

Where do registration fees go?

This is a common question parents or youth may ask when registering for Scouting. The fee paid to register a program participant in Scouting consists of three parts:

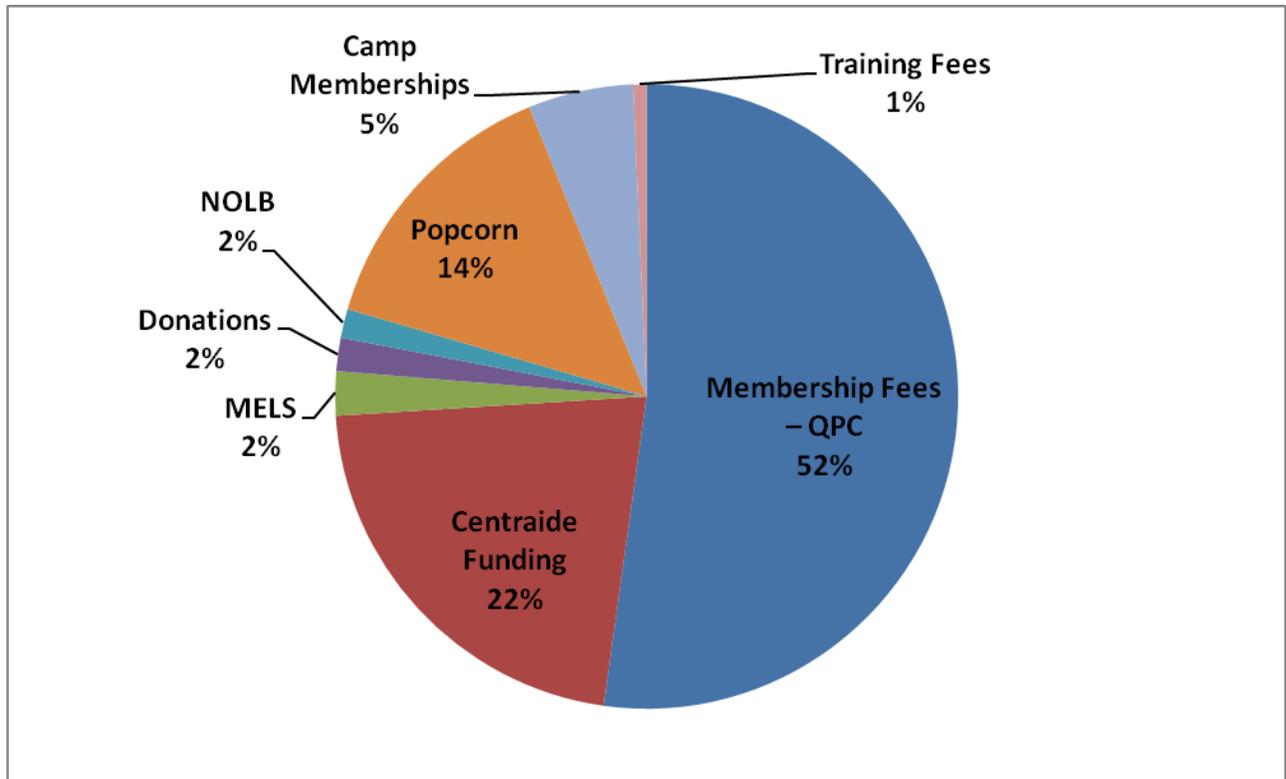
1) National fee – \$72.50

2) Council fee – \$132.50 (\$117.50 for early registration)

3) Group fee – This will vary with each Group. In some cases it may be \$0, and other times, it may be more, depending on the Group's situation (if the hall needs to be rented, if the Group charges dues, if the Group charges for camps and activities, etc.). For details on how Group fees are spent, please contact your Section Scouter.

So where do the rest of the fees go? Below, we give a detailed description of where National and Quebec Council fees go and how they are spent to support your local Scouting group. Rather than present just how fees are designated however, the following gives a break-down of all Scouts Canada – Quebec operating finances, both the revenues and expenses.

