

Camp Koolaree Board of Directors 2013 Chair Report

2013 started with large challenges for the Koolaree board, we had several organizations come forward with unpaid bills from years past, totaling a crippling amount. Thanks to the over whelming support of the community, that was far more generous than anyone on the board could of imagined, we have paid our existing debt and are going to be starting 2014 in the black for the first time in many years. We also faced the daunting decisions of Presbytery that we could be closed permanently. We were finally given the go ahead in approximately June and had two weeks to hire the full time groundskeeper. Luckily our groundskeeper from the past two years had applied, as the Staffing committee was not given enough time to post ads and hold interviews.

Our total number of camper nights is slightly lower than years past. The Jr girls camp saw a large decrease, however Intergenerational camp saw an increase. We were pleased to have 4 rental groups this past summer with 3 of the 4 being new rentals. The Rod and Gun club seemed to true enjoy themselves in our one of a kind setting and have expressed an interest in coming back again.

The Board of Directors itself was infused with some fresh faces this year and consisted of Peter Herd, Deanne Stevens, Ray Lundquist, Aron Tinsley, Misty Soukocoff, Chuck Clarke, Robin Murray and Julianna Marko joined as at years end. It was exciting to people come with eagerness, passion and a desire to help and improve the existing direction.

Looking forward, we hope to continue to grow the numbers and abilities of the board members and continue to try and share the work around to ensure burn out is not an issue. The sub-committee's that were implemented need a clear job description and list of expectations. As our paid staff tends to change from year to year, we are looking at creating job descriptions and daily check lists to ensure continuity for the camp users. We will continue to seek different funding options to help with maintenance costs and offset the increasing number of camperships.

Personally, this was truly an enlightening year that was filled with many firsts. Going into my 19th year at Koolaree I look forward to working with the Board of Directors again and growing the camp. Koolaree has a truly special place in my heart and would take some soul searching if I didn't have the option of going to this magical place. It is one of the few area's left that one can truly get away from the world and enjoy a true camp settling. It is nice to have a place to be still and know the lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Herd
Koolaree Chairperson

Camp Koolaree AGM
April 6, 2013
Castlegar United Church

Present: Robin Murray, Chuck Clarke, Ray Lundquist, Theo Huitema, Peter Herd, Keith Simmonds, Sarah Tupholme, Wally Kompen, Richard Green, Lucie Ackles, Ralph Ackles, Bill Robson, Latty Robson, Richard Jupp, Nora Harrison, John Marko, Misty Soukochoff, Mary Nell, John Paweko, Gord Swedburg, Aron Tinsley, Jonah Turton, Tara Kowalchuk, Deanne Steven, Norman Whitehouse, Holly Ridenoun, Mary Baker

Opening Prayer

Welcome and Introductions

- Explanation of By-laws and voting rights. Everyone welcome and entitled to a voice.
- Option to sign up as a Camp Koolaree Society member presented

Approval of Agenda, motioned by Gord, seconded by Theo

Approval of Minutes – Amendments, clarify Jean Daniels presence. The Bookkeeper motion was prior to AGM, approximately November. Motion Keith, second Theo

Correspondence

- Keith getting mail from Fruitvale, to be changed to Trail United Church. Bills received WCB, Telus and Insurance. Clarification given of structure and hierarchy of Koolaree. General update of current financial situation. Waiting response from Trail United Church for proposed office space.

Overview of Reports

- Chairperson report, Directors Reports, Registrar report, Financial Report, Fircom versus Koolaree discussion.

Financial Report

- Amended budget and debt list attached.
- An idea is to try and look for a volunteer staff member, a second groundskeeper or assistant cook.
- Proposed increase of registration fees to \$350 from \$225.
- Part of the issue in applying for funding is rumours of Koolaree closing. BC Conference recommends closure. Presbytery has yet to make their recommendation.
- Van Hellemon Sparte Inc has proposed to donate 100 t-shirts for a fundraiser and more shirts at cost.
- Budget Report moved Keith, seconded by Theo. Debt report moved by Keith, seconded by Ray
- Motion to create a balance sheet for Presbytery. Motioned by Gord, seconded by Keith

Open question period

- *Are the questions with finance about missing funds?* No, it is about too many bills and not enough money. We are also missing receipts. Revenue Canada will not release any financial information, pending an updated Board list.

