

# TAKE THE CHALLENGE

## The Turnbull Family Scout Challenge

by Ian Mitchell

Use of the outdoors in your troop program is essential; in particular, the wilderness areas of Canada. A camping, snowshoeing, canoeing or hiking trip is no doubt the highlight of this year's Scouting program. You will likely work with the troop to conceive an adventure, plan and organize for the adventure and complete the adventure. Through this process Scouts will have opportunities to develop leadership and communication skills, build self-esteem and enhance their decision-making abilities.

Do you know what? Your troop is already taking "the Challenge"!

The Turnbull family strongly believes it is important that as many Canadians as possible meet and share outdoor experiences while learning the valuable skills of teamwork and self-reliance. To this end, the Turnbull Family Scout Challenge will reward three troops this year that demonstrate initiative in conceiving an adventure, organizational skills in planning the adventure, and small team skills in completing the adventure. Each winning troop will receive a monetary award of \$2500.00 (\$2000.00 will be awarded before the adventure with the remaining \$500.00 to be awarded upon completion of the Challenge and receipt of the log).

### Challenge Guidelines

1. The challenge must be based on Scouts researching and then retracing a route of historical significance. The troop must research and describe in some detail the role the route played in the development of Canada.  
EXAMPLES: canoe a part of the fur trade route; hike a route covered by some early settlers; cycle a portion of an abandoned rail line used to open up parts of the country.

2. The challenge must be at least 4 days from start to finish.
3. The challenge must include some type of community service component.  
EXAMPLES: stream clean up; trail maintenance; trail inventory submission to TrailsCanada.
4. The challenge should include meeting youth/Scouting members from other cultural communities along the way.

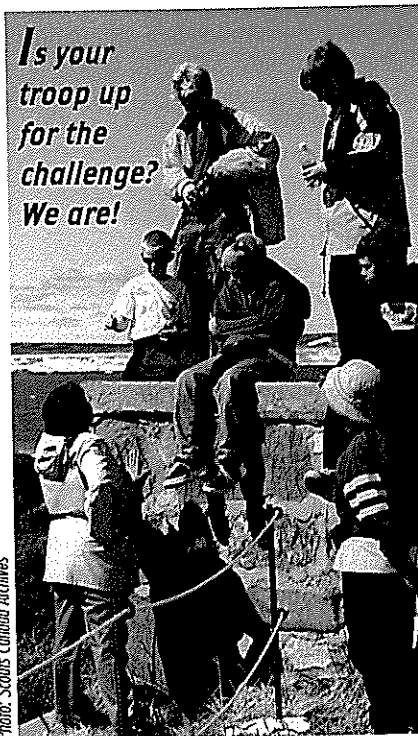


Photo: Scouts Canada Archives

5. Within 30 days of completion of the Challenge, a basic log, including pictures and daily journal entries, must be submitted.  
This will be the second year for the Challenge. Last year, the 17<sup>th</sup> Ottawa (Southminster) Scout group took advantage of the award to help complete their trek to the Arctic. (See page 4.) They toured Baffin Island and Nunavut, with stops in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung and Auyuittuq National Park. Members collected used clothing at home and provided them to social agencies in Iqaluit.

### Is your troop up to the Challenge?

So what about your next troop adventure? Will you walk a trail that explorers walked; canoe a river way that fur traders paddled; camp on a site of historical significance?

The Challenge is open to all Scouts from every end of the country. There is no need to have high mountains, raging waters or a large budget. It will fit nicely into the regular programming that most troops follow.

To apply, simply have the troop members (Court of Honour/Patrol Leaders) submit a plan including: contact information, budget, historical background of the trip and anticipated completion dates, no later than May 1st to:

The Turnbull Family  
Scout Challenge  
c/o Scouts Canada Foundation  
1345 Baseline Road  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K2C 0A7

That's it!

Applications meeting these established guidelines will be forwarded to the Turnbull Family for judging and the winners notified. Once the logs are received, these adventures will be featured in future *Leader Magazines* as examples of the many exciting, outstanding outdoor adventures Scouts are enjoying across the country. X  
- Ian Mitchell is Program Director for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers.

## LOOKING FOR HELP?

Looking for the perfect guide to help your troop plan their next Adventure? Look no further than the *Fieldbook for Canadian Scouting* found in your local Scout Shop. Its comprehensive look into all aspects of preparing for outdoor adventure is a resource designed with youth members in mind.