

17 December 2009

Dear Area Commissioners,

In your Areas you have an amazing team known as Area iMIS Advisers. This team of ladies are hard working and dedicated to their position.

This year we have seen many changes in Guiding here in BC. In the spring we learned of the amalgamations for Areas and Districts, and in September, a number of changes to guidelines for iMIS.

For the iMIS Advisers, September to normally the end of January in the new year, is a very busy time. This year, National moved the census count date up by approx 60 days. Your Area iMIS Adviser(s) now had to enter all the girls and new adults (Potential Members), into iMIS, by 1 December 2009. The iMIS Advisers worked many long hours, or in some cases whole days making the entries to get this information into iMIS. My hat is off to them for the amazing amount of time the iMIS Advisers gave to entering our BC Members.

With the amalgamation of the Areas and Districts here in BC, the workload of the Area iMIS Adviser has not been reduced. We still have the same number of members to register each new Guiding year. Then, after a few days of rest, it is back to catching up on all the emails regarding changes and entries for our members. BC Guiding will need each of these dedicated women in order to accomplish all the entries required in iMIS.

I also believe it would be beneficial to the Area council to invite the Area iMIS Adviser to one or more of your meetings. They can explain the registration process and the time lines. Your council members, especially District Commissioners, would benefit from "hearing" the information first-hand from the Adviser. I believe this would help the District Commissioner in understanding the process for registration, therefore passing the important information on to the Unit Guiders.

I hope you join me in acknowledging these hard working women – who many times seem to be forgotten!!

I thank you for your time and thoughts on the above. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Velma Trowbridge or myself.

Terry Newell
BC iMIS Adviser