



# National Program Services Committee

## — Working For You

by Kim Derry - Deputy Executive Commissioner, Program

**A**t the 2005 November Annual General Meeting, during the Commissioner's Forum, the restructuring outline for the National Program Committee was unveiled and approved. The Committee is now comprised of three portfolios: Honours & Awards, Program, and Adult Development. Each of these three portfolios is chaired by an Assistant Deputy Executive Commissioner accountable to the Program Services Deputy Executive Commissioner. The Assistant Deputies will work with the respective deputies from each of the Councils. This will improve the flow of communication to and from the Councils. Ross Francis, Program Executive Director provides staff support.

We have also updated the mandate for the committee and drafted position descriptions for the new portfolios. These have been presented to the Operations Advisory Committee and have now been approved.

In light of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a fourth portfolio — Centennial — was put in place. Mike Cleland, past Board of Governor's member, has agreed to be the Centennial Assistant Deputy. Mike is in the process of building a smaller working committee, which will coordinate the various activities for the 2007 Centennial celebrations across Canada. They will focus on communication, coordination and developing specific suggestions such as a commemorative coin, stamp or other ideas put forward to celebrate Centennial initiatives and activities. Watch for more exciting material in the future from this group!

### What Is the National Program Services Committee Mandate?

Within the Principles, Mission and Practices of Scouts Canada, the National Program Services Committee works to manage the development and maintenance of our Programs, Adult Development, and Honours and Awards portfolios for Scouting. The Chief Commissioner, the Executive Commissioner, and the Deputy Executive Commissioner, along with membership representing each of the 20 Councils will collaborate on issues ensuring representation at all levels.

### What are some of the Typical Duties of the Committee?

1. To formulate and recommend policy when required through the Operations Advisory Committee to the Board of Governors pertaining to Program, Honours and Awards and Adult Development.
2. To develop methods to implement, support/monitor and evaluate new and existing Programs, Honours and Awards, and Development processes.
3. To initiate the identification and assessment of all needs as related to Program, Honours and Awards, and Adult Development.
4. To develop Program, Honours and Awards, and Adult Development support material and resources.
5. To develop methods to implement changes in these three (3) portfolios.
6. To conduct and/or monitor program experiments as approved by the Executive Commissioner.
7. To incorporate diversity and cultural opportunities into Program, Honours and Awards, and Adult Development areas.
8. To co-ordinate with other committees on matters that affect Program, Adult Development, and Honours and Awards.



Photographer: Bill Mahaffy

**Cub and Scout Leaders and Rovers from Wabanaki Area, NB, take a break during their Woodbadge Basic Training by taking it outside. Leaders like to have fun too!**



Photographer: Bill Kowatchyk

**Youth want to plan a program that's fun and adventurous.**

## Meet the Players

The past two months have been dedicated to building the teams of Council Deputies from across the country that are responsible for the three portfolios. That adds up to over 60 dedicated volunteers! Most of those people have now been identified with names and contact information. Outlines of their roles have been e-mailed to them describing the function and working relationships with the Program Services Committee. In addition, there will be a small group of personnel to add expertise to the overall Program Services Committee at the National level.

## Adult Development Portfolio

Chuck Lawrence, past Provincial Commissioner for Ontario, leads the Adult Development portfolio. Since his recruitment, his sub-committee members have designed and piloted new Council and Area Commissioners Management Training to three Councils and 30 Area Commissioners. Enthusiastic support greeted this training. A Commissioner handbook and resource materials are being prepared. Once completed, these resources and training will be delivered to the various Councils across the country, supporting Strategic Directions #2 & 5.

Feedback on three goals for this year is being collected from the 20 Council Deputies and will be collated in the spring. Goals and Objectives specific to the Adult Development portfolio have been developed in conjunction with Ross Francis to ensure that alignment with the Strategic Directions of Scouts Canada are achieved.

## Honours & Awards Portfolio

Ken McAtteer, past Council Commissioner for British Columbia, is leading the Honours & Awards portfolio along with chairing the Committee of Adjudicators for Awards. Joan Randall, who chaired the National Honours and Awards Committee for more than 10 years, will work with that committee having completed her long term as Chair. Thanks Joan!

