

Kids being all that they can be!



Camp Cadicasu Association of Calgary
Annual Report 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chair

The Legacy of the Camp

New Initiatives

Message from the Managing Director

Giving to the Camp

Stats & Facts

Comment from Campers & Parents

Special Thanks

Board of Directors



Canadian Camping Association
Association des camps du Canada



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Over 80 years of creative thinking in a vital summer camp environment has made Camp Cadicasu a unique combination of tradition and responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of today's youth.

Cadicasu is a place that embraces individuality; we give you the space and the safety to be yourself. At camp we let go of many pressures, and not just the academic ones. We aren't hung up on how many MVP sport awards you have gathered, or how perfectly you sing in key, or which crowd, if any, you belong to in school. This isn't to say we don't welcome the experts, too! We just like everyone to feel that they are perfectly appreciated for whatever their talents might be. Camp teaches us to see the world with warmer eyes, and to become more comfortable with ourselves and with others.

An important (and awesome) part of being a camper is that you're nudged out of your "comfort zone". We ask you to leave behind technology and certain creature comforts for a week, and discover what kind of person you can be without them. You'll have time to explore, to sing, to discover new friendships, to create art, to try something new, to talk to people, to imagine, building fires, to watch the sky, to play outside ... the best parts of summer.

Our staff makes the magic happen! We hire fun, creative, caring, responsible, staff members each summer who unite under the common goal of giving you the greatest summer of your life, Cadicasu-style! It's our hope that after an experience at camp, each camper will go home with more confidence, new friends and new abilities, and the sense that you are truly part of something much bigger than yourselves. Under the supervision of Managing Director Mike Nelson, the staff is hand-picked, trained and directed to manage the safety, care and well-being of each of our guests. There is never a shortage of smiles with all of our capable staff on duty 24/7 throughout the summer!

2012 brought us the usual challenges: in particular is the fundraising to support the camp. It is important to note that EVERY child attending the camp is financially supported by our "Campership" program. The actual cost of supporting each camper during their stay is actually several hundred dollars more than what we charge. We feel keeping the prices at an affordable place is essential to the legacy which Camp Cadicasu proudly claims.

However, with the challenges also came many great moments for 2012. Let's take a look back at our story and share some memories along the way!

Thanks to all for helping us this past year and we look forward to working together for many years to come!

Margie Schuett
Chair

Former camper & counselor



GIVING TO CAMP!

Financial aid program

- We are very proud of our financial aid program. Every year, 100% of the campers attending Camp Cadicasu receive full or partial financial aid. This is a benefit not only to the families, but benefits the community as a whole by creating a richer, more diverse camp experience for everyone.
- This program is supported by generous donations from our donors and supporters!

Keeping costs down

- Our Board has made it our goal to keep the Camp within the financial reach of all of the families who attend our camp. The cost of tuition does not cover the full cost of the program which is why we say a subsidy is provided to each and every child attending the camp.
- We make up the difference in our operating budget through donations and our out-of-season rental program.



GIVING TO CAMP - CADICASU EXISTS TODAY BECAUSE OF A STRONG TRADITION OF GIVING AND GENEROSITY FROM OUR CAMP FAMILIES AND FRIENDS!!

HERE IS A 'WISH-LIST' OF THINGS WE NEED!

Snow Blower Donated by St. Albert's Knights of Columbus	Golf Cart Donated by St. Albert's Knights of Columbus	Professional help to look at our septic system at the camp and recommend changes
Desk top computer Lap top computer	15 passenger van Donated by Valentine Volvo	Indoor furniture for counselor lounge (chairs/couches)
<u>Heavy duty table</u> with six (6) chairs for meetings in counselor lounge	New Archery equipment - including targets/bows/arrows	Professional Trades Person to replace and fix building trim and balconies.
Furnaces need to be serviced and cleaned!	An arborist to remove dead and dangerous trees on property	Van needs servicing Donated by Tower Chrysler
A list of trade's people who would be willing to volunteer or give reduced rates for various odd jobs on site!	Install electrical outlets on the outside of dorms	Half ton truck! Utility trailer to be used with the truck!
Baseballs Volleyballs Soccer balls	Gator or small tractor for road and property repair jobs	Air compressor Generator
Small electrical tools	Audio-visual screens	Book shelves
Dressers for dorm rooms	Metal shelving unit for tools and food supplies - needs to be very sturdy! Looks do not matter!	<u>36 heavy quality shower curtains</u> Donated by Tom Bryce
4' x 8' collapsible meeting tables	Stackable meeting room chairs	Shop vacuum cleaner

A NEW & EXCITING INITIATIVE!

