

Winter 2021

# 67<sup>th</sup> Winnipeg Scout Group

presents



## CHANNEL 67 NEWS

**Beaver Scouts • Cub Scouts • Scouts • Venturer Scouts • Rover Scouts**

Dear Scouting members, parents and friends.

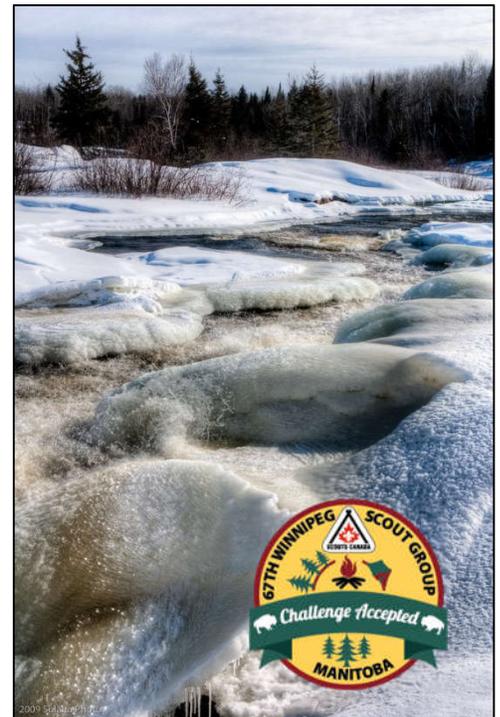
It's been almost a year since we suddenly halted all our Scouting activities when COVID came to town in March. Both Scouts Canada rules and public-health imperatives meant that we would have no in-person activities from mid-March until mid-September, as the epidemic morphed into a full-blown pandemic.

I think that when the virus first hit, we were all a bit shell shocked, and very uncertain as to where this was all heading. By the fall, things were looking up, as infection numbers ebbed for a good part of the summer. Our Group regrouped and began in-person meetings on an outdoor-only basis. But this time, we had the sense that we might be forced to stop meeting again, either because of tightening restrictions on gatherings, or the realities of a Winnipeg winter. Or, perhaps both. In the end, it was the former that got us.

This time, we were a bit more prepared to go "virtual." Just like most of the rest of world, we had been forced to figure out how to work with Zoom and the like. All of our meetings have been online since early November, so please pardon the preponderance of screen shots in this issue!

Doug Strang, Group Commissioner  
67<sup>th</sup> Winnipeg Scout Group

For free e-subscription & feedback, contact  
[67thWpg@gmail.com](mailto:67thWpg@gmail.com)



