

Youth Farm Bible Camp

Summer Camp 2012
Corn Maze
Retreats
Staff Reports



Christ Centred, Farm Atmosphere, Empower People, Global Vision

2012 REPORT BOOK



Children's Camp - Page 4



Corn Maze - Page 8



Mexico Trip - Page 10



Chapel - Page 12



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Youth Farm Bible Camp

Box 636, Rosthern, SK. S0K 3R0

www.yfbc.ca

www.youthfarmcornmaze.com

info@yfbc.ca

1-855-855-YFBC (9322)

YOUTH FARM BIBLE CAMP



CONTENTS

Children's Camp.....	4
Adult Special Needs	6
Corn Maze.....	8
Mexico Mission Trip	10
Supporting Francisco.....	11
Chapel Project.....	12
Executive Director.....	14
Program Director.....	15

YOUTH FARM BIBLE CAMP



Bible Curriculum 2012

Monday: Who is God? Through the retelling of the Christmas Story, Campers will understand God's Character.

Tuesday: Who are God's People? Jesus died on the cross so that we could have a personal relationship with God.

Wednesday: What do God's People Do? We are called to be obedient. Micah 6:8

Thursday: God's People Pray. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Friday: God's People Go! Sharing about the Great Commission.

Children & Youth Camp

We had an amazing summer camp in 2013 with seven weeks of programming for ages 5-18. Our attendance for our children's camps was 294 campers.

The theme for the summer was God's People Pray. We sought to help campers, through Biblical examples and present day testimonies understand the importance of prayer and being part of God's People.

Throughout the week, campers are kept busy with many different activities. We start the day with morning exercises followed by breakfast. After breakfast is Chapel and it was with an immense amount of gratitude that we were able to worship God in our new chapel building! Our worship team loved the stage and campers greatly appreciated the space.

After Chapel is Skill Periods, the large group is split into six small groups to partake in one of our 9 skills. Lunch is next followed by a quick rest time. At 1:30, cabins gather for memory verse time and reciting the verse of the day by memory to the camp pastor. In the afternoon we have more skill periods followed by large group activities like swimming, hayrides, games, beach party, carnival et al.

After supper, we have activities such as counselor hunt, battle of the bands, counselor dress-up and other large group activities. Campfires close our time together as a large group with worshiping around a fire and hearing Bible Stories from our pastors. Then it is time for bed and cabin devotions when cabin groups talk about the day, share a devotion and pray together.

Camp is an exciting week where kids are away from their parents, experiencing many different activities, finding new friends and hearing stories and testimonies about Jesus Christ. One of our sayings at the Youth Farm Bible Camp is to Love God, Love People. We try to embody this in all we do as staff at our summer camp program.



Teen Trail Rides

This last summer YFBC offered two Teen Trail Ride camps. This is a camp for teens ages 13-17 who love horseback riding! We start out spending some time at YFBC learning how to care for, handle, and ride horses. Basic horsemanship skills are taught and there are many riding lessons to improve your skill (whatever level you are at), fun games on horseback, and trail rides around the camp property! Midway through the week we pack everything up, load the horses and head out to the Nisbet Forest approximately 35 minutes North of Rosthern for a camping experience. This portion of the camp consists of many trail rides in beautiful Nisbet Forest! Campers get the opportunity to use their new horsemanship skills on a camping adventure! Campers will be feeding, watering and caring for their assigned horse on our trip...and did we mention riding?! The camping spot is on Adamson Lake which is great for swimming. If camping, cooking over a fire, and horseback riding sound like fun to you, we'd love to have you come out!

This past summer we had two Teen Trail Ride weeks with 25 campers total. The small numbers are great for one-on-one instruction with the horses, building friendships, and learning more about God. Campers have the opportunity to enjoy a camping and horseback riding experience with a focus on Jesus. Campfires in the evening are a great way to enjoy each other's fellowship and have discussions about Jesus!

Theme for 2012 -

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

The goal of the Youth Farm is to Experience God, Meet Friends and Have Fun. We want our campers and our staff to grow in their relationship to God, develop strong connections to the community at camp, and have a lot of fun while doing this. There are an abundance of fun activities at camp. We are kept busy and active while at camp.

