



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Girl Greatness Starts Here!

Registration 2011-2012 Newsletter for Prospective Members

Bridging Rivers Area Council

801 Preston Ave
Saskatoon SK S7H 2V1
(306) 652-3275
www.saskatoongirlguides.ca
Toll-free: 1-877-652-0644

Office hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, weekends, statutory holidays: CLOSED

OFFICE Re-opens: August 29, 2011

Please note – office will be closed Friday, September 9

**We welcome you to Bridging Rivers Area Girl Guides!
The following is important information we'd like you to know.**

Guiding involves: Regular Meetings ~ Crafts and Games ~ Sleepovers ~ Camping ~ Campfire and Songs ~ Snowshoeing ~ Environmental Activities ~ Service Projects ~ and so much more!

REGISTRATION 2011-2012

Our annual registration fee is \$125 for the 2011-2012 Guiding season. Registration fees help to provide quality programming for your daughter, as well as training and support for our adult leaders. Members of Bridging Rivers Area Girl Guides are fortunate to enjoy the benefits of owning and operating Trefoil Trails Area Camp at Pike Lake, Guide House in Saskatoon and a wide variety of equipment such as snowshoes, tents, canoes, compasses etc. We rely on revenue from registration fees and cookie sales to maintain our facilities, equipment and programs at the high standards our members deserve and expect.

FAMILY PLAN RATES

- When a family registers two or more siblings the fees will be:
- \$125 for the first girl
- \$115 for the second girl
- \$105 for each additional girl

Details of how to register are on a separate document.

LAH – Financial Assistance

Guiding offers a financial assistance subsidy for registration, our "Lend a Hand" program. Families apply for the subsidy by asking for a LAH form with their forms for registration, completing their part of the LAH form, having the form signed by a supporter and returning it to our Area Office (801 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7H 2V1) in a timely manner – details on the form. We encourage families who are able to do so to pay whatever portion of the registration fee they can afford beyond the specified minimum, when they initially submit registration forms or when they turn in the LAH application. Other subsidy programs are available for uniforms, camps and unit activities – please ask!

TAX BENEFITS

Be sure to keep your official registration fee and camp fee tax receipts for use with the SK Active Families Tax Benefit. Registration fees and some camp fees may be eligible a new federal tax credit for 2011 – the Children's Arts Tax Credit – check the federal CRA website for information.

FUNDRAISING

Our main fundraiser for Girl Guides is cookie sales. Units are expected to sell a minimum of two [2] cases per girl of **each** of the mint and sandwich cookies. This fall, from every case of cookies sold \$14.25 stays within her Guiding district, with \$10 of that going directly to the unit. Please offer your help and support when approached by your daughter's leader. The unit counts on the sale of these cookies to finance activities, badges and supplies and part of the membership agreement is support of the cookie sales.

IMAGE RELEASE FORM (IR.1)

This is filled out once, when your daughter first joins Girl Guides. If you need to update this form, please contact the office or your daughter's leader.

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AREA AND NATIONAL WEBSITES

Bridging Rivers Area has an [informative website \(www.saskatoongirlguides.ca\)](http://www.saskatoongirlguides.ca) - visit it often for updates about Guiding in our Area and in your child's district.

Our [National website](#) has the latest information regarding the Girl Guide organization and programs. Girls can visit the "Girl Zone" on the National website, where there are links designed for each level of Guiding. It contains information and activities for the girls as well as a secure discussion board. We invite your child to share her ideas with other Guiding members. **She will need a current email address and her Membership Number (see next section).**

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

Every Guiding member has a membership number (formerly referred to as "iMIS" number). This number is needed to access the above Girl Zone site and can be found on the address label of mailouts to girls or through contacting your child's Guider, or the Area office.

WHERE/HOW TO PURCHASE GUIDING UNIFORMS AND MERCHANDISE

All new item purchases are done online through the National e-store.

To access the online catalogue and shopping information go to www.girlguides.ca and click "[shop online](#)" on the screen.

USED UNIFORM SALE

A Used Uniform sale is slated for October 1, 2011 at Guide House. The sale will go ahead on October 1 if a sufficient number of items have been consigned by our members - after Sept 23 check the Area website, or call the office, to find out whether the sale is proceeding.

HELPING IN YOUR CHILD'S UNIT/DISTRICT

Unit leaders may need the assistance of additional adults for various unit activities. Adults who are assisting in units on a regular basis, who attend camp overnight or who assist with handling unit monies must register with Guiding as official Non-Members. (NMs) There is a brief registration form to complete, and a Police Records Check must be obtained (in most cases). Info and the application form are available on the Area website (see the Join Us section - near the bottom), or from the Area office. **Registration as a Non-Member is currently valid for 5 years from the date of the Police Records check, although we may ask for annual confirmation that you are to remain as an active Non-Member.**

BLOOD DONOR "PARTNERS for LIFE"

Guiding and Scouting in central SK have partnered to promote awareness of blood donation and increase donations. When adults affiliated with our organizations donate blood we ask that they register with Canadian Blood Services as members of Guiding/Scouting "Partners for Life" so we can reach our annual donation goal. The goal was 175 donations for 2010 and it was reached in November. Join us to help "save a life" with your gift of blood ~ there's often an urgent need! See the Area website for more details.

ANNUAL GUIDING CELEBRATION

Thinking Day, February 22, is a day when all Guiding members "think about" or learn about other Guiding members around the world. Local events may take place to celebrate - watch for more information, either via the website, or in local newsletters.

ENVIRONMENTAL/SERVICE DAYS

In the past few years many Area community members have participated in the annual Tim Hortons Cleanup Day and/or a Yellow Fish Road storm drain painting event. It is anticipated that we will take part again this year - details to come!

WOMEN WELCOME!

As members, women have the opportunity to make new friends, be active and learn new skills. One does not need to have a daughter in Guiding to volunteer for the organization. We have many interesting positions available, including leading a Guiding unit! You or someone you know could: *Make a difference in a girl's life~share your experiences today!* Contact us for more info!

Check the Area website regularly under "What's Happening?" or District pages. Watch for:

Branch specific events - An Area wide event is planned for each level of Guiding - details to come!

Elements! Cookie selling contests! Community Parades!

Annual Tim Hortons Cleanup/Service Days!

Local Thinking Day/Annual Guiding Celebrations!

Questions? Check the Area website or contact our Area office, at 652-3275 (local) or toll-free at 1-877-652-0644.

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