

Scouting history in Canada

by Mark Rowe
When Robert Baden-Powell published "Scouting For Boys" in January 1908 he had no idea how successful his program would be. By the end of 1908 Scouting was active in many countries and it continued to grow. So much so, that his late majesty King Edward VII asked Lieut.-General Baden-Powell to devote his full time to Scouting. In 1910, he came to Canada on a tour and persuaded the Governor General, Earl Gray, to become Chief Scout of Canada. This began a tradition which has gone unchanged in Canada. The current Chief Scout is His Excellency Jules Leger, Governor General of Canada.

In Acton
1916 was the year Wolf Cubs were introduced into Canada. It was also the year Scouting came to Acton. George Mason and Fred Coles formed the first troop. The troop brought honors to Acton when at the Toronto Exhibition, the Duke of Connaught chose them as the best-dressed group and gave them the honor of being the colour party to lead the Grand Parade. The first World Jamboree was held in 1920 in England. At it Lord Baden-Powell was made Chief Scout of the World. The 34th World Jamboree will be held near Lillehammer, Norway. Among the thousands of boys from over 50 nations will be Rob Paterson of Acton. Rob, who has been in the Acton Scouting movement for seven years will be accompanying 19 other Scouts and Venturers from the North Halton District.

The Wolf Cub movement was started in Acton in 1929. The Girl Guides also formed their first company in this year.

Sponsors
Beardmore, the Knox church, the Rotary Club and the people of Acton have all been sponsors of Scouting at one time or another. It was the people of Acton and their donations that built the Acton Scout Hall. It was built under the direction of Scoutmaster Billy Middleton in 1948. The Rotary Club completed renovations on the hall in 1969.

In 1968, the Boy Scout program was reorganized and Scouts, who formerly went from ages 11 to 18 now, only went to age 14. To fill the gap the Venturer movement was introduced. Acton's first Venturer Company met that same year.

The last and newest section of Scouting was introduced in 1974. This is the year Beavers of Canada started. Acton's group was started by Andrea Sharples.

Acton's Scouting movement is now open to all boys aged 5 to 17 years of age. With a history like that, don't you think Scouting should be thought about at least once a year?

Road closed

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority won't be getting their request for a road closure until they tell Halton Hills in writing why they want it closed.

The Conservation Authority wants the road allowance closed between Lots 27 and 28, Concession Nine.

