



Kamp Kiwanis During the Pandemic

Winter is always a quieter season at Kamp Kiwanis, but it was even more serene and silent this year as we made the difficult decision in November based on health and safety to cancel in person programs and rental bookings for the remainder of 2020. This decision came just before increased government health measures were enacted at the end of November. The past few months have been productive for our staff to further develop our programs for Spring and Summer 2021.

Though we don't know for certain what kind of in-person programs we will be able to offer this year, we are hopeful that the path forward will still be able to drive our mission of empowering youth to explore, think critically, connect with their communities, and to make the most of life for themselves and others. We hope to soon resume some in person programming in 2021 when it is safe to do so.

Issue Highlights:

- Kamp Kiwanis During the Pandemic
- Peanut Gallery
- ACT Leadership Programs
- MOSS
- BFK
- ACA Conference
- Winter Fun Ideas
- Rental Group Survey
- Upcoming Dates

The Peanut Gallery

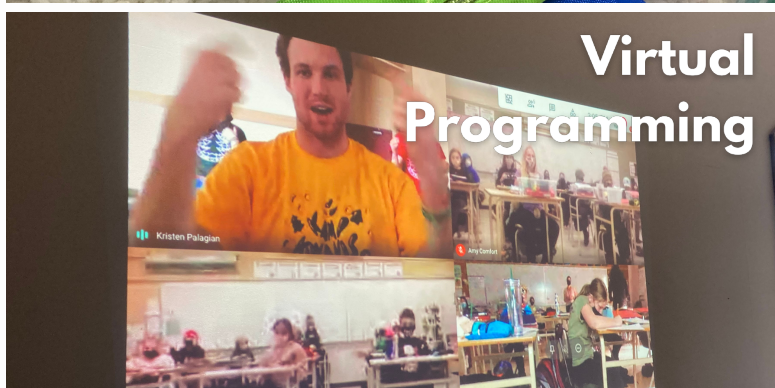
Winter Fields



Sensory Kits developed by Fall ACT 2 Participants



Virtual Programming



Check our blog for some Winter Fun Ideas



ACT Leadership Programs

In 2020, Kamp Kiwanis introduced Achieving Community Together (ACT) Leadership Programs. The programs, intended for students in grades 9 to 12, take place over the course of the school year and are complementary, though neither prerequisite or co-requisite, to Kamp's summer leadership programs. ACT 1 is for students in grades 9 and 10 and ACT 2 is for grades 11 and 12. The intent of the programs are to support young people in becoming well-rounded community members and leaders, both at Kamp Kiwanis and beyond, emphasizing long-term personal growth and team development.

The objectives of the program are to provide participants with the opportunity to:

1. Develop transferable skills.
2. Build strong connections with their communities at Kamp and in the wider world.
3. Have positive experiences in nature.
4. Grow in an individualized and personally relevant learning environment.

In Spring 2021, ACT programs will begin online, offered as 2 evening sessions a week for each group, with the hope to transition to some in person sessions as pandemic restrictions allow. ACT participants will be working together on a project that is aimed at making Kamp and/or the wider world a better place. While the emphasis is on the learning process rather than the final product, one of the potential benefits of project work is the satisfaction participants get from seeing their hard work come to fruition in a meaningful and tangible way.

In Fall 2020, ACT 2 participants designed and created sensory bags to support the mental health of campers. The sensory bags contained an "I spy" kit, calming cards, and a variety of small handheld items. The contents of the bag were intended to give campers a safe activity to relax and de-stimulate when they were feeling stressed, anxious or simply just needed a moment to themselves.

MOSS (Modified Outdoor School System)

The pandemic has stretched us to "think outside the box" for typical program planning. The Modified Outdoor School System or "MOSS" was developed as a resource for schools to help fill the outdoor learning gap as a result of not being able to attend in person outdoor school or day trips.

Teachers can choose from a selection of activities to design a program that best matches their curriculum and the needs of their students. MOSS offers an overview of activities that can be offered as part of a modified outdoor school experience. The Kamp Kiwanis Outdoor School Team then works with schools to build the ideal experience.

The programs follow the current COVID-19 restrictions and are subject to change as restrictions are revised. Programming can be developed for 1 to 3 days, and while it is currently aimed at grades 4 to 6, many of the kindergarten to grade 3 activities can also be adapted for programming. Program delivery format currently includes pre-recorded videos, activity kits and live online sessions.

