

## Introduction

The Beaver program of Scouts Canada was introduced in November 1974. It is the newest and most rapidly growing section in Scouts Canada, an organization with over 212,000 youth and adult members.

The Mission of Scouts Canada is: *"To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national, and international communities through the application of our Principles and Practices".*

For Beavers this is expressed in the Beaver promise, law, and motto.

Beavers is a simple, flexible program to meet the needs of children 5, 6 and 7 years old. The theme of the program is based upon beavers and the beaver colony. It focuses on sharing, cooperation and playing in small groups, in harmony with nature. Individual competition and structured achievement are not part of the program.

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## Beaver Philosophies

Team Work, Sharing, Awareness of the World, Positive Group Experience, and Creative Expression.

For Beavers it is more important: to try than to achieve; to experience than to win; to share than to keep; to learn to work and play with each other rather than to pit themselves against each other.

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## Beaver Program Objectives

In the Beaver program, emphasis is placed on activities that encourage Beavers to:

- find examples of their own spiritual beliefs;
- experience and express love and joy;
- be healthy and have good feelings about themselves;
- develop a sense of belonging and sharing;
- develop a sense of cooperation through noncompetitive activities;
- develop an appreciation for nature;
- learn through fun; and
- express themselves.

In Beaving the aim, objectives and emphasis are achieved through the use of a program of understanding, supportive fun, and activities built around seven elements: Games, Crafts, Music, Storytelling, Playacting, Spiritual fellowship and The Outdoors.

## **Beaver Law, Promise and Motto**

**Law:** A Beaver has fun, works hard, and helps his/her family and friends.

**Promise:** I promise to love God and to help take care of the world.

**Motto:** Sharing, Sharing, Sharing.