



**Let's Sing** is a music resource for adult and girl members of Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada (GGC). Here, you can access sheet music and audio support to learn Guiding songs and be part of the musical traditions of Guiding.

## Inclusivity and the Girl-Driven Approach

GGC works to ensure Guiding is a place where all girls and women feel welcome and included, and can say, "I belong here." We strive to ensure that girls' diverse voices, cultures, and identities are highlighted by giving girls the power to choose, lead, and direct their experiences in Guiding. This inclusive, girl-driven approach is meant to ensure that every girl:

- Feels a sense of belonging so she can have a voice
- Is accepted for who she is so she can have choice
- Has positive experiences that affirm her identity so she can take action.

Our commitment to inclusion and to a girl-driven approach is a part of every aspect of Guiding, including our singing traditions. The **Let's Sing** resource will help you practice Guiding song traditions in a way that is inclusive and ensures all girls feel a sense of belonging. However, this resource is not all-encompassing. We know there are many songs you might want to introduce to your Guiding community that are not included here. Below, we've provided a short guide to support you in making inclusive, girl-driven decisions about when and how to introduce new songs.

Songs with religious or faith-based overtones	GGC is a secular organization, which means that Guiding is not affiliated with, nor does it privilege any religion or faith-based beliefs, behaviors, or traditions. This allows us to remain true to our values and work towards serving all girls. Avoid any songs or practices that have their roots in religion or include religious lyrics or symbols.
Songs from or about different cultures/countries/communities	<p>Guiding is a global movement, and our members represent a rich diversity of cultural backgrounds and beliefs. If you're introducing songs from other countries or cultures, make sure you're doing so in a way that <b>considers and acknowledges how these songs represent and affect the people from those cultures.</b></p> <p>Songs from other cultures or communities should be introduced and shared in partnership with those communities and should not be used unless we have explicit permission to do so in the context of Guiding. This could look like partnering with a local cultural centre to learn new songs or having girls and Guiders from different communities share songs from their own cultures.</p>
Songs about personal identity and experience	Many songs reference peoples' identities or experiences. People all have different identity dimensions to consider. These identity dimensions are parts of who they are, including their race, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, etc. When introducing songs that reference specific identities or experiences, review the lyrics and consider if anyone might interpret them in a way that causes people with different identities to feel excluded or uncomfortable.

## Additional Information

We have worked to confirm the origins of the songs included in **Let's Sing!** and have obtained copyright clearance when necessary. Please contact us at [programs@girlguides.ca](mailto:programs@girlguides.ca) if you come across any songs included in this resource and suspect that copyright has been infringed upon.