**In this issue:**

**Sections in review**

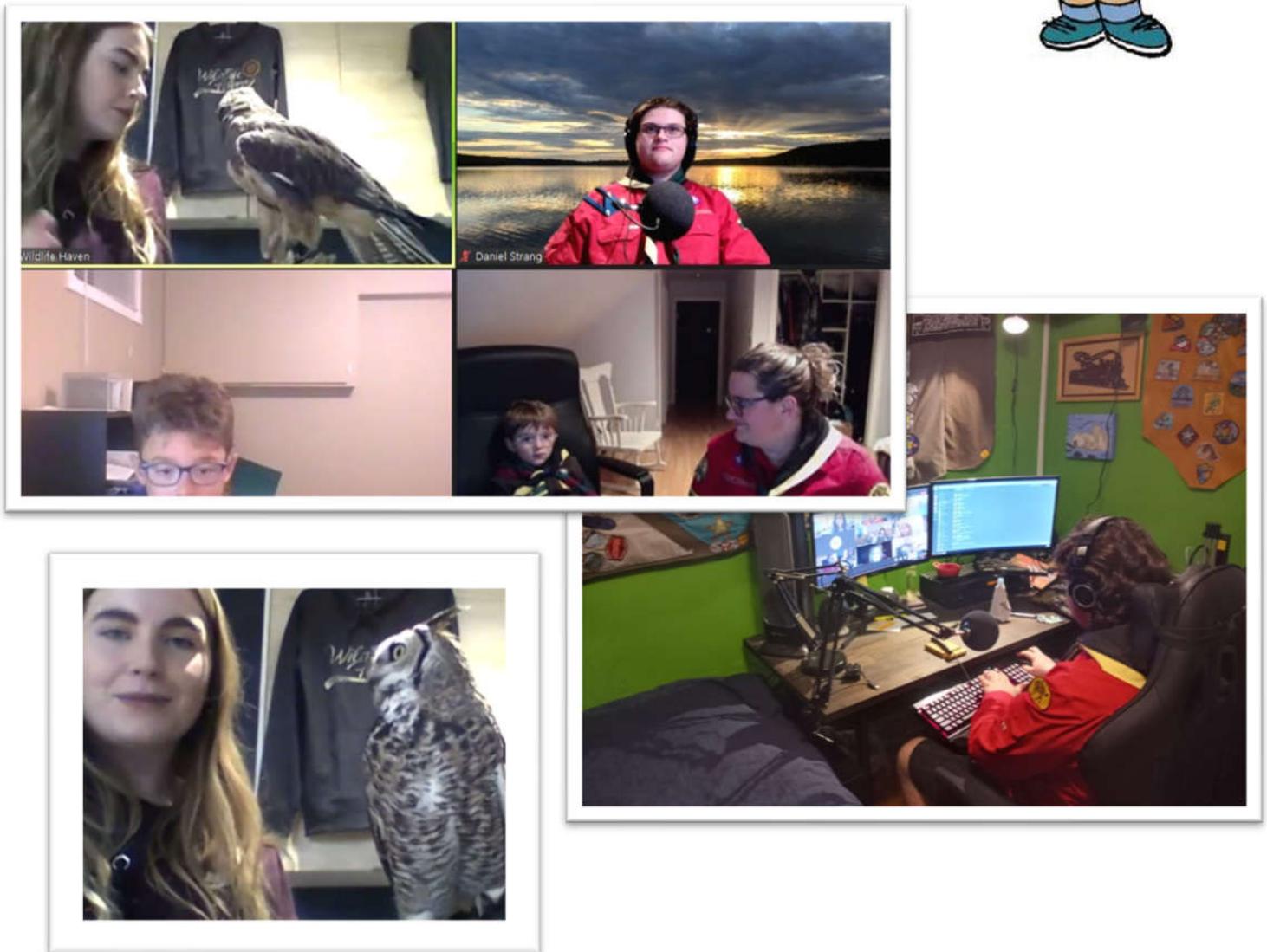
**Our Group**

**Website traffic**

**And, more ...**

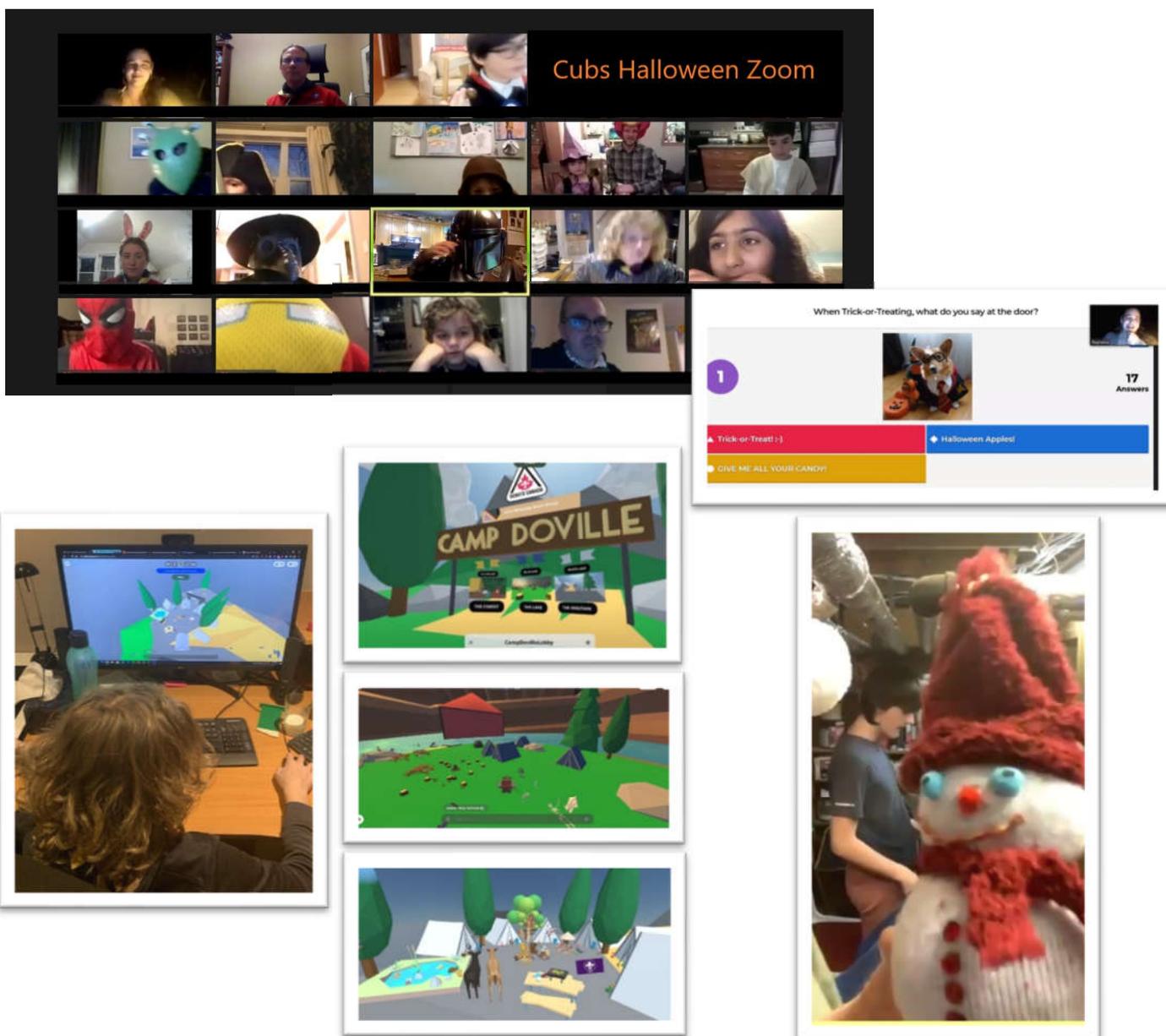
## Beaver Tales

67th Winnipeg Beavers is a whole new colony this year. In-person meetings barely got started before the restrictions tightened. An outing to the Living Prairie Museum was cancelled at the last minute, but a week later the museum was able to provide the Beavers with an online session, where the youth were able to learn about owls, and see a real-live resident owl. For the next meeting, the youngsters were invited to show their own owl drawings and participate in an owl trivia game. What a hoot that owl Kahoot was! The Beavers have since welcomed guest speakers from the Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, the Lake Winnipeg Foundation, Fort Whyte Alive, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and all the way from Australia. There has been a big focus on animals – from owls, to narwhals, kangaroos, and of course – beavers!



# Cub Chronicles

Because most of the 67th Winnipeg Cubs returned this fall, a good number swam up from Beavers, and some new families sought us out, the Pack is our largest section with over 20 youth. When hikes, scavenger hunts, and forest visits had to give way to virtual gatherings, one of our pack parents was prepared. Because he runs a computer-education system development company, the pack was provided with adventure in "Hubs World." Each lair had its own virtual campsite, where their avatars could set up tents and other gear. Over a series of weeks, each lair built and then presented its own colour-coded campsite. The Pack then wound down 2020 with a holiday snowman-craft night.