- *Why do we pay property tax?* We haven't in the past. It could be removed from the budget.
- *Could the fees stay the same with an increased number of campers?* It could be, however the issue is having the proper number of leaders.
- *Have you applied for the HST to be forgiven?* We haven't in the past; currently it is hard to prove what has been paid.
- *Is there a balance sheet?* No, Keith not sure how to compose, looking for help.
- Presbytery could use a proposed budget for repairs and maintenance in the future.
- *Have you approached the school groups for work parties?* Wildflower has been approached.

Future Strategies

- Facebook, CBC 1 radio interview,
- More communication. We need updated contact lists to send out applications for funding.
- More volunteers needed for committee structure, consisting of a board member and the general public.
- More communication to the public, media, website, Facebook, announcement at churches, not just the United Church.
- Lions club in Fruitvale maybe willing to donate.
- Trying to stick to proposed agenda's for 1,5,10 years
- Strategies to talk to Presbytery.
- Appealing to past campers for donations.
- Motion to propose to Presbytery a strategic plan and strategy to cover our financial debt and operate this coming season, pending approval. Motioned by Lucy, seconded by Ray, carried. By April 12, 2013

Election of Board Members

- Clarification on who is qualified.
- Is there insurance for directors and executive, yes, it is currently lapsed.
- Is the proposed term limit active, no.
- Aron Tinsley, Robin Murray, Ray Lundquist, Peter Herd, Deanne Steven, Keith Simmonds, Chuck Clarke, Misty Soukochoff. Motioned that this list be the new board of directors, carried.

Adjourned 5:45pm

Next Meeting April 17, 2013 at 7:00pm. Location to be determined.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Herd
Interim Secretary

Camp Koolaree - 2013 Registrar's Report

Prime-Time (July 8 - August 10)

	Novice		Jr. Girls		Jr. Boys		Teen		Family		All	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Paid	5	4		15	14		10	10	8	15	37	44
Sponsored	2	1		4	7		3	1	3	10	15	16
NSF Check											0	0
Subtotal	7	5		19	21		13	11	11	25	52	60
Total	12		19		21		24		36		112	

Camper by Location

Church Affiliation: 38

Castlegar	7
Nelson	44
Trail	34
West Koot	7
BC	6
Alberta	2

Rentals

	Term (days)	Camper Days	Camper Fees	Propane Extra Trips	Invoiced Amount
Dancers of Universal Peace	4	258	3096	400	3496
Rod and Gun Club	3	148	1776	370	2146
Private Family Rental	2		360	125	485
Self Design High	2	38	456	180	636
Total	11	444	5688	1075	6763

Camper Fees - \$12 per camper per day

Propane Usage - \$125 per propane cylinder used

Extra boat Usage - \$10 per round trip

Prepared by: Misty Soukochoff, Registrar

Date: January 25, 2014

Financial

Camp Koolaree
1300 Pine AVE
Trail BC V1R 4E6

Date October 31, 2013
Member No. 477208
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Your Account Summary

Deposits

Everyday Banking - Canadian Dollar	\$18,992.96
Everyday Banking - US Dollar	\$0.00
Term Deposits - Canadian Dollar	\$0.00
Term Deposits - US Dollar	\$0.00
Registered Products	\$0.00
Membership Shares	\$25.00
Patronage Shares	\$0.00

Loans

Mortgages	\$0.00
Loans	\$0.00

Your Messages

Board of Directors Call for Nominations

We are now seeking qualified candidates to represent our membership and run for election to our Board of Directors. Please visit our website ksuc.com contact us at election@ksuc.com or inquire at any branch location for more details. Nominations close at Noon, Friday December 13, 2013.

Fall Term Deposit Special

Take advantage of our new Term Deposit Special. With flexibility and a great rate as high as 2.15%, this 33-month term is fully redeemable without penalty after 12 months. Available until December 14, 2013.

Win a trip to the Grammys!

You can win with The CHOICE REWARDS GRAMMY® Getaway contest. To find out more, visit grammygetaway.ca/mastercard



Let's talk money.

Our Mutual Funds Representatives in branch and the financial planners at **MoneyWorks** are here to help you make the most of your money. Invest in your future today. Let's talk soon.

Mutual funds are offered through Qtrade Asset Management Inc., Member MFDA.

