

2016 ANNUAL REPORT GEORGE PRINGLE MEMORIAL CAMP SOCIETY

The George Pringle Memorial Camp is fully accredited with both the British Columbia Camping Association and the United Church of Canada. And we are a member of the Canadian Camping Association.

Contents:

Personnel Report Summary

Program Report Summary

Summer Registration Report

Property Report Summary

Financial Summary and Statement

Society Members

Position

Chair & Vic Presbytery Rep
Vice-Chair
Finance Director
Property Chair
Comox-Nanaimo Pres Rep
Communications&Fundraising
Secretary

Members

Church Name

Sylvan
Sylvan
At Large
Esquimalt
Nanaimo
At Large
At Large

Duncan
Oak Bay
Chemainus
Chemainus

Murray Groom
Bill Davies
Jake Jakubowski
Bob French (till Sept)
Leo Rengers
Dave Nicolson
Christine Blackburn
Virigina MacCarthy
Mike McAuley
John Wray
Lauren Clark Gallant

Staff

Camp Director	Kezia Cowtan
Rental Coordinator	Trina Burns
	Claire Friedrich
Registrar	Georgia Bradbrooke
Residential Caretaker	Christian Singer
Chef	Lorri Heath
Kitchen Assistant	Cassidy Heath
	Alex Leuven
Cleaners	Seth Neufeld
	Marissa Diakiw
Program Coordinator	Claire Friedrich
Chaplain	Sarah Prestwich
Waterfront Director	Seth Jerome
Lifeguards	Dylan Forbes
	Haeley Lowe
	Ben Holmes
	Derek Anderson
	Aaron Kanstrap
	Anna Young
CIT & Crew Leaders	Robin Younie
	Sean Lee
Program Leaders	Kyle Dong
	Caelan MacEwan
	Vanessa Dolbec
	Sarah Cherniwchan
	Lia Collis
	Spencer Ranson
	Connor Pickles
	Delaney Marat
	Casey Jones
	Olivia Knoester

Volunteers

To many to list individually – thank you to all our volunteers

GEORGE PRINGLE MEMORIAL CAMP ANNUAL REPORT

The Camp is located on just less than 20 acres of beautiful Shawnigan Lake front property about 45 minutes north of Victoria. Nestled amongst a natural forest, the facilities include rustic cabins, modern lodges, craft and meeting areas and program facilities that include challenge ropes and climbing activities run by certified staff. The camp operates year-round, with our priority programming being United Church based camping programs for children and youth during the Spring Break and for 8 weeks during

the summer. Specialty camps that run at the same time as our regular programs include a Leader-in-Training (LIT) course and introductory leadership course called Crew. The philosophy of The George Pringle Memorial Camp is encompassed in our mission statement below:

Camp Pringle Mission Statement

We provide opportunities for campers of all ages to experience God's love in a close relationship with other people and the natural environment.

(Last reviewed February 2016)

The 66th year of operations at the Camp was one of continued growth. We offered several camping programs during each week of summer. We also continued the challenge of working towards increasing our rental and program pricing in order to become more financially viable. We had a successful year of school programming with over 500 students in attendance in May and June. With the continued generosity and support of BC Conference and donors, we continue to manage and operate the camp. Please note the statements included in this report have not been reviewed by the Chartered Accountant.

2016 Year End Personnel Report Summary

With a core team in 2016, the staff and volunteers continue to be the heart of Camp Pringle. They ensure campers are a valued part of the camp community, a safe program and that the property is well maintained. We received a full accreditation from the BC Camping Association in 2016.

In 2016, Director, Kezia Cowtan, Caretaker, Christian Singer, Chef, Lorri Heath and Rental Coordinator, Trina Burns set the pace for the year as the new core permanent staff team.

9 of 21 program staff returned from 2015. And we welcomed 12 new awesome staff to the team.

To help balance our volunteer needs for the summer for 2016, our teen leadership program was improved to include certification and co-cabin leading practicums. The Leaders in Training (LIT) campers contributed the following apprentice/volunteer weeks: 3 completed their required 2 weeks of volunteer co-leading, 1 completed 4 weeks, 1 completed 5 weeks and 1 completed 6 weeks. The LITs were predominantly involved in co-leading cabins, several supported swimming lessons as lifeguards, shadow guarding and one who was involved in Chaplaincy, shadow guarding and co-leading.

