

Fall 2016



The Pringle Press

George Pringle Memorial Camp • United Church of Canada • Shawnigan Lake, British Columbia



Kezia's Korner Kezia Cowtan, Camp Director

The Classic Camp Comeback Worked! We streamlined our camp offerings for 2016 and Camp Pringle had 38 registrations for Spring Break camp and 524 registrations for summer camps for a total of 562 campers. We were way up from last year as we only had 434 campers in 2015. It's very encouraging that we had a large number of new campers that typically do not attend Camp Pringle. Our registration survey showed that 327 of our 2016 campers had not been to Camp Pringle before, 178 kids were returning campers, and 76 did not answer. We offered an Early Bird discount and which resulted in almost 3/4 of our registrations being booked by May 1st. We attributed this to better marketing, the simplified program, and the early-bird discount which we will offer again in 2017.

Training Pays Off Summer Camp saw 40% of our youth program staff return to deliver the programming in 2016 and 60% of our teens who have come up through our leadership program had the opportunity to be on staff. These are our teen leaders of tomorrow. Visit CampPringle.com to get to know our 2016 program staff.

2017 Summer Staff Openings We will post our 2017 program positions in the late fall. Our website will have descriptions of the open positions with application instructions. Our interviews will be conducted in January of 2017. Check CampPringle.com and our Facebook page for details.



2016 Summer Staff



In May of 2016, Camp Pringle and BC Conference partnered with HeroWork (a not for profit who organizes modern-day versions of old fashioned barn raising), the Oak Bay Marine Group and Vancouver Island Construction Association Under 40 group, to rebuild our dock in a weekend. Hundreds of visitors enjoyed new our dock in 2016. Come and enjoy our waterfront in 2017.



Summer Highlights by Claire Friedrich

Our "Classic Camp Comeback" summer was a fantastic success! I would like to share one of the highlights of my summer: our teen programs. I spent two years leading the Crew and Counsellor in Training programs at Pringle and even participated in the Crew program back in 2007. Mentoring and supporting our teen program continues to be a strong focus of my work at camp. This summer we offered two wonderful teen programs classic Crew and a new addition - Leaders In Training.

Summer began with the Leaders in Training program consisting of six teens ages 16-17 who are training to be Pringle program staff. Their training included preparing and facilitating activities for campers, workshops on camp policies and leadership styles. L.I.T.s completed the Standard First Aid and the Bronze Cross lifeguarding courses under the supervision of our awesome instructors Dylan Forbes and Nate Labine. Each of our L.I.T.s also completed two weeks practicum placement as assistant cabin leaders, assistant swim instructors, prep cooks, dishwashers and even assistant Chaplain. We know many of these youth will be vital members of our summer staff in the years to come.

The remaining weeks of summer featured our Classic Crew. Crew is a program for youth ages 15-17 who want to develop their leadership skills and further their self-confidence. It consists of the normal recreational activities such as canoeing, rock climbing, archery and more. Crew are responsible for washing the dishes for the entire camp and assisting in the leading of activities for the younger campers. Last summer our Crew also worked on our cabin row refurbishment project and rebuilt our meditative Matt Bishop Walk, a stone labyrinth near our waterfront. The 2016 Crew were an amazing group of leaders and we hope to have all of them back at camp next summer.

The Crew and L.I.T. programs are an integral part of summers at Camp Pringle. We value the commitment and hard work these teens devote to making camp a better place. These programs offer youth the opportunity to form lasting connections with each other and to carve their names into camp history.





What's Coming Up?

Camp Pringle is gearing up for further capital improvements to the property. In the early spring of 2017, Camp Pringle is partnering with BC Conference to re-do the North Pole boys and girls washrooms and the Laura Butler dormitory showers. Our washrooms see hundreds of visitors every year and they will greatly appreciate these long overdue improvements.

Long time camp volunteer and donor Reverend Laura Butler is contributing to the restoration of the Laura Butler dormitory building roof and further foundation work.

If you are interested in matching or contributing to Camp Pringle's Capital Projects, please contact the Camp Director at director@camppringle.com or at the camp office at 250-743-2189.

Camp Pringle and the BC Conference

As Camp Pringle's relationship with BC Conference continues to evolve. Conference is exploring the development of a new entity under Conference's Ministry of Camping to manage central aspects of the regional camp's administration.



