



# Annual Report 2018

At Camp Health, Hope & Happiness we make dreams come true by providing safe and rewarding recreational opportunities to children, youth, adults, and seniors with all types and severities of physical and mental disabilities. Since 1960 we have been providing a facility that is inclusive, accepting, and provides fun programming for individuals with disabilities to feel success.



# Executive Director's Message

As we reflect on 2018, we are reminded again of the extremely important role that Camp Health, Hope & Happiness plays in the lives of individuals with disabilities in Alberta. A service made possible by the unwavering support of our very loyal community partners and donors. Together, we have created an important community for thousands of Albertans who value independence, freedom of choice, barrier free accessibility and inclusiveness in their summer holiday destination.

This summer we shared wonderful times and made amazing memories with 743 summer campers of all ages. Since the first summer camp for individuals with disabilities ran in 1960, thousands of individuals have accessed our programs to enjoy a barrier-free summer camping experience on the shores of Lake Isle. We are proud that many of these campers who attended camp as children in the early years of the organization's existence have continued returning to our summer programs as adults and seniors.

In 2018 we continued our focus of ensuring that the facility and programs provide a high quality, fully inclusive experience for every individual that attends. Most recently we are grateful for the addition of a new waterfront gazebo, and an updated accessible waterfront trail system. As pioneers in Alberta of summer camping opportunities for individuals with special needs, we are incredibly proud of the role we have come to play, and the continued support we are passionate about providing for years to come.

We hope this annual report will give you a snapshot of the programs that your contributions, caring, and commitment have made possible over the past year. The critically important work of Camp Health, Hope & Happiness is only possible because of the extraordinary generosity and steadfast commitment of our donors, community partners, volunteers, staff and members.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in us, as we stand together in service to Albertans with disabilities.

Greg Nielsen  
Executive  
Director



Contact Greg Nielsen at  
[greg@camphehoha.com](mailto:greg@camphehoha.com) or  
780-429-3277 ext 222



# Our Difference

Through our summer camps and programs, people of all ages with varying types and degrees of disabilities form lasting friendships with campers just like them. At Camp they accomplish things that they may have never thought possible before.

With nearly 60 years of proven success, our counselors and staff have adapted activities and helped empower thousands of campers to increase their sense of independence and belonging, build friendships, and experience a fun and active lifestyle in a safe environment.

Camp is an epic adventure. Every year, over 700 campers have the opportunity to experience more of what they want in their lives: the freedom to be their authentic selves in a supportive environment. Camp He Ho Ha gives campers the chance to love and be loved unconditionally, experience new adventure, risk without fear of failure, make lasting friendships, and most of all... have FUN!



# Special Event Snapshot

## Shoot for Cause

Into its 23rd year, the Shoot for Cause Archery Shoot has grown to be our largest event fundraiser, bringing in **\$111,405** this year. Many thanks to the hundreds of Albertans who contributed pledges to our 83 archers in their fundraising efforts.



## Swing Fore Camp

The first annual Swing Fore Camp Golf Tournament brought together 72 golfers of all abilities and raised **\$39,685** for Camp. Thank you to our very generous sponsors, participants, volunteers, and Pineridge staff for making this event possible!



## WFG Golf Tournament

The WFG South Side office held the first Richard Cender Memorial charity golf event in support of Camp He Ho Ha on August 17th, 2018 raising an incredible **\$31,805** for camp. Thank you to all who organized, volunteered, sponsored and participated!



## A Place in our Hearts

“Camp He Ho Ha..... what a very special place! Not only because of this amazing venue that we have been using for our Quilt Retreats, but special because of what this camp offers to so many kids!

I always knew what an awesome camp this was. [Not only] because our beautiful great-niece, who has Down's Syndrome, has been coming through the years, but also because of a young boy that my son-in-law has taken under his wing. Both these kids in our lives look forward every year to this summer camp.

At our retreats we have been doing fundraising for the Camp and through these donations we have heard from different staff just how the Camp operates - what an eye opener! This has inspired our ladies to work hard each year and raise some funds for the Camp.

Sometimes we just take these venues for granted and don't realize the hard work it is to keep them running for our kids. Personally, because of issues with a couple of my grandkids, Stollerys and Ronald McDonald House have been my go-to charities, but now I have a new love and appreciation for Camp He Ho Ha!

Thank you for making this not only an **AMAZING** venue for our retreats, but most importantly, a place for the kids.”

-Debby Kehler, Debby Kelher Quilting (Rental Facilities Guest)





# President's Report

Ivor  
MacBeath

President,  
Board of  
Directors

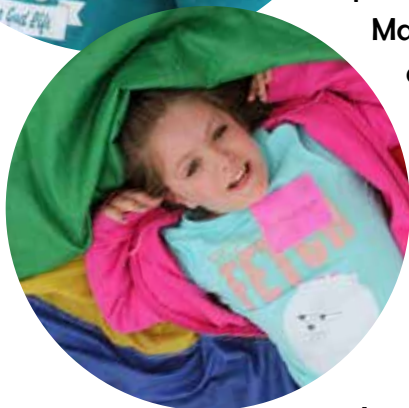
2018 proved successful in terms of the overall mission of Camp He Ho Ha to provide adapted outdoor recreational opportunities to children and adults with physical and mental disabilities. Indeed, Camp supporters and donors will celebrate 59 years of accomplishments in 2019!

Operating a facility like Camp does not come without its challenges. As we all know, the Alberta economy is struggling, making fundraising even more difficult. Diligently working at diversifying Camp's funding through relationship building has been a major goal of the organization. The challenges associated with the recruitment and selection of full-time and part-time staff due to Camp's rural location, the increase of minimum wage, and the nature of seasonal employment, continue to be difficult. However, there is also one constant at Camp: the dedicated staff who rise to any occasion to ensure that our programs are operational, and our facility is kept in the finest condition.