If you are interested in being a camper or staff member at the Youth Farm Bible Camp, applications will be online on January 1, 2013. Please see our website at www.yfbc.ca and find us on facebook www.facebook.com/youthfarmbiblecamp

Summer Camp Dates 2013

Children's Camps (\$260+GST)
C-1 Ages 6-9 July 7-12
C-2 Ages 9-12 July 21-26
C-3 Ages 7-12 August 11-16

Teen Camps (\$260+GST)
JT Ages 12-15 July 28 - Aug 2

Day Camps (\$120)
D-1 Ages 4-8 July 29 - Aug 2
Day camps run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided

Teen Trail Ride (\$315)
(Ages 13-17) July 14-19 & August 4-9

\$20 Discount if paid for by May 1, 2013



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Ron Derksen & Ron Regehr

1012 6th Street
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My aim for Day Camp the past two summers has been to introduce and build connections with younger children to Youth Farm Bible Camp through the staff, Bible stories and activities the

Day Camp Program at YFBC

I have had the privilege of working in the Day Camp Program at Youth Farm Bible Camp the last 2 summers and getting to see the impact camp ministry has on younger children. I love working with children especially within a ministry setting so camp has been a blessing upon my life this way. The Youth Farm has been blessed to have such a great Day Camp Program where so many children take part in; this past summer we had 56 children in total come for day camp throughout the week. Day Camp is a great way to introduce younger children to the camp experience without the fears of being away from home all week including overnight. This program runs in the middle of the summer, during Jr. Teen Camp, and takes in kids aged 5-8 to partake in many fun activities with the hopes of sharing the Gospel and providing an example of Christ's love. A typical day runs from 9:00 in the morning until 4:00 in the afternoon and is chalk-full of activities for the children. The activities the children partake in are activities that over-night campers would be doing as well. The Day Campers have chapel time with stories and singing as well as skill periods involving crafts, the climbing wall, corn maze and others. In addition to these activities, the campers also take trips to the pool in Rosthern, play games, have a mini-carnival and go horseback-riding.

children will be apart of while being present at camp. Children are encouraged to ask questions and seek guidance from their leaders as well as being encouraged to engage their peers and hopefully make new friends. Nothing can bring a smile to my face more than hearing one of the children say, "I had so much fun, I'm going to come back next year!" Over the past two summers I have seen the impact that Day Camp has made at Youth Farm Bible Camp and know that God's work is being done.

Terra-Lyn Braun

Children's Camp Activities:

- Swimming
- Horseback Riding
- Petting Zoo
- Corn Maze
- Climbing Wall
- Crafts
- Campfire Skills
- Archery
- Lego
- Drama
- Sports
- Wide Games
- Low Ropes Course
- Radio Controlled Cars
- Bounce Castle
- Carnival
- Sumo Wrestling
- Slip and Slide
- Hay Ride
- Candy Time
- Pizza Making
- Counselor Hunt
- Egg Drop
- Water Games
- Counselor Dress Up
- Beach Party
- Wiener Roast
- Dunk Tank
- Battle of the Bands

Adult Special Need Camp



The campers really enjoyed a new event at our ASN5 Camp - Cream Pies for campers to give to their Counselors!

The Adult Special Need Program at the Youth Farm Bible Camp has been very impactful for both Campers and staff! We have five weeks of programming in the summer. As we finish developing the basement of our New Chapel, we are also wanting to start winter camps for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities. We feel that one of the missions of the Youth Farm Bible Camp is to bring people to fellowship with these Adults. They are a very special group of people that society needs to not only include, but also learn from.

We have been in contact with some of our campers from 2012 and they are already looking forward to camp! It is a week that is very special to them - a week that is a vacation, a chance to spend time with friends, and worship God together through music and deed.

This year, we were able to give many of our ASN campers a book on the History of the Eigenheim church. On our first chapel of the week, we had someone from the Eigenheim congregation share their memories of the church building. We would then hand out copies of the History Book

"The Days Of Our Years" to all campers who wanted one. The book was cherished as a connection to the New Chapel that the campers received. In many ways, the Chapel Project was an important step of faith that the Camp needed to take for the benefit of our Adult Special Need Camps.

We are getting ready for the summer of 2013 and will be sending out applications as early as January. It is always exciting to see applications coming back as soon as we send them out and are looking forward to this happening again this year.