 

term deposits TFSA's summit savings RRSP's mutual funds

Fruitvale Branch
1945 Main Street, Box 790
Fruitvale BC V0G 1L0

Kootenay@Home Online Banking
www.ksuc.com

Tel: 250-367-9223
Fax: 250-367-7741

MASTERPLAN COMMUNITY PLUS Camperships

Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
30 Sep 13	Balance Forward			\$1,000.02
31 Oct 13	Credit Interest		\$0.01	\$1,000.03

MAXIMIZER COMMUNITY PLUS Line of Credit
Opening Credit Limit: \$5,000 Interest Rate: 13.7500%

Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
30 Sep 13	Balance Forward			\$23,592.00
02 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1416	\$204.01		\$23,387.99
02 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1417	\$300.00		\$23,087.99
02 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1422	\$329.76		\$22,758.23
03 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1419	\$49.75		\$22,708.48
03 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1415	\$69.43		\$22,639.05
03 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1423	\$722.70		\$21,916.35
03 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1420	\$722.70		\$21,193.65
03 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1421	\$722.70		\$20,470.95
07 Oct 13	Online Banking Cra Payroll Current Year Acct 118827351RP0001	\$641.40		\$19,829.55
15 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1427	\$715.85		\$19,113.70
21 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1414	\$70.01		\$19,043.69
21 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1429	\$586.63		\$18,457.06
24 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1428	\$45.00		\$18,412.06
28 Oct 13	Cheque Number 1425	\$419.82		\$17,992.24
31 Oct 13	Credit Interest		\$0.69	\$17,992.93
Total Withdrawals and Deposits:		\$5,599.76	\$0.69	
<i>Number of Cheques: 13</i>				
<i>Closing Credit Limit: \$5,000 Interest Rate: 13.7500%</i>				

SUMMIT SAVINGS BUSINESS

Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
30 Sep 13	Balance Forward			\$0.00

MEMBERSHIP SHARES

Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
30 Sep 13	Balance Forward			\$25.00

Important - Statement Reconciliation

Under your agreement with Kootenay Savings Credit Union, this statement will be considered correct if no exceptions are reported within thirty days from delivery or mailing to you.

6:32 PM
20/01/14
Accrual Basis

Camp Koolaree
Balance Sheet
As of 31 October 2013

31 Oct 13

ASSETS

Current Assets

Chequing/Savings

Kootenay Savings Chequing

19,850.60

Paypal

39.25

Total Chequing/Savings

19,889.85

Total Accounts Receivable

941.00

Total Current Assets

20,830.85

TOTAL ASSETS

20,830.85

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable

BC Conference- Property Taxes (dock property) 2007

528.25

BC Conference- Property Taxes (dock property) 2008

587.87

BC Conference- Property Taxes (dock property) 2009

612.56

BC Conference- Property Taxes (dock property) 2010

1,205.94

BC Conference-Property Taxes (dock property) 2011

1,146.44

BC Conference- Property Taxes (dock property) 2012

1,029.41

BC Conference-Property Taxes (dock property) 2013

1,131.67

Total Current Liabilities

6,242.14

Total Liabilities

6,242.14

Equity

14,588.71

7:06 PM
 20/01/14
 Cash Basis

Camp Koolaree
Profit & Loss
 November 2012 through October 2013

	Nov '12 - Oct 13
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Campership Income	6,834.30
Deposit for Rental	0.00
Donations	58,722.86
Interest- Income	0.34
Investments	
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	4.08
Total Investments	4.08
Koolaree Camps	
Co-ed Teen	5,950.00
Family Camp	1,605.00
Jr. Boys	7,000.00
Jr. Girls	5,650.00
Novice Co-ed	2,000.00
Total Koolaree Camps	22,205.00
Rentals	
Propane reimbursements	696.39
Rentals - Other	5,074.14
Total Rentals	5,770.53
T-Shirt Sales	220.00
Total Income	93,757.11
Expense	
Association Fees	565.00
Bank Fee	498.12
Building Supplies	170.66
Canteen	114.34
Craft Supplies	175.47
Electricity	211.35
Facilities and Equipment	
Equip Rental and Maintenance	2.72
Total Facilities and Equipment	2.72
Fuels and Lubricans	
Gasoline	1,143.43
Lubricating Oil	80.61
Propane	1,456.00
Fuels and Lubricans - Other	36.28
Total Fuels and Lubricans	2,716.32
Interest	93.97
Mileage	262.40
Miscellaneous Supplies	
Cleaning Supplies	11.07
Hardware and building supplies	177.64
Miscellaneous Supplies - Other	463.90
Total Miscellaneous Supplies	652.61
Operations	
Groceries	5,979.23
Legal	90.00
Postage, Mailing Service	130.20
Printing and Copying	40.93
Supplies	419.82
T shirts	1,737.54
Telephone, Telecommunications	671.14
Total Operations	9,068.86
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	4,401.20
Total Other Types of Expenses	4,401.20

