

SNAPSHOTS SPRING/SUMMER 2011

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 and Historic Sites.

Water Experience Course

The Palisades Centre delivered five Water Experience 15 courses this Spring, including the first course delivered in French (to a Franco-Albertan school from Bonnyville) and the first consecutively run set of two courses. This high school course allows students to obtain 3 credits



at the grade 10 level while learning about waterrelated recreation, safety and conservation issues. Students taking the week-long residential program learn basic canoeing, kayaking and trip planning as well as the environmental impacts of water use and the importance of conservation.

New Canadians Learn to Camp

The Palisades Centre welcomed 46 new Canadians from Edmonton to experience Jasper National Park first-hand, through an immersive family camping trip. Participants learned basic



camping skills, tried rock climbing, hiked Maligne Canyon and enjoyed a campfire. This program helped new Canadian families connect with their new home and their national parks. Sean Nardella of Visitor Experience worked closely with Brewster Canada, Scouts Canada, Mountain Equipment Co-op and the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, establishing and strengthening partnerships with Parks Canada to deliver this program.

Bateman GTK in Gulf Islands NPR

The Palisades Centre continues its partnership with The Robert Bateman Get to Know Your Wild Neighbour charity. This August (22-26) will be the third youth camp, previously held in Jasper and Waterton-Glacier National Parks. The program encourages youth to discover nature through art and a host of recreational activities. The Palisades will once again provide support to encourage partnerships in outreach throughout the National Parks.

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Canadian Parents for French

The Palisades Centre continues its support of the Canadian Parents for French day camp this summer (Aug 1-5) The week-long "Camp Francoéco" 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.

New Canadian Kids in Waterton NP

A New Canadians Program for youth in Waterton NP (August 15-19) in partnership with Outward Bound Canada will be supported by staff from the Palisades Centre. Two similar programs have already taken place in Jasper, introducing recent immigrants to the beauty and limitless possibilities of their National Parks.



Palisades Centre New Buildings

Two new buildings constructed under the federal Economic Action Plan are complete and in use at the Palisades Centre.



An accommodation building with beds for 24 youth and 2 chaperones (the "Den") and a storage building (the "Midden") for canoes, kayaks, mountain bikes and other recreational gear greatly increase the operational capacity of the Centre.



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