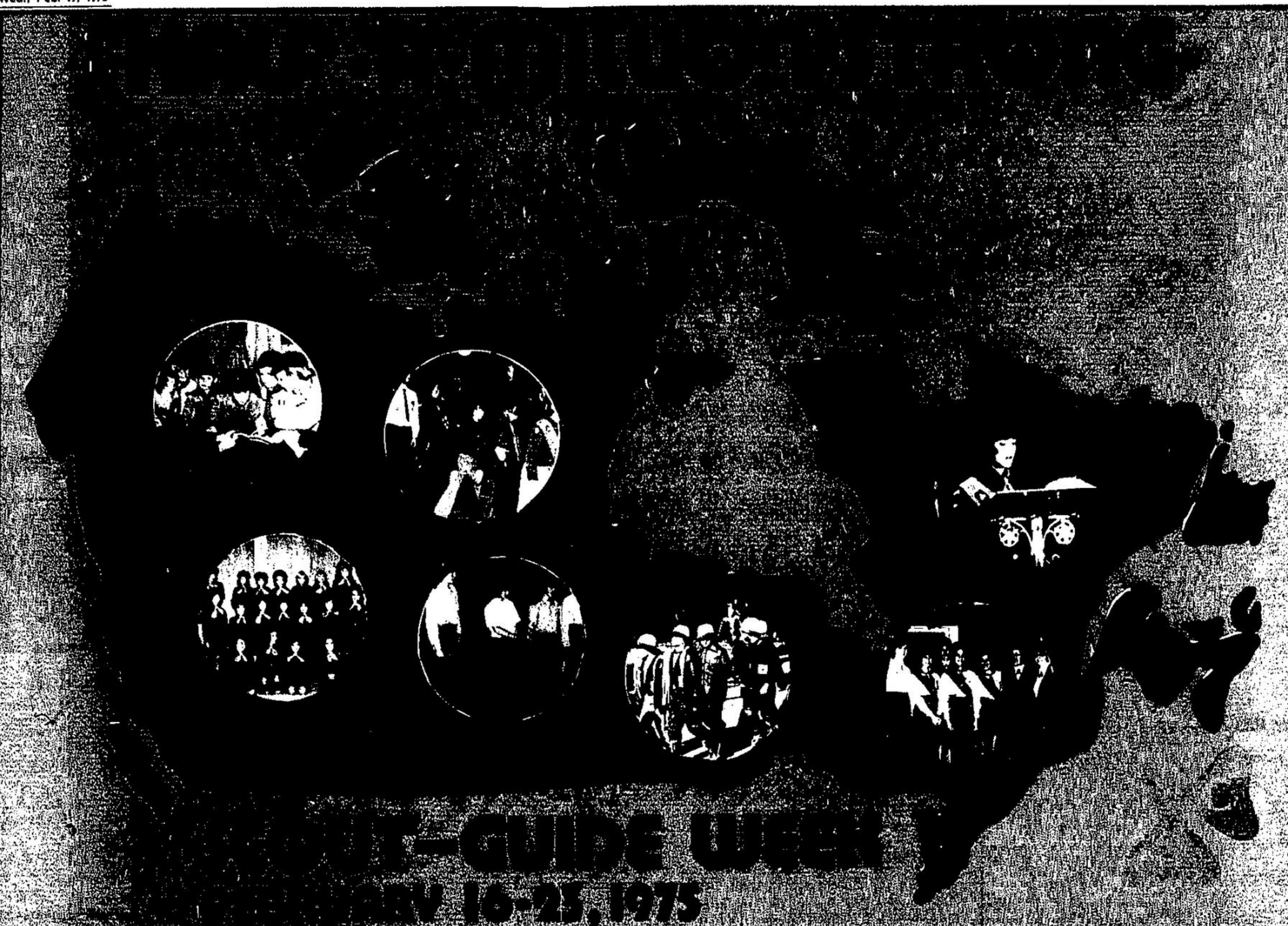
Councillor Len Cox told Monday night's works committee meeting he would like to know why the road should be closed because the town asks the same question of other people who want roads closed.

"I realize it is rocky and serves no purpose but I still want a written answer from the Conservation Authority as to why they want it closed. We can't ask residents why they want things done without asking the Conservation Authority, too. We have to treat everyone equally," Cox explained.

Councillor Ern Hyde suggested one reason the Conservation Authority would want it closed would be so they could have a continuous park development.

The town has no objections to closing the road allowance as long as they receive an answer as to why it needs to be closed from the Conservation Authority. As soon as they give an answer their request will probably be granted the committee decided.

High blood pressure is another good reason for avoiding excess pounds. Blood pressure often increases with weight, the Ontario Heart Foundation says.



SCOUT - GUIDE WEEK FEBRUARY 16-23, 1975

SCOUTING and GUIDING in Canada now has more than half a million members. All these people are united in one cause - to help the youth of today be responsible citizens of tomorrow. February 22nd is the birthday of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout movement. It is also the birthday of Lady Baden-Powell, chief Guide of the world. We ask that all friends and members of Scouting and Guiding remember our founder and all the people who have believed in his concepts and programmes since 1908. If you have never had a chance to experience Scouting or Guiding days you are welcome to join whether you be five years old or 45 years old.



MEETING NIGHTS
 BOYS • SCOUTS • VENTURERS • BROWNS • GUIDES
 7:30 PM
 7:30 PM
 7:30 PM
 7:30 PM
 7:30 PM

THIS SALUTE TO SCOUT - GUIDE WEEK IS SPONSORED BY ACTON'S LEADING MERCHANTS AND BUSINESSMEN

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