7:06 PM
20/01/14
Cash Basis

Camp Koolaree
Profit & Loss
November 2012 through October 2013

	<u>Nov '12 - Oct 13</u>
Payroll Expenses	
WCB	326.90
Payroll Expenses - Other	28,697.65
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Total Payroll Expenses	29,024.55
Safety	
Fire Equipment	159.58
First Aid	66.83
Safety - Other	88.83
	<hr/>
Total Safety	315.24
Supplies	15,211.68
Taxes	650.00
Transport Charges 495	778.39
Watercraft	
Boat Maintenance Other	406.35
Boat Trailer Licence & Insuranc	70.00
Motor Boat Maintenance	21.56
Outboard Motor Oil	13.44
	<hr/>
Total Watercraft	511.35
	<hr/>
Total Expense	65,424.23
	<hr/>
Net Ordinary Income	28,332.88
	<hr/>
Net Income	<u><u>28,332.88</u></u>

Presbytery Report

Kootenay Presbytery Representative Report:

The main focus for this fall has been drafting new bylaws and a constitutional amendment to bring the Camp Koolaree Society into compliance with the United Church of Canada's Incorporated Ministries Policy. This is a requirement of BC Conference to continue operating on their property. Robin has been working closely with BC Conference Minister George Meier and Bev Olag from the UCC National Office to prepare a draft. This will need to be approved by the Society membership at a Special Meeting according to our current constitution. It will then take effect thirty days after that approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Murray
Camp Koolaree Representative to Kootenay Presbytery

Communication & Fundraising

In 2013, The Communications and Fundraising Team successfully saw a giant fundraising effort in the Spring in conjunction with the rest of the Board, which included press releases, soliciting private and church donations, helping to organize a bake sale by campers and the design and sales of the "Koolaree Saver" T-shirt donated by Van Helleman. T-shirt sales have continued into the Fall, including the sales of some of the surplus shirts from past years' camps as well.

We also had the development of the new www.campkoolaree.ca website in 2013, with the help of Jody Dudley of Kimberley United Church as Webmaster. An email address through that domain has greatly improved our ability to handle inquiries from rental groups, campers and the community. A work party e-mail list was compiled, making it easier to get the word out about clean-up and maintenance events at camp.

Additionally, the team handled the PR surrounding the theft of our motor, including press releases and a radio interview. The Communications and Fundraising Team looks forward to adding more people to its numbers in 2014 and diversifying the types of fundraising and improving the website content and communications even more.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Communications and Fundraising Team

Program / Operation / Staffing

Koolaree welcomed back Norman Whitehouse as the primary Groundsman and Carly Williams as our lifeguard. We had a long term camper become our second groundsman Jacob Plett. We were fortunate to have two Cooking students from the Selkirk program as our cooks, Margaret McBurney and Brettiney Vogt. All of our staff did well and adjusted to the Koolaree learning curve quickly.

The groundsman kept everything clean and functioning and took direction well. The lifeguard stepped up and helped when asked with games and outings. The cooks made all of the meals from scratch and there was always more than enough food.

Our camp directors were John and Julianna Marko for teen camp, Robin Murray for Jr girls camp, Peter Herd for Jr Boys camp, Cynthia St Thomas for Novice and Julie Popoff for Intergenerational camp. All directors were free to create their own programs and given support when asked for.

All of the staff paid and volunteer would benefit from templates that explain job duties and the expectations of the incumbent positions.

Sincerely,

Peter Herd
Program & Operations Committee and Staffing Committee

2013 CAMP KOOLAREE BUILDINGS & BOATS TEAM REPORT

From the end of April, when we were finally given the go-ahead by Presbytery to run the camp, until September 19th when the last of the campers of a high school group departed, it was go, go, go behind the scenes.

