

Welcome to Cubs!

I've included some interesting background information for you, as well as some forms. If you have any questions, please don't be afraid to ask me, or any of the other Cub leaders.

Our leaders this year are

Henry Starzynski (Akela) 224-7723 henry.starzynski@sympatico.ca
Ken Skublics (Bagherra)
Raymond Desjardines
Adrian Maclean
Robert Bowness

Don't be intimidated by the paper in this package! Some of it is there to provide you with some useful background, and information about Scouting in general and Cubbing in particular.

We like to advertise Scouting using photographs, artwork, etc. In order to do so we would like your permission to use photographs and stuff. Please sign the *Photo Release*.

We also need the *Physical Fitness Form* filled in. This is quite important for us. If your Cub takes any medication or has any allergies, please record that in the form

For new Cubs, here is a list of things to buy as soon as possible -- A Cub shirt and sash, and a book. In addition to the formal brown Cub shirt and sash, you can also pick up an activity shirt for your Cub. They are like a T-shirt, come in pine green, orange, or grey, and say something like SC on them. These can be worn at meetings. Any badges that are needed will be provided. We'll distribute the necker, which for our group is a blue, red and grey necker. St. Mark's 72nd has been around since after World War II, and the colours represent the regiment colours of a regiment that was located in the area. Please make sure that your Cub's name is on everything! Items can be purchased at the Scout Shop on Baseline Road, across from Loblaws.

Transportation to and from meetings, events and camps is up to the parent. In reality, life and work situations dictate that this may not always be possible, so we will try our best to car pool. Where you can lend assistance, it is greatly appreciated.

The Cub program contains 6 program areas: Natural World (Black Star), Outdoor Activities (Green Star), Creative Expression (Tawney Star), Health and Fitness (Red Star), Home and Community (Blue Star), and Canada and the World (Purple Star). We typically concentrate on the badges in two of the program areas each year, but by no means do we restrict ourselves to that two areas. The program would not be balanced and would not be as much fun!

We try to work on the requirements for as many of the badges as possible in our meetings or camps. Some we do not touch, such as skier badge. If your child works on a badge at home, school or with you, and you sign off the requirements, I won't question them. For some of the badge and star requirements, you are a better judge of these than we are!

We have 3 camps each year. We run the camps at cost, and if the cost is an issue, please speak to me. We will do fundraising during the year, and we use this to help out if required. It's more important to take part, rather than to stay behind because of finances. Our fall and winter camps are at the Scout camp, Camp Opemikon, just past Perth. We stay in heated cabins, and have our meals catered, which works out to about \$40-\$45 for the weekend. In Cubs, youth are not required to have all that gear for camping – I think it is far more important to get away from the city, sleep in warm surroundings, and concentrate on a fun and educational program during the day. Believe me, we've gone camping in the fall when it was below zero, and most youth froze and were bitter. Scouts is a different story, we will stay in cabins. Our spring camp in June will be in tents, which we have as a group. Typically, the biggest problems are the bugs and the heat. Oh yeah, we usually have a few parents who join us at camp. We appreciate the support and help, and we gladly invite parents to come along with us!

If you are willing to help out as a leader, we will be **very** happy to hear from you. Training and friendship provided!

What to expect in costs

I try to run a balanced program for the youth, and some things will cost beyond the basic registration. No youth should miss any event due to cost – if you need any assistance, please talk to me. Here's what you are typically looking at for the year

- September – TD Shoreline Cleanup, FREE
- October - Hike, FREE!
- October - camp \$50 / Cub
- November, Great City Search, (\$5/ Cub)
- December, indoor wall climbing (\$15)
- January, skating, Free!
- February, camp \$50/Cub + Kub Kar kits (\$5)
- April, Kub Kars (\$10)
- May, Scout Trees (\$10)
- June, camp (\$40)

We'll continue to meet Monday nights, at St Rita's gym, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm.

If you have any questions about this note, the contents of this package, or anything else about our programme or the Cub programme in general, please feel free to give me a call! Or check out our website at www.geocities.com/ottawa72nd/. It is updated weekly. I also send a weekly email update to everyone as a reminder of what is upcoming

Good hunting!
Henry Starzynski
Akela St. Mark's 72nd
613 224 7723