OUT-OF-SEASON RENTAL PROGRAM!

In order to meet our mandate and provide exceptional programs, Camp Cadicasu has 'stepped-up' an aggressive out-of-season rental program. This will feature developing proprietary programs as well as opportunities to families, groups and organizations to stage retreats, field trips, youth group meetings, family events and private bookings that include weddings!

All our bookings can include

- ✓ Winterized accommodation for 100 in dorms
- ✓ Dining hall comfortably seating up to 120
- ✓ Campfire pit, archery range, hiking trails, large grassy field
- ✓ Mattresses are provided, but rental groups must bring their own bedding
- ✓ A fully equipped kitchen is available or catering staff is available upon request

Off-season rental fees apply to September through June:

- ✓ Weekend rental is \$40.00 per person with a minimum of 30 people
- ✓ The cost for a weekday rental is \$16.00 per person with a minimum of 20 people

Evenings only:

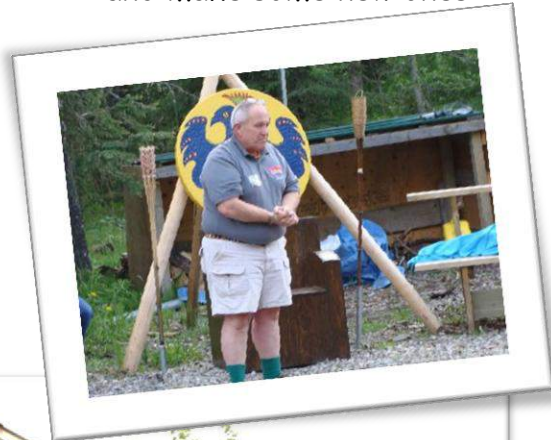
- ✓ 1-50 people is \$75.00
- ✓ 51-100 is \$100.00
- ✓ 101-150 is \$125.00



ANOTHER NEW INITIATIVE!

CAMP CADICASU ALUMNI PROGRAM

- In June 2012, the first ever "Family Reunion" was held to enable anyone who had involvement with Camp Cadicasu in the last 82 years!
- Over **100 friends** of the camp turned up and enjoyed fun activities, dinner, campfire as well as a chance to hang out and reconnect with old friends and make some new friends!
- It is our goal to hold a similar event each year prior to camp opening so that we can get together with old friends and enjoy a day in the sunshine and reflect on long lost memories, and make some new ones



ANOTHER NEW INITIATIVE! *EXPANSION!!!*

- In order to secure maximum return-on-investment as we move forward, we have approved a plan to increase the size of each "tribe" by at least one camper.
- By doing this we can increase our revenues for registration, help us to maintain a balanced budget and continue to provide excellent food, accommodation and camper supervision for a minimum cost.
- This will NOT affect the overall care and well-being of each camper. We have no intention of moving past the 8-1 camper/counselor ratio that is considered to be the industry gold standard. We have been operating on a 6/1 ratio, well below the industry norm. While it is great in one respect, it did impact us financially.
- Our expansion to accommodate this change will only enhance the campers' overall experience giving them opportunities to make even more lifelong friends!



A MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR – MIKE NELSON

Program Report

- I feel that we had a very balanced program this year and the evaluations would prove this to be true. (We were over 99% satisfaction in the camper week end surveys.) There was a good mix of creative and challenging programing and a good physical activity level. The program was adequate and physical plant was relatively program interruption free. The program equipment was given a significant boost by the families of two counselors. One, a mother who works for Calgary Catholic who was able to get a ton of equipment from the two closing Catholic Schools and the other from parents who donated an inflatable obstacle course. Both were very significant donations. This is a great boost to the summer program. The inflatable obstacle course should prove an asset in our out-of-season rental program. The counselors appeared to maintain a good level of sustained energy and creativity. The overall health of the staff was better this season than in past few years.

Counselor in Training (CIT) Overview.

- This program was very successful this summer and with any luck we will have some of the participants applying for staff positions in the future. This season had one full- time CIT director, Dan Reuther and on part-time director, Danica Brister. This worked extremely well as we really find it is much more successful to have a male directing the boys program and a woman directing the girls program.

