



24th Kitchener "Youth OOS" Activities

Thank you for having interest in doing an Offer of Service. It takes a village to put on these programs and it's great to have youth joining the team.

To participant in an Offer of Service, there are a number of requirements that need to be addressed before youth attend the event for which they are making that Offers of Service. The requirements are listed below.

These requirements are insufficient to get the youth, who is doing an Offer of Service, the status of "Active" Scouter and unless the youth has completed the screening process to become a Scouter, the youth's presence does not count toward ratio or the Two Scouter Rule.

The Forms

- a) **Register as a Scouting Member:** A parent / guardian has registered the youth in MyScout.ca, which means there is a profile in MyScouts.ca. The profile contains an e-mail address. By default, when a youth is registered, the registrant's e-mail address is placed in the youth's profile, not the youth's e-mail address.

In order to take the training discussed in f) below, the youth must logon to MyScouts.ca with the youth's e-mail address. This requires that the e-mail address in the youth's profile be changed to the youth's e-mail address.

After the e-mail address is changed, Scouts Canada, at helpcentre@scouts.ca, has to be contacted to enable youth logon to MyScouts.ca. The Group Commissioner or designate will make the request and include the e-mail addresses of the parents / guardian in the "cc:" of the request.

- b) **Recommendation Letter:** Scouts Canada's Offer of Service process for youth requires a letter of recommendation of the youth's Scouters. There will be more about this in item d) below.
- c) **Code of Conduct (CoC):** The youth will need to read, understand, and sign a Youth Code of Conduct (CoC). A copy of this is available online at <https://scoutsca.s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/2020/09/youth-scouter-code-of-conduct.pdf> and the current version as of March 20, 2024 is appended to this memo¹.

It is unclear if a printed copy has to accompany the youth to the event, or if the signing being recorded in MyScouts.ca is all that is required, or if the event organisers will have blank copies at the event for the youth to sign.

The Talking

- d) A couple Company Scouters will gathers with the youth for a discussion of the serious nature of the commitment to an Offer of Service. This conversation and Scouters' previous knowledge of the youth will be the basis for the recommendation letter mentioned in b) above.
- e) The organisers of the event for which the Offer of Service is being made will discuss with the youth the specific responsibilities included in the youth's service.

¹ The inclusion of the Code of Conduct object from the internet is not as clear as a copy downloaded from the link.

The Training

f) The training the youth must complete before participating in the Offer of Service include:

(1) **Scouting Fundamentals Training**

This explains Scouting activities, program, and administration. It includes the material for the *Accessibility of Ontarian with Disabilities Act*² and the *Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders (RiS)* training. If the youth already has a *Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders* certificate, the youth will be able to enter that certificate number and be credited with having taken the course.

The Scouting Fundamentals course is available through the David Huestis Learning Centre (a link which you can see on the left side of the MyScouts.ca profile page). Most of the course is free but there is a cost to the RiS module. To have the 24th Kitchener Group pay for RiS, use the code **24KS-Y6R4B3R** and there will be no need to enter a credit card number to pay. This code is for 24th Kitchener members only.

(2) **1st Aid Training (Optional)**

Scouting is activity and accidents happen. The Offer of Service at the event is going to have some level of risk, managed risk, for which best efforts have been made to reduce the risk as much as possible while still have the fun. As a youth overseeing the action, any youth level appropriate 1st Aid training is a good idea.

As always, your Group Commissioner and Group Registrar are ready to help.

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Enc: Youth CoC

² The government of Ontario, in the Accessibility of Ontarian with Disabilities Act, has mandated training for all people who serve the public. The government decided that Volunteers within Scouting serve the public and therefore Scouts Canada must develop training appropriate to the Scouts Canada organization to train its volunteers.

This training is now integrated into the Scouting Fundamentals training.

A common question is: "I took accessibility training at my job or with my other volunteer work or etc...., do I have to take it again?" The answer is yes. The other place you took it was not the Scouts Canada applicable course.

SCOUTS CANADA YOUTH SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct applies to all Scouters under the age of 18. A separate Code of Conduct applies to anyone aged over 18. This Code will help you work safely with other youth, protecting them and yourself.

You have a responsibility to look after yourself and others. Other Scouts will look up to you and follow your lead. It is important to set a good example and remember your Scout Promise and Law.

TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF ALL SCOUTS CANADA MEMBERS BOTH ON AND OFFLINE, I WILL:

- Think and act safely.
- Remember that I have influence and power over others and will not take advantage of this.
- Follow activity rules and Scouter-to-Youth ratios.
- Encourage people to speak up about issues related to personal or Group safety that concern them.
- Not exploit others, show favouritism, engage in a relationship or flirt with the youth I supervise.
- Not swear or use inappropriate language.
- Not smoke in front of youth or refer to consumption of tobacco, drugs or alcohol.
- Not take part in Scouting if I am negatively affected by any substance or prescription drugs.
- Immediately report any concerns of abuse, bullying, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.
- Act to prevent and stop hazing, bullying and harassment.
- Only touch youth I supervise after asking permission, and in a safe and respectful way.
- Not play physical contact games, make suggestive remarks or jokes with the youth I supervise.
- Think carefully before I post online, including giving out my personal details and sharing without permission.
- Remember that I am entitled to be respected, safe from harm and not be exploited.
- Say "no" to anyone who asks me to do something that makes me feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Ask for help from an adult I trust if anyone makes me feel uncomfortable, worried or scared.
- Have fun and enjoy Scouts!

I understand that participation in Scouts Canada is voluntary, and involves a certain degree of risk when participating in some Scouting activities, including the risk of possible accidents, physical injury, or exposure to the COVID-19 virus or other infections or infectious diseases. After carefully considering the risks involved, and having full confidence that reasonable precautions and protocols will be taken and/or implemented by Scouts Canada to ensure the safety and well-being of participants, I will take, to the best of my ability, reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of other members (youth and adult) as well as my personal safety. I understand and agree to follow this Code of Conduct. I understand that my violation of any part of it may result in suspension, discipline or termination of membership from Scouts Canada.

Name: _____ Date: _____

This Code of Conduct must be completed at the start of each Scouting year before participating in any activities.

If you are worried about yourself or anyone else or need to report something, you can get help from:

- An adult you trust
- kids helpline.ca 1-800-668-6868
- [cybertip.ca](https://www.cybertip.ca) to report online sexual content or abuse
- Safe Scouting safety@scouts.ca or 1 (800) 339-6643 (24 hours)
- Emergencies 911

