



"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

– Ephesians 4: 15-16

Dear Friends of Camp Arnes,

With the end of summer fast approaching, we want to thank you for your support in making another year of Camp a success! Soon, we'll be moving into our fall rentals season, opening our gates for school groups, family reunions, church retreats, and so much more. With the hustle and bustle of kids or grandchildren returning to school and getting ready for fall activities and sports, it can be difficult to remember that the end of the year will quickly approach and be upon us. With this in mind, we would like to ask that you start to prayerfully consider supporting Camp Arnes with your year-end giving. Your contributions by way of financial gifts, prayer offerings, and volunteer work are a major part of the success that we've had over the past year, and we need your help moving forward into 2024!

This is our last week of Summer Camp, and we can't help but look back at the last couple of months and smile at the work that God is doing within our organization. The last eight weeks have been filled with the sounds of laughter and cheering as we offer young people the opportunity to grow in their faith, confidence, and love of nature. Our theme for this summer was "In the Garden" and we set a goal to provide fertile soil in which our campers could grow towards their full potential. It was a great success and brought us so much joy as we witnessed children overcome their fear of heights by jumping off a hydro pole called leap of faith, learning how to ride a mountain bike for the first time, or taking out a canoe onto the beautiful waters of Lake Winnipeg.

Some of our campers show up with Bibles in hand, ready to grow in their love and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For others, this might be the only time of the year that they get to spend with fellow believers. Some campers are here with a focus to learn a new skill like archery or how to grow food at home. We've even built a garden area where kids can get their hands dirty and see where their food comes from. No matter their reason for coming to camp, these youth were welcomed with open arms and acceptance for who they are by our amazing team of dedicated staff, who worked unceasingly to provide a safe environment where every camper can experience unconditional love, attention, and care. The food, fun, and activities all point to our Bible times with the kids and our guest speakers every evening at the Lighthouse. We share with each child that they have value and that each is loved by a powerful and loving God.

These connections and relationships can't be forged without **YOUR HELP!** Our friends of Camp Arnes, **YOU** continually support the work we are doing through giving **YOUR** volunteer time, **YOUR** prayer support, and **YOUR** financial gifts. **YOU** are making a difference in the lives of the youth attending camp. **YOU** are giving kids the opportunity to grow in so many different areas of their life. **YOU** are providing the fuel needed to ignite a spark of hope in the children that come through our gates. Without **YOUR** support, we wouldn't be able to share the following testimonies from some of our campers:



*"This was the first time I was at Camp Arnes. I played arrow tag, go karting, and was on a canoe. My favorite activities were pool ball and arrow tag. It was a highlight of my summer and a way to get together with other Christians. It was a time where I got to know Jesus more and I would love to go again." Jane, 12**



"I learned that Jesus is God and that he loves me" -John, 10

"Being at Camp encouraged me to read my Bible" -Zoe, 9

"I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour at Camp"- Peter, 13

With our last year-end appeal, you provided the funds that were necessary to hire all the staff we needed to build solid and loving relationships with our campers. This focus on the care and attention we were able to give our campers is the reason why we have these testimonies to share. Your financial donations, your prayer support, and your gifts of volunteer time made a huge difference in the lives of the youth we are serving.

This spring, we needed to replace the roof on our dining hall and the cost was over **\$160,000**. We see that so many connections are made in this building while sharing a meal together, and fellowship in the dining hall is an essential way that we show hospitality. We are still requiring funds to pay the remainder of this repair as well as complete other maintenance and upgrades to the **65** buildings that we have at Camp! Our goal for this year-end appeal is to raise **\$250,000** to continue investing into long term and sustainable solutions for our facilities. We've put out calls for help, and you have answered those calls with open hearts! We all have a different capacity to give according to our gifts and talents and we are humbly asking that you consider supporting us again with your year-end giving so that youth will continue to build fond memories at Camp. Each gift is precious, and no gift is too small to impact the lives of the youth we support.

God Bless,

Chris Buffington, Executive Director

P.S. PLEASE ACT NOW! Before you know it, we'll be buried in snow and singing Christmas carols with loved ones. All charitable donations are tax-deductible but need to be submitted by the end of the calendar year! To donate:

Credit Cards: www.camparnes.com

E-Transfers: accounting@camparnes.com

Cheques mailed to: Camp Arnes, BOX 28009 RPO North Kildonan, Winnipeg MB, R2G 1B9

**Names and pictures were changed to protect the privacy of our campers!*