Out-tripping Report

- This program went off without a hitch. We had very few out-trips return due to incidents and generally the children loved their "OUT-TRIP". We are in great shape in terms of out-tripping equipment and the bus and driver situation worked very well for this program. It was a very busy summer and it went very smoothly.

Recommendations for 2013 Staff

- The camp is generally in great shape! However a few issues need to be addressed when resources are in place. There are several fascia's and building trims which have blown off. Repairs need to done to the septic tank. I believe the frequent need to do pump outs might be due to ground water leaking into the system.

"This was a spectacular summer. The weather in general was ideal. There were lots of sunny days; very little cancelation of outdoor events and camp fires; enough rain to cause there to be no fire bands and not too hot, so we had very little over exposure to the sun problems.

IT WAS TONS OF FUN!"

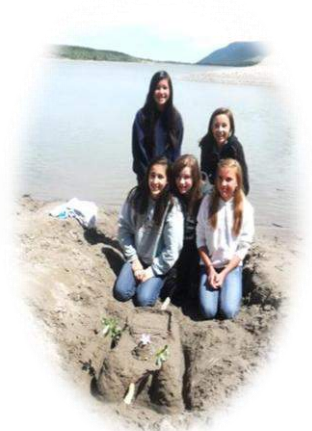
Maintenance

- As we are endeavoring to increase our winter rentals, I feel that we should be looking at the procurement of a snow blower. We have a company that does do the road plowing but there are several pathways that need to be done on more regular bases. This past summer we had the loan of a golf cart. This was a huge asset not only for the movement of garbage but also very heavier items etc. I am extremely pleased with the performance of our full time maintenance person Luke Faubert. He is a great trouble shooter, is competent, notices those things that need to be done without direction and has a huge loyalty to the camp and the job.

Reflections

- It is my belief that the camp is becoming very successful. It is working and we are winning! Please know that we are doing are best and that we are very frugal with all of our expenditures! The year round revenues, or at least the rental situation is showing improvement and with the help of Isaac Faubert, who has come on staff full-time in 2013 to oversee this area specifically and we are confident that we will see that this concerted effort and commitment will bring greater success towards financial independence and sustainability. I feel that our web site is continuing to be one of our greatest assets.

Michael Nelson
Managing Director
Camp Cadicasu



Some favourite moments from the summer of 2012



CAMP CADICASU

BENCHMARK MOMENTS!

Year	Memories
1930	Camp Cadicasu opened its front doors with the donation of a twenty-acre parcel of land in Bragg Creek to St. Mary's Parish in Calgary. The name of the Camp at this time was St. Mary's Boys Choir Camp.
1951	Bishop Carroll turned the St. Mary's Boys Choir Camp into a general summer camp and was maintained as a camp for boys only.
1952	Girls were welcomed to the Camp for specific weeks during the summer months.
1955	The official name of the camp was changed from St. Mary's camp to Camp Cadicasu
1956	Camp Cadicasu became a registered non-profit society
Late 1950's	A building campaign was conducted including construction of a chapel, dining hall, chalets for sleeping and a swimming pool
1961	Mrs. Violini (aka "Mom") began a 20 year relationship as head cook for the camp
1965	Fr. Eric Nelson was appointed as Chaplain to the campers beginning the start of almost a 50 year run in this position at the Camp
Late 1960's	Generations of campers who went to camp during this time have either worked as staff or volunteered in key Board positions for the next 4 decades
The 1970's	The traditions of segregating the boys and girls into different weeks were dismissed to a co-ed program in an attempt to reflect the changing demographics and cultural trends in society (1970)
1980's & 1990's	The Camp began to freshen itself up with the addition of some new buildings, upgrades to the septic system and replacing some of the older bunkhouses.
1989	Mike Nelson, begins a multi-decade relationship as Managing Director returning after an initial 'tour of duty' from 1968-1974! Welcome home Mike!!!
2006 2007	The old mess hall burned down beginning the big move from Bragg Creek in 2007. The Calgary Catholic Diocese terminated its official relationship with the camp
2008	Under the leadership of Frank Walsh, Chair of Camp Cadicasu, a new location was found in Kananaskis Country. Ground was broken, beginning a new phase in the legacy of Camp Cadicasu
2010	July 1, 2010 was the first day of the NEW Camp Cadicasu at Jumping Pound Ranger Station in Kananaskis Country, after being closed for two years while construction and fundraising took place to re-build the camp!