# Scout Stories

After a busy fall schedule of in-person hiking, biking, and pumpkin carving, the 67th Winnipeg Troop moved to virtual Scouting. The Troop has tried out online games, such as Kahoot, Among Us, and Dungeons and Dragons, in addition to some adventures in the kitchen making brownies. The Troop then wound down 2020 with a holiday wooden-snowman-craft night. The Troop has also started up an Instagram to help document their adventures: <https://www.instagram.com/67thwpg/>



## Venturers

The 67th Winnipeg Venturers seem to thrive in the online Scouting environment and are able to lead it in their own direction. They have written letters to seniors in care homes, and watched a movie together “virtually” during the holiday season. They also held an election for youth executive positions within the Company.



## Rovers

Some of the Rovers are regular volunteer leaders at the weekly meetings for the younger sections, particularly Cubs and Scouts. This has been very helpful with the online programming, as the Rovers are very adept at running online applications, including Zoom, and various games and quizzes.

## Help support our Scouts!

	<p>A great (and free) way to support our programs is to use our group Co-op number whenever you shop at one of the Red River Co-op's gas bars, food stores and pharmacies. Our number is <b>190628. Thank you!</b></p>	<p>Financial donations are accepted through Canada Helps.org. See “Friends of 67” page at <a href="https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/67th-winnipeg-group-committee/">https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/67th-winnipeg-group-committee/</a>. Tax receipts are provided by Canada Helps.org.</p>	
---	--	---	---

