

What Does the CEC Do For Your Group?

Over the last few years a large number of Scouters have become concerned over the rising cost of registering for Scouting in Canada. In the Central Escarpment Council (CEC) a large portion of this cost is the Council fee. For 2005-2006 this fee was \$77 (\$77 for CEC + \$58 for National = \$135) per youth. Unfortunately, in 2005, CEC spent \$76 per youth on salaries and administration. Almost everything else CEC pays for was covered by a deficit of almost \$100,000 or \$15 per youth. This raises the question: what does the CEC do that benefits your Group?

21st Waterloo Group Committee approached the CEC with a list of questions about the Council and how it allocates our fees. While some of the questions were answered, most were either not fully answered or not answered at all. This is unacceptable. We thought we would bring this issue to others so they can bring it to their Group.

This is not to suggest that the CEC is not needed or that the people running CEC are not effective. We are looking to improve Scouting and feel it is important that resources are spent wisely. We simply want answers to basic questions about the operation of OUR council. We hope that you do to. Please discuss this issue with your group and bring any questions you have to Harry Niezen, the Council Commissioner.

The list of questions below are simply some of the issues we feel the Council should be providing answers for. Feel free to ask Harry any other questions that your group has. If you get any answers please bring them to the next NWSC meeting so we can discuss them.

1. What is the CEC doing to close the gap between income and expenses? It's important to understand that details on revenue generation as well as cost reductions are equally important?
2. How is CEC ensuring that resources (\$\$\$ and people) are effectively used in a way that makes parents feel the money they spend on membership fees makes the program for their children better?
3. How will the CEC be making the financial information for the CEC more easily available to the members in the future?
4. What is being done to make the management of CEC more responsible to the members of CEC?
5. What is being done to make information on local camps available to the members of the CEC? This should include both financials and a yearly summary of what has been happening at the camp.
6. What is being done to allow members to have a stronger voice in which changes are made to camps and how camps and camp funds are managed?
7. What is being done to change how Area Commissioners are chosen? In a truly democratic organization, the AC would be elected by those he/she represents. What is CEC doing to move towards that approach?