

April 2016

To All Guiders:

Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada, Nova Scotia Council is committed to providing a safe environment for our members. One of the many ways we do this is ensuring we meet or exceed all government laws and regulations. We have received a number of questions regarding the requirement for at least one adult attending camp to hold a Volunteer Food Handler's Certificate. Hopefully, this email will answer some of those questions.

Effective May 1, 2016, one adult (member or non-member) holding a valid Volunteer Food Handler's Certificate is required at all Yellow and Red events where food is being served. The only exception is where food is being purchased from a licensed food establishment (eg. a restaurant). Fund raising activities that involve food preparation also require an adult (member or non-member) to hold a valid Volunteer Food Handler's Certificate. This should be noted on the FR1. The certificate holder is to be actively involved in overseeing food preparation.

Rangers can take the course and be responsible for the oversight of the kitchen. While there is no requirement for additional supervision in this situation it would be prudent to have an adult (member or non-member) who holds a valid Volunteer Food Handler's Certificate available for support as needed.

The course is available either face-to-face (often at no or low cost) and on-line. Anyone taking this course, is responsible for the cost. If there is a concern about the cost, please discuss this with your Commissioner.

Volunteer Food Handler's Courses are valid for 5 years. Members and non-members are reminded to send a copy of their certificate to the Guide Office (imis@girlguides.ns.ca) so that it can be entered on their iMIS record.

Further information can be found on the GGC Provincial website at www.girlguides.ns.ca -> Parents tab-> Camping: Campsites and Food Handlers section

Thank you,

Kathy

Kathy McKay
Provincial Commissioner,
Nova Scotia Council
Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada