

25 Sep 2008

Area Commissioners Report

Following items are what I would have had to say:

- My apologies for not being there. I agreed to be a subcamp chief at the CEC Camporee, and this is the last meeting. Got to attend it. I'll be there for the next one.
- Apologies from Ed Balyk & Tony, there will be no representation from the Council. They were in Wellington on Tue night for the Area review (yes we "done good"), and have another meeting elsewhere tonight.
- PRC's are critical in allowing us to register leaders. At one time, if a PRC was missing we could still work with the member in MMS. That's being restricted, and we have to convince the admin centre to add & maintain the individual until the RPC is posted. Up to 10 week wait times in Peel. We're better but looking at a month (see my blog entry for the 48 hour version you get to pay for). So, if your PRC is expiring, do it NOW, preferably 6 weeks BEFORE it runs out. If it's lapsed, or you haven't got one, you should be working with registered members and never be alone with the youth.
- If you have a PRC done for another organisation, the following apply:
 - May be no more than 90 days old!!
 - If you want to keep the original, you must present BOTH the original and the copy to the AREA COMMISSIONER. I can sign the copy as 'certified true' if I see the original at the same time.
- Still space for 1 or 2 more at the WB1 - GC course this weekend. Would have to know tonight.
- Training is no longer optional. This includes Group Commissioners & Leaders. You must take training within your first year or you will not be renewed. That's a part I of course. Existing leaders and Group Commissioners must also take training by the end of this year. You knew this was coming, announced last year.
- If you owe the council money, your registration will NOT be accepted. That includes registration fees, popcorn money, you pick it.
- The STEP program is on the blog, the CEC website and so forth. Basically an incentive program for the youth to bring their friends, and for new youth to try the program before buying.

- This year the slogan is "Growing Through Program Excellence". What it means. Concentrate on program, get the training, put the right person in the right position, and we cannot fail.
- Remember that your group is responsible for nominating your adults for recognition. Our DAC Honours and Awards is the 2nd line of defense. Working hard to get away from the 'prove it' model at the CEC level.
- If you need to subsidize fees, the No-one Left Behind program still exists. There's still \$8000 in the fund. National program still exists, but it's expected the group will kick in funds. (they will look for your group financial statements for the past years)
- Have eliminated the $\frac{1}{4}$ million dollar debt, it's gone, 3 years!!!
- They will be returning the \$75,000 they took in trust from the Districts when the Areas were created. No idea how much is Wellington's, but \$38,000 belongs to Oakville. By Christmas the money will be refunded to the groups in Wellington proportionate to the membership that exists at registration this year. REGISTER EVERYONE.
- Wellington made 98.5% last year (100.3% on the youth, 92.7% on the adults) in membership.
- Remember, the group is NOT YOURS! It is yours in trust from Scouts Canada and the youth! As a Group Commissioner you are expected to return the group in as good a shape (or better, preferred) when your term is up. So, don't close the section. Ask for help! That's what the service team and your Area Commissioner is for!!! (mention our success story, or have Paul tell them what's done)
- Blog is easier to use this year. Indexed (you'll see it on the right side), etc. www.scouter.ca will get you there.