

Thursday, 21st August 2008

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Last injured Scout leaves hospital

A British Scout injured in a head-on crash in Canada has been released from hospital, a spokesman for The Scout Association said.

The unnamed girl was one of a group of 10 teenagers who suffered minor injuries when their bus was hit by a lorry 150 miles north of Toronto at 6pm BST on Thursday.

She was the last of the 10 teenagers to be released from hospital after being treated for cuts and bruises, whiplash and shock.

The teenagers were members of a group of 102 Scouts and their leaders from West Lancashire travelling in two buses towards Toronto at the end of a two-week adventure trip.

Simon Carter, spokesman for The Scout Association, said: "All of the young people have been discharged from hospital and they are undertaking the normal programme..., which means a visit to the Toronto Marine Police depot followed by a barbecue. They will be travelling back on Sunday as planned and arrive in the UK on Monday."

Mr Carter said an articulated tractor crossed the central reservation and hit one of the buses. Local police said the bus partially flipped over and ended up in a ditch 200 metres from a community centre.

The Scout group had enjoyed outdoor activities including white water rafting at two camps in the country.

Staff Sergeant Mike Reynolds of Ontario Provincial Police said traffic police were continuing their investigation into the cause of the crash.

He said: "The investigation is continuing, we have to wait until all the evidence is gathered, witness statements, technical evidence, and then we'll look at the end picture and see whether any charges are going to be made or not. There was a storm going through the area at the time, there was some extreme weather. That will be part of the investigation."

He said he expected investigators to release their findings in around a week.

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