**Claire Friedrich,
Acting Fall Rental Coordinator**

Claire has been attending Camp Pringle since she was 7 years old. Her family are long time members of the Duncan United congregation. She has been on staff for 4 years and the summer camp Program Coordinator for the last 2 years. We hope to keep her as Rental Coordinator for 2017.

Our Board

Our Board continues to change and grow as Camp Pringle redefines our relationship with BC Conference. The Board is seeking new membership to the Board and to the broader George Pringle Memorial Camp Society. If you are interested in becoming a Board or society member to help grow the congregational involvement, fundraising initiatives and programming, please contact Reverend Murray Groom of Sylvan United Church.

Camper Bursaries

Camp Pringle awarded \$10,000 in camper bursaries to 36 campers this year and the local Vancouver Island United Churches almost matched that with \$8,500 of camper bursaries for 34 additional campers. Thank you to Duncan, Fairfield, Comox Nanaimo Presbytery, St. Stephens, St. Andrews, First Metropolitan, Cordova Bay and Centennial.

Donate to Our Designated Bursary Fund

Many families request a bursary to attend camp. In 2017, the Camp Pringle Board will create a new camper bursary policy to allow only one time partial bursary applicants to extend the bursary fund to twice as many campers. Please see CampPringle.com for further information regarding the new bursary policy for 2017.

Disability Policy

In the early summer of 2016, Camp Pringle created a new Children and Youth Leader with Disabilities Inclusion Policy. To learn more about camp's disabilities inclusion policy, visit CampPringle.com and see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

SCHOOL TRIPS AND GROUP RENTALS

In May and June of 2016 we had 6 schools with 500 campers attend Camp Pringle for their year end school trips. The schools raved about our program staff and the food. We invite your school to attend our camp in 2017.

The following groups have already visited or plan to enjoy Camp Pringle. Contact our Rental Coordinator and bring your group!
Victoria Police Department's Youth In Change Program, Canucks Autism Network, St. Michael's School International Program, St. Michael's School, Oak Bay High School Band, Discovery Elementary, Mustard Seed, SD #61 Strings Festival, Island Catholic School, St. Andrew's School, Queen Margaret School, Glanford School, Central Middle School, Anglican Church Women's Group, Westshore Quilters, CISV – Children's International Summer Village, Victoria Folk Music Festival and Rugby Canada

Thank You for Supporting Camp Pringle

Camp Pringle exists to provide opportunities for campers of all ages to experience God's love in a close relationship with other people and the natural environment. At Camp Pringle we model ourselves on the Missionary work of George Pringle Senior himself – meeting youth wherever they are at in their spiritual journey and opening their life to new experiences through the words and actions of our staff. We are part of the United Church of Canada, and believe in our mission; we hope you do as well. Every year we operate summer camps at a loss in order to help more kids experience the wonder of camp.

This year Victoria Presbytery has changed its structure and funding relationship with most of its ministries, resulting in a loss of \$25,000 of funding to Camp Pringle, money which directly supported the cost of having an on-site caretaker. Camp also experienced some thousand of

dollars in unplanned for expenses. Our drain pipes flooded lower Spencer, we conducted emergency repairs on part of the foundation of the Laura Butler building, we experienced a water contamination issue, and food and food service costs were up over previous years.

We make up some of the loss through our winter rentals, but rely on you – our supporters – to help us keep up with the operational requirements, capital improvements and funding for bursaries to allow summer camp to happen. Your donations are an increasingly important component of Camp Pringle's overall budget – your efforts in our spring 2016 campaign brought Camp a much needed \$16,000. We hope to match that support in our fall campaign. You can donate using the form below, by contacting the camp office or through CanadaHelps.org.

✓ Yes, I'll help give a week that lasts a lifetime.

I wish to support **Camp Pringle** in the amount of:

\$20 \$50 \$100 other \$ _____

Donor Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

PAYMENT

Please charge my

Card Number _____ Expiry _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please find a cheque made payable to: **Camp Pringle**

Send this form to:

Camp Pringle
2520 West Shawnigan Lake Road, Shawnigan Lake, BC, V0R 2W3

By providing your email address you are agreeing to receive emails from Camp Pringle. These may include e-newsletters, event invites, promotions and requests for support. You will receive an official income tax receipt for your gift of \$20 or more, unless otherwise requested.

CONTACT US

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George Pringle Memorial Camp
The Victoria Office is closed as of Jan. 1, 2016.

Want to keep in touch with the comings and goings of camp? Check out our Facebook Page or follow us on Twitter!