

THE Zingette

Spring 2018

Alumni Reunion, June 1st-3rd, 2018

Late 1990's



We first started the alumni reunion way back in 2007. Now, over a decade later, we are still going strong with bringing alumni together for a weekend from all camp generations.

Haven't been back to the camp since your days as a staff member? Then what better excuse to escape your typical weekend plans and come up, enjoy the fresh air, see a few familiar faces, play some games, sing around the campfire and eat great food (yes, camp food has dramatically improved)!

Are you hesitant because you think you might not know anyone? We are all part of the same Camp Kawartha family and regardless of age or years spent at camp, we have this connection that naturally brings us together. Plus, you have time to track down and co-ordinate plans with your old cabin mates and co-councillors. The Alumni Facebook page is a great place to start your search.

Please feel free to invite your significant other and kids, especially if they never had the chance to go to camp; it's never too late to get into the camp spirit.

In This Issue:

Alumni Reunion
p. 1

Capital
Campaign
p. 2-3

Surf 'n Turf
p. 4

Accessibility at
Camp Kawartha
p. 5

Where Are You
Now?
Lisa Wannamaker



In our continued effort to maintain our commitment to the environment, we have gone **paperless**. Please ensure that we have your current email address on file. Past issues of the newsletter are always available from the alumni website:

<http://campkawartha.ca/about-us/alumni/>

Contact us:

alumni@campkawartha.ca

Camp Kawartha Alumni
Facebook Page:



Shhhh.....! Our Capital Campaign is in its 'Quiet Phase' ... But We Still Want to Tell You About It!

Branching Out for a Sustainable Future is a capital campaign to help Camp Kawartha embark on a remarkable journey. With the success of this campaign, it will expand and enhance our award winning summer camp. Our goal is to become a **nationally significant environmental leadership centre**. A place where we can foster environmental citizens.

It is time to replace some of our older buildings as many are coming to the end of their useful life. They are energy inefficient and weren't built for four seasons. This is an opportunity for us to take a leadership role in sustainable design – to showcase the best in sustainable building practices. From constructing the **first example of a certified “living building”** in Canada to demonstrating alternative energy in action, from showing best practices in managing waste to harvesting fresh food straight from our own organic garden; we want visiting children, youth and adults to be activated and empowered. By teaching action skills, leadership skills and nature awareness, we hope to seed the next generation of environmental leaders.

At the same time, **Camp Kawartha is bursting at the seams**. A modest increase in capacity will help us deliver our mission of fostering stewardship to more children, students and adults than ever.

The plan is to secure *\$3.5 million* to make several upgrades to our systems, our layout, and our buildings which will help grow our capacity. Our upgrade plans include:

Central Hub Addition and Renovation (\$2,537,000)

Our current dining hall was built in the 1960's. It's poorly insulated and sits on piers. The plan is to remove the current hall and replace it with a “central hub” consisting of a dining hall and sleeping quarters, all demonstrating the **latest in green architecture**. This certified “living building,” would be the first of its kind in all of Canada. From straw-bale construction to rainwater collection, from geothermal and compost heating, to all natural materials; the central hub would be designated as a net zero building (zero toxins, zero waste and zero carbon), a national showpiece for sustainability. Accommodations added at the back of the new hall will **improve accessibility** for those with limited mobility. In addition, our Health Centre will be moved into the hub so that it can more effectively look after the needs of visitors. This innovative renovation will allow Camp Kawartha to modestly increase its

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Greening of Infrastructure (Waste Water Management Upgrade – \$536,000)

The current septic system was constructed in 1985 and designed to accommodate 125 campers. Most septic systems last 20 to 25 years and Camp Kawartha is nearing the end of the life cycle. This is an opportunity to redevelop our waste management system using the latest green technologies, with the possibility of including a wetland treatment system. The intent is to showcase to campers, teachers, students, parents and visitors how to responsibly deal with human waste.

Reclaiming Green Space (\$419,000)

We will remove part of our parking lot to create a **large organic food garden** and we'll move the parking lot to another location nearer the road. The re-development of that space will allow us to re-green a central portion of the Camp. This reclaimed green space and garden will not only supply the kitchen with fresh produce but will also serve as an important teaching tool for helping visitors to understand the importance of healthy, local food. We also plan to **relocate the Maintenance Department** to a less intrusive place on camp, repurposing this building into space for summer camp and outdoor education programming. This will enhance the delivery of our award winning programming and limit the amount of traffic moving through this central location.



