

# THE WIGWAM

FALL 2007



## SUMMER UPDATE



**Keith Chow**  
Director of  
Programming

I am sure that this has been a great year for programming at Camp Arnes. It's not because we had fifteen hundred young people in our summer camp ministry this year as guests and staff. It's not because we've reached out to more than twelve thousand youth in our year round outdoor education and retreat hosting efforts. I am sure it's been great because I've seen and heard God working through the programs of Camp Arnes for almost sixty years, authoring so many stories and perfecting so many lives in faith. I am sure that this has been a great year for our programs because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Come to think of it, I know that next year will be just as great too.

### STOKER PROGRAM BY SHANNON LOEWEN

"He who has ears, let him hear." Matthew 11:15. It does not matter what age you are, but when you search for God you are bound to find Him. When you have lost all hope and cry out for help, He is there. Many of the 15 year olds that come to our two week Stoker Program have lost hope. Some come with a negative attitude or broken lives, but nothing is too hard for God.

Dominic was signed up for Stoker, but didn't want to be there. The very first day he told his cabin leader that he wanted to go home. We asked him to stay for at least a day or two to see how it would go. During the first two days he spent most of his time on his bunk, not wanting to participate in anything, sneaking away from meals as soon as possible and isolating himself. After just two days, Dominic was a completely different kid. He began to interact with the other campers; joking and laughing, his personality was starting to shine through - he became part of the group.

It wasn't until the last night that we found out what an impact God had made on his life. We were having a bonfire on the beach, reminiscing about the last 2 weeks. Everyone was talking about how they'd changed and what that meant for them as they were about to go home. It was silent for a bit and then Dominic spoke up. He explained that before he came to camp he was really depressed and had no hope left. He didn't see a future for himself and was wondering why he was alive. He talked about how all the Stokers and staff were so accepting of him that he began to see the worth in himself more than ever before. In addition to the encouragement he received from the people at camp, he found that the daily sessions had actually challenged and encouraged him. The cool part of this story is that he said he was now leaving with self confidence, a renewed sense of hope and that he planned to go back to church with his friends.

Dominic came without life in his eyes and left with the love of God and a renewed self worth. It is amazing how unconditional love and the truth of God's word can change a life.

### CONFESSIONS FROM A STAFFER

As a counsellor this summer I came to understand an important aspect of camping ministry, and probably ministry in general. We need to find time to be alone with God. We need to be filled with God or God's love in order to love others. If I am filled with nothing I can't give anything. This goes back to the two greatest commandments, which are, to love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. And the second is to love your neighbour as your self.

Another is simply to love kids. We don't always need to say the profound truths of God and the Bible, but love them and let them ask the questions. God is the one who divinely encounters the kids... we are only the humble servants of the Most High God.

-Ray Hildebrand



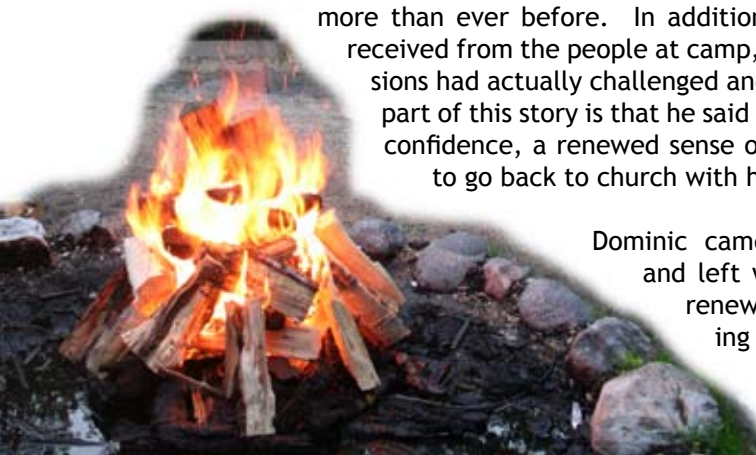
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!

