



SNAPSHOTS *FALL/WINTER 2011-12*

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.

Winter Travel Courses

The Palisades Centre delivered eleven Winter Travel courses, including the first course delivered in French (to a group of Franco-Albertan schools) and the first 35-level (grade 12) course. This high school program allows students to obtain 3 credits while experiencing different ways to safely travel through the winter landscape. Students taking this residential program go skiing and riding at Marmot Basin, cross-country ski, snowshoe and learn survival basics. They also get familiar with avalanche risks and those at the grade 11 level get their Avalanche Skills Training Level 1 certification.



Robert Bateman Unconference

The second annual Robert Bateman Get to Know International Unconference took place on October 20-23 in Jasper. About 100 delegates including twenty-nine dedicated youth, ages 13 to 22, gathered together for 3 days of participant-driven forums and engagement. The Unconference attracted some well known champions of getting kids back in touch with nature. The youth spent the day at the Palisades



Centre for leadership training as Get to Know Youth Ambassadors. This included time spent capturing mountain vistas in water colour, photography and sketches. Special guests included Les Stroud – star of the hit TV series *Survivorman*, who led a rafting trip on the Athabasca River and Adam Kreek, Olympic Gold Medalist and motivational speaker, who took the delegates canoeing on Lac Beauvert.

“If facts are the seeds that later produce knowledge and wisdom, then the emotions and impressions of the senses are the fertile soil in which they grow”

-Rachel Carson





**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

2Learn.ca & Video Conference

The Alberta-based 2Learn education society's mission is to initiate, advocate and share technology enriched teaching, learning and leadership options. The Palisades Centre collaborated with 2Learn to present a series of



video conference sessions to students across the province including Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge. Twelve one-hour sessions were delivered to 14 English and 7 French schools, reaching over 1000 junior high school students. The topics were: *Jasper National Park Inside & Out*, *Species at Risk & Woodland Caribou* and *Forest Health & Fire Management*. Each program was followed by a Question & Answer session with a member of the Palisades education team. For many of the students it was their first interaction with Parks Canada and the first time they had even heard of Jasper National Park.

Palisades Centre staff also utilized our technology and expertise to Skype to the families attending the Toronto Canada Blooms, a home and garden show with an urban audience in excess of 200,000 visitors.

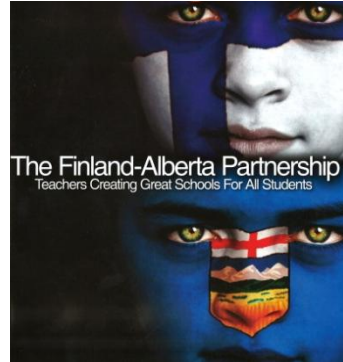
Environmental Stewardship

Mountain Recreation

Transformative Education

Finland-Alberta Partnership

The Palisades Centre hosted students and teachers from a cross-cultural exchange between Finland and Alberta.



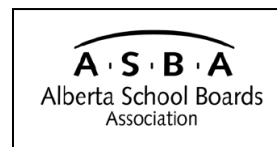
consider progressive contemporary education.

This high profile international program brought together some sixty youth and forty administrators from both countries to approaches to

The Palisades Centre was honoured to be invited to design and deliver the experiential education component of the program and privileged to work alongside renowned educators such as Dennis Shirley and Andy Hargreaves.



Trustees Day



In April, the Palisades Centre hosted fifty school board trustees from 27 Alberta school boards. The groups came to learn about the educational efficacy of our programs and were also treated to a 'Camera Crusade' and 'GPS Hunt'.