

May the God of hope fill you with all

JOY & PEACE

as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit

ROMANS 15:13

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

by Dave Murphy, Executive Director

As the Christmas season begins, we reflect on the profound significance of Advent, with its first Sunday centered on Hope. This message of Hope is at the heart of our ministry at Camp Kawkawa—a ministry dedicated to bringing light into the lives of children, young people, and adults. Time and again, God blesses us with the privilege of meeting individuals in their moments of brokenness, confusion, and darkness, allowing us to share His message of redemption and hope.

As Christmas draws near, we are filled with gratitude for your unwavering support. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity enable us to continue this vital work.

From all of us at Camp Kawkawa, may the God of hope fill you and your loved ones with joy and peace this season.

BEYOND THE SUMMER: YEAR-ROUND MINISTRY AT CAMP

by Dave Murphy, Executive Director

Many people often ask, "What happens at Kawkawa when the summer camps aren't running?" While summer camp is, of course, a central part of our ministry, there's much more that happens here throughout the year. Beyond the preparations for the next summer season—which take a lot of time and energy—our team is busy with a variety of activities that continue to serve our community and extend our ministry.

When summer draws to a close, Kawkawa transitions into a hub for retreats and events, welcoming churches, school groups, and other organizations. Throughout the year, we host groups for weekend getaways

and week-long retreats, providing a peaceful, scenic environment for reflection, fellowship, and spiritual renewal.

In addition to these groups, we've recently expanded our outreach through a meaningful partnership with the Hope and Area Transition Society (HATS) and the local RCMP. Together, we've been able to offer young people from at-risk backgrounds a chance to experience camp in a completely new way.

Through a series of "Youth Adventure" events, HATS has brought groups of youth to Kawkawa on Pro-D days. These young



people, many of whom are on the radar of HATS or the RCMP due to challenging circumstances, spend the day engaging in camp activities. We've had the privilege of introducing them to team-building exercises, archery, riflery, and, of course, providing them with hearty meals. Most importantly, these events create a safe, positive space for the youth to step out of their everyday environment, build relationships, and experience the joy of being in nature.

Although the motivations of Kawkawa, HATS, and the RCMP may differ, our goals align. We all desire to build trust and break down barriers between youth and the adults in their lives—whether it's law enforcement, community leaders, or mentors. These events provide a unique opportunity for us to share Christ's love in practical ways, to connect with these youth on a personal level, and to show them that there's more to life than what they may have experienced.

So far, we've held two "Youth Adventure" events. The first one in October saw 19 young people join us, along with RCMP members and HATS staff, bringing the total attendance to 28. Our November event saw that number grow to 27 youth, with 38 people in total, including participants and staff. It's been incredibly encouraging to witness the relationships that are already beginning to form between these young people and the staff from all three organizations. One of the most touching moments for me occurred during the activities when I overheard two young people talking about all the fun things they had done at Kawkawa. One girl shared with the other that it was possible to come to camp in the summer and even stay overnight. It's my hope that as we continue to build relationships in our community, more local young people will have the chance to experience Kawkawa's summer camps—and maybe one day sit around a campfire, hear a devotion from a cabin leader, or sing worship songs to God.

As we continue to engage with these young people, my prayer is that God's love would shine through all of us. I am excited to see how God will use these partnerships to transform lives in the years to come.



VOLUNTEER WITH US...

This past November we gathered to celebrate 50 years of camp Kawkawa. At the banquet and evening celebration people from many different eras were represented. For over 50 years so many different people have volunteered at Kawkawa in many different capacities. As the year begins, we like to reach out and secure volunteer nurses, speakers, boat drivers and kitchen helpers to assist with the summer program.

This year we're seeking that same help, and we want to remind everyone that summer camp is not the only time we need help and not the only opportunity to volunteer. We are extremely flexible and happy to accom-

IMPORTANT ROLES TO BE FILLED:

SUMMER TIME: Boat drivers, Nurses, Kitchen Helpers YEAR ROUND:

Kitchen Helpers, People to take on odd jobs, Painters, Gardening/landscaping helpers, Skilled helpers to work with our maintenance supervisor, Weekend Hosts

If you would be interested in volunteering for one of these positions or would like to know more about opportunities, please email info@kawkawa.com



modate anyone wishing to help, whether by showing up 1 or 2 times a week to work with our maintenance supervisor or coming in for an afternoon to garden or rake leaves.

PARTNER WITH US THROUGH YOUR YEAR END GIVING: Transform lives with generosity

At Camp Kawkawa, every donation helps create life-changing moments for young people. Whether it's a child experiencing the love of Christ for the first time or a teenager discovering their God-given purpose, these transformative experiences are made possible because of the generosity of people like you.

As we approach the end of the year, we invite you to join us in making an eternal impact. Your gift not only supports our programs and facilities but also ensures that we can continue to provide a safe, nurturing space where young hearts are touched, lives are changed, and faith is strengthened.

To receive a charitable tax receipt for this year, make your gift by December 31, 2024. Every donation, no matter the size, helps sustain this ministry and spread God's love to the next generation.

To donate or learn more, <u>click here</u>.





SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPENING

We're thrilled to announce that registration for our Summer Camps, Work Crew, and Leaders in Training (LIT) programs will open early in the new year! As we prepare to launch another incredible summer filled with fun, adventure, and life-changing experiences, we can't wait to welcome campers and leaders back to Kawkawa. Once registration is live, visit **www.kawkawa.com** to secure your spot.

Don't miss out on what promises to be an unforgettable season!





MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS SUMMER: JOIN OUR TEAM!

Applications for summer camp positions at Camp Kawkawa open in early January, offering young people a great opportunity to serve, grow, and make a lasting impact. Roles include Cabin Counselors, Work Crew Leaders, Worship Leader, Lifeguards, and more. These positions are more than just jobs—they're a chance to change lives, share God's love, and create unforgettable memories. If you know someone who would be a great fit, please encourage them to apply or put them in touch with us.

When applications open, visit www.kawkawa.com to start the journey toward a meaningful summer!



66706 Kawkawa Lake Road Hope, BC V0X 1L1 **t 604 869 9637 |** info@kawkawa.com