



Camping Association of NS

Fall Newsletter

And come September, I will remember, my happy camping days with you...

Well another summer camping season has passed. It's hard to believe isn't it?

Hundreds of campers in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have experienced the magic of summer camp... thanks to you!!

Just try to imagine the number of youth and adults who arrived home dirty, covered in days worth of sunscreen and bug spray, with friend-

ship bracelets from wrist to elbow, carrying their twig picture frame or dream catcher with a smile from ear to ear.

You did that!

Whether you worked in the kitchen, on a cabin, doing maintenance, in the office or running the whole shebang, you were the cause of great memories for at least one person. Doesn't that make

you feel great?!

All too often we get caught up in the details of day to day operations and forget to take a moment to really enjoy ourselves.

So this is our way of reminding you to relish those memories; and to say "Thanks" for all your hard work to make 2010 a success.

Now let's get started on 2011...

CANS is now accepting bids to host our 2011 AGM

Last year's AGM was a great success. More than 20 camp staff came out to Ross Creek Centre for the Arts in Canning NS for a day of information, networking, and of course participating in our general meeting.

We started the day mingling in the foyer then moved into the dining room for a delicious lunch catered by Ross Creek. After lunch Roxy Peterson, Ross Creek's Director gave us a tour of their beautiful facilities.

Some meeting highlights include four new education committee members, Sarah Mann, Mike LeDuc, Chris Falcioni and Devin Patton; four new Accreditation visit volunteers, Jenn Moore, Mike LeDuc, Chris Falcioni and Audrey Cameron and two new

Board Members, Mike LeDuc and Chris Falcioni. (For more information on our committees and our Board of Directors, please visit our website www.campingns.ca)

We were joined by two members of the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries who presented information on best practices for health and wellness at camp and new regulations for summer camps. These info sessions were both informative and interesting.

After the meeting, we had a chance to have some round table discussion that generated some WONDERFUL ideas from our members. Check out page 3 of this document to read the article

"What is CANS doing for you?" for more information on those ideas and their implementation.

As you can see, hosting our AGM is a great opportunity to show off your camp to other directors and staff, CANS Board Members and visiting presenters. It creates some great free publicity as the host camp is mentioned in two separate newsletters, our website and all other media associated with our Annual Meeting AND it will generate some off season revenue, we usually give our host camp the option to provide catering services for the event.

2011 AGM will take place April 9th. Interested camp directors or board members should contact Communications Manager Patti Sampson to host our 2011 Annual General Meeting.



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Special Points of Interest

- *Did you know where CANS has been published? (Pp1)*
- *Did you know where your health inspection reports are? (Pp2)*

“Campfire 2010” – Directors Forum and RNS Tradeshow in Halifax!

You are invited to attend a networking, sharing, and learning event in Halifax on November 17-18, 2010.

In conjunction with the Recreation Nova Scotia conference and trade show CANS has arranged for our members to attend the Wednesday night opening of the conference and, most importantly, to experience the trade show!

Over 40 exhibitors make their way to this event from across Canada, specializing in outdoor recreation, sport, and promotion. You will have the chance to mingle, pick up free samples and promotional items, learn about new equipment and ideas, make acquaintances with others, and meet municipal and local recreation officials from across N.S.

On Thursday morning, CANS will hold a director’s forum to meet directors and board members from camps across Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to

identify common issues of concern and dream a bit about how we might encourage and support each other through training and learning events in the future.

Who may attend? N.S. & P.E.I. Camp Directors, Board Members, and Senior Staff or Volunteers

Registration Cost: **Free** to the **first 40 people** to sign up from P.E.I. & N.S. (maximum of two free registrations per camp). \$25 per person for additional directors, board members, or volunteers from each camp.

Accommodations: A nearby camp with a heated buildings or sharing a room in a local Halifax hotel at a cost of \$30.00 (including taxes) for the night of November 17, 2010. (Location may depend on the number of people seeking accommodation)

This accommodation help will be available for the first 40 people requesting accommodation assistance.

Travel Costs: We have a limited discretionary fund to help with travel costs for those residing outside HRM in Nova Scotia and for those in Prince Edward Island.

Web link for information on the RNS Trade Show: <http://www.recreationns.ns.ca/conference>

Deadline for registration: October 30, 2010!

For information or to register, email info@campingns.ca with your name, address, phone, and the number of people attending or call Russell Prime at (902) 491-6285.

Tickets for the Wednesday night RNS event and trade may sell out quickly, so register soon.

Christmas Daddies Challenge

Each summer thousands of children are touched by the magic of camping in Nova Scotia and PEI, this year CANS hopes to make the winter season a little more magical by donating to Christmas Daddies.

Christmas Daddies is an Atlantic telethon that raises money to provide Christmas gifts for children of low-income families.

We are issuing a challenge to our member camps to donate to our Christmas Daddies Fund, CANS will match the HIGHEST DONATION.

The camp that donates the most will also be invited to have staff or camper representatives present the cheque (wearing your camp shirts of course!) on TV during the telethon along with a representative from CANS.

All camp and/or individual donors will be listed on the CANS website.

Lets spread the magic all year round!



Camping Association Fee Schedule

The Camping Association is changing its fee schedule.

If you have not yet received your invoice for 2010-11 year, we apologize for the inconvenience. Invoices will be sent out in October.

