

FUN ADVENTURES. Outdoor Experience. FRIENDSHIP. GROWTH.

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

The Group Commissioner's Role in Parent Engagement

While the parent's primary contact in Scouting is the Scouter, the Group Commissioner also plays a key role in Parent Engagement as a secondary communications link. Particularly in terms of addressing parent questions or concerns, or communicating the value of Scouting and building anticipation of upcoming activities and events, the Group Commissioner lends valuable support to the Scouters' efforts. The Group Commissioner's role in recruiting new Scouters also plays a critical role in the "health" and sustainability of the Group and they provide an authoritative voice in emphasizing the importance of a parent being involved in their Scout's activities.

There are a number of activities that the Group Commissioner could undertake to strengthen the Parent Engagement:

Initial registration – Welcome to Scouting Call

A Welcome to Scouting call for all new registrants is an ideal way to kick-off the new Scouting year, particularly considering the increased use of online registration where a parent may not yet have met with the Scouters that will mentor their child.

This call may be in addition to a Section Scouter's call, which would emphasize the Section Program and Section Leadership Team. The Group Commissioner call should be first, lending a "bigger-picture" perspective to the Scouting experience, followed up by the Section Scouter's program/detail communication.

This call can include:

- A simple introduction of the Group, emphasizing that Scouts Canada and the Group go beyond the Section activities

- An explanation of your role as Group Commissioner, and your role for Parent concerns
- An explanation of the Parents role in their Scout's Adventure, and roles where the parent could contribute at both the Section and Group levels
- A request for their expectation and reasons for joining Scouts Canada