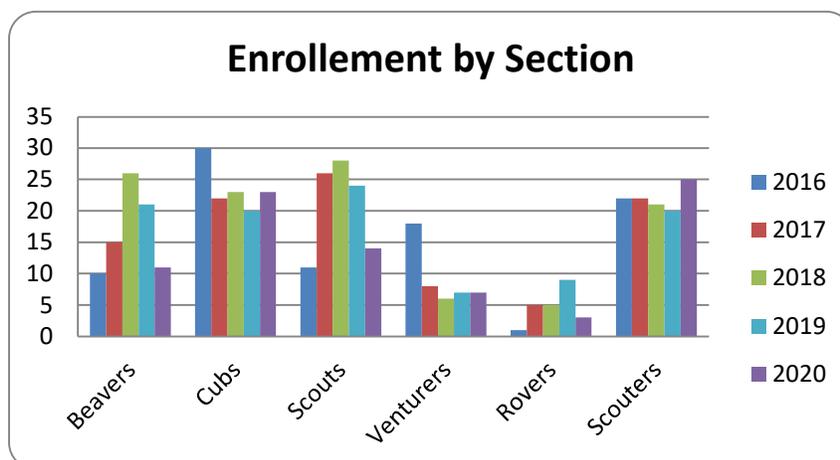
## Our Group

Here is a look at the current makeup of our Group’s youth sections, and how it has fluctuated over time. In any given year, the younger sections (Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts) tend to have higher enrollment than the older sections (Venturers and Rovers).

Prior to this pandemic year, the total number of participants (Beavers through Rovers) ranged from 70 to 81. However, by the end of 2020, that number fell to 58. This is a fairly significant drop in participation and is likely reflective of a reluctance to return to Scouting in the fall, perhaps due to concerns about viral spread through in-person meetings. All Scouting in Manitoba has since transitioned to online programming only, however, we may not see much of an increase in interest until we can get back to a more “carefree” mode of in-person Scouting.

The table and chart below includes the number of youth in each section, plus the number of registered Scouters (adult volunteers) for the 67th Winnipeg Scout Group at calendar year-end.

<b>End of:</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<i>Beavers</i>	10	15	26	21	11
<i>Cubs</i>	30	22	23	20	23
<i>Scouts</i>	11	26	28	24	14
<i>Venturers</i>	18	8	6	7	7
<i>Rovers</i>	1	5	5	9	3
<i>Scouters</i>	22	22	21	20	25
<b>Total participants</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>58</b>
<i>Membership</i>	92	98	109	101	83



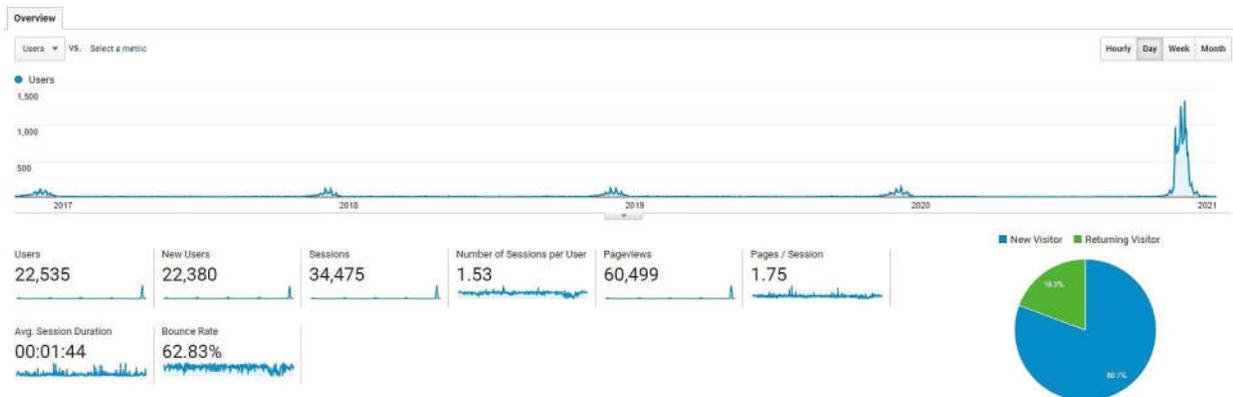
# 67th Winnipeg Scout Group – website traffic

Here is a look at our Group’s website traffic over the last five years.

The graphic shows the number of users who accessed the website each day. It is filtered to show only users who are located in Winnipeg (which removes a lot of spammy traffic). Starting from the left side, the first four blips are made up of users who, for the most part, accessed the website for information on our Christmas-tree sale. The baseline traffic outside of the tree-selling season seems almost negligible in comparison.

The much-larger blip on the right is the Christmas-tree traffic for the 2020 season. This high level of user engagement was due to the need for our customers to find information on tree availability and place orders online.

Prior to 2020, buying a tree was a simple affair: you visited the lot, picked and paid for your tree, and took it away. Let’s all hope that we are back to that mode for 2021, and that 2020 turns out to be but a blip in time.



## We want to hear from you!



The next regular issue of *Channel 67 News* will be Spring 2021. Content deadline is March 31, 2021. Target publication date is April. Youth, Scouters, family, and friends - please send your stories, photos and latest Scouting thinking to [67thWpg@gmail.com](mailto:67thWpg@gmail.com).

