



# EMBERS

WINTER NEWS | 2021



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

BY ANDREW HORDYK

What is Campfire to you? For many of us Campfire holds a unique memory, experience, or the meeting of a special friend and at the centre of this is our mission.

*"to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with children and youth by providing a safe and spiritual experience that serves to foster Biblical knowledge, nurture active faith, and develop Christian life and leadership skills"*

This year, we started planning for a great new season at camp, and some excellent fundraising opportunities to help facilitate the vision of Campfire, which includes a fun and exciting way to bring Christ to the tender hearts that look forward to camp every year. In 2020, that was a challenge to say the least.

I remember the board meeting very clearly, three months in and the news hits that COVID-19 is our current reality. There were a lot of emotions and unknowns for Campfire just as there were in many homes, workplaces and schools. What does this mean? Will there be camp? Can we get creative? Write and rewrite policies with the ever-changing tides? Will people be able to send their kids or

help with all the possible job losses and layoffs? Then the news... No overnight camps this summer! Devastating! Tears were shed that meeting, the passion for camp was evident and we were in awe. No Golf Tournament, no Spring Banquet, and no in person meetings. The feeling of being overwhelmed set in. We needed to be constantly reminded of Romans 8:31 "When God is for us, who can be against us?"

Fast forward to our last meeting in February 2021, where we were blessed to review the financials (which will be in the treasurer's report) and see how last years "Camp2U" prospered. The staff made the very best of a challenging situation. One big positive of this summer was that the gospel went directly into the homes of the campers. Parents were sitting together with their children and joining in the live music events and doing the activities and devotions together. The gospel was also spread to four different countries! The board is super thankful for the work of the Staff on Camp 2U and the sacrifice they made in serving on a whole new platform! It certainly wasn't what they signed up for and without God working through them this would not have been possible.

The Lord was definitely with us and blessed us with so many

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# SUMMER CAMP

## THE PLAN!

The Summer Camp Committee is diligently working on plans for the return of on-site campers and volunteers this summer. We know that the final decision will be out of our hands depending on the course of the pandemic, the roll out of the vaccination program, and the related public health recommendations and government regulations. All that being said, we are moving forward in faith and trust in the Lord and continue to make our plans “the Lord willing”!

During a Pandemic we have adopted 4 P's to help us strategize for a successful camp season:

### 1. PRAYER

This is not a new one for Campfire but is always the right starting point for any of our plans, whether on a big scale, or simply in starting a new day or a new activity at camp. As we plan, we ask you to be in constant prayer with us for the possibility to have an on-site summer camp this year. We know that our Father in heaven loves us and wants us to share the good news of Jesus. We also know that he opens the way, sometimes very unexpectedly.

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who

seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”  
Matthew 7:7,8

### 2. PROTOCOLS

One thing we have all learned about a pandemic is that you have to have a well thought out system to manage the spread of a virus. We are thankful that all the levels of governments and their related public health agencies have provided us with these safety recommendations which may include:

- Pre camp screening
- Nursing staff on site
- Hand washing stations throughout the property
- Fun “camp-like” ways to ensure hygiene practices
- Site cleaning
- Contact tracing
- Symptom monitoring – daily meetings
- Branded masks and sanitizers on hand
- Government guidelines (including vaccination information)
- Programming adjustments based on government guidelines – e.g. meals, swimming, etc.

### 3. PACKS

Grouping camp members in cabin packs is a very familiar activity already for campers and counsellors. These packs will serve in the same

way as classroom cohorts work at school. They will help in some of the following ways:

- Reducing the total number of people that a camper is in contact with
- Keep campers/counsellors with their cabin pack for creative programming and masked and physically-distanced for meals, chapel and campfires
- Daily cabin maintenance – cleaning protocol will depend on property regulations
- Big games will have to include cohorts and masking
- Travelling off site will be reviewed to see if it can conform

### 4. PARAMETERS

Campfire has always worked within parameters which include camp capacity, ratio of campers to counsellors, as well as the number of staff members and volunteers required. During the pandemic we realize that the parameters will shift, largely based on the government recommendations. The SCC is prepared to pivot the parameters in some of the following areas:

- Lowering total occupancy capacity to allow for physical distancing on camp property
- Manage a “wait list” for campers, counsellors and volunteers
- Innovate the camp weekly programming to help achieve the safety goals without sacrificing the fun
- Ensure that the sponsorship partnerships we have for campers are well prioritized

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• **Delay registration opening until May 1, 2021** so that we are working with the most up to date guidelines and to avoid cancellations as much as possible.

There you have it...the 4 P's of the Pandemic should go along way to help us get ready for the camp season. Why not add a fifth? Whatever

happens in the next months as we continue our planning, we will **PRAISE** God for he is good to us all the time!



