



2023 Annual Report





BC CAMPS ASSOCIATION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President- Stephen Jackson
Vice President - Craig Douglas
Treasurer- Samantha Bussieres
Secretary- Vacant
Accreditation Chair - Paul Chatterton
CCA Rep - Geoff Park
TSBC Rep - Kristen Hyodo
Conference Rep - Denny, Justin

2023 STAFF

Program Coordinator - Claire Friedrich

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Territory Acknowledgement

The BC Camps Association acknowledges with deep respect that our work and the work of our members takes place on the traditional Indigenous territories of more than 200 distinct First Nations across the province, each with their own meaningful traditions and history.

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BC CAMPS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

JANUARY 30, 2024 AT 1:30PM - STILLWOOD CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTRE



1. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

2. ADOPTION OF 2023 AGM MINUTES

3. ANNUAL REPORTS

- President's Report
- Program Coordinator's Report
- Conference Report
- Accreditation Report
- CCA Report

4. FINANCES

- Treasurer's Report & 2023 Financial Review

Motion: to adopt the financial report including the 2023 Profit & Loss report as presented.

- 2024 Budget

Motion: to approve the 2024 budget as presented.

- 2025 Fee Increase

Motion: to approve a 3% membership fee increase in 2025.

5. ELECTIONS

Motion: To elect the following slate as presented to the BCCA Board of Directors

- Craig Douglas, Timberline Ranch - **President**
- Danielle McVicar, Camp Goodtimes - **Secretary**
- Dale Kilgour, Easter Seals Camps - **Member at Large**
- Gloria Sun, Squamish Nation (Camp Chá7elkwnech) - **Member at Large**
- Mike Lewis, Camp Luther Ministries - **Member at Large**

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Addition of "Affiliate Camp" member designation & adjustment to membership fee structure in 2025

Motion: to introduce a 3rd category of member camp "Affiliate"

Motion: to adopt the 2025 membership fee structure as presented.

7. LORNE BROWN MEMORIAL BURSARIES

8. BCCA LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION AWARD

9. ADJOURNMENT



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Stephen Jackson

Thank you all for another great year. I've been lucky enough to work with a board team that is passionate and committed to supporting our industry. It's been a joy to be a part of our meetings.

We saw some great progress in a variety of areas in 2023. This last year we took some time to identify areas of need on our board. We're presenting a slate of new members that will help our team be more effective. The CCA underwent a restructuring process which Parky was a significant part of. The results of that restructuring are exciting. We encountered a new revenue source through Foodbuy which will provide some financial stability allowing us to shoulder new expenses instead of asking for higher fees from our member camps. We continue to see improvements and clarity to our accreditation standards. The new accreditation process we implemented was hugely successful and increased our ability to review the reports promptly. Alongside accreditation, the BC Camping Conference, in conjunction with the Fellowship of Christian Camps, continues to be one of our most effective tools in supporting our camps.

I want to extend a special thank you and congratulations to Kristen Hyodo who has spent many years on the board. This year she stepped back to spend time with family as she had her first newborn!

Sprinkled throughout all of these achievements are the dreams and aspirations that we have to continue improving. We are always seeking ways to help camps in BC experience success. I don't doubt that we'll sit together at our next AGM and celebrate new accomplishments.

I'm sure many of you have heard the saying "The days are long and the years are short." Nine years ago I joined the board. It seems like yesterday and yet so much has happened in those years. Every year I am in awe of the people of our industry. I am proud to be counted as one of you. Thank you all.

With great appreciation and admiration,
Stephen Jackson - President



PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Claire Friedrich

2023 was another memorable year of camping and I remain thankful for my work with the BCCA that lets me engage and support our member camps from across the province.

Some highlights for me in 2023 were taking on an active role during the first in-person BC Camping Conference since pre-pandemic! It was a monumental amount of work, but I was thrilled to be part of the team that made the conference happen. I am particularly excited for our 2024 conference where we will see a substantial increase in attendance and the BCCA is bringing in 2 amazing organizations as Keynote presenters. The work of both the Canucks Autism Network and Power To Be is to improve access and reduce barriers for people of all physical and cognitive abilities to experience outdoor recreation! I believe camp is for everyone and I am proud of the work the BCCA is doing to increase opportunities for more kids and youth to experience the joy of camp! Our 2024 conference has also seen an attendance increase at our corporate trade show with 5 additional vendors from last year's event and many of these vendors will be presenting workshops during the conference.