YOUTH FARM BIBLE CAMP

2013 Summer Schedule

Adult Special Needs

Registration - 5:00pm

Pick-up - 1:30pm

ASN1

June 24-28 - Cost is \$225

ASN2

July 1-5 - Cost is \$225

ASN3

July 15-19 - Cost is \$225

ASN4

August 5-9 - Cost is \$225

ASN5

August 18-23 - Cost is \$270



From one of our Pastors:



For the past few years I have had the pleasure of being involved at the Youth Farm Bible Camp as kitchen help, even a makeshift counsellor, but most often as camp pastor. I am always excited to contribute in whatever way I am able to the ministry at the Youth Farm. Spending time with the adult special needs (ASN) campers as the week's pastor has been one of my greatest privileges.

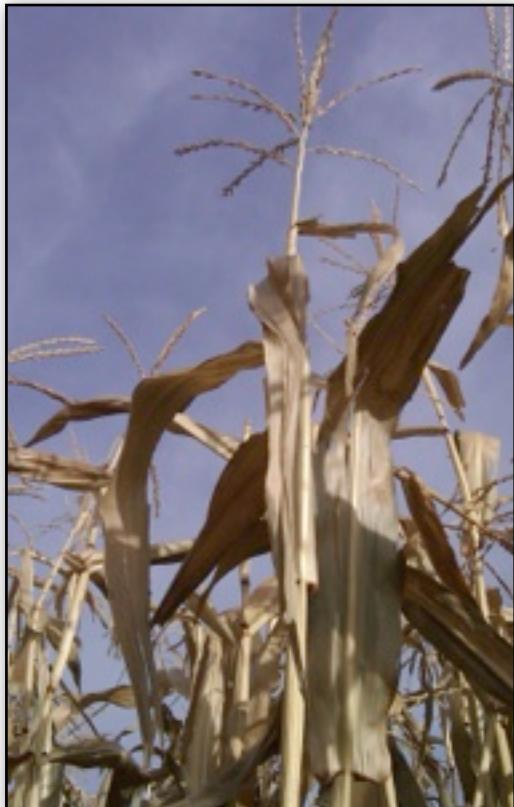
The first thing you learn about ASN camp, even as pastor, is that you are bound to make a number of friends very quickly. ASN campers have beautiful and open hearts. It is as simple as that. This beauty does not just stem out of their own simplicity, but is the loving fruit of a people who have been taught to love life and love others by a loving God.

This past year I had the opportunity to teach the ASN campers about prayer, which was a daunting and even useless exercise. I can only dream that my prayer life could ever resemble the prayer lives of many ASN campers. They pray simply, they pray boldly, and they pray with confidence. What rarity, and what treasure.

I hope I can connect with the ASN campers again and see my friends. For me, YFBC has become a place of spiritual renewal. For the campers, it is a place of fun, friendship, a break in old routines, and a simple, sacred place where they may shine with God's light in whatever particular or peculiar way the Holy One sees fit.

Pastor Chad Doell
Hoffnungsfelder Mennonite Churches

Youth Farm Corn Maze



This last fall was another exciting year at the Youth Farm Corn Maze. We had some great fall weather and we saw attendance at the Maze increase to over 6000 people (an increase of 1000 people from last year).

There were some exciting events held at the corn maze this last year. Our Fall Family Festival brought 600 people to our facilities to take part in the many activities of the day. This included a **Car Show, Gospel Music, Food Booths, Carnival, and more.** It was an exciting day on the Youth Farm grounds with a Praise and Worship at the end of the evening to close the event.

An addition to this year's corn maze was the Rider Pride Train that was pulled by our John Deere Gator. The train was built by Greg Redekopp with the wheels & frames donated by local farmers (from old augers). The white Barrels which people sat in were donated by Neil Unruh. ***It was a great recycling project that was used to give 4000 rides over the course of the corn maze season!***

On October 6, we were excited to be a part of the **Harvest for Kids** event. We brought our Sumo Suits, Bounce Castle, Rider Pride Train and Climbing Wall for families to enjoy at the event. It was great to see over 10,000 people supporting the 250 combines that harvested 360 acres in less than 10 minutes. The event raised \$150,000 to send kids to Bible Camps in India, Cambodia, Belize and other locations.

