

GAP 100
Activity Support

GAP 100 Reference #

114

What

Bring a Friend Event

Why:

Youth are our best Ambassadors! Bring-a-Friend events have proven to be very successful. Try this one out!



Youth to youth invitations are very effective

What do I Need

- "Buy In" from ALL leaders and ALL youth in the participating section.
- Bring-a-Friend "How To" kit

Who Do I Need

- Possible assistance from Council Field Executive/Community Development Worker, Area Commissioner or Area Service Team with planning/running your Bring-a-Friend event
- Willing youth
- Willing leaders
- Willing parents

Preparation

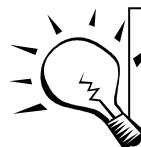
- **Discuss and engage the youth** in your section. Ask them about their ideas for inviting their friends to a meeting.
- **Set the date of the meeting. Request Public Relations material** as early as possible from your Council Field Executive to distribute to your guests.

How do I do it

- **Greet and gab.** Be at the door to greet the new youth and to introduce yourself to any parents/guardians who may be responsible for the drop off or pick up of these new people.
- **Invite your Area Commissioner to attend.**
- **Arrange to have an additional leader** or parent helper, if necessary, to maintain your supervision ratio.
- **Make a customized visitor's package** to distribute to your guests at the end of the event to encourage them to join. This may include a registration form, PR materials, Scouts Canada brochures and a list of activities or upcoming events, including camps for your groups.
- **Ensure the event showcases your section/group's program**
- **Consider bringing sections together – Showcase the whole group**

Follow-up:

- **Ask the visiting youth to complete the questionnaire (See attachment on CD). Only youth with signed permission from their parents on the invitation may complete this form.**
- **Follow up with parents/guardians of guest youth who have requested information**
- **Invite the parents/guardian and the guests to another meeting**
- **Follow up with phone call to visiting youth – inviting them back**



WHAT ABOUT TRYING A "BRING AN ADULT FRIEND" event. This could enhance quality and quantity current leadership.