



**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

## Vision

***Canadian youth will share a passion and appreciation for Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites; through personal connection they will develop a sense of place and belonging. Youth will move beyond participation towards active ambassadorship.***



## Summary

The Palisades Stewardship Education Centre in Jasper National Park is a Parks Canada project that cultivates youth as stewards of the future for the national parks and national historic sites of Canada. It provides the opportunity to connect directly with the beautiful and awe-inspiring landscape of the Rocky Mountains.

***“Healing the broken bond between our youth and nature is in our self-interest, not only because aesthetics or justice demand it, but also because our mental, physical and spiritual health depends on it.” (Louv, 2006.)***

## Programs

Students in grades 9 to 12 from across Canada participate in weeklong educational and recreational programs designed to foster an understanding and appreciation of nature and of their National Parks. Classroom courses, fieldwork and mountain recreation are combined to provide an integrated and balanced learning experience. Students experience the ecology and culture of the mountain ecosystem through programs derived from current research and management in the mountain parks.

The Palisades Centre provides enrichment of current curricula and locally developed high school credit courses. Recreational opportunities include hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, canoeing and kayaking with fully qualified instructors. Students discover how nature looks, feels and smells, guided by Parks Canada experts. They are exhilarated while experiencing wilderness first hand.



Environmental Stewardship

Mountain Recreation

Transformative Education



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

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## Facilities

The Palisades Centre boasts the largest grouping of authentic log structures in Western Canada. All buildings have been modernized and now include technologies such as Smart Boards, wireless Internet and videoconferencing equipment, while still retaining their rustic charm. Five outdoor learning stations allow the majority of programming to be delivered in a natural setting. A wide variety of gear suitable for mountain recreation and exploration is available. Youth stay onsite during their time here in four-person, dorm-style accommodation and eat healthy, home-cooked meals in the communal dining hall.



## Setting

Jasper National Park is one of the crown jewels of Canada's National Park system. The natural beauty of the Rocky Mountains is at our doorstep. While surrounded by glacier capped peaks we paddle across pristine lakes, hike through alpine meadows and climb up rocky crags. Students have the opportunity to observe wildlife, perform fieldwork and be inspired by the best that Canada has to offer.

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