

Dear To Mayor and Council,

On behalf of Girl Guides of Canada's British Columbia Council, I am writing to **ask for your support for girl empowerment in BC this February 22, by lighting up your building(s) with exterior lighting or interior window lights in the colour blue.** Blue is the well-known colour of Girl Guides and girls/women in BC have worn their blue Girl Guide uniforms with pride for many generations. Last year we had 85+ landmarks across the Province light up blue!

Every year on February 22, Girl Guides celebrate World Thinking Day, a day of international friendship. It is an opportunity to speak out on issues that affect girls and young women, celebrate the founding of Girl Guides, and be connected to the 10 million members around the world who are part of the Guiding movement.

Here in British Columbia, we have thousands of girls and women who are members of Girl Guides of Canada. We have Girl Guide programs in nearly every community in BC, and our girls/volunteers light up their communities year-round through leadership, community service, and efforts to create *a better world, by girls*. Girls typically participate in annual Thinking Day activities held on/around February 22. Due to the continuing effects of COVID-19, our usual large gatherings, campfire singalongs, community events, special camps, and other activities are impacted, and so this year will again look different than usual.

For Thinking Day 2022, we will be celebrating in a way that is COVID-friendly, keeps our communities safe, and brings a smile to the faces of girls, families, volunteers, and the public: **[Guiding Lights Across British Columbia](#)**. This community initiative will light up outdoor landmarks, bridges, buildings, stadiums, and other illuminated locations, with blue lights, in celebration of the sisterhood of Guiding across BC and beyond, on February 22. A map of previous participating locations can be found at www.girlguides.ca/guidinglightsacrossbc

We will be mobilizing our members to admire these lit-up sites in ways that comply with COVID-19 rules (both from public health authorities and Girl Guides' own member safety protocols) in effect at that time, posting photos on social media, emailing our members with info about how to participate, and more. We are excited for this open-air opportunity that will enable everyone to safely celebrate.

Our Girl Guide members and broader network of supporters would be thrilled to have your landmarks lit up as part of Guiding Lights Across British Columbia, and to highlight your participation as part of this province-wide event. Please contact us at bc-prcomm@girlguides.ca to confirm your ability to participate in this February 22, 2022, activity.

Thank you for your support for Guiding in BC!

Isabella Lee (She/Her) | BC Public Relations and Communications Adviser

BC Council, Girl Guides of Canada

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I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work within the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territory of the Songhees, Esquimalt, and W̱SÁNEĆ Nations.