Contact us at our:

Winnipeg Office  
1151 Henderson Hwy.  
Winnipeg, MB R2G 1L5  
Ph. 204.338.4647

On Site Office  
Box 40  
Arnes, MB ROC 0C0  
Ph. 1.888.642.7618

Email: [arnes@camparnes.com](mailto:arnes@camparnes.com)  
Website: [www.camparnes.com](http://www.camparnes.com)



# MINISTRY UPDATE



## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Can we ever be prepared for change? It is in our human nature to seek stability in a world of constant change. Stability makes us comfortable, but comfort is not always where God teaches and grows us. I think of computers and the media industry, which advances at an alarming rate. Yesterdays versions are quickly outdated and sometimes irrelevant. Camp Arnes has not been immune to change. Over the years buildings have changed, programs have changed and the people have changed. The message and focus however remains the same. Sharing the news of a loving God and Savoir is a constant north star for Camp Arnes. As things change around us it becomes increasingly obvious that there needs to be a change in the way that message is delivered. Many traditional camp activities remain, but are now mixed with related influences from today's youth culture. We must recognize the changes in the world around us and adjust accordingly to remain relevant and strong. For every change we make, we are intentionally seeking Gods direction and the perspective of what kids deal with on a daily basis. Thank you for taking the time to read the wigwam. You are part of the change, through your support and prayers, you are making a difference.

-William Wear

## URBAN YOUTH ADVENTURES

This summer was the kick off for Urban Youth Adventures. With nine summer staff, UYA hit the streets of Lord Selkirk Park and surrounding areas. Some of their activities included weekly jam nights, carnival activities in the park and helping other non profit organizations.

In August, Urban Youth Adventures staff helped to survey adult students who had not completed their grade 12 education. They found that 80% of the comments they heard were related to low self-esteem. Some typical comments were: Am I worth it?; Do I deserve it?; Am I smart enough? One of the goals of UYA is to help youth and young adults learn to see themselves as capable and worthy.

During the summer the UYA staff held weekly musical jam sessions giving kids the opportunity to show their talents. One night during a session, a young girl stood up and took the mic to sing. Some of the other kids made fun of her, telling her to sit down and that she couldn't sing. Immediately she sat down giving into the pressure from her peers. One of the staff went over to her and asked if she thought she could sing. She said yes. He encouraged her not to listen to the negative comments made by the others but to go ahead and sing if she wanted to. They young lady took the mic and sang; unconcerned with what others thought.

These events are only a small part of how Urban Youth Adventures is making a difference. Through programming and relationships, UYA is able to help youth to succeed in little things that eventually grow into bigger life accomplishments. The goal is that these young people will picture themselves as successful, skillful, filled with self-confidence.

Please pray for the youth we are working with as well as the UYA staff and volunteers. If you are interested in UYA and would like more information, check out their website. [www.uya.ca](http://www.uya.ca)

## FREEDOM @ 55 PLUS BY SHAUNA WEAR

The end of August may have been the end of summer camp, but for 60 of our cherished generation (that would be those over 55 years of age) it was just beginning. For 5 days we offered a wonderful, relaxing week of camp where they became the campers and experienced a similar "camp experience" as the kids in the summer. Campers ranged in age from 61 to 97 and challenged each other at the archery range (getting many bull's-eyes), climbed a 32ft wall and even leapt 30ft from the leap of faith platform at the high ropes course. For many of the campers, Camp Arnes has been apart of their lives since the 50's when they were one of the first campers, for others it was their first time at camp. This is my favourite week in the summer. Each and every camper leaves a huge impact on my life and I have been truly blessed by them. I hope that I have been able to give to them even a fraction of what they have given to me. I look forward to our follow-up Christmas celebration in December.



# GIVING UPDATE

We have much to be thankful for at Camp Arnes. While the needs are continual and never fully go away, we have been blessed by many amazing financial gifts. Many of you have contributed to camp and we are grateful for your support. Because of your donations to our capital projects like the Impact Chalet, Cedar Lodge renovations, building and adding to the High Ropes Course, we have been able to start and continue these projects. Thank you for your generous support.