As our alumni, we will be looking to you for support in helping us move this campaign forward. In the coming months, we will be reaching out to you through phone calls and emails to give you more information as we progress. There will also be an exciting announcement made at the reunion for alumni in regards to the campaign. You won't want to miss it!



Surf 'n Turf

Dinner and Auction Fundraiser



The annual Camp Kawartha Surf 'n Turf event is back once again to bring you an evening of delicious food, great auction items and of course, catching up with fellow alumni. Our table has had quite the presence in past years in both numbers and enthusiasm. Our alumni proudly stand and eagerly sing 'Jonny O' just as if we were back in that dining hall with all of our campers.



Over the years, we have taken home our fair share of silent auction items and prizes, including cash prizes, kayaks, a hand crafted chair, artwork and more. There was a bidding war between us when the cabin signs were auctioned off a couple of years ago as the camp transitioned to new names.

If you are not able make it to the alumni reunion this year, this is a great way to catch up with others, check out the new developments, and give back to the camp at the same time.

With the purchase of your ticket, you will be treated to delicious hors d'oeuvres, fresh lobster, steak, salads, and decadent desserts. Plus there is a cash bar that serves beer, wine, and mixed drinks.

Purchase your ticket online by visiting the Surf 'n Turf page found under the News and Events section of the website and complete the form to order your tickets and receive your tax receipt. Be sure to put 'Alumni' in the table reservation section, or you may be seated



Surf 'n Turf

Date: Saturday, June 23th, 2018

Time: 4:30 pm – Hors d'oeuvres & Auction item viewing

6:00 pm – Dinner

Cost: \$175/person

\$150/person for Alumni age 25 & under

Visit: <https://campkawartha.ca/event/surf-n-turf-dinner-auction/>

One Step Closer to Accessibility

Two years ago we reported on the joining of the Oak and IODE cabins in the East Cluster. These are connected by a large deck, with wide ramps and have rooms that make it possible for people with accessibility concerns to fully participate in the overnight cabin experience.



Since then, Camp Kawartha continues to work hard to improve accessibility for all of its users and break down barriers to enjoying the outdoors and all the aspect of our facilities.



With funding assistance from the Rick Hansen and J.P. Bickell Foundations, we were able to create an accessible pathway that weaves its way to the campfire circle as well as the swimming and boating areas. Now, users with mobility issues such as walkers or wheelchairs

can access our beautiful lake.

The new climbing wall features ‘bump-outs’, so a climber must negotiate uneven space, creating a greater challenge. It also has three routes allowing more people to climb at once and a new cargo net and hanging ladders to test balance and hand-eye coordination. On top of all these great features, the most exciting part is that our new wall is accessible to those people with physical disabilities, including those in wheelchairs or in use of prosthetics. Our climbing wall is unique to the region, and opens up greater possibilities for individuals and groups.



A **BIG** thank you to our funders:

- The Ontario Trillium Foundation
- The Rick Hansen Foundation

Where Are You Now?



Lisa (Gulli) Wannamaker

1994, 1995

Hi All! Dipper asked me for a little "where are they now" update so let's see if I can sum up where I've been since my time at Camp Kawartha which is *GASP* 23 years ago?! After camp, I went away to University, lived abroad in Ireland, went to law school, moved to Toronto...but finally found my way back to the Peterborough area and I'm so happy that I did! I have two little boys ages 6 and 10 who have both been campers - so I'm so happy to get out to the camp every so often! There are some great changes but it still feels like old Camp Kawartha to me

when I drop them off at a picnic table on day one!

I now work as a Crown Attorney, prosecuting criminal cases in Peterborough. It's an amazing job but can be pretty tough sometimes. I recently dealt with the case involving the tragic death of Abby MacNaughton, who worked as an outdoor educator at the Camp. It was extremely moving to meet her family and get letters from people who were touched by her life, including many campers and staff. It was a sad way to get re-connected with Camp Kawartha again, and even though I never had the chance to know her, I felt extremely moved and touched by her. I took my children to Abby's Garden this past summer, and I think of her often.

I still get the chance to enjoy the great outdoors, even more so now that I am back in the land of lakes up here! I go backcountry camping and canoeing and will be taking my boys on their first wilderness paddling trip this summer in Algonquin. I'm forever grateful to the amazing skills and lessons that I learned at camp about low impact camping, portaging, navigating etc. My boys think their mom is pretty "wilderness tough" - and I love that they can learn it from me! (I still don't like to take fish off the hook though...). I hope to make it to a reunion sometime soon! Until then, you can find me on Facebook sharing my data with the world!

