



7th Markham Scouting Year 2017-2018



Welcome to 7th Markham Scout Group!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Scouting! We are excited that your child is registered this year with the 7th Markham Scout Group.

Please keep this document handy – it contains important information for your child's year in Scouting.

Meeting Nights

Section (Age Group)	Nights and Time	Location
Beavers (5 – 7 years old)	Tuesday 7:00 – 8:00 PM	Rouge Valley Mennonite Church 7452 Reesor Road, Markham
Cubs – Monday Pack (8 – 10 years old)	Monday 7:00 – 8:30 PM	Wismer Public School 171 Mingay Ave., Markham
Cubs – Tuesday Pack (8 – 10 years old)	Tuesday 7:00 – 8:30 PM	Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic School 230 Fincham Ave., Markham
Scouts (11 – 14 years old)	Monday 7:00 – 8:30 PM	Wismer Public School 171 Mingay Ave., Markham
Venturers (15 – 17 years old)	Monday 7:00 – 8:30 PM	Wismer Public School 171 Mingay Ave., Markham
Rovers (18 – 26 years old)	Various	Various

Note:

1. Please drop off your children no earlier than 6:55 PM. **DO NOT** drop off your children at the curb or by the door of the location. You have to go inside the hall/gym with your children and make sure that there are at least two Scouters. If only one Scouter is present, you have to stay until another Scouter shows up.
2. Please pick up your children promptly. The church and the school requires us to leave the premises five minutes after our allocated time slot. We will not let your children out of the hall/gym unless we see you (or someone designated to pick them up).
3. Most weekly section meetings will occur at the location listed above. When meetings and events are held at other locations, we will inform you when and where, as well as of any specific clothing or equipment required.
4. Parents are responsible for transporting and/or arranging for transport of their children to and from Scouting activities.
5. A pair of non-marking indoor shoes is required. Youth must change to their indoor shoes during wet or snowy days and their boots left outside the door of the hall/gym.

Scouters

This year 7th Markham Scouts celebrates its 33rd anniversary! We have a number of very talented and committed Scouters who have moved through the Scouting sections with their children and have even remained with our group even after their children were no longer participating in the program. We are always looking for new Scouters. Being a Scouter is exciting, educational and lots of fun. To become a Scouter, you don't need to have experience in the Scouting movement. Working with youth is a definite asset but you already have that experience as a parent. Training is offered to all Scouters and paid for by our group. Training courses can take place over an evening, a full day, a weekend, or at the camps we undertake for the youth. There is a host of on-line learning available – some mandatory, some optional. The benefit to you is that you are helping your own youth as well as others, plus this leadership experience is exceptionally rewarding and fun. Please think of the future of all our youth and either contact one of the Scouters in your child's Section or contact the Group Commissioner for details. We hope you will join our Scouters and provide the adults of tomorrow with the strong foundation Scouting offers.

Contact Information

Section Scouters

Section Scouters are group of volunteers who deliver Scouts Canada programs to your child on a weekly basis.

Section	Contact Scouter	Email Address
Beavers	Scouter Dawn Scouter Gary	contact.beavers@7thMarkham.org
Cubs – Monday Pack	Scouter Heather Scouter Stephen	contact.cubsmonday@7thMarkham.org
Cubs – Tuesday Pack	Scouter Eric	contact.cubstuesday@7thMarkham.org
Scouts	Scouter Bryant Scouter Thom	contact.scouts@7thMarkham.org
Venturers	Scouter John	contact.venturers@7thMarkham.org
Rovers	Scouter John	contact.rovers@7thMarkham.org

Group Committee

Group Committee members are also volunteers who work behind the scene to make sure that the group runs smoothly.

Role	Name	Email Address
Group Commissioner	Maria C. Estrella	commissioner@7thMarkham.org
Administrator	Kathy Lehman	administrator@7thMarkham.org
Registrar	Paige Weeres	registrar@7thMarkham.org
Secretary	Jim Smith	secretary@7thMarkham.org
Treasurer	Nellie Chan	treasurer@7thMarkham.org
Quartermaster	Thomas Heaysman	quartermaster@7thMarkham.org
Fundraising Coordinator	VACANT	fundraising@7thMarkham.org
Sponsor Liaison	Annita Reesor	advisor@7thMarkham.org
Webmaster	Mike Holandez	webmaster@7thMarkham.org

Connect with Us!

Our group has a great website where you can get updates, contact information, and activity or event information. We have both a public Facebook page and a closed Facebook group. We post all event pictures to our closed Facebook group (facebook.com/groups/7thmarkham). If you wish to be added to the group page, *kindly submit a friend request and a message indicating your child's name and the section that they are registered in.*

All communications (e.g., announcements, weekly schedule, etc.) will be posted to our group's website and Facebook pages. In case where there is an unplanned or last minute change in the scheduled activity or event (e.g., school gym not being available), your section Scouter (or someone from the Group Committee) will send an email and if time permits, post it on the website and Facebook pages. Please **ALWAYS** check the Facebook pages, website, and/or your email prior to heading to the meeting.