For more details on MOSS, please contact Nick Taven, Camp Director at outdoor.school@kampkiwanis.ca



Shaw Birdies for Kids Presented by AltaLink

Kamp Kiwanis is proud to be a participating charity in Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink (BFK) in 2021. BFK is a non-profit program run under the Shaw Charity Classic Foundation. 100% of donations made through BFK on behalf of Kamp Kiwanis will go directly to Kamp Kiwanis. Donations will be matched up to 50%, with funds going directly to Kamp Kiwanis, making your donation go even further! The program donation period runs from February 1 - August 15, 2021.



To donate, go to:
<https://shawcharityclassic.com/participating-charities/kamp-kiwanis/>

Donations of any amount are welcomed. We encourage donors to consider the following levels of donation for their gift:



PLATINUM LEVEL - \$1,000 or more

A gift of \$5,616 could fund 1 cabin group of 8 children for 6 days of camp.



GOLD LEVEL - \$500 - \$999

A gift of \$702 could fund 1 child to attend camp for 6 days.



SILVER LEVEL - \$250 - \$499

A gift of \$350 could purchase new equipment such as a couple of archery bows or backpacks.



BRONZE LEVEL - up to \$249

A gift of \$150 could purchase materials for a class to participate in the Modified Outdoor School System (MOSS)

For more information on the Shaw Charity Classic and BFK:

<https://shawcharityclassic.com/>

ACA Conference 2021

The 2021 Alberta Camping Association (ACA) Conference will be held virtually this year from March 23-25. It is a partnership with CCI (Christian Camping International Canada) & ACA. This year's conference themes are Unity, Community, and Future Oriented.

We are pleased to announce that our Camp Director Nick "Eddy" Taven and Assistant Director Kristen "Yeti" Palagian are presenting at the conference on our year-round leadership programs: "A New Style of Leadership Programming: engaging your teens in a year round leadership program."

Their presentation includes:

- The value of incorporating transferable skills into your leadership programming.
- How participants can apply these skills into their schooling and daily life.
- The importance of maintaining a connection with older campers throughout the school year and how that can lead to greater retention and a stronger staff in the future.
- The benefits of an aligned leadership and staff curriculum and growth plan.



Winter Fun Ideas

Let's face the "cold hard truth", winter lasts more than half of the year in Alberta, so let's embrace where we live! At Kamp Kiwanis, we want kids to develop relationships with the natural world, in all seasons, and that means getting outside and connecting with nature, even when the temperatures drop below zero. There are many benefits to playing outside in winter including mental and physical health benefits, building your immune system, and increasing cognitive abilities.

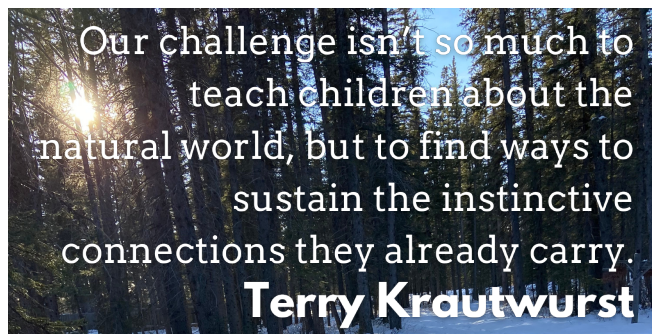
Here's some of our favourite ways to enjoy winter at Kamp Kiwanis:

- Animal print tracking
- Birdwatching
- Building shelters
- Campfires
- Gaga Ball
- Playing Camouflage
- Nature Nooks (Magic Spots/Sit Spots)
- Sledding down K-1 (our hill)
- Snowshoeing
- Tree Identification

For more ideas and winter play safety, check out our latest blogs on Sharing The Outdoors In Winter:

Part 1: Cold Weather Wear

Part 2: Cold Weather Activities



Rental Group Survey

As we navigate through these challenging times, we at Kamp Kiwanis are reminded of how fortunate we are to be part of this strong camp community. We understand the need to be apart so we can once again gather around the campfire for friendship, songs, and s'mores. It is the love of this awesome camp community that will propel us through this pandemic to better times and we are so glad that you are part of it. As we are always looking for ways to improve your experience at Kamp Kiwanis, if you have been a guest at Kamp Kiwanis we would greatly appreciate you taking a few minutes to fill out a quick questionnaire. You can find the questionnaire here:

<https://forms.gle/9f1sw7M7YawAac9c9>

Please contact us if you have any questions about our rental facilities or if you are considering booking a rental space at Kamp Kiwanis when we are safely able to offer our services.

Upcoming Dates

- **March 23-25 ACA Conference (Virtual)**
- **April TBD - Summer Kamp Nomination Forms Available**
- **July 4 - Tentative First Day of Summer Kamp**

Please also visit our blog at <https://www.kampkiwanis.ca/blog> for ongoing articles.

You are welcome to send us your feedback or potential contributions to our newsletter at community@kampkiwanis.ca