



GEORGE PRINGLE MEMORIAL CAMP

“An Experience That Lasts a Lifetime”



May 29, 2020

Dear Friends,

It is with sadness that I write to you today to officially announce the cancellation of all overnight camping programs for kids & teens for the 2020 season. This includes the overnight camps for Pathfinders, Trailblazers & Adventurers as well as our teen CREW and Counsellor in Training programs. We have been in close contact with the BC Camps Association and until early this week had been holding out hope to safely provide some small overnight programs this year. We received confirmation from Dr. Bonnie Henry and her team that overnight programs for campers under age 18 cannot be safely endorsed this year. Risk management and the safety of our campers and our staff has been the guiding factor in all our program planning for the summer. While we are grieving the loss of these overnight camping programs, we are extremely thankful for the guidance and support of our local and provincial health authorities and the BC Camps Association.

We are thrilled to announce we are finalizing plans to proceed with a small day camp program this year! We will provide detailed information on our summer day camps and other opportunities for families to enjoy Camp Pringle this summer on Friday June 5th. We are exploring transportation options for our campers residing outside the Cowichan Valley area to participate in day camps this summer and will have more details next week.

Our admin team will begin processing summer 2020 overnight camp cancellations next week. Currently registered overnight campers will have the opportunity to switch into a day camp program or may cancel their camp program and receive a full refund. Due to limited staffing please allow 4 weeks for your refund to be processed. We will be processing refunds in chronological order starting with campers registered for our first July camp. Thank you for your patience and understanding while we continue to navigate these unprecedented times.

As we begin the cancellation process, we ask that you consider donating part of your 2020 camp payment to Camp Pringle. Please consider giving **\$21.00 for 2021** to help sustain our operations until we can offer overnight programs again next summer. We are a registered charity and are forecasting a loss

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of at least 70% of our annual operating revenue due to COVID-19 cancellations. Your donation will enable us to continue providing inclusive summer programs for campers of all ages, abilities and identities in 2021.

The 2020 season was meant to be a milestone year of celebrating 70 years of camping ministry here in Shawnigan Lake. Even though we will miss out on many of the amazing events we had planned for Camp Pringle's 70th anniversary this year, we look forward to welcoming back our camping community from near and far in 2021 to celebrate 71 years. And 71 is just as fun!

We close every week of camp with the song Linger and to all our overnight campers who won't be able to attend camp this year I offer you these lyrics to hold in your heart this summer: ***It's just goodnight and not goodbye.***

We will all be together again soon.

Yours in Camping,

Claire Friedrich

Claire Friedrich
Camp Director

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