



**Palisades
Stewardship Education Centre**
Jasper National Park of Canada
parkscanada.gc.ca

**Centre des Palissades
pour l'enseignement de la gérance**
Parc national du Canada Jasper
parcscanada.gc.ca

SNAPSHOTS *SUMMER 2012*

The Parks Canada Palisades Stewardship Education Centre in Jasper National Park engages and inspires our youth, the future ambassadors and guardians of Canada's National Parks, Historic Sites and Marine Conservation Areas.

Palisades Centre Goes Mobile Again

The Palisades Centre is once again helping to facilitate youth education outreach programs in other National Parks. After successful programs in previous years in the Mountain Parks and the Gulf Islands, the focus has turned to the East. Point Pelee and Georgian Bay Islands in Ontario have sponsored two Palisades education team members to support the delivery of immersion youth programs in their parks. We will also support PC events at the "Celebrate Yonge" festivities in Toronto. By sharing our knowledge, risk management and training with fellow Parks Canada staff we hope to develop best practice and build capacity across the Agency.



Integrating On-Line Learning



The Palisades Education team delivered a special summertime Water Experience course for students from six Edmonton schools in July. The course dealt with water rights and featured water quality testing using PASCO scientific probes connected to 'toughbook' laptops. Students collected real-time digital data from various water sources in the Park. By applying online collaboration tools students also shared their experiences with youth in Australia. Check out their daily blog on TakingITGlobal, the largest online community of youth interested in global issues and creating positive change.

Parks Canada Youth Ambassador

As a gift to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Parks Canada created the Youth Ambassador program. The program seeks to connect 18-25 year olds with their National Parks. Michael Ciniello, selected as one of the first two ambassadors, visited the Palisades Centre to discuss youth engagement strategies and to see first-hand our approach to outreach education.

"Children's cognitive flexibility and creativity are enhanced if they have the experience in childhood to problem solve in natural settings."

-Charles 2009. CNN, Sante Fe, New Mexico.



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Summer School Doubles

This year, due to increased demand, two 5-day summer school programs were hosted at the Palisades Centre for students from across Alberta. Career and Life Management (CALM) course is required for high school graduation in Alberta. In another successful collaboration with GYPSD the Palisades team has taken the lessons in goal setting and life skills out of the classroom and applied them to a real world context. As with all of our credit programs, our formal education partners own the curriculum and Parks Canada owns the experience. Evenings were spent learning the required course materials and during the day, under the guidance of Parks Canada staff, students participated in team building exercises, experiential education and mountain recreation. The highlight of the trip was a hike to the summit of Morro Peak.

“Outdoor experience is correlated with earth stewardship: helping children develop the ecological literacy and citizenship values they will need to create and maintain healthy places to live”

--Manning & Scott 2009. Mindfulness and sustainable behaviour.

Canadian Parents for French

Now in its fourth year, the Palisades Centre continues to support the Canadian Parents for French summer day camp. The week-long “Camp Franco-éco” encourages the use of French as a second language through a variety of activities, games and crafts. The Palisades provides facilities and delivers programs with an environmental theme.

Stony Plain Youth Centre

The Palisades Centre hosted 32 young people ages 8-15 from the Stony Plain Youth Centre for 2 days. For many it was their first visit to Jasper National Park. They learned about the role of Parks Canada, the system of National parks and the local wildlife. On the second day they experienced Jasper National Park first-hand by mountain biking and canoeing at Lake Edith.



Alberta Brain Injury Association

The Palisades Centre was pleased to be able to host patients from the Alberta Brain Injury Association this summer in our new, fully accessible accommodation building “the Den”. Now, guests with mobility issues are able to visit to the Palisades Centre and enjoy the beauty and serenity of Jasper National Park.

