To our members:

As many of you have launched into the online learning with the school district this week, just know we will be posting on our website many exciting resources for our troop leaders and parents who may need a fun distraction from school work. Check our website tomorrow for our virtual programming as we make the announcement on a Facebook Live event tomorrow at 2:00pm. Please know we are still here to support our troops and volunteers by phone and email. Today marks the start of our Cookie Promotion so keep an eye out on Facebook and local media channels as we support our frontline health care heroes. Stay safe, Girl Scouts!

The Farthest North Girl Scout Council Staff

Cookie Sale
A sincere thank you to our troop leaders for the extra effort to sell cookies, deposit cookie money, communicate with families and remain focused to meet the payment date yesterday. We are humbled by your commitment to our mission and our goals for girls. We stayed true to our motto, Be Prepared. Here are a few details as we know the Cookie Sale is far from over:

- Those troops who could not pay the full cookie bill will be emailed their remaining balance and we will work out a payment plan.
- Troops are welcome to continue selling cookies so long as the delivery process happens when local and state officials give us the all-clear.
- The Council will work on arranging booth sales once it is safe to do so. Until then, please secure your cookie supply in a climate-controlled storage area safe from pets and children. If stored in garages, please make sure cookie cases have a barrier such as a tarp.
- Troops whose sale is an extreme burden on troop proceeds will have an opportunity to apply for financial aid starting June 1st. The troop cookie bill will need to be paid in full and each application will be judged on a case-by-case basis.
- Our Cookie Promotion to have community members donate cases of Girl Scout Cookies to those in the health care industry and first responders starts today. Please share our posts with friends and families on Facebook.

Cookie Promotion
The cookie promotion starts today! Watch for our ads all over Fairbanks encouraging customers to donate a case of cookies to our first responders and medical personnel. This will help offset some of the excess cookie troops are holding from booth sale closures. Please share these posts with the people you know. Ads will also be sent to the newspaper, TV and radio. Thanks for spreading the word!

Communications
- All calls to the Girl Scout Council phone are being forwarded to the afterhours cell number.
- The Council Connection will be published twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays and posted on the website instead of through email.
• Daily Updates will continue through tomorrow and are published on our homepage at [www.fairbanksgirlscouts.org](http://www.fairbanksgirlscouts.org). Updates starting next week will be posted as needed.

• We encourage communication through email at the following addresses:
  Meagan Scheer, Membership at [membership@gsak.org](mailto:membership@gsak.org)
  Leah Hill, Director of Operations at [program@gsak.org](mailto:program@gsak.org)
  Mimi Hill, Shop and Cookie Sale at [shop@gsak.org](mailto:shop@gsak.org) or [cookies@gsak.org](mailto:cookies@gsak.org)
  Suellen Nelles, CEO at [ceo@gsak.org](mailto:ceo@gsak.org)

**Adjustments to Council Programs and Events**

Please make these corrections to the Council Calendar.

• Early Bird Registration – Delayed to May 1st. Early Bird registration will be May 1 – June 30 with all the same perks as before. Stay tuned for the details.

• Delegate Training – Cancelled.

• Annual Meeting – Postponed.

• Special Meeting of the Council – April 18th at 10:00am via conference call.

• All Service Unit Meetings and Events are cancelled through May 1st.

• Mini BOW (May 29-31) and Camp Jessie Bloom Day Camp (July 13 – 18 and July 20 – 25) – Although cancellation is possible, it is too soon to make that call. We will continue to sign girls up for these events over email. We have suspended collecting payment or paperwork. To register, email [program@gsak.org](mailto:program@gsak.org) and we will add girls to our list.

**Troop Meetings**

The Council office recommends suspension of in-person troop meetings until May 1st due to the closure of Alaska schools. During this time of families staying put in their homes, we have some ideas about how to stay connected with your troop:

• Zoom is a free video chat room for virtual meetings. Set up bi-weekly or monthly meetings with a quick craft, badgework or an opportunity for girls just to chat.

• Set up a private troop Facebook page for girls to post their at–home badgework and for families to communicate with their troop leader.

• Visit the [Council website](http://www.fairbanksgirlscouts.org) for all your programmatic needs. All program materials including the Girl Guides are loaded onto our site for easy referencing. Encourage girls to pick a badge and start the steps at home.

• The Council website will have many virtual program materials on our website starting tomorrow, April 3rd.

**Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting is being postponed to a future date, TBD. We look forward to sharing our accomplishments last year with our membership along with the important business and adult recognitions. Watch our calendar updates for the rescheduled date.