We had an additional 14 volunteers participate in camp activities in July and August. 6 contributed 1 week of co-leading, 2 contributed 2 weeks of co-leading, 3 contributed 3 weeks of co-leading, 1 contributed 2 weeks of property help, 1 contributed 1 week of lifeguarding and 2 contributed 1 week each of Camp Parent. One of our volunteer co-leaders also assisted with Medic as she had her first aid requirements.

The 2016 George Pringle Memorial Camp Board membership was 22, with 11 serving as directors of the Society. We are currently only representing 5 of the 18 Victoria Presbytery Churches and 5 from among the 24 Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery Churches. We hope to increase this number in the future and encourage churches to actively recruit members to our board.

2016 Year End Program Report Summary

The 2016 program was very well planned and implemented. Claire Friedrich took on the role of Program Coordinator for her second year and again did a phenomenal job. She was able to maintain staff control and work with Sarah Prestwich, our Chaplain, to keep the team focused on the campers and to deliver an amazing program.

We continued to offer school programming in May and June and saw over 500 students participate in the program. We offered 8 weeks of summer camp for campers aged 6-15, running a simplified program each week plus our teen leadership; Crew and LIT programs. Overall in 2016 we saw an increase in the number of summer campers from 2015 by 128 campers. In 2016 we had 562 summer campers, 327 of which were new campers! We attribute the early bird discount, better marketing and a more simplified program for this increase.

We offered a new version of the Leader-in-Training program for teens ages 16 years and older that ran over 2 weeks of certification and a minimum of 2 weeks of practicum co-cabin leading. We had 6 participants in 2016 which was about a third of the youth in 2015. Our Crew sessions for teens 15 years numbers were approximately the same as in 2015, we had 18 youth.

We feel there are two reasons why our LIT program registration struggled this year. First we changed our LIT program to be a rigorous certification course which we believe resulted in many of our teens not returning to the program. Secondly, we had also made the program for 16 year olds. However, youth can challenge the Bronze Cross and Medallion certifications we offered at 15 years of age. It meant that half our LIT program had already completed these certificates.

We will make our CREW program eligible for 15 year old youth and open it up to 17 years of age for youth who would prefer to complete service work until they can apply to be on staff. And then we will make our LIT program for youth ages 15-17 years who would rather complete a certification program.

2016 saw the continuation of our day camp program for its third year. We had 7 months of a full page advertisement in the local Valley Voice periodical that is in every restaurant and shop in the region. We had 81 day campers in 2016 over the 32 campers who took part in the day camp in 2015 and we expect those numbers to increase in subsequent years as we continue to advertise locally.

The new waterfront was well used with swimming, canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding being the main activities. Leadership at the waterfront was strong and safety was always the top priority. We offered Red Cross swimming lessons at three sessions of camp this summer and we were fully booked all 3 sessions.

Our first week at camp we ran a teen week of Ultimate Adventure which did not bring the registrations we hoped for. Our busiest weeks at camp were with 63 campers, July 10-15th and August 7-12th.

Our challenge activities including high ropes, low ropes, climbing wall, archery, trust and orienteering were camper highlights for many participants. Cabin Leaders Caelan MacEwan and Spencer Ranson were trained and led us in the Challenge activities and did a great job of keeping up the safety and enthusiasm for these activities.

The evening program involving campfires, wide games and vespers were very special times for the campers and the variety and energy brought to these activities by staff was excellent.

Our Faith Quest and overall Christian development program at camp had more Bible based emphasis and our Chaplain, Sarah Prestwich, was so well loved by everyone that the program was very successful. She brought so many new and innovative program ideas to the faith program that many will be used again in

the future. Our Chaplain was assisted by a Leader-in-Training participant, Kallie Wilson to deliver much on the 2016 faith program. We hope to nurture Kallie to hopefully be our future Chaplain.

2016 Year End Registration Report

Our camper numbers were up in 2016 with 562 participants in our programs. We had 58% new campers- 327 of the registrations reported being new to Camp Pringle. We saw 38 of these registrations enjoy a great Spring Break Camp where we offered a full week of CREW, Ultimate Adventure and Junior Co-Ed.

Marketing efforts included: a 15% early bird discount that saw three-quarters of our summer registrations entered by May 1st. We simplified our program schedule on our website and our brochure. We increased our social media presence and grew our brochure distribution at Recreation Centres and Thrifty Foods by Island Parent four times. And we put a full page advertisement in the Valley Voice for 7 months over the small one month listing we had in 2015. A fall and spring newsletter was sent in digital and paper form.

We increased the number of staff's ability to use our on-line Camp Brain registration system bettering our response time to parents with questions about registration.