There were many 2018 highlights: 743 campers were provided with an amazing summer experience; the implementation of a new fundraising initiative, the "Swing For Camp" golf tournament, which was extremely successful for a first time event; a very successful 23rd Annual Archery "Shoot For Cause" held in May; several successful third-party fundraising events; the building of strong donor relations; a new waterfront gazebo providing an additional space for our campers and guests; and a new Kitchen Manager who has created a very efficient, effective environment and an amazing dining experience for our campers and guests.

To offer the best to our community of donors we continue to review donor recognition and propose new strategies aimed at enhancing collaboration with all our valued private and corporate donors. With a great rental program and significant donor contributions, Camp He Ho Ha will continue to bring happiness to the lives of hundreds of campers.

I extend much appreciation to the Board of Directors for their commitment and contributions, to Greg Nielsen, Executive Director and the Camp staff for their unwavering dedication and hard work, to the donors for their wonderful support, and to our volunteers who so willingly lend a helping hand.



# Supporting the Campaign

More than 730 individuals with all degrees and types of mental and physical disability attend Camp Health, Hope & Happiness each summer. Many of these individuals and their families live on fixed incomes. In order to help these individuals experience the magic of our barrier free summer camp and provided much needed respite to their families and caregivers we count on the support of generous donors like YOU.

By donating you can directly impact individuals living with disabilities and their families.

A monthly donation of \$25 buys arts and crafts supplies for a week of summer camp. A larger gift of \$100 per month can send a camper to camp for a whole week.

*There are plenty of ways you can contribute even if you don't have a lot of time or money to spare, here are six ways you can be involved.*

1

**Become a Member.** Help support Camp Health, Hope & Happiness in our effort to raise funds by purchasing a \$100/year membership.

2

**Attend Our Events.** Help us raise awareness and money at our fundraising events –visit us online & on social media for upcoming events.

3

**Host your own Event.** Plan a fundraiser and invite your friends, family, and co-workers to attend – we can help you with tools and support to make it a success.

4

**Visit our Facility.** Book your next group/corporate retreat or family gathering at Camp He Ho Ha. We offer accommodations, meeting rooms, home-cooked meals and more to meet all your needs.

5

**Donate Today.** Sign up as a monthly donor or make a one-time gift. Call us at 780-429-3277 or visit [www.camphehoha.com](http://www.camphehoha.com) to make your donation today.

6

**Get Social.** Follow@camphehoha on social media. Post your camp photos and stories and share information about our events and giving campaigns.

## One Week of Summer Camp Activities

12

barge trips taken

0

barriers or exclusions

2,464'

of wall climbed

endless

laughter

2,490

meals prepared

life long

memories made

204

songs sung

forever

friendships formed

200

marshmallows roasted

100%

fun

140

dips in the pool

2,051

arts & crafts projects made

# Summer Camp

For More information on our summer camp programs please contact Kelly French, Summer Camp Coordinator at [kelly@camphehoha.com](mailto:kelly@camphehoha.com) or 780-429-3277 ext 240

All of the laughter and squeals of joy filled the Camp air for another summer in 2018. It wasn't just the squeals of the children like you might expect of a summer camp -but also those of our adult campers, our seniors, and honestly, even our counselors and staff.

Whether catching a fish, ringing the bell at 40' above the ground, pool noodle battling, or suddenly plunging into the frigid water of the dunk tank everyone at camp was creating moments with friends that will live in our hearts and memories for years to come. It is those moments that make our hearts swell here at Camp. Where every camper is not a person with a disability but instead a friend. We can honestly say that each of our staff feel incredibly grateful to be able to spend four months of the year creating these magical moments with over 730 friends each summer.



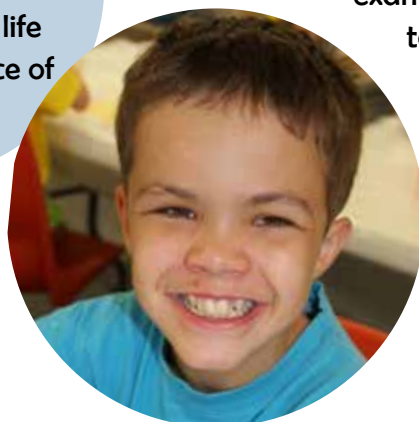
Some of those friends are came back for their 27th year and some are came for the first time; but regardless, upon their arrival they are loved and will be loved forever more. It is this attitude that enables us to provide exceptional care and enthusiastic programming for the people that attend. It is what drives us to come up with the most outrageous activities that nobody would dream that a person with a disability could conquer. It is our love for our campers that teaches us to see the ability and not the disability.

This year our past maintenance manager created a custom canoe launch that makes the transition for somebody using a wheelchair into a canoe much easier.

Please take a moment to read the story from Rachel Simpson - showcasing the life changing difference of Camp.

Story on Page 10

For Dave, a 32 year old man, at over 6 feet, 215 pounds with right side hemiplegia, his 2018 summer camp experience at Camp He Ho Ha gave him his first canoe ride since his accident 15 years ago. This is just one example of our commitment to removing the barriers and to creating magical memories for all involved. -Dave is not a squealer but his big smile and almost silent belly chuckle rang just as loud in our hearts.



## Did you know?

A total of 29,168.4 hours (volunteer and paid) were dedicated by our summer staff to run our summer camp programs in 2018.

# Facility Rental Program

Thinking back over the rental program for the 2018 year, we remember a time of great success, but also a time of continued challenges. