

BUCKO Camp Exchange



Words cannot express the adventure the 3 of us went on, it was non-stop fun right from the get go. The people were so loving and caring which made it even harder for us to leave. The plane ride there we were so anxious but the plane ride home was quiet. The week was full of excitement and right away the questions came pouring in about Canada. After the incredible greeting we had the opening night. Justin and I knew just what to do. We got up on that stage and we sang two songs, "Hey Hey Bo Diddley bop" and "3 Little Angels". I loved how everyone was treating us like they knew us forever and in that week I believe everybody felt that way by the end of the week. All in all for every bad moment there was 100 good moments. At the dance I loved the karaoke idea and when I saw it I knew it was my opportunity to become an international singer. To be honest I wish that I had never left and that I could stay there forever but I know that's not possible. Going in to the final day I promised my self I wouldn't cry but if you know me that is one promise I can't keep. I will always hold that week in my heart and I will never and I mean never forget it!

Tyler



This year Tyler and I went to another burn camp the camp was called Camp OO-U-LA for kids just like us except it was in Georgia. This camp was very similar to ours and the people were really nice and welcoming we got along with everyone there. We made a lot of new friends and exchanged e-mail addresses. Their dance is really cool because they make their own sets. We got to go in limo rides through the town, biking and there was paintball but that was really the only difference. At the end of camp it was hard because you had to say goodbye to everyone and everyone cried I think we could have filled the pool a few times with all the tears. I had a lot of fun and I can't wait to see who comes here to our camp.

Justin



Camp BUCKO 2009



The theme for camp this year is **SUPERHEROES**. You can bring a costume for the dance or make one in Arts & Crafts with Shirley and Mary. We have lots of fun activities planned for this year including special events for different camper age groups. Cabin assignment will be based on these age groups: 7-12, 13-15, and 16-17. Not a big change from previous years but you may be in a new cabin group. See you soon!



SUMMER 2009

SURVIVOR

You Are All SUPERHEROES

You may be as surprised as I was to find out that this is the 20th edition of **SURVIVOR**! The first edition of the Camp BUCKO newsletter was sent out in the Spring of 2001. We had a contest for our campers to name the newsletter and Cameron E. won with his submission of **SURVIVOR**. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter with stories and pictures, I hope you have enjoyed receiving **SURVIVOR** and that you are looking forward to reading many more.

Camp BUCKO 2009 is just weeks away! Our theme this year is **SUPERHEROES**! Each and every one of you, BUCKO campers and volunteers, are superheroes to me! Our camp volunteers have incredible superpowers that start from their hearts and create an awesome camp experience for our campers. And campers, you all have courage and strength that inspires and creates an outstanding camp spirit. And we can't forget our donors, people who care so much about our program and our campers that they continue to fundraise and make donations so camp can happen every year. They are also Camp BUCKO **SUPERHEROES**. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Nancy

Camp BUCKO Family



Keith with his brother Chris

We presented Keith Drummond, the original 'Keeper of the Cup' with the Get Well Card from our campers and volunteers. Keith would like to thank everyone for thinking of him and wishing him well. He is honoured to receive the card and is touched that you thought of him. Keith is feeling better and hopes to volunteer at camp again.

BUCKO Family Camp

"It is a great weekend and we don't want to take it for granted. Keep it going!" The Strojina Family

"Kinark Outdoor Centre is so beautiful. The staff is awesome, so polite, helpful, easy to talk to and great to spend time with at activities." The Daniels Family

"Our favourite memory of Family Camp is talking about the improvement of our children and meeting new parents & kids." The Guash Family

We are thrilled that BUCKO Family Camp has been so enjoyable for our families. It has become an important part of our program and enables us to introduce new families to Camp BUCKO and connect families so they can share their common experiences. Thank you so much for attending Family Camp and contributing to its success.



BUCKO Family Camp May 2009



Fall BUCKO Family Camp September 18, 19, & 20

BUCKO Camp Exchange

I would like to share a little bit about our trip to Camp OO U LA.



Justin, Tyler and I met at the airport for a flight to one of the best times of this summer. We flew to Atlanta Georgia, where we were picked up by our host and good friend Dennis. Off we went to the Burn Foundation offices to board a bus to Camp. Just like our camp, things can happen at the last minute and I was called upon to be a bus chaperone. It reminded me of my first bus trip to Bucko. We weren't on the bus for 10 minutes when I realized the boys were at the back of the bus and already making friends. Seems our American cousins are fascinated by the French language. I sat at the front of the bus surrounded by some very curious 7/8 year old boys.

Here is Tyler, Justin and Janet with Dennis.

After introducing myself, these little fellows drilled me on my knowledge of the States and their state capitals. I sure surprised them and myself when I was able to name several. They helped make the ride very interesting. One little fellow, Alvin, was particularly fascinated with Canada and asked lots of questions on the bus and throughout the week. By the end of the week he had learned 2 provinces and capitals. I was so proud of him.

We arrived at camp and I thought I was at the Taj Mahal. Wow, what a great facility. We met the key players and were introduced to the boy's cabin leaders and my fellow support workers. Oh yeah, the little secret that I hadn't told the boys - Sonia and Shannel, had also traveled to Georgia to volunteer at camp. It was nice to see them and to reconnect with Tony, who had visited/volunteered at our camp the year before.

I was assigned to the AV crew. The AV crew is responsible for taking pictures all week and then turning them into a slide show for viewing on the final evening. This was great for me as it allowed me to see all the comings and goings of the camp. And there were many. Each day was filled with so many different activities. Fishing, bike riding, swimming, beading, slip and slide, building, wall climbing, ropes course, paintball (for those old enough), the giant swing, a limo ride through town, THE PROM, a visit from a helicopter that landed in the middle of the playing field, car racing and many more. They also have a half day activity which is planned by their LIT's (like our VIT's). We were so busy all week.

Several times I found myself thinking that although our camp has some different activities, different kids and volunteers and is located hundreds of miles away, the experience is much the same. Volunteers coming together to give some pretty amazing kids a week of fun, laughter and good times.



I am truly thankful to have been given the opportunity to experience camp in a different country.

I want everyone to know that Camp BUCKO should be very proud of the way that Tyler and Justin represented us. Good-bye tears really tell the story. We have all been invited back next year and I have a funny feeling those boys are looking for jobs to pay their way down there.

Talk to Tyler, voted the Person Most likely to become an American and Justin, voted The Most Talented, for more details about our amazing week.

Janet