Once again, the majority of campers 59% (73% in 2015) came from Greater Victoria. Mid to north island represented 31% of the registrations over the 23% in 2015. The mid to north island breakdown includes; 12% (9% in 2015) came from the Shawnigan Lake/Mill Bay/Cobble Hill region, 12% (10% in 2015) came from the Duncan/Cowichan Bay/Cowichan Lake/Crofton/Chemainus/Ladysmith, Comox-Nanaimo region sent us 5% (4% in 2015) of our campers and 2% came from North Island. 5% (4% in 2015) came from Greater Vancouver and another 5% were from out of country.

This summer 5 of the 18 Victoria Presbytery Churches had 24 campers attend and 2 of the 25 Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery Churches and the Presbytery bursary funded 8 campers. 17% of our campers reported being associated with a church. 8.5% or 48 (over the 29 from 2015) of these campers were from 10 Victoria Presbytery Churches, 7 from the 25 Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery Churches., 4 listed being from the United church without specifying and 1 from New Westminster United Church. In addition, 6 campers; 1 from New Westminster, 1 from Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery, 3 from Victoria Presbytery and 1 from the United Church at large came for the Spring Break Camp.

2016 Year End Property Report

In 2015, Residential Caretaker, Glen Slater's finished his third year at Camp Pringle. And Kitt Singer was hired to replace him. In the winter of 2016, Kitt managed the damage of the flooding of the Spencer Building drain tile and weeping system. At the same time, he took advantage of the having the backhoe on site and made the necessary repairs to part of the Laura Butler building foundation.

Kitt worked continually to remove approximately 30 tons of garbage from and around the site.

Kitt installed a driveway gate, better security and signage to avoid people wandering the property.

Camp Pringle and BC Conference partnered with local HeroWork foundation and the Dock master's team at Oak Bay Marina to rebuild our 25 year old dock system in May. Thousands of children and guests enjoyed the new dock.

We faced a water contamination issue in the first week of Summer Camp and spent thousands ensuring bottled water was provided for our users, extensive watering testing was completed and BC Aquifer worked to shock the system, clean the reserve, and replace the UV unit and electricity in the pump house.

Summer Camp staff made new curtains for all the cabins and repainted the doors. Crew pressure washed the cabins and repainted the steps. Crew worked with the Chaplain to relay the labyrinth as a legacy project.

The septic was challenged by the number of guests and the motor required work in the fall. We managed through continual power outages as we had guests till late November.

Camp Pringle is working with BC Conference to undertake some washroom renovations on the Laura Butler building and the North Pole in the spring of 2017. We also have private donors contributing towards to redoing the roof and further foundation work on the Laura Butler building.

Property Projects

The camp was used a total of 200 days in 2016 (including all rentals, school groups and summer camp) slightly down from 226 days in 2015.

Several projects were completed in 2016, these were:

Drain tile and system was serviced

Water purification system and holding tank was cleaned, rewired and a new UV switchboard and lights were installed.

Spencer septic system had a shard of metal removed from the motor that caused the system to be off line for 3 weeks, requiring manual intervention every other hour.

Laura Butler and North Pole septic system was serviced and the floats were replaced.

Laura Butler foundation was repaired and the interior wall was replaced

Waterfront: a re-new dock system was implemented by BC Conference, HeroWork Foundation and Oak Bay Marina

Required work on the High ropes and Low ropes course and the climbing wall were completed

Watercraft: A new Zodiac *still required at a cost of \$2,500*

Generator to run the septic *still required approximately \$15,000*

New Chlorine Injection Pump *still required approximately \$5,000*

Proper Water purification system building *still required approximately \$10,000*

Fund Raiser

Camp Pringle once again held a fund raiser dinner for the Ironman Triathlon. The Davies family helped organise the volunteers to make the event possible. The buffet dinner was a great success with 150 guests. With the room rentals we raised with 140 people staying overnight on Saturday (up considerably from 2015 where we saw only about 40 guests accommodating). In total we raised, \$6,177 (prior to cost). Other fundraisers included the Scrap Metal Drive raising \$2,215.13 and the donation campaign raising \$22,395.92.

Crew Projects

Crew 1 & 2 power washed the cabins and painted the stairs. And Crew 3 revitalised the labyrinth. In addition all the crew kids helped with dishes, recycling, compost and garbage.

2016 Year End Private Rentals

The Private Rentals continue to be strong, most weekends are filled and we are looking for ways to increase week day rentals in the “off season”. We offered weddings for the first time in 2016 and found that they are not the right fit for our mission.