In 2023 the BCCA increased my weekly hours and one of the additional programs I took on during the fall of 2023 with my extra time was to prep and launch our new monthly "Lunch & Learn Series". For a brand-new initiative, I have been very pleased with our member engagement at the November & December sessions! So far, we welcomed Camp Canada to present on international staff hiring and Joe Richards from Go Camp Pro to present on camp fundraising. We are taking a break in January, but we will be back to our monthly schedule in February. Upcoming 2024 lunchtime workshops will include Out Tripping, Grant Writing and more. The series is free for member camps, and I encourage you to join our next session.

In 2023 we started a conference bursary program to support more member camps to attend the BC Camping Conference. Using our 2023 conference auction proceeds we are supporting 4 members send one of their camp staff to the 2024 conference! This bursary will be provided annually however funds will vary year to year based on our auction proceeds. We will also continue providing funds for camperships to 3 member camps annually through the Lorne Brown Memorial Bursaries administered by the Vancouver Foundation.

In 2023 we held accreditation visits at 20 camps across BC! I would like to congratulate Camp Tulahead, part of Camp Luther Ministries, for becoming a fully accredited camp in 2023!



PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Claire Friedrich

Looking forward to 2024 we have 10 regularly scheduled accredited camp visits to complete and several Aspiring member camps who are ready for inspections in hopes of becoming Accredited. Just a friendly reminder that accredited camps in a non-visit year must complete our Annual Accreditation Declaration form that notifies the BCCA of a change in leadership, advises us of new programs being offered at your camps, and indicates that you have read and comply with all BCCA accreditation standards.

I am truly grateful to everyone who supported the BCCA Accreditation process as a volunteer visitor in 2023 especially Denny, Rob, Mirko & Dale who took part in multiple visits! Being an accreditation visitor is a fun way to see another camp and meet some great people! If you think someone from your camp could benefit from being part of the BCCA accreditation peer-review process, we will welcome your involvement. Please reach out to me by email at info@bccamping.org for more details.

I want to thank the BCCA Board of Directors for their constant support. I am truly grateful to get to work alongside such a fantastic team of people! And I am thankful to the BCCA members across the province whose commitments to the camping industry continues to inspire me.

In Camping,
Claire Friedrich – Program Coordinator



CONFERENCE REPORT

Denny, Justin

The 2024 BC Camping Conference will once again be held at Stillwood Camp and Conference Centre from January 29th to February 1st. This annual gathering holds immense significance in fostering camaraderie within the camping community, promoting peer connections and serving as a platform for the exchange of invaluable camping experiences.

2024 is a year of growth for the conference! We are delighted to announce a substantial growth in attendance, with a remarkable 20% increase. The 2024 conference plans to welcome a total of 160+ participants, demonstrating a rise from the 139 participants in attendance at the 2023 conference.

Highlights of the 2024 conference include 3 Keynote speakers - Power To Be and Canucks Autism Network (BCCA) and Bill McCaskell (FCC). 42 workshops spanning across 7 tracks. 2 Head Start programs - Level 1 First Aid presented by Ridge Wilderness First Aid and Camp Tours at Timberline Ranch and Stepping Stones Bible Camp. And finally our BCCA trade show featuring the participation of 23 corporate vendors, who add a dynamic and informative element to the conference.

I wish to extend heartfelt appreciation to the conference committee members who invested their time and efforts to ensure the success of this year's event. And sincere gratitude to the Stillwood Camp and Conference Centre team for their warm hospitality, providing delightful meals and facilities throughout the event. The support of our host camp generously contributes to the overall positive conference experience.

Looking ahead the BC Camping Conference Committee is actively seeking new members and volunteers to contribute to the success of the 2025 Conference. We encourage interested individuals to reach out to the BCCA or FCC boards to connect and become involved in supporting this amazing annual event.

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2024 conference and look forward to continued growth and success in the years to come.

Warm Regards,
Denny, Justin - Conference Representative



ACCREDITATION REPORT

Paul Chatterton

The BC Camps Association accreditation standards focus on camp administration, facilities, health & safety, and program activities, and are used as a benchmark by camp directors, insurance providers, and public agencies. BCCA accreditation demonstrates a public commitment and accountability to camper and staff well-being.