THE LEGACY OF CAMP CADICASU!



Since 1930, Camp Cadicasu has been a haven for young people to experience the joys and freedom of summer, embrace camp values and traditions, and be supported by a skilled and dedicated staff.

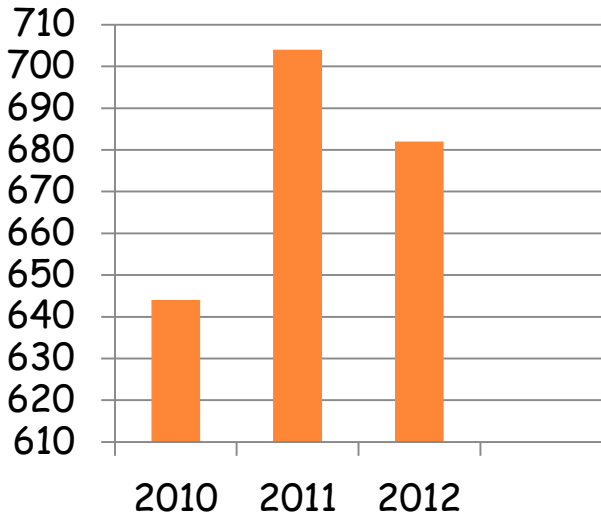
Perhaps what is different about this camp is not so much the range of activities offered, but that people accept each other unconditionally, for their sameness as well as their differences. There have been multiple generations of campers at Camp Cadicasu. More than one of those campers has said: *"Camp is the one place where I always felt I could be myself."*

What we do and how we do it!

- ✓ We are accredited by the Canadian Camp Association. CCA Accreditation involves compliance with all relevant provincial and federal government legislation pertaining to health, food service, water quality, transportation, water safety, building codes, fire codes, labour laws and human rights.
- ✓ Camp Cadicasu is a place where young people learn to live in harmony, creating a sense of family and community.
- ✓ Camp Cadicasu helps campers to strive for excellence and to develop various skills including sports; hiking; team building and leadership and through experience and adventure to develop self-assurance and confidence.
- ✓ The camp teaches a respect for nature; encourages the love of truth and simplicity; and nurtures the appreciation of beauty and respect for humanity.
- ✓ We are an organization that encourages an appreciation of creativity and self-expression.
- ✓ Our camp fosters friendships among people of diverse origins and cultural backgrounds.
- ✓ Our mission celebrates the value of play, providing opportunities for kids to be kids.
- ✓ Our priority is to provide a safe, healthy living experience distinct from home and school.
- ✓ Camp Cadicasu delivers an excellent learning opportunity for young adults wanting to develop teaching, counseling and other leadership skills.

STATS & FACTS - OUR CAMP SCORECARD!