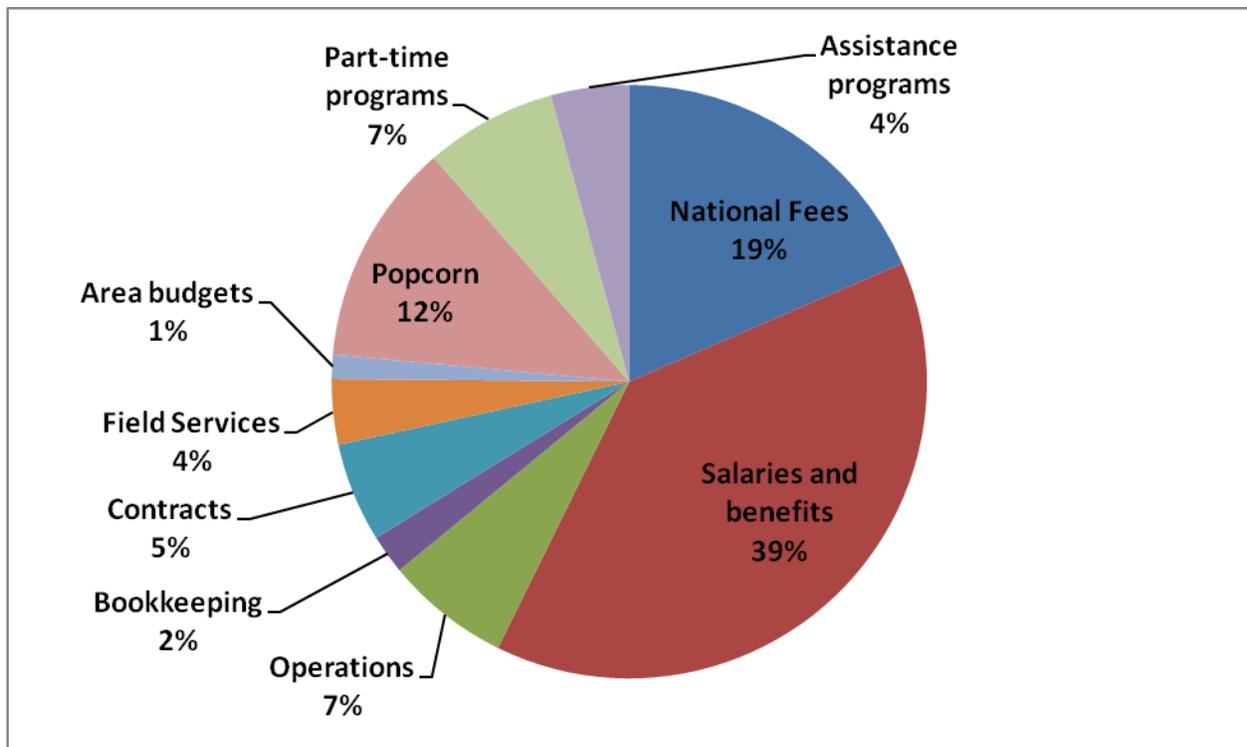
Revenues



As you can see, **membership fees** account for approximately 50% of Quebec Council's budget. The remainder comes from **grant funding** from Centraide and MELS (ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport), **donations** (direct or through the No One Left Behind (NOLB) assistance program), and our Scout **Popcorn** fundraiser. **Camp memberships** covers fees to register non-members with Scouting when they attend a summer camp program.

Of course, some of these funds, in particular grants and assistance ships, have designated purposes, which are described below. As well, the funds from membership fees include both Quebec Council and National fees.

Expenses



Here we see where these funds are directed, and as a Not-for-Profit Organization, our Revenue must balance with our Expenses.

19% of the Council budget (corresponding to approximately one third of membership fees) are transferred to Scouts Canada's **National office**. Briefly, these funds are designated for insurance costs, resource development and production, staffing costs (for our National Office staff in Ottawa), and various administrative costs. A break-down of where National fees go may be found at: <http://www.scouts.ca/ca/frequently-asked-questions>

The largest expense is the **salaries and benefits** of our Support staff. As Scouts Canada is a volunteer-led, staff-supported organization, many of our senior members of Quebec Council are also volunteers!

That being said, for many day-to-day tasks, there is a small team of staff who work out of our Dorval office. This includes our Executive Director Jon Wiersma, who is responsible for managing the staff team, tracking finances, and ensuring compliance with Scouts Canada National policies. A full-time (Mary-Pauline Vatsis) and a contract (Tara Kappert) staff member work in the office to address all incoming calls and emails, and manage registrations, support questions, recognition, and Council communications such as our mailings and Info QC e-blasts. Two field-support staff, Alain Boulet and Kristen Whitelaw, offer in-school Scouting programs, and routinely visit Sections and Groups to offer support, as well as meeting with partners and sponsors to try and grow local Scouting. Finally, Louise Beausejour is our full-time translator who ensures that all Scouts Canada - Quebec materials are fully bilingual to support all members of our beautiful province! Together, this incredible team strives to support each and every Scouting volunteer and parent affiliated with Scouting. It is worth mentioning that a portion of salaries are covered by grants from partners, such as Centraide.

Of course, our **operations** have associated costs, including workers' insurance, building expenses (including rent, electricity, telecom, etc.) for our Dorval office, and supplies and mailings. **Book keeping expenses** include fees for auditing and banking-related costs.

Some costs, such as photocopier rental, are through **contracts**. This is also the case for our part-time accountant.

Field servicing includes expenses for training courses, recognition, staff development, and reimbursement for travelling (when claimed, of course – many staff and volunteers simply accept a tax donation receipt). **Area budgets** help support local projects including Area camps, recruitment initiatives and Scouters' gatherings.

While **Scout popcorn** is our largest fundraiser, much of the funds raised are returned to Groups and the individuals who make the sales.

Part-time programs, such as Project Loon and Scouts About, have certain affiliated costs which include staff salaries, equipment and transportation. These are associated with the revenues for these programs.

Finally, a certain portion of funds are directed to **Assistance programs** to make Scouting accessible to everyone, no matter their financial means. This is how NOLB and other revenue sources are directed.

Collectively, registration fees and alternative sources of revenue help provide high-quality staff and resources for Scouters that ensure a safe and active Scouting experience for its participants.

Should you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at infoqc@scouts.ca

Yours in Scouting,

Scouts Canada – Quebec Council Management Committee