We have a diverse group of camps in BC and I would like to commend all of those who were accredited in 2023 and welcome those Aspiring member camps who are ready to take that step. Thank you to all who have volunteered to be a visitor this coming summer and please contact the BCCA if you would like to be involved.

One of our goals in 2023 was to reduce the administrative work of accreditation visits for our program coordinator and board. I'll admit that I was skeptical when the board set a deadline of July 31st to complete camp inspections and for paperwork to be submitted within two days of the visit. I was happy to be (mostly) proven wrong when the vast majority of camp inspections were completed on time and we had the information required before our fall meetings.

While the basic structure of the accreditation standards looks familiar from year to year, they are continuously adapting to meet the needs and expectations of camps, the public, changing regulations, and industry best practices. Required updates and additions are often identified by questions that arise from the visitation process and by emails received from parents. When revising existing standards or adding new ones we consult subject matter experts, refer to other provincial camping association standards, and reference provincial guidelines.

This year we have undertaken a significant restructuring of the challenge course, rock climbing and rappelling standards to better differentiate between low-element and high-element courses and artificial vs natural rock climbing. I am especially grateful to Kathy Haras from Adventureworks! for her contributions. In response to an emailed suggestion from a parent, we have also added new standards to the Health & Safety section related to planning for extreme weather.

Finally, much of what the BCCA accomplishes wouldn't be possible without the dedication and efficiency of our sole employee, Claire Friedrich. The smooth administration of the accreditation process is attributed to her hard work.

Paul Chatterton - Accreditation Chair

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP ACCREDITATION SUMMARY

ACCREDITED CAMP	TERM	NEXT VISIT YEAR
Camp Artaban	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Camp Bob	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2024
Camp Douglas	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Camp Fircom	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Camp Goodtimes	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Camp Grafton	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Camp Hatikvah	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Camp Homewood	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2025
Camp Imadene	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2024
Camp Jubilee	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
Camp Luther	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
Camp Miriam	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Camp OAC	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2024
Camp Potlatch	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Camp Qwanoes	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2025
Camp Sagitawa	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2025
Camp Squeah	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2025
Camp Summit	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2024
Camp Sunrise	Accredited - <i>pending</i>	TBC
Camp Tulahead	Accredited - 1 Year Term	2024
D-Camps Camp Kakhamela	Accredited - 2 Year Term	2024
Easter Seals Camp Winfield	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2024
Evans Lake	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Gardom Lake Bible Camp	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
Green Bay Bible Camp	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2025
Kawkawa Camp	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Keats Camp	Accredited - 1 Year Term	2024

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP ACCREDITATION SUMMARY

ACCREDITED CAMP	TERM	NEXT VISIT YEAR
Lake of the Trees Bible Camp	Accredited - 2 Year Term	2024
MacKenzie Camp	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2024
Maple Springs Bible Camp	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Mountain View Summer Camp	Accredited - 1 Year Term	2024
Ness Lake Bible Camp	Accredited - 2 Year Term	2025
Sasamat Outdoor Centre	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
Sea to Sky Outdoor School	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
Silver Lake Camp	Accredited - 3 Year Term	2026
Stillwood Camp & Conference Centre	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Strathcona Park Lodge	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2026
Timberline Ranch	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
YMCA Camp Elphinstone	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027
YMCA Camp Kanannaq	Accredited - 2 Year Term	2025
YMCA-YWCA Camp Thunderbird	Accredited - 4 Year Term	2027

ASPIRING CAMPS

Camp Bow-Isle	JUMP! Canada Educo Adventure School
Camp Koolaree	Pines Bible Camp
Camp Latona	Powell Lake Outdoor Learning Centre
Camp Likely	Power To Be
Camp Narnia	Rock Lake United Church Camp
Camp Pringle	RockRidge Canyon
Camp Tulahead	Zajac Ranch
Daybreak Point Bible Camp	
Easter Seals Camp Shawnigan	
Easter Seals Camp Squamish	



CCA REPORT

Geoff Park

The Canadian Camping Association (CCA) recently completed an almost 1 year initiative to restructure and revitalize the work of the CCA. I was fortunate to be asked to be on a small steering committee to help actively guide this process. The steering committee met monthly with the consulting firm hired by the CCA and culminated with a 3 day strategic planning meeting last September in Montreal with representatives from all the Provincial Camps Associations nationwide in attendance.