Rental Statistics

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Days with people on site	200	157	180	276	254	212	222	256
Number of groups using the Camp	60	76	50	68	60	74	53	53
United Church Groups	6	5	6	7	7	9	7	7
# people using the camp - Private rentals only (not including May/June schools, March Break Camp or Summer Camp)	3269	2948	3461	3812	3319	3414	2520	2627

User Groups	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Church groups	528	411	1076	400	726	791	799	896
Schools (private rentals)	1207	828	980	888	1049	930	764	842
Youth	300	206	371	176	263	636	437	329
U.Vic	30	84	121	206	143	230	103	76
General	694	1319	913	2142	1138	827	417	484
Weddings	510							
*TOTAL	*3769	2848	3461	3812	3319	3414	2520	2627

* This # does not include the School Programs (6 weeks) or March Break Camp (1 week) or Summer Camps (8 weeks)

Private Rental Groups 2016

This list does not contain the schools that came for our school programmes.

**Italics returning from last year*

United Church Groups

UVIC United Church Ministry

Island Time – BC Conference Vancouver Island Youth Workshop

First Metropolitan United

UCW Day Apart

Cadboro Bay United

Youth Groups

Christadelphians

Youth for Change and Inclusion

VOCYL-Community Living Victoria – Can Assist Group

CISV

University of Washington Rowers

Other Denominations

Anglican Women's group 2Xs

The Table Church

St. John Divine

U. Vic Groups

U.Vic Student Music Educators Association

School Groups

Mt Doug Leadership

Mt Doug Band

St Andrew's Regional High 2Xs

St Andrew's Elementary

St. Joseph's

SD61 Festival Orchestra

SMUS -2x

Rockheights Middle School

Glanford Middle School

Oak Bay Band

Discovery School

Cowichan Secondary School

Central Middle School

General Groups

Commencement Bay Rowers

Canucks Autism Network

Mother's Day Brunch

HeroWork

Victoria Folk Music

Westshore Quilters

Ecamp

IronMan Triathlon

Mankind Project of BC

Sacred Heart

Rugby Canada

6 private weddings

Financial Summary

In 2016, the camp faced a deficit due to the loss of Presbytery funding, unexpected maintenance costs, staff costs and food price increases. Although our year end expenses were approximately \$30,665 over the proposed budget, our increased revenue from camper registration and gifts from generous donors had us end the year with a (\$18,160) deficit

Continuing to increase camper numbers and improve access to camp for the Vancouver Island United Churches is a significant focus for both the camp and BC Conference. Maximizing high return rentals and continued effort to increase camper numbers will help to reduce the loss incurred through the summer camping program. Please see the financial breakdown on the following pages for the full details.

In 2016, we better managed our bursaries with 36 campers receiving bursaries for a total of \$10,000. This was in addition to 24 campers who received \$7,221.45 worth of bursaries from the Victoria Presbytery churches including Duncan United, Fairfield and First Metropolitan, Cordova Bay and Centennial. And 8 camper bursaries worth \$813.70 were received from Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery. Very few outside organizations now sponsor campers, however, we did see 5 campers sponsored by Kamps for Kids for \$2,081.62. A total of \$20,510.77 in bursaries was provided for campers in 2016.

Bursary donations were down moderately and do not cover the \$10,000 per year of camp bursaries we give to campers. As our overall Bursary Fund depletes providing camp bursaries to campers in need in the future will become an issue.

We saw the following amounts donated to camp in 2016:

Operating Donations	\$21,475
Bursary Donations	\$300
Capital Donations	\$65,000*

Special thanks for the donations made in memory Diane Kendell and Bonnie Thompson. And special thanks to Laura Butler for her \$65,000 capital donation for the Butler dormitory building capital projects for 2017.

We received a *\$58,000 capital grant from BC Conference to work in partnership with the HeroWork Foundation to renew the camp dock and accommodate the build weekend. (*the grant was paid directly to HeroWork)

We had the following amounts given as grants to camp in 2016:

	\$6,903
Government Staff Grants	
Presbytery Chaplaincy Grant	\$3,500
BC Conference Support Grant	\$115,000*

We were approved for two Canada Summer Job staff positions and a small Chaplaincy grant from the Victoria Presbytery. We are thankful BC Conference and our donors continue to support Camp Pringle as we could not be successful without them.