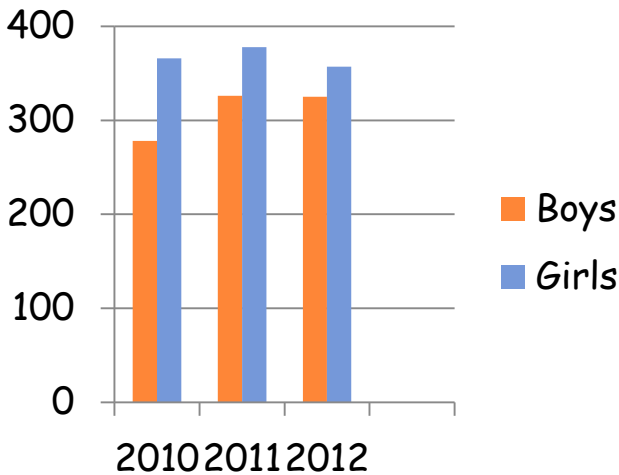
Registration



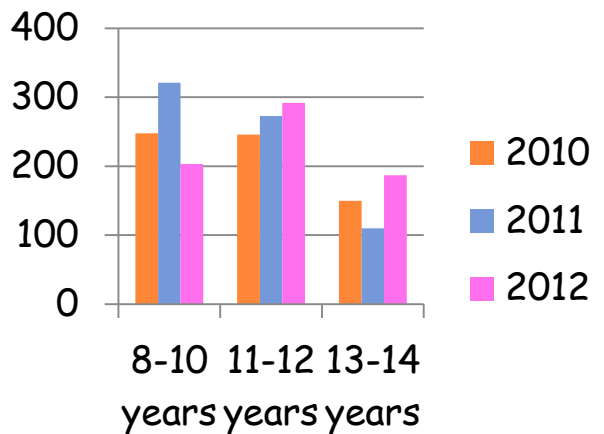
Counselor-in-Training



Gender Balance

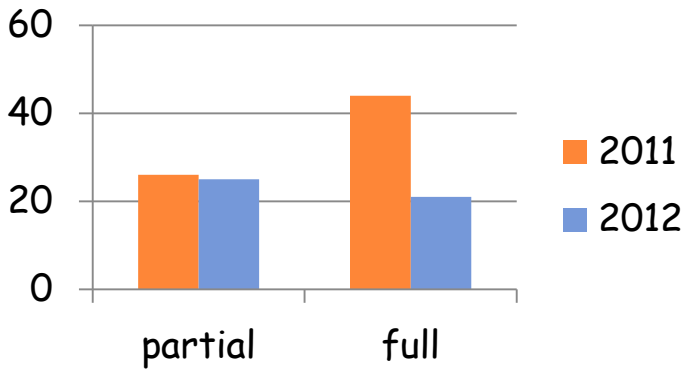


Age Group Profile



STATS & FACTS

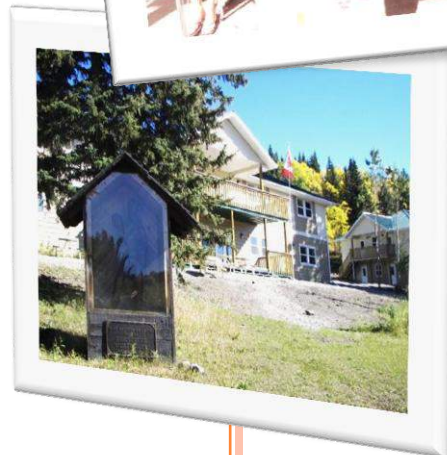
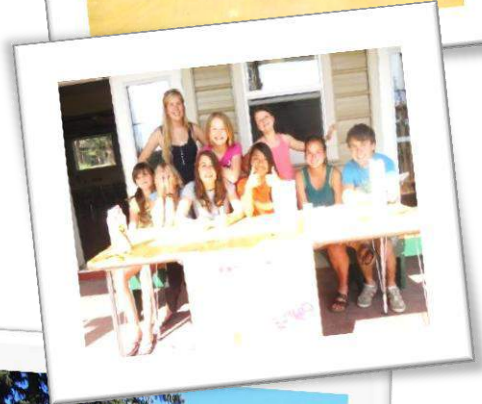
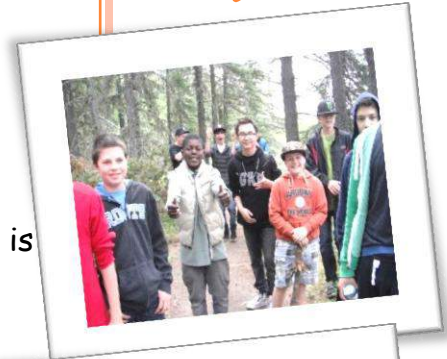
○ Campership Program



- 42% campers have been to Cadicasu before - this is an important stat reflecting the extraordinary satisfaction level of campers!
- 99% end-of-season camper satisfaction survey indicates very good to excellent rating

