



BP Service Association

Traditional Scouting in Canada

FACT SHEET

So You Want to be a Youth Leader

The first thing that should be said is..."Awesome! thank you!" Many of our Groups often have waiting lists due to the lack of uniformed leaders so volunteering to serve as one typically means 6 to 8 more youth are able participate in the program.

We also recognize that the time commitment involved in being a uniformed leader can be greater than for some other positions. Whether the impetus behind your decision is to provide a program for your own child or you simply want to help, we appreciate your willingness to serve and we hope you find the opportunity personally rewarding. Many hands do make light work however so the overall time you need to spend will be correspondingly reduced by having more uniformed leaders...so tell your friends!

There are four steps in the BPSA Child Protection Policy that you will need to perform before you are permitted to work one on one with youth members. These are as follows:

- 1) A prospective new adult leader will be given a form for a **Police Records Check** which will include a **Vulnerable Sector Consent**. The Police Records Check is to be completed by the local Police Detachment. No other forms will be handed out until the Police Records Check has been completed and returned to the Group Scoutmaster;
- 2) Upon obtaining and submitting an acceptable Police Records Check, the new prospective adult leader will be given a copy of the 'Application for Adult Membership' form. This form will be completed by the prospective leader who will provide FOUR personal references. It will then be given to the Group Scoutmaster;
- 3) The Group Scoutmaster will contact the four personal references and complete the reference check form.
- 4) If the references are satisfactory a personal interview will be conducted by both the Group Scoutmaster and the District Commissioner.

Upon successful completion of the above procedures, a new prospective adult leader will undergo a four-month probationary period. During this period the new leader shall not be left to work alone with any child and shall work with children only under the direct supervision of an invested adult.

At the end of the four-month probationary period, if the Group Scoutmaster is satisfied, the new leader may be invested.

The failure or refusal to complete a Police Records Check, or negative comments from a personal reference, will conclude any volunteer's application. All reference checks will be handled with total confidentiality. Please note that the results of the Police Records Check are kept confidential and may be discussed with the applicant. Not all "positive" results will preclude someone from being a member, but it may restrict their activities.

In order to fully protect our youth members the Association's Child Protection Policy will be followed to the letter. This enrolment procedure has been designed to provide a safe and healthy environment for children to participate in.

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