## IMPACT CHALET BY SHANNON LOEWEN

This summer and early fall we watched as the trucks came rolling down the road to break the ground for our Impact Chalet. This building is being built especially for our new Impact program with a classroom and lounge to accommodate the program. In the summer it will transform into four cabins for camp.



As we watch the Chalet take form, our excitement grows as we continue to put in the last leg of the journey. We had recently formed a relationship with Booth College and were very excited about this opportunity. However, due to restructuring in the school they had to pull out of the partnership we made. It was a bit discouraging at first but God continues to remind us that Impact is His program and He has it all in His control.

This fall we've begun our promotional tour here in Winnipeg. We are hoping to talk to all the Bible classes in the Christian High Schools in Winnipeg and beyond. We are not only promoting Impact to the students but also hoping to ignite a desire for missions in their heart. We are excited for the start of this program in September 2008. Please continue to pray for this program and for the building of the chalet.

## FALL BANQUET

Our 37th Annual Fall Banquet took place on October 12th. We had such a great turn out that we even had to turn people away. With your help, this was one of Camp Arnes' best banquets yet. It is always a great opportunity to be reminded what God is doing at camp and through the many individuals who give of their time to serve. With energizing music by Derek Zeilstra and his band, the night was hopping! Bergmann's on Lombard pulled off an excellent meal leaving everyone satisfied. We are truly blessed by the \$35,000 that was donated that night.

## BECAUSE OF YOU WE HAVE RECEIVED...



44,698 Petro Points  
(35,000 points = \$20 free gas)



\$10.55 of Canadian Tire Money



\$3995 for Campership Fund  
Allowing 12 kids to come to camp

### Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

### Gift Designation

- Program & Services
- Campership Program
- Capital
  - High Ropes
  - Impact Lodge
  - Cedar Lodge

I have enclosed a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support Camp Arnes.

### Method of Payment

- Cheque: Payable to Camp Arnes
- Post-dated Cheques
- Credit Card
  - VISA
  - MC

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# NEW STAFF



CHANTEL CHAMPAYNE

During the summer Chantel was part of our counselling staff. She counselled in just about every program we have at camp. Chantel is now serving as a member of our year-round kitchen staff.



MELISSA LAMBRECHT

Melissa joined the camp family in the spring. She has worked in the kitchen, making meals and yummy treats for all our guests. Melissa is now part of our year-round kitchen staff.



RICK & DEBBIE WOODALL

Rick and Debbie sent their last son off to college, took a leap of faith, and moved to Camp Arnes. Rick is our Maintenance Supervisor and Debbie is a part of our kitchen staff.

# CAMP ARNES EVENTS

## WORK AND WORSHIP WEEKEND

November 16-18 and November 23-25 are Camp Arnes Work and Worship Weekends. We would love to have your church, small group, Sunday school class or even just your family come for the weekend to help out around camp. We will be tackling some of the larger projects that need extra man power as well as some simple projects like painting, landscaping and cleaning. We will provide your lodging and meals and give you time to relax by the pool and fellowship with others. If you are interested in coming for the weekend please call the on-site camp office at 1.888.642.7618.



## ULTIMATE DAY

Calling all Youth Unit campers, November 23 is Ultimate Day! You don't have school and we know that you are dying to get back to camp. Space is limited so be sure to get your registration form in soon. Ultimate day only costs \$35. For more information or to download a registration form see our website under the AfterParty link.

## MISSION TRIP

May 2008 will be the first ever Camp Arnes mission trip to Costa Rica. We are partnering with the YWAM (Youth With A Mission) Base in San Jose. They provide a great ministry for short term groups. This is also an exciting time for us as we serve another ministry and in another culture. We will work with their children's ministry and possibly help with a building project as well. We still have **9 spots available**. If you or someone you know is interested in going then contact Shannon at [sloewen@camparnes.com](mailto:sloewen@camparnes.com) or call 338-4647.



1151 Henderson Hwy.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R2G 1L5