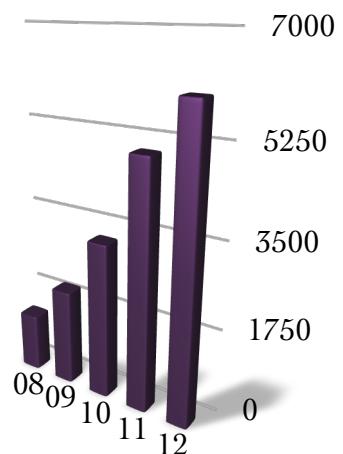


Throughout September and October, we had many school groups come out and visit the corn maze. Some came for a retreat and stayed overnight. The overnight retreats had more programming such as horseback riding, archery, hayrides, food services and more. Some stayed for the whole school day, and some stayed for 2-3 hours.

Both Teachers and students appreciated their time at the Corn Maze. The petting zoo area was a highlight for many of the students. Trying to find all the stations in the maze was another. We even had 200 students from Hague at the maze after the snow came!

Next summer we are hoping to have more events like our Fall Family Festival at the Corn Maze. We are hoping to have three Saturdays with Threshing Machine demonstrations and a full-time concession stand! We are excited about the prospect of another year of growth!

■ Corn Maze attendance



YOUTH FARM BIBLE CAMP

Come out to the Corn Maze in 2013
Open July 27 - October 27
Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Check website for times
Group rates available
www.youthfarmcornmaze.com



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*For the past three years, Wendland Ag has
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Mexico Mission Trip



In 2012, 15 of us went to Tijuana to build homes for those in need. It was the fifth time the camp went!

On March 29, 2013, we will be making our sixth trip to Mexico. The trip is a short-term mission trip based on serving the local church in Mexico, while creating cross-cultural understanding through direct exposure to the Mexican culture.

We are not just building a house in a developing nation. We also are going to understand the conditions of poverty through immersion.

It is a 30 hour drive both ways. Based on past experience, the ride in the van can be a favorite part to the trip. It will provide us time to prepare spiritually, emotionally, and mentally for our trip.

We are excited about the opportunity to have an experience like this. It will be a life changing event.

This Mexican Mission trip gives us the opportunity to serve God and people. Participants will be changed by attending this trip! I am excited about it and cannot wait for the van to leave!

We will be building a 11'x22', two-room home with a slab floor, stucco-finished exterior, two windows, and a door. It is a simple design, built according to the standards of the community.

The house will be built for a family on the outskirts of Tijuana, Mexico. The

roads are dirt, there is no running water, no electricity, no streetlights, no garbage collection, and no mail service. The government has been trying to improve the living conditions in these areas.

In these communities, families purchase, on average, a 20' by 40' lot from the government to live on. The typical home that is constructed on the lot is from used garage doors with a dirt floor. When it rains, the family ends up living in a house with a floor that turns to mud.

We are going to Mexico to build hope in the life of a family.

Supporting Francisco



<-Left - Francisco is showing us the top floor of the Church Building that he is a leader at.

Top - Francisco with his son Nephali and friend, along with Mission Trip participants Ike Epp and Jaime Unruh.

In the spring of 2008, on our third trip to Mexico we were blessed in meeting Francisco and Isella Ortiz, along with their three children. We built a house for them and the group became quite attached in the short period of time that we were there.

Francisco had spent some time in the United States and is fluent in English. He is also a leader in his local church doing Bible Studies and presentations weekly. He has a passion for discipleship and seeing Christians grow in their faith. He loves to mentor groups of new believers.

While building their house, Mark Wurtz, Mexico Trip Leader, found out a need that Francisco had that would help their ministry. A laptop computer. Support was raised from the people

who went on the mission trip and two months later, Mark was able to fly to Mexico (using airmiles!) and present Francisco with a brand new laptop.

As Mark says, "It was during this trip that I learnt a lot about the culture of Tijuana. We ate at local taco stands, visited families we built homes for, took in a local baseball game, and met leaders in the Mexican church."

The next spring, Mark, along with Jesse Doell, visited Francisco for four days, staying in the home that had been built one year earlier. They attended Church services, toured sites of a possible retreat centre, and got to know Francisco and Isella very well.

In 2010 and 2012, we once again went back to Mexico with a team to build houses. Francisco was hired as

the translator for the week and helped with a lot of the logistics of the trip.