With deadlines to meet and time running out, boats were hastily brought out of storage, cleaned up, maintenance items done, and finally launched. Work parties were organized, and the many jobs of bringing the camp to life were under way. The washrooms were given a coat of paint, dead trees were cut down, bucked up and the debris hauled to the wood pile. More work was carried out on the Lodge chimney, grass was cut, the kitchen put in order, cabins cleaned, canoes hauled out of storage, gas and propane brought in and so forth.

Modifications to the water treatment piping system didn't go quite as smoothly as planned and we found that the "new" sand filter had internal piping that was cracked because I had not properly drained it last fall. A showing of coliform in our water sample resulted in a visit from the Health Inspector and a "Boil Water Advisory" was then put into effect which lasted for the remainder of the season. However, new parts have since been fabricated and will be installed in the filter when the system is put back together next spring and that should enable us to produce better results. In addition to checking the water system, the inspector also required some written procedures for preparing food and cleaning and sanitizing in the kitchen. He seemed satisfied with what I was able to come up with.

I had really hoped that the repairs to the chimney for The Lodge fireplace would be completed this year. Progress was made, but was interrupted by weather at times and also when Theo injured himself in an outside accident, so it didn't quite happen. After replacing a rotten beam supporting the roof of the Brick Shed, another project that was started but not finished was the replacement of rotten flooring in that building. We currently have a big hole where perhaps 25% of the planks were removed. In other news, Norm was able to patch up a washroom sink with fibreglass resin when the overflow rusted out. He also got an old propane fridge going after finding a burner amidst some junk. He used it to replace a Servel model that no longer wanted to run.

To be sure there were a few other snags, but somehow we managed to overcome them. The month of May went by in a flash, and on June 7th we hosted a large group of women campers from the BC Wildlife Federation. They had a great time and we received many compliments on the facility. That was welcome news as renters provide a significant amount of our annual revenue. There followed successful summer camps for kids, families, and other rental groups.

In October we suffered an unexpected loss when it was discovered that a thief had made off with the motor from one of our boats moored at McDonalds Landing. Fortunately the loss will be substantially covered by insurance and a new motor is now on order. We were into November before the camp was finally winterized and everything put away for the season.

During the past year I attended nine board meetings, nine work parties, made five trips to deliver 1020 litres of gas and another seven to haul 2500 pounds of propane to the camp. I was also pressed into service to run one of the boats on five occasions.

Was it worth the time and effort? I believe it was. The camping ministry of the United Church is going to continue at Koolaree for a while yet. There are many people to thank for their labour and financial

support. I'd like to especially mention our groundsman, Norm Whitehouse, Theo Huitema, Don Ellis, members of the Nelson Rod and Gun Club, and all those who were able to come out and help on work parties.

Ray Lundquist,

Buildings & Boats Team Leader

Camp Koolaree Society

TEEN CO-ED CAMP 2013

This year 11 girls and 11 boys (one of which went home sick) explored the theme of "Transitions" at the Koolaree Teen Co-Ed Camp. Each group prepared and presented a chapel service lead by our Chaplin Keith Simmonds. All campers discovered many different types of transitions in stories from the New and Old Testament.

This year our craft time centered around two different projects: Painting flower pots and planting seeds, as well as creating a life map. Each of these crafts were chosen to allow campers to think about transitions in their own lives.

Campers completed a rather large service project this year, which involved hauling rocks to the chapel beach path, and lining it all the way from the cookhouse to the beach. After the rocks were placed, they painted the rocks with glow in the dark paint. After closing ceremonies we were all able to enjoy our newly made glow-path!

Special events included Water Olympics, Hike to the Falls, two Cook Outs, Kangaroo Court and a Turkey Dinner. Closing Ceremonies were beautiful thanks to our first aid attendant Don, who organized a candle-lit chapel beach as a surprise to staff and campers.

We were honored this year to have special guest Ken Dimock who shared a lot about the history of the camp and his own experiences. This opened a lot of discussion and questions about the transitions that the camp has gone through over time.

Our female counselor Cassandra Miller organized an afternoon of "Minute-To-Win-It" where campers worked in teams to complete funny tasks!

