

# The Value of Scouting in My Life

**E**ACH MONTH WE FEATURE two youths who have been awarded a Scouts Canada Foundation academic scholarship.

Do you want an emotional boost? Read the two testimonials below. They're sure to give you more vision and increased enthusiasm for your work. This month we hear from Eddy Hajjar (Roxboro, QC) and Kimberley TownSchon (Crescent Beach, BC).

## Great Tools for Living

by Eddy (Edward) Hajjar

Throughout my involvement in the Scouting Movement, I've worked a lot in a group environment. In retrospect, I have come to believe that this gave me the proper tools to face various challenges of my early adulthood. Through leadership roles as a sixer, patrol leader, assistant Cub leader and troop leader, I have developed interpersonal skills, self expression and respect for others' opinions.

During these last three years as a section leader, Scouting developed my sense of responsibility. Parents trusted me with their youths to teach them values and skills that I had acquired in the Movement. Through these experiences, I was able to tackle leadership roles in other committees and team sports. For example, because of skills developed by Scouting, I became the captain of a volleyball team, as well as the elected president of our CEGEP's first-aid team. (CEGEP is a post-high school college in Quebec.) Thus, I have learned that trust and respect aren't things you're born with; you've got to work hard to earn them.

Scouting also gave me an appreciation of nature. In today's extremely fast-paced lifestyle, unfortunately many people have forgotten how to enjoy simple pleasures of life. Scouting's frequent camps and outdoor activities opened my eyes to all of God's created natural beauties, which many people take for granted.

Scouting helped me to select a field of study. As a Venturer and a Scouter-in-Training at the Cub level, I was usually given the first-aid job. Hence, I developed a keen interest in the medical field. In university, this interest blossomed into a real passion.

Finally, I believe that Scouting holds a special place for me because it has built up my character in many ways.

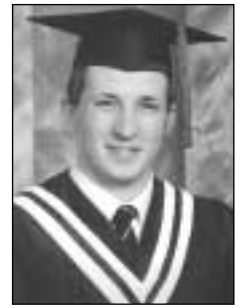
— Eddy (Edward) Hajjar lives in Roxboro, QC.



## Scouting Represents Adventure and Fun

by Kimberley TownSchon

Scouting fascinated me as a young child; it represented adventure, exploration and fun. Those were the main reasons I joined the Movement, but soon Scouting became much more than merely those three attractions. It taught me about nature, and the balance that humans must maintain within nature. Scouting taught me that it is better to leave a campsite cleaner than you found it.



**S**couting laid a strong foundation, from which honesty, fun, learning, community service and achievement naturally grow.

Scouting showed me the dangers of drugs, alcohol, smoking and some strangers. Scouting provided information and counsel that helped me avoid these problems, while cohorts of mine fell victim to them. I also learned first-aid. Starting from Beavers and progressing onwards, an interest in first-aid led me to strive to become a lifeguard. Scouting helped me learn about multiculturalism, and allowed me to learn about others and for them to learn about me. Scouting teaches leadership and group work skills; I learned these vital skills during many weekly meetings and activities. As well, the Movement taught me the importance of independent work (as opposed to group work); this gave me the ability to achieve Chief Scout's and Queen's Venture Awards.

Scouting laid a strong foundation, from which honesty, fun, learning, community service and achievement naturally grow. These are very positive attributes. Scouting has allowed me to "Be Prepared" for a wonderful life as a Canadian citizen. ^

— Kimberley TownSchon lives in Crescent Beach, BC.



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Help Send You to  
College or University

**T**he Scouts Canada Foundation is offering academic scholarships to deserving youth members. If you're a Venturer or Rover leader, *tell your members* to surf to our web site ([www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)) to find out how Scouting can help send them to college or university.