To avoid confusion future invoices will be sent out in the first week of February.

All fees will due by March 31, 2011 for 2011-12 year

Membership cost will remain unchanged.

Camps	\$50.00
Agencies	\$30.00
Corporate	\$100.00
Individuals	\$15.00

Did you know?
You can view your health inspection reports online at:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/agri/foodsafety/reports/Request.aspx>

Upcoming Events/ Important Deadlines

Oct 6	Youth in Gangs offered by HRM (Free)	Nov 1	Healthy Eating in Recreation Settings
Oct 13	Special Event Workshop offered by HRM	Nov 4	CANS Board Meeting
Oct 15	RSVP Deadline for Healthy Eating in Rec Setting –Gathering	Nov 4	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
Oct 15	RSVP Deadline for Multi Year Planning/ Strategic Planning Workshop	Nov 4&5	Provincial Gathering of Non-profit and Voluntary Sector Organizations & Skills Development
Oct 19	Conflict Resolution skills- Dealing with Difficult People	Nov 17-18	RNS Tradeshow
Oct 20	Assertive Communication	Nov 18	CANS Campfire Directors Forum
Oct 20	Developing Outdoor Facilities		
Oct 21	Conflict as Opportunity Workshop offered by HRM (Free)		
Oct 23	Multi Year Planning/ Strategic Planning Workshop (Free)		
Oct 27	Preparing to Join a Board Workshop offered by HRM (Free)		
Oct 30	RSVP Deadline for CANS “Campfire” Directors Forum & RNS Tradeshow		

For details about these events and deadlines please visit our website

www.campingns.ca

CANS wants YOU!!

What does the future of camping look like to you? What about the future of your camping association? This fall CANS is creating a **steering committee** to develop a multi year plan to guide us on our way.

We are looking for volunteers to join this committee and share their ideas and suggestions of how CANS should move forward.

Teleconferencing is available, so don't let location deter you from having a voice in the future of your organization.

For more information visit the committee page of our website (found under the **About CANS** heading)

<http://www.campingns.ca/about-cans/directors-officers/committee-information>

*For tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today”
- African Proverb*

To volunteer please email Patti Sampson at communications@campingns.ca or contact any of our board members.

What is CANS doing for you?

At our annual general meeting in April you had some great suggestions about how to improve our website to better serve our membership.

We have spent the past few months making those ideas a reality because as the saying goes “ask and ye shall receive”.

Under our Members heading, you can find the following information:

Directors, counselors, resource and kitchen staff can now find information specific to their roles in our new **camp staff** section; there is also a **CANS discussion forum** where you can ask questions, give advice, share stories and catch up with old, and new, friends.

If you have a job opening at your camp, just email communications@campingns.ca and we will post the position on our **job board** for you.

Many thanks to our summer intern Megan Norris for her hard work on these and many other projects.

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We're on the Web!

www.campingNS.ca

*Bringing families, camps, and
leaders together since 1941*



The Camping Association of Nova Scotia, or CANS, is a not-for-profit organization supported by the provincial government of Nova Scotia and is dedicated to supporting and serving the residential camps of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

The Power of “I’m Sorry”

A number of years ago, I told my friend Cory that I worked at summer camp and he began reminiscing, as people often do, about his days at camp.

He told me about his first summer as a camper, he was about 11 years old, skinny, small for his age and shy. (I should mention that at the time, he was telling me the story he was about 27, very large and a “tough guy”)

He remembered that before bed one night, when they were supposed to be going to sleep, most of the boys in his cabin were teasing another boy. Being so shy, it was very hard for him to get involved but he knew that what they were doing was wrong so he spoke up and said, “hey guys, leave him alone, that’s not cool”.

Now wouldn’t it be great if our story ended here and this lone small voice ended the bullying, all the kids said

they were sorry and they all lived happily ever after. However, that’s not how this story goes.

The kids ignored Cory’s protests and continued teasing his bunkmate, a few moments later their counselor burst into the cabin, told the campers he had just overheard how they had been treating Stanley and that he was very angry and disappointed with them.

They all went to sleep that night feeling terrible, even Cory, who hadn’t done anything wrong.

The next day that counselor pulled Cory aside to talk to him, he said, “hey Cory, some of the guys came to me to tell me that you picked up for Stanley last night. I just wanted to say that I’m really sorry that I lumped you in with the people that were picking on him, and that I’m really proud of you. That was very

brave of you, and if you keep doing things like that, you’ll go really far in life.”

As he was telling me this story, my “tough guy” friend started to blink away the tears that filled his eyes and his voice became unmistakably hoarse, he said, “You know, I never forgot that moment. Not just that this guy I looked up to told me I would go far, but that an adult admitted that he was wrong and said he was sorry, it meant a lot.”

All too often, we forget that those two simple words can make a world of difference.

Now, I wish that I could end this story by saying that all of the kids said they were sorry to Stanley and that the counselor apologized for speaking harshly to the campers; but I don’t know if either of those things happened.

Cory didn’t remember any of that, he just remembers the moment when a “grown up” respected him enough to say, “I’m sorry”.

Do you have an idea for our next CANS Newsletter?

Would you like to volunteer on our Newsletter Committee?

Contact us at info@campingNS.ca