Excellent weather and fantastic staff really allowed campers to have a meaningful, fun filled week! Many thanks to the Counselors: Peter Herd, Cassandra Miller and Brenna Turton, our First Aider: Don MacAuley, the Leaders: David Schenkhuizen and Xyiah Morley, our Junior Leader: Natalie Plett, our Chaplin: Keith Simmonds and Lifeguard: Carley Williams.

This year we (Juliana and John Marko) Co-Directed in preparation for Juliana to take over Directorship next year. We are so thankful to the Camp Koolaree Board for allowing our continued service as Directors at Camp this year!

Sincerely,

Juliana Marko

John Marko

Jr. Girls 2013

We had an amazing week from July 15-20! Our theme was "The Kingdom is Now", based on Luke 17:21 "...for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you" and also on the Lord's (Jesus) Prayer "...your kingdom come, your will be done on earth...". And wow! Those girls did a really good job of creating God's kingdom on earth! The week was as close to heaven as life gets.

There were only 18 campers this year, which was not a surprise given that many had made other plans in the spring when we were uncertain about camps running. We had 6 wonderful leaders, plus the director, one counselor, our first aid attendant, and a 7-year-old "morale booster" camper, as well as the usual paid staff of cooks, groundskeepers and lifeguard.

Our programming included, chapel, during which we discussed the Lord's Prayer line by line, the usual chores, cabin inspection, canteen, plus 5 activity periods as well as evening wide games, campfire and vespers. Activities included crafts, swimming, canoeing, nature walks, board games, circle games, drama games, a service project, gymnastics and Tae Kwon Do. During most activity periods, girls had two different activities to choose from.

Our special events included a hike to the falls and a weenie roast & s'mores at Chapel Beach. The only thing we wish we could have changed about the whole week would have been the "wall of water" that fell out of the sky while we were eating lunch at the falls and the subsequent slippery return home in the rain. Cheerful singing on the hike down followed by warm showers for all, quickly raised our spirits again. The weather for our picnic lunch and swim at Chapel Beach was positively perfect, though.

The cooks provided us with good food and good companionship. We will never forget our Fancy Dinner night, where they roasted the most succulent turkeys and the campers set the tables with good china while our "morale booster" acted as florist and filled our vases with daisies. For another dinner, the Head Cook came out and supplied each camper with a utensil from her kitchen in lieu of forks and spoons. It was great fun to watch one of leaders attempt to eat shepherd's pie with a funnel! And as for Monk's Night....well...let's just say we were grateful that the lifeguard allowed us a dip after supper to wash off the spaghetti sauce.

All in all, it was an incredible week with much fun, old friendships renewed and new friendships made. I thank everyone who made my first year as camp director so wonderful. I feel truly blessed by God to have been a part of Jr. Girls 2013!

Peace to all,
Robin Murray, Director, Jr. Girls 2013

Jr Boys Report 2013

My staff included: Josh Mack, David Ermacora, Jake Unger, Aron Tinsley, Jewell Hall, Owen Mazury, Dakota Campbell, Patrick Sanders Tye Hurford, Baebron Lloyd, Darian Johnson and Andrew Falcone. I directed and guided chapel services that were created by Keith Simmonds and our lifeguard Carly Williams assisted with first aid services.

Registrations were lower than last year with a total of 23 boys this year. The weather was beautiful and made our many swim times in cold Kootenay Lake enjoyable. My leaders were great, with a mix of new and experienced leaders.

I utilized many food and physical challenges and kept the boys very busy. We also did games like capture the flag, Predator vs Prey and various relays to channel the energy of the campers. We didn't get to many crafts, but the kids didn't mind. This was one of my best years as everything ran smoothly and the campers and leaders blended well.

This is a nice size for a camp and makes it easier on me as a director to know where everyone is at all times. Saying that, I miss the organized chaos of years past when we had 40 campers at a time and had to consider turning campers away because we only had so many leaders.

Thank you for such a rewarding and enlightening experience, I learn something about myself every year. It is always nice at Koolaree to have a place to be still and know the lord. I hope everyone will stay safe so we can enjoy many years to come and grow the camp.

Sincerely,

Peter Herd

Director

Novice Camp 2013

Novice Camp was a smaller group than we've had in the past few years. We had 11 campers, 5 girls and 6 boys (a nice even mix).