The results of this process are something our sector can be very proud of and has set up the CCA for organizational success moving forward. With revamped governance and financial structures the CCA can now more effectively represent our thriving Camping industry at the National level while supporting provincial initiatives in an aligned fashion. The refined Mission of the CCA is to unite provincial camp associations, industry leaders and like minded organizations, and to elevate and advocate for the Canadian camp sector.

I have been nominated to chair the government advocacy committee and will continue to advocate and amplify issues that will impact our sector at both a federal and provincial level. The first initiative which will have positive deliverables for most camps in BC is working with the federal minister who oversees the Canada Summer Jobs grant program. The hope is to find gaps and areas that could be adjusted to better serve camps, with camps being one of the industries that utilize the CSJ program on a large scale.

I am continually honoured to represent the BC Camps Association at the national level.

Geoff Park (Parky) - CCA Representative



TREASURER'S REPORT

Samantha Bussieres

2023 was a busy year for our BC Camps Community and for the BCCA Treasurer! For 2024, we are proposing a balanced budget, with a small amount of projected income. As member Camps across the province are looking for new opportunities to serve their camp communities, the BCCA continues to examine how membership can provide value and service to camps while we balance a full return to pre-pandemic operations. As can be seen in the projected budget, both revenue and expenses have been budgeted to increase significantly compared to the 2023 budget.

As we can see from the 2023 Actuals, there is variance between the budget and actuals. The biggest contributor to the variance is increased revenue from the rebate programs. The rebate line includes two years' worth of revenue, due to substantial delays in receiving the 2022 cheque. The 2023 rebate revenue alone was still double what we predicted! Already, we have over twice as many camps signed up for the 2024 rebate cycle and a higher return percentage. We look forward to further exploring the rebate program as potential way to fund further initiatives and services for our members, while keeping our fees reasonable. Other sources of variance in project income include the Trade show Registration and Corporate Memberships. We did not include auction revenue in the 2023 budget, but auction revenue and the expenses associated for the Conference Subsidy program are included in the 2024 Budget. The 2023 Budget included revenue from Corporate Memberships and Trade Show in one revenue line, however this was broken out to better understand our membership. One other source of variation is the Lorne Brown Memorial Fund. The Camps who received bursaries through the Lorne Brown Fund were paid directly through the Vancouver Foundation, so no revenue or expenses are reported in the 2023 Actuals. The 2023 Expenses show minimal variance. The BCCA recognized a need to have stronger and more comprehensive insurance coverage, so there is a significant increase to insurance costs. In 2023 the CCA continued to review how they can best serve camps across the country and did not collect annual fees from the Provincial Camping Associations. Increased revenue, and minimal variance in expense totals, resulted in significant surplus. This surplus will help to rebuild the reserves which we drew on for advocacy work and during the pandemic.

In the 2024 Proposed Budget we see increased costs coming from several key areas, mainly payroll and CCA fees. CCA member fees will be reinstated for 2024, and we look forward to seeing the great work the CCA will be doing to support and advocate for camps across Canada. There is an increase to payroll expenses, ensuring that we are fairly compensating our Program Coordinator and providing a 15% increase in hours. We strongly believe that this will



TREASURER'S REPORT

Samantha Bussieres

benefit our members and BC Camps community as a whole. There is a decrease in accreditation travel expenses, as there are significantly less camps scheduled for visits in 2024. I look forward to continuing to serve as the BCCA Treasurer, and wish everyone a fun and successful 2024 season!