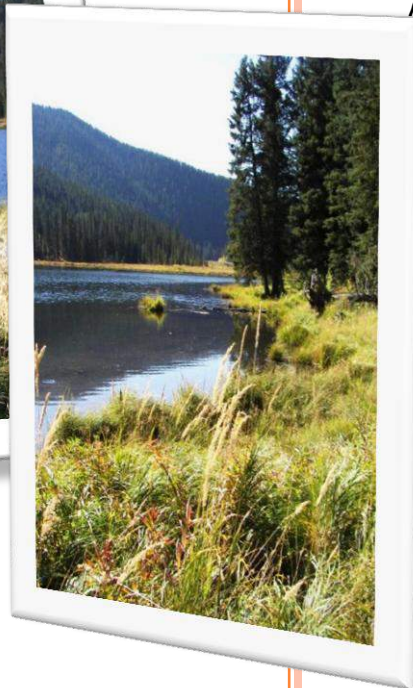
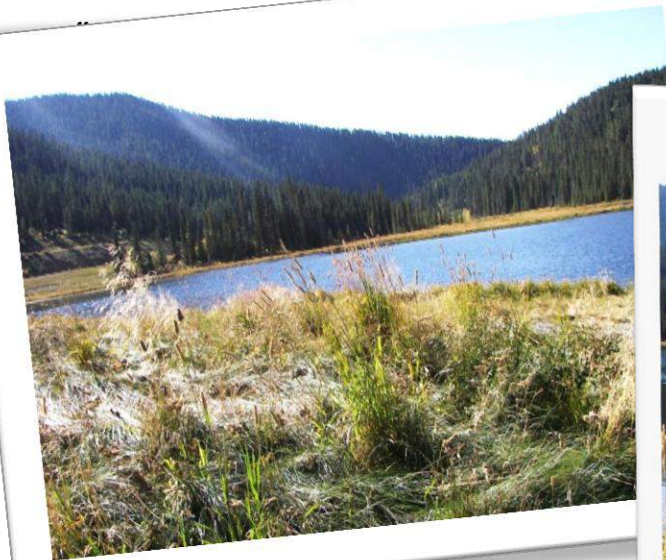
2012 Staffing Model

Director
Registrar
Program Director & Assistant Program Director
CIT Directors (2)
Out-trip facilitator
Medic
Bus Driver
Head Cook
Kitchen help (2)
Maintenance
Counselors (15)
Assistant Counselors (5)



...and from the campers!

- ✓ *"If I could change one thing about camp, I would make it longer!"*
- ✓ *"Awesome, super cool camp! I love it!"*
- ✓ *"It was perfect!"*
- ✓ *"Thank you so much I am glad you know how to make kids HAPPY!"*
- ✓ *"I loved all of the staff. They were all fun and funny!"*
- ✓ *"The best experience I ever had at a camp"*
- ✓ *"I am coming back until I am a counselor"*
- ✓ *"I like camp because I made new friends"*
- ✓ *"I feel like the counselors are my friends"*



COMMENTS & QUOTES!!

...and from the parents!

"He returned with a real sense of thinking about others"

"Camp always helped give my daughter more independence and this year it really showed. I could tell her focus was on things pure and fun. Fashion, boys and the internet were far from her mind!"

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS!

"Blessed are those that can give without remembering and receive without forgetting" (anonymous)

The Knights of Columbus

Al Markin

Henry Sykes

Paul Beitel

Arc Financial

The Kasper Foundation

Calgary Foundation

Paul Valentine Family

Valentine Volvo

St. Bonaventure Knights of Columbus

St Albert Knights of Columbus

Paddy Luke Fraternity

Calgary Catholic Teachers

Becker Oilfield

Marianne Roberts

Brenda Jane Currie

McDonald Family

Schultz Family

Fr. Dennis McDonald

J-Del Ltd.

Cathy Strand

Catholic Charities

Greatwest Kenworth

Lucky Loggers

Jerry Cramm

Joe Media Group

Tower Chrysler

Kelly Stark Anderson

Mary Beth Galeski

Peter Howard Family

Johanna Christie

Blanche Crerar

John Preston

Ed Matier

Willis Winter

Linda Cuthbert

Maureen & Doug Brenner

Penner Family

Global Youth Network

John and Pattie Iredale

Karen Schuett

Ken Veness

Drackett Family

Loren Jacobs

Colin Aitken

Mary O'Gorman

Emma Sloan

Judy & Harry Lefebvre

In a stunning natural environment,

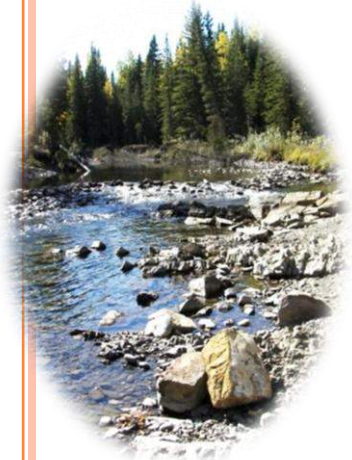
supported by a skilled and dedicated staff, we invite Cadicasu campers to embrace our values of community, simplicity and creativity, and to grow comfortably and proudly into their own skin.

