



Girl Guides
of Canada
Guides
du Canada

Girl Greatness Starts Here!

2016-2017 Newsletter



Bridging Rivers Area Council

801 Preston Ave
Saskatoon SK S7H 2V1
(306) 652-3275

www.saskatoongirlguides.ca

Office hours:

Mondays - Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Weekends, statutory holidays: CLOSED

Summer closure: July 1 – August 14, 2016

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 2016-2017 (Guiding Year September 1 – August 31):

Saskatchewan's base membership and registration fee for 2016-2017 is \$135. 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 our 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 base fees are:

- \$135 for the first girl
- \$125 for the second girl
- \$115 for each additional girl

Details of how to register are on a separate document.

MEMBERSHIP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

for Registration fees and/or Uniform/Program Book

Saskatchewan Guiding continues to offer financial assistance subsidies for membership costs for those who need it. Get the form prior to registering via the Area website, on the Join Us! page, or contact the Area office - complete it and submit with your registration. Families are asked to contribute a minimum of \$20 and are encouraged to pay as much of the registration fee/cost of uniforms/program book they can afford.

Note that families needing financial assistance are unable to use online registration.

Event, camp and activity fee financial aid is also available – please contact the Area office or check on the website under Girl and Family Resources – Financial Assistance!

FUNDRAISING

Our main fundraiser for Girl Guides is cookie sales. Please offer your help and support when approached by your unit's leaders. 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.

COOKIE ALL STARS

This is Girl Guides of Canada's exciting cookie selling rewards initiative, where girls earn amazing rewards for achieving exceptional cookie sales and are recognized for achieving their own individual selling goals as well as with their unit.

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.

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 [Provincial Website \(www.girlguides.ca/web/sk\)](http://www.girlguides.ca/web/sk)

Our [National website \(www.girlguides.ca\)](http://www.girlguides.ca) has the latest information regarding the Girl Guide organization and programs.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

Every Guiding member has a membership number (formerly referred to as "iMIS" number). This number is needed for online registration and may be accessed through the registration site. Contact the Area office if you need assistance to obtain it.

WHERE/HOW TO PURCHASE GUIDING UNIFORMS AND MERCHANDISE

Purchase uniforms/merchandise at the [online store \(https://www.thegirlguidestore.ca/\)](https://www.thegirlguidestore.ca/)

Girls are not required to have uniforms of the current style – any uniform that was ever "official" continues to be so and can be worn.

Bridging Rivers has an annual used uniform sale. If you have uniforms that you would like to sell, drop them off at the office. The uniform sale will be in September, more details as the date gets closer.

COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILIES

We will periodically communicate with families via email, if an email address has been supplied. Please be sure to read any communications coming from Bridging Rivers Area, SK Girl Guides or Girl Guides of Canada – we don't want you to miss important and/or time-sensitive information!

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.

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!

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. These events generally occur in early May.

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. 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.

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

Watch for:

Branch specific events!

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 306-652-3275