Samantha Bussieres - Treasurer

2023 Actuals & 2024 Budget

BCCA 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET			
	2024 Budget	2023 Actuals	2023 Budget
Income			
Trade Show Registration	1,500.00	1,748.30	0.00
Auction BCCA Portion	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Commissions/rebates	9,000.00	10,012.46	3,000.00
Dave Stevens Fund Int.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Interest	0.00	24.29	0.00
Lorne Brown Mem Fund	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Membership Dues-Camps	39,000.00	34,670.08	34,000.00
Member Day Camp Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00
Memberships Corporate	3,500.00	2,649.20	4,000.00
Memberships Personal	0.00	33.68	100.00
Other Income			
Total Income	56,000.00	51,138.01	42,100.00
Expense			
Accounting Software	325.00	299.60	300.00
Bank Charges	200.00	-0.29	200.00
Lorne Brown Camperships	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Dave Stevens Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Executive Retreats and Travel	4,000.00	2,697.78	2,600.00
Conference Fees and Staff Travel	2,250.00	2,626.25	2,250.00
CCA Fees & Memberships	5,000.00	0.00	2,450.00
Insurance	5,000.00	5,177.25	3,000.00
Membership Training	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	40.00	0.00
Payroll Expense	23,000.00	18,670.46	18,000.00
Payroll Benefits CPP & EI	2,000.00	0.00	1,600.00
Postage & Printing	150.00	68.55	200.00
Publicity-Advertising	400.00	189.63	0.00
Supplies	300.00	0.00	400.00
Travel - Accreditation	3,000.00	4,516.71	4,500.00
Travel - CCA Leadership	2,500.00	2,857.53	2,500.00
Web Site & Database	1,700.00	1,634.61	1,250.00
Subsidy- Conference	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Teleconference Software	0.00	0.00	225.00
Phone	250.00	176.55	205.00
BCCA Awards	150.00	0.00	300.00
Total Expense	53,225.00	38,954.63	40,980.00
Net Income	2,775.00	12,183.38	1,120.00



2025 MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

Proposal for Amendment of Membership Fee Structure in 2025

Current 2024 BCCA Tiered Fee Structure (For Accredited Camps)	Proposed 2025 BCCA Tiered Fee Structure (For Accredited & Affiliate Camps)
Level 1 - Under \$100,000 budget	Level 1 - Under \$250,000 budget
Level 2 - \$100,000 - \$250,000 budget	Level 2 - \$250,000 - \$500,000 budget
Level 3 - \$250,000 - \$500,000 budget	Level 3 - \$500,000 - \$750,000 budget
Level 4 - \$500,000 - \$750,000 budget	Level 4 - \$750,000 - \$1,000,000 budget
Level 5 - \$750,000 - \$1,000,000 budget	Level 5 - \$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000 budget
Level 6 - \$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000 budget	Level 6 - \$1,500,000 - \$2,000,000 budget
Level 7 - Above \$2,000,000 budget	Level 7 - Above \$2,000,000 budget

Proposal for Addition of “Affiliate” Member Camp Designation

Current 2024 BCCA Member Camp Categories	Proposed 2025 BCCA Member Camp Categories
ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
ASPIRING	ASPIRING
	AFFILIATE

* The **AFFILIATE Camp** designation will be used for camps who at one time were accredited camps but due to halted operations, change in leadership etc they were not able to retain their accredited status. Affiliate camps will use the same tiered membership fee structure as Accredited camps. When an Affiliate Camp regains Accredited status their term length could, as applicable, revert to their previously held accreditation term length.

* The **ASPIRING Camp** designation will be used for camps who are aspiring towards becoming an Accredited camp for the first time. Aspiring member camps will pay the membership fee associated with the Level 1 bracket noted above. When an Aspiring Camp becomes Accredited their visit term length will increase gradually (1 year term then 2 year term etc).



BCCA Mission - Our WHAT

We support, equip, promote and accredit camps in BC.

BCCA Vision - Our WHY

We see a thriving camping community in BC where people are challenged and equipped to be the best version of themselves.

BCCA Values - Our GUIDE

These values, alongside OUR WHY, guide and direct our decision making and behaviour.

Development - There are many layers to development and they are all important. Social, ethical, emotional, physical, cognitive, and leadership competencies are developed in a wide spectrum of ways among camps.

Community - Camps in BC understand that there is a bigger picture. As such, we see other camps as family, rather than competitors, while we work together towards a common goal.

Quality - We want camps to continue to push the threshold of excellence whether it be bolstering weaknesses or leaning into strengths.

Safety - It is important for participants to be safe both physically and emotionally. Camps must mitigate and resolve dangerous scenarios as well as foster acceptance, inclusivity, and comradery.

Thank you to our Corporate Partners
for their support of the BCCA in 2023!



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