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Welcome to Issue #1

Welcome to the first edition of your newsletter! This is YOUR information resource for the Simcoe-Phoenix Area.

Why a newsletter?

At the recent Shining Waters Council meeting, the idea to produce a communication tool was suggested for each area within the Council. The Deputy Area Commissioners for Member Services and

Programmes were tasked with the challenge of producing a newsletter for their respective areas.

No Newsletter

When I checked around, I found that our area did not have this valuable communication tool. So here we are!

Worth the effort

We all know how valuable newsletters can be. Our schools have them. Most of our politicians produce

them for their constituents. You get the idea. I believe that a newsletter can be a valuable, useable tool for Leaders in area provided we use it! There will more to come on that later in this issue.

The Commitment

Your D.A.C. Programmes has committed to producing this newsletter monthly.

*Scouter Ed Murray
DAC Programmes*

Simcoe-Phoenix Area Executive for This Term

Area Commissioner

Bob Martinell

DAC Youth –

Interviews/decisions still pending.

DAC Training (Adult Volunteers)

Chuck Mitchell.

DAC Group Support

Deb Kaffer; Linda Murray is assisting as Registrar.

DAC Honours & Awards

Mike Hendy (also Popcorn Coordinator).

DAC Membership & Development

Jean Cowper.

DAC Programme

Ed Murray.

ADAC Beavers

Pending.

ADAC Cubs

Kim Murison.

ADAC Scouts

Ernie Marshall.

ADAC Venturers & Rovers

Pending.



“It was strongly felt by many that we needed to gravitate to a more reasonable policy where PRCs are concerned”

“There can only be one exemption/offence per candidate.”

PRC Changes: Amendment to B.P. &P. Section 3000.1

Since the implementation of the zero tolerance policy several years ago, requiring prospective members to provide a completely clean Police Record Check with no exceptions, we have received and reviewed a great deal of feedback from our membership. It was strongly felt by many that we needed to gravitate to a more reasonable policy where PRCs are concerned, and that certain historic offences should not pose a barrier to the recruitment process.

To this end, please be advised that the Board has approved the following amendment to Bylaw, Policies and Procedures Section 3000.1 – Screening Process for Registered Adult Members. This amendment is effective immediately, and should be in place for fall registrations.

Exceptions to clean PRCs (Police Record Checks):

A PRC Review Committee has been established to review those PRCs submitted by prospective adult members that include one of the following categories of offences (and subject to the conditions

outlined below), to determine if the prospective adult member meets our volunteer screening requirements. Please note that all such requests must be forwarded to the National Office (attention Risk Management), **through the Council Commissioner**, for approval by the PRC Review Committee.

Exempted categories:

- **Driving offences** – Driving while impaired, refuse to provide sample, and dangerous driving.
- **Property offences** – theft or fraud under \$5,000.00.
- **Drug possession offences** – specifically limited to personal use of marijuana and to instances where the individual was 25 years of age or younger at the time of the offence.
- **Conditions:**
- The conviction must be at least seven years old.
- There was no period of incarceration involved.
- There can only be one exemption/offence per candidate.

- The candidate must deliver proof that a pardon for the offence has been requested, along with proof of payment for such pardon. The candidate must then submit a “clean” PRC, to be forwarded to the PRC Review Committee within 24 months.

Note: In the case of an applicant’s PRC reflecting a driving offence as the sole exemption, the Council Commissioner, in consultation with the Council Executive Director, has the authority to accept the PRC subject to notification and the PRC being subsequently forwarded to the PRC Review Committee. It is hoped that these changes will reflect the attitudes clearly expressed to us by our membership. It’s important to remember, however, that these are the only exemptions provided for under this amendment.

Article re-printed from Scouts Canada National Website.

Scouters’ Club

The format this year will be to take the first 15-20 minutes of the meeting to pass info, then to break off to the sections for planning, discussions, etc. All will then finish with their sections for the night and there won't be a need to come back together. Although a number of Scouters have indicated they are happy

to have the Club on Tuesday evening rather than Sunday afternoon, a number of Groups have voiced concerns that they cannot participate because it is on their meeting night. It has been suggested we try to look at October's Club on the third Wednesday night and November's on the third Thursday night of the

month, etc. Also, 1st Creemore has asked the Area and Club to consider allowing them to host one month's Club.



Simcoe-Phoenix

Your Information Resource



This newsletter is produced monthly. Please address all comments to:
Scouter Ed Murray
DAC Programme
Simcoe-Phoenix Area
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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.phlip.ca/scouts/>

&

[http://groups.msn.com/
SimcoePhoenixArea](http://groups.msn.com/SimcoePhoenixArea)

The Barrie Scout Shop



Anita Ford would like to welcome everyone back for another exciting Scouting year! There is a new catalogue out jam packed with new badges, clothing, equipment and the list goes on. The shop hours are:

Thursdays: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm

Friday: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Telephone: (705) 727-0951

E-mail: barriescoutshop@scouts.ca

Training for Leaders

Basic Training for all Section Leaders will be held at Base Borden, November 18-20, 2005. Check the websites for more information. You can also contact Scouter Chuck Mitchell, DAC Training for course applications at (705)-722-9497 or E-mail: chuckandmadelinemitchell@rogers.com Applications must be approved by your Group Commissioner and submitted to Scouts Canada. C/O Chuck Mitchell, 234 Walnut Crescent, Barrie, Ontario L4N 4J6



Ideas, Ideas, Ideas!

Do you have an idea, article, programme tip, song, skit cheer, pictures or just about anything you'd like to share with everyone else in our Area?

If so, you can email your stuff to Scouter Ed Murray, DAC Programme, at dacprogramme1@sympatico.ca Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month for the newsletter the following month.

