

Do you have views you would like to share with us about the Girl Programme? Now is your chance!

16 September 2010

Dear Rangers,

You may have heard that GirlGuiding New Zealand is reviewing and updating the Girl Programme. The aim is to review the programme to ensure that:

- It is relevant for today's (and tomorrow's) girls and young women
- It effectively enables girls and young women to develop their full potential and make a difference in the world
- All the components and sections of the programme link to and build on each other, and are fun and easy to deliver

The Girl Programme Development Project has two initial stages: first, a 'big picture' evaluation of the current programme (Sept 2010 – Jan 2011); then development of recommendations for any changes which will be presented to the Board (June 2011).

A Steering Group has recently been set up to guide the Girl Programme Development Project through these first two stages, and now we are seeking nominations for a **Girl Reference Group**. This group will represent and provide input from the perspective of girl members. This will be one of a range of methods for gaining input from our members and other affected groups.

Criteria for joining the Girl Reference Group

We are seeking young women with good ideas to contribute who:

- Are aged 15+
- Have a good understanding of the Ranger programme, and also some knowledge of the Pippin, Brownie or Guide programmes. (We believe this will help you to understand points that arise from the various sections and assist you with making recommendations based on the evaluation documents).
- Are strategic thinkers, able to see the big picture, and who can understand the implications of decisions.
- Are team players, willing to work as part of a national team.

- Are open to learning. Listening, debating ideas, accepting of other's ideas and with objectivity to make hard decisions.
- Are good communicators who are able to respond to requests and emails promptly.
- Have access to email and Skype (at home or at a local library/internet café for example).
- Can commit 2-3 hours per month to the Girl Reference Group, from Nov/Dec 2010 until May/June 2011.

From the nominations received, 8-10 young women will be chosen, based on:

- Their fit with the criteria above
- Their unit leader's recommendation
- The need for diversity in the group (e.g. making sure views from different regions and rural and urban groups and ethnic groups are included)

Role description

The purpose of the **Girl Reference Group** is to represent the views of girl members during the Girl Programme Development Project (GPDP), particularly the recommendation development stage. You will bring the perspective of girls and young women who have come through the programme.

The Reference Group will work in parallel with the GPDP Steering Group. The group will meet by Skype about once every two months, and these meetings will be set up and facilitated by a member of the GPDP Steering Group. In between meetings, there will be some communication by email. It is envisaged that 2-3 members will also represent the Reference Group at Steering Group meetings.

The responsibilities of the group will be to:

- Keep up to date with the background and progress of the GPDP by reading updates and other material that is emailed
- Participate in the evaluation as key informants. This will involve answering questions via skype meetings or email or similar, facilitated by the evaluators.
- Receive and review the draft Girl Programme Evaluation Report
- Ensure the perspective of girl members is represented, interpreted and understood appropriately in the recommendation development process

- Work closely with the Steering Group to develop recommendations for changes to the Girl Programme
- Answer specific questions from the Steering Group that arise during the Girl Programme Development Project, where a girl member perspective is required.

Application process

Information about the Girl Reference Group and an application form is available on the GirlGuiding NZ website (www.girlguidingnz.org.nz/). Please apply by **31st October 2010**. A short-list of nominees will be chosen, and Unit Leaders will be contacted to give a reference for those young women. We will let all applicants know if they have been successful or not by **30th November 2010**.

If you have any questions about the Girl Reference Group or the application process, please call or email Rosemarie Thomas, Guiding Development Manager ph 0800 449 663 rosemarie.thomas@girlguidingnz.org.nz