Website: www.7thMarkham.org

Facebook (Public Page): www.facebook.com/7thMarkhamScouts

Facebook (Closed Group): www.facebook.com/groups/7thmarkham

Registration

Registration fees cover the cost of:

- Training materials and resources for Scouters (parent volunteer)
- Planning programs and activities for youth (these must be planned meticulously to ensure compliance with insurance and health standards)
- Publications and handbooks
- Providing service and support to 20 Councils across Canada
- Volunteer servicing expenses
- World Scouting fee
- Risk Management

Dollar for dollar, Scouts Canada's programs provide significant value to its members. Programs run all year long and include many adventures such as camping trips that kids will remember for a lifetime. Most importantly, Scouting makes a difference in the lives of children, youth and young adults. They are more likely to demonstrate greater self-confidence and optimism about what the future holds. They express a strong sense of civic responsibility and have a desire to "pay back" the community. They become more physically fit, energetic, outgoing, conscientious and compassionate.

With the registration fee you paid, only \$25 to \$50 goes to 7th Markham which the group uses to pay for administrative expenses (e.g., police checks, neckerchief and Group and Council badges), section weekly badges and group events.

Fundraisers

With some great adventures, come great costs. This is an important reality that creates great learning opportunities for our youth. As the fall season begins and our Scouting year ramps up, we will need our youth to help find financial support for camps, events and even some of the theme nights they will plan and organize. Throughout the Scouting year, we will be actively doing some fundraising to help make their adventures a reality. These fundraisers ensure we have adequate funds to provide the badges and other awards, craft supplies, a portion of the camping and event funds, leadership training and uniforms, and other items required to ensure the group gives the youth the best possible program.

Apple Day

This is a key fundraising event where 100% of the net proceeds are returned to the supporting groups in direct proportion to their participation. Please mark your calendars now for *Friday, October 13th* or *Saturday, October 14th*. Most information will be distributed in early October about this event. You should plan to set aside two hours from Friday night or Saturday morning or afternoon to participate with your Beaver, Cub or Scout in giving out apples at a local mall or public activity place.

Trail's End Gourmet Popcorn

Popcorn is our largest of fundraiser and we continue to increase our sales annually. Our goal is to have each youth sell at least \$500 worth of product on residential routes, to family, friends, and co-workers of parents. The popcorn fundraiser generally runs from second week of September to third week of October. The Popcorn Guide which includes the order form and prize recognition sheet are distributed at the first weekly section meeting of the scouting year.

Remember, we do fundraising for three equally important reasons;

- It is a principle of the Scouting movement that members learn the importance of working together to earn money for the things that they wish to do.*
- It gives the youth the opportunity to meet with other members of our Group as well as their own Section members in a different setting, serving a different purpose.*
- Our Scouts get out in the community and visibly demonstrate what Scouting offers.*

Group Events

The 7th Markham Scout Group has a number of events which all sections participate in. When all sections get together, the youth see what the other sections are doing and what they will be doing when they get a little older.

In addition to the regular weekly meetings, we schedule a number of Section and Group events. For example, Cubs will have the opportunity to attend two to three overnight weekend camps at a number of locations where Cubs can work on their skills. Each section will have its own schedule.

Here are a few of 7th Markham group events you can look forward to:

Welcome to Scouting	12 September 2017
Group Fall Hike	25 or 26 September 2017
Popcorn Blitz	02 October 2017
Investiture	10 October 2017
Apple Day	13 or 14 October 2017
Fall Camp	27-29 October 2017
Remembrance Day Parade (<i>Community event</i>)	11 November 2017
Markham Santa Clause Parade (<i>Community event</i>)	25 November 2017

Christmas Potluck	19 December 2017
Family Skate Night	16 January 2018 (<i>tentative</i>)
Winter Camp	23-25 February 2018
Advancement	09 April 2018 (<i>tentative</i>)
Year-end Potluck	02 June 2018 (<i>tentative</i>)

Uniform

All youths are required to have their complete uniform by *10 October 2017 (Investiture Night)*. The Group will provide the Council/Area and Group badges, a neckerchief and woggle.

Section	Required Uniform	Optional Items
Beavers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vest • Hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beaver Scout T-shirt
Cubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeve grey shirt • Navy blue pants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cub grey Tech T-shirt • Cub grey ball cap
Scouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeve green shirt • Khaki pants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scouts green Tech T-shirt • Scouts green ball cap • Scouts blue belt
Venturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeve navy blue shirt • Khaki pants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venturers navy blue Tech T-shirt • Scouts Canada brown belt
Rovers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeve red shirt • Khaki pants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Tech T-shirt • Scouts Canada brown belt

Uniforms can be purchased online at www.scoutshop.ca or from one of the stores below. Please call the store for their hours.

Scouts Canada Shop - Oshawa
 1711 Simcoe Street North
 Oshawa, ON
 (905) 725-5722

Scouts Canada Shop - Toronto
 10 Kodiak Crescent., Unit 120
 Toronto, ON
 (416) 490-6313

Additional Resources:

1. Canadian Path – <http://www.scouts.ca/canadianpath/>
2. York Headwaters – <http://www.yhwscouts.ca/area/>

The 7th Markham Scout Group wishes you and your youth a GREAT Scouting year and our Group Committee hopes to see a lot of new Scouters to build on our group's strength. If you cannot commit to a Scouter position, we are looking for a few good coordinators or volunteers. If you have a hobby or skill relevant to Scouting, please let your respective section Scouter know.

Yours in Scouting,

7th Markham Scout Group Committee and Section Scouters