

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

The United Church of Canada and Scouts Canada

Background

Scouts Canada and The United Church of Canada have a long and mutually rewarding relationship in making available to Canadian youth a value-based, character-building scouting experience. The requirement that Scouts Canada redefine its relationship to organizations with which it works, and a corresponding requirement that the United Church clarify its relationship with outside organizations, has resulted in discussions leading to this Memorandum of Agreement. It will benefit both parties by delineating their respective roles and responsibilities and ensuring that the principles set out herein are clearly articulated and communicated to all interested parties.

1. This is a Memorandum of Agreement between The United Church of Canada (UCC) and Scouts Canada (SC).
2. This MOA supercedes and replaces any previous agreements or understandings between the UCC and SC.

SC and the UCC mutually agree to the following:

3. SC will continue to work with local community groups, organizations and institutions, including some United Church congregations, to provide programs to youth. These hosts and sponsoring organizations may incorporate SC's programs into their work and are free to choose and use any or all of the SC programs and to receive services from SC provided the local hosting or sponsoring organizations accept the SC mission and principles and follow the policy of SC as set out in its *By-laws*, and *Policies & Procedures* that may be changed or updated by SC from time-to-time.
4. SC will cease to use the term "partner" altogether in relation to the UCC. The term "partner" may infer, among other things, the shared exercise of control over the design and delivery of the SC program, which SC agrees is solely the responsibility of SC.
5. The UCC will assist in providing resources for the encouragement of the Religion in Life Emblem program of SC and provide for the appropriate recognition of recipients of the emblem, as may be agreed upon by SC and the UCC. UCC clergy and lay people providing instruction for the Religion in Life program would be considered resource people and as such would not be expected to complete a Police Records Check. SC would discuss expectations and provide an introduction of a resource person to the youth, including an explanation of the resource person's role. If a clergy or lay person were staying overnight at camp or some other outing they would be required to complete SC's full screening process, including a clean Police Records Check, prior to the event taking place.
6. SC will provide the UCC with current information on its programs and on Guidelines for Roles and Responsibilities of a Sponsor, and Guidelines for Roles and Responsibilities of Local Group Committee, including updates from time to time as they are made. SC also will provide the UCC with contact information for sponsoring local United Church congregational contacts, as well as copies of all communications sent to these local United Church congregations.
7. Where local United Church congregations choose to act as a host, merely making facilities available to SC by rental agreement or by free use of the facilities, any liability arising out of the SC program at a host congregation is that of SC and not the UCC nor the host congregation. The UCC will provide general guidance to host congregations on suggested steps for host congregations to take, but it is up

to individual host congregations to decide for themselves which steps they will follow. This would include but is not limited to:

- a) A written agreement describing the times and uses of the facilities; and
 - b) The Scouts group having its own insurance coverage, including Comprehensive General Liability, and including the congregation as an additional insured in its insurance policy.
8. SC may use the term “sponsor” in relation to local United Church congregations that specifically choose to define their relationship with SC for this purpose. Where local congregations choose to sponsor a Scouts group, it remains under the direction and rules that SC sets out – not rules that the congregation develops. On this basis, any liability arising out of the SC program is that of SC and not the UCC nor the sponsor congregation. As part of the sponsor relationship, SC will require each sponsor congregation to agree to adhere to SC’s By-Laws, policies and procedures including:
- a) To assist in providing resources to enable the group to promote the goals and ideals of the sponsor, in keeping with Scouts Canada’s Mission, Principles, Policies and Procedures.
 - b) To set the policy in relation to membership in the Group, i.e., closed or open Group. Membership in a group may be restricted to those who are members of, or who are otherwise identified with, the sponsor. To establish the procedure for the Group with respect to religious exercises and/or instruction as a program element in the Group. To ensure that this policy is made known to applicants and/or their parents or guardians, as well as making the provisions to excuse members on parental or guardians request if membership is open to children and youth of other than the denomination of the church concerned.
 - c) To advise the Group Committee and, when necessary, rule on fundraising methods if these come in conflict with the goals, ideals or policies of the sponsor or of Scouts Canada.
 - d) To assist in providing resources, both personnel and other, for the encouragement of the Religion in Life Award program and provide for appropriate recognition of recipients of the award.
 - e) To ensure adequate meeting facilities are provided for the group.
 - f) To establish any additional criteria unique to the sponsor’s requirements regarding the recruitment and appointment of Scouters, Scouters-in-Training and activity leaders.
 - g) To ensure good relationships and information flow between sponsor and Group and Group and sponsor.
 - h) To appoint or provide annually a sponsor representative as a member of the Group Committee.
 - i) To receive annually, through the Group Committee, the report of the Group’s activities including audited financial statements.
 - j) To ensure Scouters and others are given appropriate recognition for their service in a timely fashion.
 - k) To encourage growth for the group/section.
 - l) To apply annually for renewal of the Group/Section Charter.

Dated 10 Aug 2004

For The United Church of Canada:

AND

For Scouts Canada:

Name & Title

AND

Name & Title