



Newsletter

May 2008

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Being a society is FUN!

Friends Uniting for Nature has now been incorporated as a society, and is now a Registered Non-profit.

Thank you to the BC Climate Action Secretariat!

BC Climate Action Secretariat, a new provincial government organization tasked with leading the province's strategy for greenhouse gas emissions reductions has come on board to support and fund FUN Camps in its initial year! We are so thankful to the Climate Action Secretariat for this funding. A portion of this money will go towards providing scholarships for low-income youth who would otherwise be unable to attend summer camps. We couldn't have gotten this far without this funding and support. A huge thank you to the Climate Action Secretariat.



Meet the FUN Camps Staff!

Maya McDonald is our FUN Camps Coordinator and Primary counselor. She has four years experience coordinating day camps and a degree in environmental geography. She has a passion for the environment, and the knowledge to make a difference. Her studies in Environmental Restoration, Environmental Change, Resource Management, Community Development as well as her involvement volunteering with the Geography in Schools program, have given her the academic knowledge and the hands-on experience to be a source of knowledge and inspiration. She loves working with youth and has done so for many years. Her passion is contagious. She is committed to environmental education and to the development of effective leaders in our communities. She loves sunshine, being active and learning new things!

Maia Green is the director of FUN Camps. She has over 15 years of experience working with children and 11 years of experience in environmental leadership. She has an Environmental Studies Degree from the University of Victoria. She began her environmental career at a young age by starting an International environmental club at the age of 10, while living on a sailboat in the South Pacific. Since then, many environmental leadership projects have followed. She adores working with youth and she adores exploring (and protecting) this planet and all the amazing places it has to offer. She is dedicated to increasing the amount of environmental education being offered in British Columbia and is extremely excited to see FUN Camps get off the ground this summer. She is so happy to be able to give youth the same inspiration that led her to want to make a difference in this world. She also likes to hike, bike, garden, run, read, travel and swim!





lululemon Info Session Evening

Monday June 9th, 6-7pm join us at lululemon for an hour of fun sustainability education. Bring your friends, your family and prepare to be entertained and informed. This will be an interactive workshop and snacks and tea will be provided.

Location: W. 4th lululemon store (upstairs) 2113 W4th Avenue

For more info: Ask instore or email info@funcamps.ca

Sponsor A Student

The goal is to make this program accessible to all youth in Vancouver. In order to do this, we are creating a Sponsor-a-Student program. This program enables individuals and businesses to sponsor individuals and cover the cost of a week-long program for them.

The sponsor can choose from one of three categories of youth.

- Low-income Youth
- Indigenous Youth
- Merit-based scholarship (contributions to community or school)

The sponsor will receive the following:

- A tax receipt issued through Canada helps
- A certificate of appreciation from Friends Uniting for Nature
- A short bio of the sponsored youth
- A listing or link on our website (www.funcamps.ca)

The cost to sponsor a child is \$205.00. We are suggesting that businesses sponsor 5 youth, and that individuals (or groups of individuals) sponsor 1 youth.

If you are able to contribute, please contact us at info@funcamps.ca

Volunteers

FUN is seeking motivated and passionate volunteers to help over the next five weeks to promote the camps and get the word out there!! We also need volunteers to help throughout the summer. Volunteers will receive a FUN tee-shirt and will get to participate in a fantastic two day training seminar, with specialists from organisations such as lululemon and the Pembina Institute!

FUN Camps Youth Board

A group of high school students from the Vancouver area will be forming the FUN Camps Youth Board. Elisa Lee from Sea to Sky Outdoor School has come onboard as the FCYB Coordinator and meetings will begin in the next few weeks. The purpose of the FCYB is to have youth input into the development of the curriculum. Please contact us if you'd like to be involved with the FCYB!

FUN Wrap Up Gala and FUN-raiser!

At the end of the summer we will be hosting an event to celebrate the success of the first year, as well as to promote and fundraise for next year's program. This event will be a chance for students to showcase the work they did at FUN Camps over the summer, in the form of performances, art shows and displays. It will also be a chance to thank our sponsors and our community. There will be live music, local and organic food, guest speakers and a chance to mingle and meet people in the community. Dates and details to be announced in upcoming newsletters!

Quote of the Month

"Let Nature be your teacher" - William Wordsworth

