If you are planning to help out at the winter camp, and you have not already done so, you will need to complete either the Parent Helper or Parent Overnight Helper training. You will have to register with Scouts Canada through MyScouts. You will need to COMPLETE this before the camp. Please email me if you need to complete the process and we can get it started ASAP.**

Everyone will be sleeping indoors in heated cabins which have bunk beds (usually 4 to a room). We will go on a hike, build a quinzhee and go tobogganing. **HELMETS are MANDATORY for tobogganing**, please ensure your child(ren) has(have) one.

Winter camp Info:

<https://www.72ndottawascouting.ca/formsandnotes/WinterCampInfo2024.pdf>

Directions to Camp Opemikon:

<https://www.72ndottawascouting.ca/formsandnotes/MapToOpe.pdf>

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

### Looking Ahead

Our meetings will start again on **January 9, 2024 at St. Rita's**. We will be asking the youth what they would like to do in 2024 and start getting ready for winter camp.

Tuesday Jan 9                      Welcome to 2024- Review of 2023 & Initial Planning, **Winter OAS**

Tuesday Jan 16                     Winter Camp Preparation, **Winter OAS**

Tuesday Jan 23                     Winter Camp Preparation, **Winter OAS**

Tuesday Jan 30                     Winter Camp Preparation, **Winter OAS**

**Feb. 2-4**                              **Winter Camp at Camp Opemikon**

**June 1**                                **Beaver's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party.**

## **Save the following dates: Feb. 2-4 - Winter Camp at Camp Opemikon and June 1 – Beaver's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party.**

### [North Star Award](#)

The new year brings the opportunity for the oldest Beaver Scouts in the Colony to work towards their North Star Award. The North Star award is a wonderful way for Beavers to end their time in the section, but it is not mandatory for advancement to Cubs.

To earn the award, a White Tail Beaver (those youth in Grade 2) must:

- Review their time in Beavers with a couple of leaders
- Earn at least a total of 5 Outdoor Adventure Skill levels = we earned 3 before Christmas and hope to earn 3 more before the end of the year
- Volunteer 5 hours – we have already earned 2 hours and are looking for more volunteer opportunities for the Colony
- Plan, do & review a service project that helps our community. Examples of past service projects completed by Beaver scouts from our group include:
  - held a bottle drive and bake sale to raise funds for the homeless,
  - raised funds by completing a bicycle tour for CHEO,
  - held a bake sale to raise funds for cancer research,
  - during COVID, two youth worked together to set up virtual visits to chat with seniors,
  - learned how to knit and knit scarves for the homeless, and
  - organized and ran a park clean up.
- This list is not exhaustive. The project can be done on their own or as part of a group.

If your child wishes to work towards this award, please let us know. This project is not a mandatory requirement to advance to cubs but is a nice way for the youth to end their stay in Beavers.

### [More Spaces Opening Up](#)

With the section splitting into two colonies, we will have several spaces open up for new members. If your child has any friends who may be interested in joining, we should be able to accommodate six more youth. Scouts Canada has a policy that allows prospective members to try out two meetings

before deciding if they wish to register. Bring a Buddy is a great way to try out the program. All we ask is that you let us know so we can have enough supplies on hand for the activities.

### **Program Ideas**

Our program is based on what the youth want to do. If your child(ren) has(have) ideas for adventures they want to turn into reality, please let us know. We will be speaking with the youth at the first meeting in January to see what we can do until after March break.

See you Tuesday evening,

Sue