# CAMPFIRE - 2020

## TREASURER'S REPORT

BY ANITA POORT

As we start a new year, I can't help but look back to early 2020 as we planned a new year for Campfire! and it's campers. Suddenly the Finance Committee was revising the newly approved budget and the Board and the Summer Camp Committee were tossing out ideas of virtual camp or even no camp at all.

able to have a very successful golf tournament which we hosted together with Streetlight Ministries.

to be an outreach for many children who look forward to immersing themselves in all things Campfire!

What a blessing that these two outreach programs could work hand and hand to the glory of God. We don't know what 2021 will actually look like for Campfire! As I write this we are in lockdown and will not be able to plan for this summer until things change. We can only pray that we can in some way continue

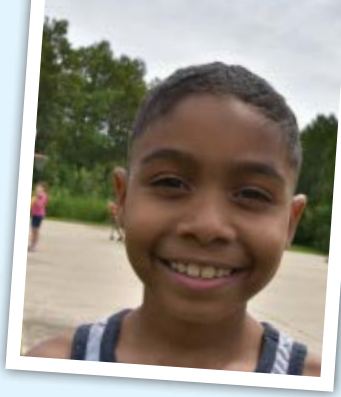
And to do that we will need donations. Any amount is appreciated. We will continue to provide you with easy opportunities to help us!

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. - Psalm 46:1

Covid-19 presented a scary situation and after much prayer and many meetings we came up with a plan. From those ideas sprung Camp2U and with it a budget with little room for extras. It was essential to make sure we also had enough funds to keep the Campfire property maintained. Through this all the Lord blessed us with both private donations and as social distancing rules were amended, we were also



| 2020 Totals              | ACTUAL         | BUDGET          |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ■ Registration fees      | 11,900         | 7,500           |
| ■ Other Income           | 92,899         | 157,000         |
| ■ Donations              | 118,424        | 79,000          |
| <b>Total Income</b>      | <b>223,223</b> | <b>243,500</b>  |
| ■ Expenses               | 39,177         | 57,667          |
| ■ Facilities & Property  | 125,840        | 168,690         |
| ■ Summer Camp Operations | 42,470         | 46,800          |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>    | <b>207,487</b> | <b>273,157</b>  |
| <b>Net Income</b>        | <b>15,736</b>  | <b>(29,657)</b> |



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opportunities to look at things from a new perspective. Last board meeting, we opened the meeting with 2 Timothy 3:1-8 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-21 Some of Paul's words were: "Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. For this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." and in 2 Corinthians: "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God." As much as this was a challenge, it really is a reminder to us all to

continue to put on Christ's love and continue to proclaim God's Word. This includes the staff, leadership, volunteers, businesses, councillors and chaplains. Please continue to pray for everyone who is involved with Campfire, for wisdom, patience, gratitude, and the energy required to continue to maintain all aspects of camp. There is so much passion in the hearts of those involved, and so many moving parts that go on behind the scenes, but we also are seeing fatigue and covet your prayers and your contributions.

Exodus 14:14 "the LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."



# GOLF TOURNAMENT SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your Calendars Golfers!  
The golf tournament will happen on:

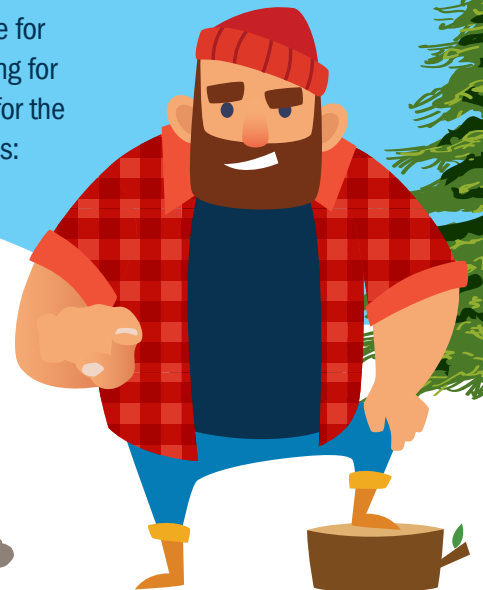
**JUNE 11-12, 2021.**

Spend a day at  
the golf course  
and help us  
send a kid to  
Camp!

# CAMPFIRE NEEDS YOU!

Do you have a deep love for Campfire? We are looking for people willing to stand for the following board positions:

- VICE CHAIR
- FUNDRAISING
- PUBLIC RELATIONS



If you think you could help please email us at [info@campfirebiblecamp.ca](mailto:info@campfirebiblecamp.ca)

**PROPERTY RENTALS**  
Henriette VanHof 905-802-9142  
[rentals@campfirebiblecamp.ca](mailto:rentals@campfirebiblecamp.ca)

**CAMPFIRE SUMMER BIBLE CAMP**  
c/o Rebecca Blokker 905-802-1005  
35 East 15th Street | Hamilton, ON L9A 4E6  
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