During the last trip, Mark and Greg Redekopp talked to Francisco about the potential of the Youth Farm Bible Camp supporting Francisco in 1/2 time ministry. Francisco currently works 6 days a week and spends many evenings and all day Sunday in church work. Our desire is to give Francisco more time to do what he does best - disciple Christians. The first month that we will be supporting Francisco is December, 2012. Monthly support of \$300 is a 1/2 time salary in Tijuana. We feel that this is a great way for us to be able to give back to ministry in Mexico.

Chapel Project

In the fall of 2009, the idea to move the former Eigenheim Mennonite Church to the Youth Farm Bible Camp was shaped into a viable plan. By the spring of 2011, funding was in place and we were ready to start with the moving of the 3500 square foot building.

On June 1, 2011 the building was moved to the Camp! Then the work started. During the last winter, we gutted the education wing and built a new office complex. We also started working on the basement by framing and drywalling the rooms. A large front deck was added during the spring with a temporary boardwalk.

Over the summer, construction on the project stopped. However, the exciting thing was that we were able to use the new chapel! Every day we praised God for the building. We moved into the new offices in late April and were able to use them for Camper Registration.

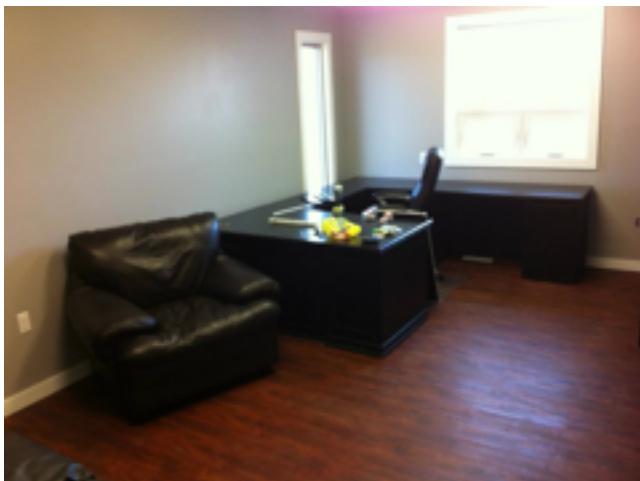
In the fall, we planted the grass and hope the spring rain and summer sun will help to quickly provide green grass. We are also hoping to install some sidewalks as soon as the weather allows.

Over the winter we plan on finishing the bathrooms in the basement and finishing six retreat rooms (three that have their own bathrooms). There is lots of different projects available for people who would like to serve! Please contact the camp if interested.



Jesse Doell leading worship at the first Chapel in the new building!

YOUTH FARM BIBLE CAMP



It was a great blessing to move into 1000 square feet of bright office space in April of this last year. We were able to change walls, drywall, paint, install flooring and trim, glass doors, purchase furniture and desks all for less than \$5000. This was due to volunteer labor and using Kijiji for the furniture!



We have received a lot of volunteer labor throughout the last year. Otto Funk from Hague spent the months of January to March (often 6 days per week!) working on the basement! We have had people as far away as Texas and Glenburn working on the Church. It has been a project that a community of believers has built!



Executive Director Report

Recently, I found an essay that I wrote 20 years ago while at Swift Current Bible Institute. We were asked to write a reflection paper on a Christian Ministry and I chose a Bible Camp Experience. Here is an excerpt:

I believe that camp should be filled with young counselors who can relate with children. They should be good leaders and live a life that does not contradict their beliefs. A counselor should be enthusiastic and be able to empower their campers. They should have a strong Christian Faith and a willingness to share it by word and deeds.

Over the last 11 years, I have been able to work with camp staff and help them live up to the above standard. I have seen staff grow by leaps and bounds. The leadership and faith development that is available through Bible Camps is incredible. I have

always felt that Bible Camp is a great place for our youth to grow and develop.

In 2011, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada published a survey that asked why our children are leaving the church. They found that 67% of children and youth that grew up in the church leave it as adults. However, the rate is much lower for those that have experience in Bible Camps and Short Term Mission Trips.

Today's generation is looking for practical ways to show their faith. Camp gives them the ability to share their faith to children, youth and adult's with disabilities. They are able to serve and care for the needs of others. They spend time daily in worship and personal devotions. A christian community is developed between the staff and campers. Through their service at camp, they experience a closeness to Jesus Christ.

