

2014-10-13

Kingswood Camp Report, Fall 2014,
to the Eastern Valley and Annapolis-Digby Baptist Associations.

I am pleased to report on behalf of the Board of Directors, Kingswood Camp Society that the agreement for the performance of charitable activities between EVBA and Kingswood Camp Society was signed at the Association

Executive Council meeting on July 31, 2014. The agreement is significant in that it clearly defines the relationship between EVBA and the Kingswood Camp Society, enables the Kingswood Camp Board to focus our time and energy on the camping ministry on behalf of the two Baptist Associations and most importantly allows Kingswood Camp to receive donations to operate this vital ministry.

Signing of the 'Agreement' has also re-energised the Building subcommittee

Chaired by David Longley and indeed the entire Camp Board, knowing that we will be able to access the funds of the Louis Millett Grant and other potential donors. The Building subcommittee is working to develop the building and site plans, apply for a development permit and make estimates of the costs of materials and labour for the new building.

The Camp Board had to deal with a number of challenges this year. I am pleased to report that the Executive Director and members of the Board have unreservedly devoted time and energy to overcome the challenges. Special recognition should be made of the dedication of Laurie Hennigar, the Camp Treasurer, to the operation of Kingswood Camp. Laurie had to shoulder extra heavy loads this year: dealing with the many issues related to the charitable status of Kingswood Camp Society, finding funds to pay the 20-member camp staff and many of the expenses associated with running a camping program and working tirelessly with the EVBA Council to complete the 'Agreement for the Performance of Charitable Activities'.

On the camp ministry front, in the words of Nichole Metcalf, 'It was a very successful summer. The number one reason was because over 90 campers made first time commitment or rededicated their lives to Christ...' and many more acknowledged that they had experienced the love and care of Jesus through interactions with the camp staff. A number of parents of the campers stated in glowing terms of the positive impact that camp has had on their children.

There were a total of 318 camp registrations this summer, an increase of 36 over last summer even though we had to cancel the first week of camp due to loss of power and damages to one of the cabins and the rope course all caused by Hurricane Arthur.

A few more of the noteworthy numbers:

- 139 of the 318 campers had no prior association with churches
- 164 campers came to Kingswood Camp for the first time
- 109 were first time campers

This indicates that approximately 50% of the campers had to opportunity to learn about Jesus for the first time.

- 179 campers came from 64 churches of various denominations in the Eastern Valley and Annapolis-Digby area.

For a detail report of the camp ministry this summer, please contact Nichole Metcalfe at: nicholemetcalfe@kingswoodcamp.ca

The impact of the ministry of Kingswood Camp on the lives of children and youths in the Valley area is significant. Christian camp is a very effective outreach program for Christ. The Kingswood Camp Board has worked diligently to recruit and train dedicated and well-qualified camp staff, improve and upgrade camp programs and facilities to advance this ministry. We are thankful to God for protecting, sustaining and blessing this ministry. Our prayer is that more of our Churches and Christian friends would partner with us through prayer and financial support for this ministry.

To donate to Kingswood Camp, please make cheque payable to:
EVBA/Kingswood Camp and send it to Kingswood Camp, PO Box 543,
Kentville, NS B4N 3X7.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Board of Directors, Kingswood Camp Society,

Vincent Leung, Chair
(vincentleung1@hotmail.com)