At our camp, the mission is to live together in the outdoors, building a sense of self, a sense of community, a sense of the earth and a sense of wonder through fun and adventure. Located in Kananaskis Country, among 4,000 square kilometers of mountain parks and foothills there exist frequent opportunities to see elk, deer, Rocky Mountain sheep, moose and countless varieties of wildflowers and birds! In this environment, the campers learn, grow, and increase their self-efficacy as they camp, backpack, participate in water sports, hike, laugh, make life-long friends and learn to appreciate and enjoy the natural world.

Many campers believe that Cadicasu is a "home away from home." We provide children with the structure they need, and the decision making opportunities that they want. We believe that managed risk, whether that is leaving home for a one week period, rock climbing for the first time, or living and working with a diverse group of individuals in a backcountry environment, is essential for a child's personal growth. The safety of our campers is our number one priority, and as an CCA accredited camp for decades, Camp Cadicasu has consistently maintained some of the highest safety standards in the industry.

By living in a community built on respect, campers are able to extend themselves in new activities and environments. Campers learn and practice assisting in the care and maintenance of their living spaces and the camp grounds as a whole.

A
FINAL
WORD



CAMP CADICASU 2012

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is important to take the time to say thank-you to those that made a difference. These people did that, and more.

- Margie Schuett - Chair/Secretary
- Frank Walsh - Director/Past Chair
- Ken Veness - Director/Treasurer
- Robert Schuett - Director/Legal Counsel
- Fr. Eric Nelson - Director/Chaplain
- Emmet Callaghan - Director
- Dennis Castellino - Director
- Rebecca Kalmacoff - Director
- Jim Settingington - Director
- Willis Winter - Director
- David Reuther - Director

General Members

- Martin McDonald - Member
- Ryan Kalmacoff - Member/Finance Committee
- Paul Beitel - Chair - Fund Development

Staff

- Michael Nelson - Managing Director
- Isaac Faubert - Director Operations
- Luke Faubert - Maintenance
- Rick Chorney - Webmaster
- Doug Brenner - Bookkeeper

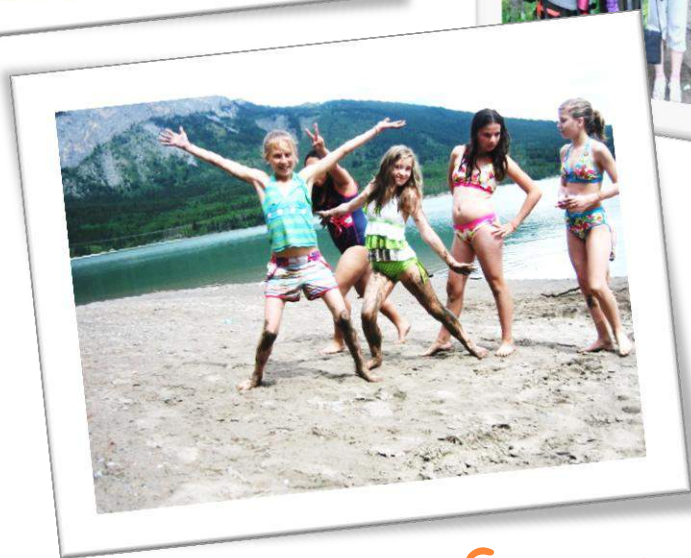
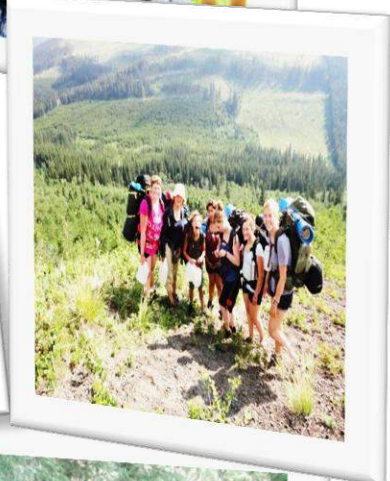


Annual General Meeting
March 26, 2013 5:30 P.M.
6262 6A Street S.E.
Calgary, Alberta

•Contact information:
•Suite 1251
•7620 Elbow Drive S.W.
•Calgary, Alberta
•T2V 1K2
•403-949-3944

www.cadicasu.com

•Corporate Access # - 500017652
•CRA Charities Ref # - 0877779



See you next year!