



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
INLAND NORTHWEST COUNCIL

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Talking Points

Today, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints announced they will no longer utilize the Venturing and Varsity programs of the Boy Scouts of America, effective December 31, 2017.

The Church remains committed to using the Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs, but needed to make this change to best address the specific needs of young men in their educational programs.

It is our understanding that the Varsity and Venturing programs will be replaced with activities and programs run by the Church.

In the Inland Northwest Council, we currently serve 124 Varsity and Venturing units, which represent approximately 950 youth members.

We deeply appreciate our relationship with the LDS Church, one that began in the earliest years of the Scouting movement when the LDS Church became the first partner to sponsor Scouting in the U.S.

The benefit of offering a variety of programs is that our partners can find the programs that work for them.

Although thousands of youth and leaders who participate in Venturing crews nationwide embrace and support the program, we recognize that not all programs are a perfect fit for all partners.

We anticipate that many youth from the LDS Church will continue to participate in Scouting beyond the age of 14 as young men work to earn the Eagle Scout rank.

The Inland Northwest Council values our ongoing partnership with the LDS Church in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts programming and looks forward to our continued efforts to extend the benefits of Scouting to as many youth and families as possible.

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