



Dogwood and Beyond Dogwood Training

Guiders, have you been a leader for a few years, say at least five? If so, then you know the value of seizing any networking opportunities in guiding that come your way. You also know the value of the training you've received, courtesy of your Areas/Districts/Provincial Training Committees. Attending trainings is one of the best ways to start, and maintain, your skills as well as your network in the sisterhood of Guiding.

However, you experienced guiders may not be aware of a fabulous level of training, intended just for you, called "Dogwood"—yes, named for the official flower of our fair province. On a side note, every province has a similar training, also named for *their* official provincial flower.

What is Dogwood? Well, it is a custom tailored residential training, designed for experienced leaders and intended to stretch your reflective brain cells. Dogwood is not about learning 'hard', or even 'soft' skills—it is about taking the time to think about why you are in guiding as well as really examining what guiding is all about.

Taking Dogwood is one of the most rewarding opportunities you will ever, ever find in this organization. There is no set curriculum; the facilitators, carefully selected by the Provincial Training Committee, develop a special program that is based on the registrants. The sessions are hosted by an Area, and unfold over a weekend away from the whirl of normal life, usually in a quiet, pastoral or rural lodge-type setting. This is not really training in the classical sense of the word—this is personal enrichment. Don't you deserve it?

For the very experienced guiders, there is Beyond Dogwood, also a personal enrichment course, which builds on the Dogwood program and helps broaden and refine your knowledge and understanding of guiding.

Both Dogwood and Beyond Dogwood have prerequisites: registrants must have completed the foundation modules and mentorship area of the stream they are pursuing in the TEAM (Training and Enrichment for Adult Members), and no equivalencies are granted for these two trainings. There is no substitution for these two experiences—they are far, far too precious to miss.

If you are interested in attending a Dogwood or Beyond Dogwood, please contact your Area Training Adviser (see list on Training page).

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Provincial Training Committee