GEORGE PRINGLE MEMORIAL CAMP SOCIETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

George Pringle Memorial Camp Society
Statement of Financial Position
(Unaudited)
December 31, 2016

	Operating Fund DEC 31, 2015	Operating Fund DEC 31, 2016	Bursary Fund DEC 31, 2016	Capital Fund DEC 31, 2016	Total DEC 31, 2016
Assets					
Current					
Cash	\$ 12,421	\$ 98,034	\$ 31,485	\$ 82	129,601
Accounts receivable	14,219	2,122	-	-	2,122
Due from fund	4,564	-	-	-	-
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	-	240	-	-	240
Prepaid expenses	617	2,447	-	-	2,447
	<u>31,821</u>	<u>102,844</u>	<u>31,485</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>134,411</u>
Capital assets					
	-	-	-	22,350	22,350
	<u>\$ 31,821</u>	<u>\$ 102,844</u>	<u>\$ 31,485</u>	<u>\$ 22,432</u>	<u>\$ 156,761</u>
Liabilities					
Current					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	19,456	22,216	-	-	22,216
Due to fund	-	55,008	-	(55,008)	-
Due to fund	5,182	3,715	(3,715)	-	-
Due to BC Conference	-	8,076	-	-	8,076
Deposits on rentals	7,083	31,504	-	-	31,504
	<u>31,721</u>	<u>120,518</u>	<u>(3,715)</u>	<u>(55,008)</u>	<u>61,795</u>
Fund balances					
	<u>100</u>	<u>(17,674)</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>77,440</u>	<u>94,966</u>
	<u>\$ 31,821</u>	<u>\$ 102,844</u>	<u>\$ 31,485</u>	<u>\$ 22,432</u>	<u>\$ 156,761</u>

*Please note: The \$65,000 capital donation from Laura Butler was not moved from the Operating Fund to the Capital Fund until after Dec 31, 2016. \$5,668.39 was spent prior to Dec 31, 2016 on the initial contractor's agreement and \$4,323.60 was owed to the Capital Fund since 2012. The *\$3,715 showing owed to the Bursary Account is from 2013.

George Pringle Memorial Camp Society
Statement of Operations
(Unaudited)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Actual Dec 31, 2015	Actual 31/Dec/16	Budget 2016 Year
Revenue			
Summer Camping	\$ 166,053	\$ 202,021	\$ 180,650
Programmed Events	61,211	52,992	65,000
Facility Rental	229,241	206,669	215,000
Camp Futures Grant	90,000	115,000	100,000
Presbytery Grant	23,240	3,500	15,000
Other Grants	6,045	6,903	4,300
Donations	30,753	18,825	10,500
Fundraising	5,324	11,963	5,500
Merchandise Sales	1,848	2,075	1,700
Other	-	8,367	-
Total revenue	<u>613,715</u>	<u>628,315</u>	<u>597,650</u>
Expenditures			
Salaries - continuing staff	156,627	129,114	128,557
Salaries - seasonal/contract staff	181,509	232,213	205,213
Repairs and maintenance	28,956	48,944	30,000
Fuel and utilities	43,998	46,283	44,920
Insurance	38,182	39,235	37,000
Transportation and freight	2,435	-	-
Advertising and promotion	15,308	12,258	12,500
Operating supplies	12,215	17,747	13,150
Food	83,323	87,295	84,000
Administration and other	47,052	33,386	45,000
Total expenditures	<u>609,605</u>	<u>646,475</u>	<u>600,340</u>
Excess of revenue (expenditures)	<u>\$ 4,110</u>	<u>\$ (18,160)</u>	<u>\$ (2,690)</u>

Looking Ahead:

With our Director and strong permanent staff team we look forward to a streamlined camp year and addressing many long overdue maintenance projects such as the washroom facilities and further Laura Butler remediation. The focus will be working towards increased permanent staff salaries, an appropriate maintenance budget and adequate food budget. Camp Pringle staff will continue to work towards providing the best, safest and spiritually uplifting camping experience year round.

In 2016, we saw an overall 30% increase in summer campers and a 20% increase in first time campers. As our well trained and cohesive summer staff ran an excellent program and provided exceptional role modeling, we feel that we should increase our percentage of returning campers for 2017.

Camp Pringle is working with BC Conference to build a Strategic Plan to build a strategy to increase revenues over the next 3 years.

I am very optimistic that the year will be one filled with many successes. God Bless.

George Pringle Memorial Camp Society
Statement of Financial Position
(Unaudited)
December 31, 2016

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Current					
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Fund balances	<u>100</u>	<u>(17,674)</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>77,440</u>	<u>94,966</u>
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This report was prepared for you

By

**Kezia Cowtan
Camp Director
George Pringle Memorial
Camp Society**

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Camp-Pringle/10808033259797>
