

**FUN ADVENTURES.**  
**Outdoor Experience.**  
**FRIENDSHIP. GROWTH.**

There are many ways for parents to participate in the Scouting experience!

## How do we Keep Parents Engaged?

### A simple “Thanks!” goes a long way.

Once a parent has contributed to helping the Group deliver a quality program, a bit of acknowledgement is often all that is needed to keep them involved. Why not ‘Thank’ a parent and also encourage them to consider pursuing a greater role for the next Scouting year.

Here are some options to acknowledge parent contributions:

#### **Option 1: Use the existing materials currently on [Scouts.ca](https://www.scouts.ca):**

These are posted on [Scouts.ca](https://www.scouts.ca) where they can be populated from any computer, printed and presented to a parent! The Scout Shop also sells these certificates. Look for them in the Scouters section on [Scouts.ca](https://www.scouts.ca). Click on **Feedback and Recognition**, then click **Honours, Awards and Recognition** and you will see tabs for **Thank You Resources**.

#### **Option 2: Have your Scouts create their own informal recognition awards**

What better way to express appreciation than to have it come from the youth that have benefited? A Youth-led effort where Scouts develop and produce the awards not only provides an opportunity for youth to follow The Canadian Path as they Plan-Do-Review, but it also demonstrates to parents that their efforts have had a clear, positive impact on the youth.

Here are some fun award suggestions to get you started:

- **Thanks From The Heart** – present the recipient with a cut-out heart on a piece of wood or a heart-shaped pillow
- **Bright Idea Award** – present a light bulb painted gold or a small flashlight to the parent who comes up with a great idea
- **Golden Knot Award** – spray paint a knot and present it to the parent who tied it all together.
- **Helping Hand Award** – stuff a glove on a piece of wood and present it to the parent who helps out
- **Pat on the Back Award** – cut out of a hand on a stick
- **Hats Off Award** – place an old hat on a board and present it to the parent you want to recognize
- **Battery Award** – for the parent who charged us up
- **Pencil Award** – present a pencil to the parent who left their mark
- **Key Award** – you’re the key to our success
- **Scouting Spirit Award** – present a cloth ghost with Scout symbol
- **Ovation Chocolates** – you deserve an ovation
- **Band-Aid Award** – to the parent who can fix anything