As usual, we had a very healthy supply of leaders to choose from, receiving more leader applications than camper registrations. The challenge with novice camp is trying to be prepared for the number of campers early enough in the season before they all make summer plans with their families (the leaders and parents all start contacting me in May and June to see if they have been selected so that they can make family plans.) Novice is one of the last camps, so registrations are still being accepted later in the season and numbers are never known until after the older camps are finished. This year alone, I had 3 of our originally selected leaders have their summer plans change and I relied on alternates to take their places. Thankfully, there were extra leaders to rely on and we were not scrambling. Still unsure of our numbers (we had people on the fence right until the end) we took 8 cabin leaders and 3 adult leaders in addition to myself as director. We had 4 male leaders and 4 female leaders anticipating we may have to use 2 cabins for each the boys and girls as we have in the past few years. Unfortunately with our lower numbers this was not the case and we ended up with 1 cabin each for boys and girls. Some of these leaders are young enough that I hope to have them return again next summer. However, some are getting to the age where summer jobs become more of a focus and Koolaree will be missing the presence and experience some of those leaders have shown over the past few years.

All in all camp was a success. We did a "Survivor" theme with our campers and everyone seemed to have a lot of fun. We had a nice balance of new and returning campers. Our group was able to help each other out in many ways and this theme was very fitting as the group was able to focus on teamwork, cooperation and problem-solving. I overheard many of the kids saying they would like to do some of the challenges again.

I am so thankful to have had the help from the adult leaders that came this summer. Each came with an open mind, great flexibility and an amazing willingness to help in any way that was needed. We had a great balance of personalities and different strengths to keep things moving along no matter what little blips might arise during our day. Our group was able to problem-solve and quickly get things back on track when something didn't go quite as originally planned. I do hope they will be able to return next year as well.

Thank you to the board for allowing me to share another incredible week at Koolaree with some amazing campers, leaders and staff. I am blessed to have spent this time with them and hope to have the opportunity to make more memories there this coming summer.

Cynthia St. Thomas
Novice Director 2013

Family Camp 2013

Family camp was directed this year by Julie (Clarke) Popoff, assisted by Chuck Clarke. There were 35 participants, 19 of whom stayed for all six nights, 8 for three nights, 6 for two nights, 2 for one night. Our nurse was Bev Van Dale, an experienced nurse from Penticton and a many year Koolaree camper. She was kept busy treating many wasp stings. We appreciated her experience when Julie was stung on her foot and had a rapid reaction; body rash, swollen tongue, numbness. Bev treated her with Benadryl and had the ambulance meet them at the McDonald's landing. After four hours of treatment at the emergency ward she returned, drowsy but healthy.

The rest of the week went smoothly. Many of the campers had special needs and appreciated the refreshing solitude and loving fellowship that Koolaree provides. Two had spouses that are advanced Parkinson patients. Three are single mothers struggling with financial difficulties and parenting issues. They loved the loving atmosphere at the camp. One boy commented that it was so great that no one picked on him here. Another didn't want to leave at the end of the week.

Our theme was "Togetherness" (with each other, God, nature, community). This was experienced every morning at the 7:30 hot drinks and fellowship in front of the Lodge, taught in the chapel message and discussed in a group session in the afternoon. Craft sessions were well received and were also an opportunity to fellowship and continue ministry amongst the campers. Campfire times were kept lively but brief to accommodate the number of young children. Older members usually continued on for a while to enjoy the serenity of Koolaree.

During chore times we cleaned up and organized the craft area, attacked knapweed patches, dismantled the old dock, gathered and sorted the sports equipment and tidied the camp of litter. Lack of younger men kept us from attempting more strenuous projects.

Recommendations:

The need for detailed job descriptions for every staff member was apparent as the camp proceeded. The camp Director for each camp needs to be identified as the top authority at camp and in turn is answerable to the Board. The groundsmen need detailed, daily duties prescribed and check with the Director each day for further directions. All staff members should not leave camp without prior permission from the Director.

The cooks need a prescribed weekly menu (with special additions to accommodate special needs campers) so shopping could be done more efficiently, mostly at the start of the camping season. Variations could be worked out with the Director before each camp. Guidelines are needed for the cleaning and organization of the kitchen and dining hall (garbage removal, floor mopping, sanitizing). The meals improved markedly as the week proceeded but there was a lot of wastage at the end.

The camp was successful and the campers went home wanting to come back next year. Thank you for the opportunity to help run another Family camp for Koolaree!

Chuck Clarke, for Julie Popoff