



JOTA / JOTI NEWS FLASH

April 2, 2020



It starts with Scouts.

To: **National JOTA/JOTI Team**
Council JOTA/JOTI Representatives
JOTA/JOTI Enthusiasts throughout Scouts Canada

From: *Andy Dunn*, **National JOTA/JOTI Co-ordinator**

SPECIAL JOTI NEWSFLASH!

*Since everybody is social-distancing at home to help in our global duty to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and we can't meet in person... we CAN meet over the Internet so a **Special world-wide JOTI event** is being planned for **April 3rd to 5th, 2020**.*

This is a way we can keep in touch with Scouts around the world from the comfort and safety of our own homes.

REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION INFORMATION IN THIS *NewsFlash*.

Registration for individuals participating in the **Special JOTI** is now open. People can sign up now at

jotajoti.info

and register for the **Special Edition of JOTI**. Please be patient if there are delays with registration - we expect over a million people to participate this weekend so the system can get a bit slow. *It is working... it just takes a while.*

Participants aged 13 and up can register themselves; those under 13 must be registered by a parent or guardian who will participate with them in the activities online this weekend.

Program information is now available on the website listed above; visit the **Campsite** tab and the **Activities** tab for details on programme for the weekend.

If you have difficulties registering, visit the **Support** tab on the website listed above.

*It is important to emphasize that this is intended to be done from home; we are **not** organizing any gatherings at meeting places or in the community, in keeping with our responsibility to slow down the spread of COVID-19.*

Preparing for the Special JOTI

There are a couple of things all participants (youth and adult members) can do in advance to ready.

First, ensure you have a working Internet connection and some sort of device, which could be a smartphone, a tablet, or a laptop or desktop computer.

It is expected that the mainstay of the **Special JOTI** will be IRC (via Scoutlink.net as we usually do for JOTI) and Minecraft. There will be other activities as well.

Participants can test their connection to Scoutlink.net now and be ready (Scoutlink is actually available all year long) - visit <https://www.scoutlink.net/>

Second, it is worth downloading the following guides from the SC JOTI microsite:

- http://www.jota-joti.ca/downloads/JOTI_Guide.pdf
- http://www.jota-joti.ca/downloads/JOTI_Safety.pdf

Third, and very importantly, for those helping to facilitate this event (and this will likely include parents, who otherwise are not usually a JOTI resource for our main event each October, but are likely those supervising at-home activities), the following link has information for those facilitating participation in our **Special JOTI**.

- <http://www.jotajoti.info/staying-safe-online-during-joti>

Participants should know that to register themselves they need to be at least age 13. Those under the age of 13 can be signed up by a parent or guardian who must participate with them when they are online during JOTI. For those age 13 - 18 it is expected that they make a parent or guardian aware of their participation and review the Internet safety information before they participate.

Hope to catch you online this weekend... **be sure to JOIN THE JAMBOREE!**

Yours in Scouting,



Andy Dunn VE3XAD
National JOTA/JOTI Co-ordinator
Scouts Canada

jota.coordinator@scouts.ca

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