It has been great to see all the growth that has happened at the Youth Farm Bible Camp. It has allowed us to hire more summer staff and grow our Junior Staff leadership development program as well. I feel that this is a powerful ministry and am excited to be part of it.

Because of the growth of the camp, we have been able to hire another member to the Year Round Staff of the Youth Farm Bible Camp. Bev Neudorf started in January as a part time Office Admin. She has taken a lot of work off of my shoulders and has been a blessing to the camp. We are very glad to be able to employ her services.

Mark Wurtz
Executive Director

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Mark with Camper Joe at the first Chapel Service!

Program Director

Well folks, another year has gone by, but not even close to being forgotten. It was a truly awesome year; 9 weeks of adrenaline pumping, water throwing, baseball playing, Loving God...and 3 months of People meeting, corn mazing, wall climbing, rabbit petting, all around good time! Needless to say it's been a blast!

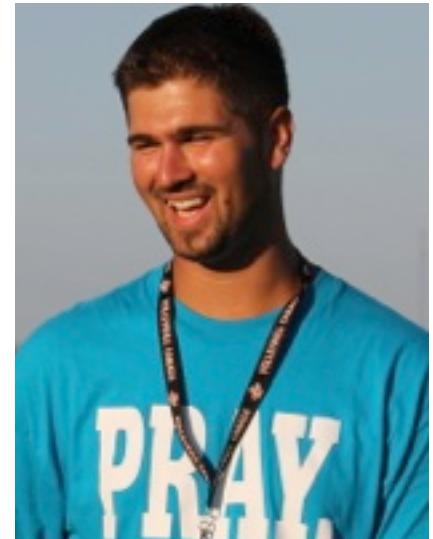
This last year marked my second summer of filling the program director position at camp, and so far I have yet to not be challenged. God continuously threw me curveballs all summer, some of them I could hit on my own, but most brought our leadership team together, and together we hit them curveballs out of the park!!! I was very blessed to be on the team of people that we had this summer, with Mark as our spokesman and Jesus as our leader, it seemed like there was nothing we could not do.

The move of the Eigenheim Church has been a huge blessing as well for the camp program, having the larger Chapel space is so nice! The change was kind of like going from living in a small 2 room apartment to living in a 2000 sq ft house...with a double car garage! We just have so much more room for activities!

One thing that as leadership staff, I tried to get our counsellors to understand, is that they are here for the campers...not themselves. The campers, most of them, are at camp for one week, and we make sure that it is the best, most impactful week they have. Basically, the lesson comes down to 3 simple words "Don't Be Selfish". God being God, took those 3 simple words, carved them into a 2"x4", and hit me with it. It was one event during the last week of the summer, where I thought I was justified to do one thing, but it was then pointed out by my brother, in the only way brothers can, that in fact I was dead wrong and being selfish.

It's the little lessons like that, that get learned in a big way that make a huge difference. It's simple, Don't be Selfish; yet even a hint of selfishness, even justified, holds back the love of Christ that you could be displaying to a camper, or staff! We are not here for ourselves.

Jonathan Epp has been working year round at YFBC as Program Director since May, 2011



Jon helping Jesse steady the load!



Jon overseeing the Dunk Tank - handing balls to participants!



Jon's working at the Corn Maze, trying to be four different places at once!

School Groups



Take your Classroom/School to the Youth Farm Corn Maze. Our staff will lead the class through the Petting Zoo allowing students to feed and touch

the animals. You will also have a chance to go through the corn maze, use the bounce castle and climbing wall.

Cost for the trip is \$5 per person (when more than 20 people)



If you would like to make a whole day trip, we would be happy to plan programming for you. The cost would be \$15 per person and would include a wiener roast for lunch.

The other options are as follows:

- Horse Riding
- Canoeing
- Archery
- Camp Skills
- Climbing Wall
- Hay Ride



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Low Ropes Course

Canoeing

Sumo Wrestling

Bounce Castle

and more!!



Per person Rates:

\$38 per day (includes lodging and 3 meals and 1 Night Snack)

\$62 per weekend (2 nights lodging and 4 meals and 2 Night Snacks - Brunch on last day)

www.yfbc.ca