



Summer 2023

It was the G.O.A.T. (Greatest Of All Time) Summer (Baaaa!) 🏆 at Kananaskis Field Experience Centre at Sibbald Lake, A Connect Charter School Facility! We had over 240 participants attend Summer Camps and Pursuits Leadership Programs.

Highlights were canoeing on Sibbald Lake, archery, arts and crafts, day hikes, leadership hikes and canoe trips, gagaball, kiwannavals, themes, WHAM treks (nature walks), yurts, outtrips (OTs), movie nights and kampfires.

We are so appreciative of:

- Kampers and Families
- Kamp Staff, including "Gappers" from Germany and Staff from Australia
- Kitchen Staff
- Board of Directors, Members, Volunteers and Alumni
- Connect Charter School
- Willco Transportation
- Nominators
- Donors and Sponsors

You all helped give kids a positive and rewarding summer camp experience, new skills and memories for life!

#HereAKampKiwanis

#KampKiwanisYYC #72YearsOfKamp

Issue Highlights:

- Summer 2023
- Millenia Golf Tournament
- BFK
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Farewell to our Program Directors
- 2023-2024 Board
- Upcoming Dates

The Peanut Gallery



Millenia Engineering Golf Tournament

On July 27th, Millenia Engineering held their Annual Golf Tournament at The Winston Golf Club in Calgary, after a few years hiatus due to COVID. Kamp Kiwanis was honoured to be selected as the benefiting charity for the tournament. We would like to thank Millenia Engineering, Next Compression and all the participants for supporting Kamp Kiwanis through the 50/50 Raffle, Longest Putt Contest, Hole-In-One Contest, purchasing mulligans, and other donations. Net revenue from the tournament, including a portion of the vendor registration fees, was donated to Kamp Kiwanis through Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink (BFK) and will be matched up to 50%.

We would like to also thank all of the Kamp Kiwanis Board Members, Members and Alumni who joined us for the day to help sell tickets and run contests.

We will share the amount of funds raised from this event once we receive our totals from BFK later this fall.



Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink (BFK)

Kamp Kiwanis was proud to be a participating charity for a 4th year in Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink (BFK) which wrapped up on August 31st. 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.



We will have an update in our next newsletter on the donations received through this awesome program!

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - September 30



September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We honour the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. We continue to learn about and explore the rich and diverse cultures, land, voices, experiences and stories of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. **#everychildmatters #orangeshirtday**

Farewell to Program Directors

It is with heavy hearts we say farewell to both our Camp Director Nick "Eddy" Taven and Assistant Director Kristen "Yeti" Palagian, after several seasons working at summer camp and outdoor school programs. Both Eddy and Yeti started in their directorship roles in the Fall of 2019. Yeti moved on to new adventures after Spring 2023 Programs completed. Eddy will be moving on to pursue a teaching career at the end of October 2023. This dynamic duo brought so much fun and accomplished much during their time as staff at Kamp Kiwanis. Many staff and kampers have been positively impacted by their influence.

A few highlights of their time at Kamp include: creating many Kampers Korner videos (an online initiative to stay connected with the Kamp community during the COVID pandemic); the MOSS (Modified Outdoor School System) Program which was also initiated during COVID so that schools could continue outdoor learning remotely; and with the creative initiative of past Leadership Coordinator Brittney "Akorn" Felske, the reimagining and implementation of the Kamp Kiwanis Leadership Program into the current Pursuits Program. Eddy and Yeti helped Kamp thrive through both the pandemic years and the first part of Kamp's relocation to a new site, keeping program going in new and creative ways. For their resilience and adaptation of programs, transforming the Kamp Kiwanis Leadership Program and the "Gapper Program" they were presented with the Alberta Camping Association (ACA) Award of Achievement at the 2023 ACA Conference.

We are going to miss both of these individuals greatly and we wish them all the best as they "must be on their way." We know they will continue to positively impact lives for the better and we hope that they will continue to be involved with Kamp Kiwanis as Alumni whenever they can!



ABOVE: Eddy and Yeti hosting Kampers Korner (online program videos)



RIGHT: Throwback to Eddy and Yeti in 2013

BELOW: Office Fun



2023-2024 Board

October 1st marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for Kamp Kiwanis and a new slate of Board Members. We want to thank the 2022-2023 Board Members for their contributions and service to Kamp Kiwanis including Paul Kelba and George Taven who are both moving on from the Board of Directors.

2023-2024 Board Members:

- Aaron Graham (He/Him) - Chair
- Craig Skimmings (He/Him) - Vice Chair
- Christa Skimmings (She/Her) - Treasurer
- Chris Novak (He/Him) - Secretary
- Cory Johnson (He/Him) - Director*
- Nikki Lepine (She/Her) - Director
- Stacey Robins (She/Her) - Director
- Emily Wood (She/Her) - Director*

*We welcome 2 new Board Members for 2023-2024: Cory "Hawk" Johnson and Emily Wood.

Cory "Hawk" Johnson, Director (He/Him)

Cory Johnson, known by his Kamp name "Hawk," was born in Thunder Bay, Ontario and moved to Calgary when he was 4. He started working at Kamp Kiwanis in 1992 as a volunteer. Over the years Hawk worked in many different roles, including Kamp Director in 2012.



In 2003, Cory became a member of The Kiwanis Club of Calgary (Downtown Club). He joined their Board in 2006 and has served on and off the Kamp and Kiwanis Boards for the past 18+ years, including President for 2 years with The Kiwanis Club of Calgary.

Cory has a background in recreational management and public speaking, advocating for people to turn their disabilities into possibilities. He brings over 20 years of professional experience to Kamp. He is passionate about providing children in Calgary and Area the opportunity of a lifetime!

Emily Wood, Director (She/Her)

Emily is new to the Kamp Kiwanis family, and brings with her a significant amount of board and non-profit experience.



Born in Calgary, Emily and her family spent many years as expatriates, living in Libya, Trinidad & Tobago, Angola, and England. These formative years abroad gave her a unique appreciation of differences in people, cultures, and lived experiences, while also solidifying a love of travel and celebrating diverse cultures.

Emily's background is in large-scale event operations and logistics, though she recently moved to a major engineering firm in their supply chain division. With her wealth of experience in organizational effectiveness, operational excellence, project management, and her passion for community building, she is excited to use her expertise to support Kamp Kiwanis in this exciting time of transition and growth!



Upcoming Dates

- **Sep 11-15 - Fall Staff Training**
- **Sep 18 Fall Outdoor School Programs begin**
- **TBD - Winter Reunion for Summer 2023**



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