Two potential H & A programs have been identified from various

councils. They have since been sent out to the Council Youth and Deputies to review and further develop.

#1. To set a **percentage goal** for both adult and youth awards for all Councils to aim for. It was suggested to strive to recognize at least 5% of each council's members every year.

These initiatives are in keeping with actions called for in our Strategic Directions. (Strategic Directions # 2, 4 & 5.)

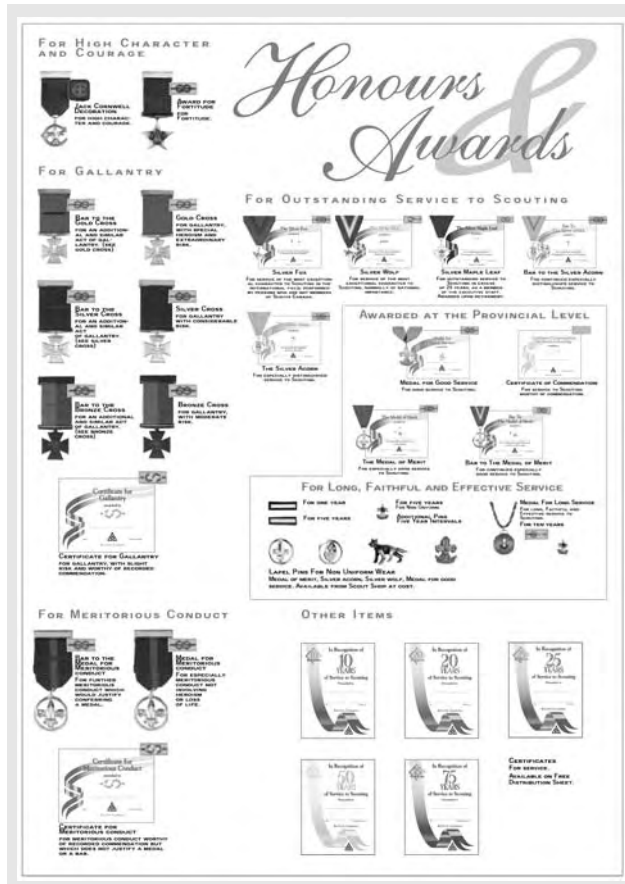
## Program Portfolio

The Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Program is not filled at this time but is expected to be done so in the upcoming month. It is the intent of the Committee to review Scouting's programs, particularly Youth Leadership Development. Our goal with this initiative is to explore Youth Leadership Development opportunities within our programs. We will measure/assess current achievements in this regard and identify/develop resources to further support Youth Leadership Development. Plans are to produce a Youth Leadership Development resource that will clearly indicate Scouts Canada's philosophy and strategy for developing Leadership in Youth. We will certainly involve youth in this review process, directly linking to Strategic Directions #1 & 4.

Another exciting initiative underway is the SCENES accreditation process for Scout Camps. John Edwards is chairing the SCENES – Scouting centers accreditation process across Canada and has a team that will be making recommendations on the process. That will be completed by June of this year. Watch for more about this in the June *Leader Magazine*.

## In Conclusion

It is expected that by involving councils in a more inclusive method, that many ideas and issues raised throughout the organization will be researched, solutions developed and commitment to those solutions enhanced. Implementation should be seen as a positive outcome of the total involvement from the twenty councils. As part of our communication strategy, regular updates on the National Program Services Committee will be posted on Scouts Canada's web site and in the *Leader Magazine*. It's an exciting time to be in Scouting! \X



That would be a minimum goal, to be regularly reported on during the year. It's recognized that it is often a tough job to get people to write H & A recommendations. The H & A committee will investigate methods and ideas for increasing the number of write-ups including having a "checklist" approach.

#2. **Commemorative Centennial Medal** – In recognition of our 100 years of Scouting in 2007, it is recommended that our National Council approve the creation of a commemorative medal available for presentation to worthy Scouting people throughout the year 2007 only. A brief description will be developed and three Scouters will be developing the criteria. Full recommendation to the National Council will follow.

As agreed upon at the November Commissioner's Forum, **Chief Scout, Queen's Venturer, and King Scout** award emblems for adults are being developed by National Retail Services. The Committee is also reviewing the establishment of a National Youth Award.

Linking to Strategic Directions #1, 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7.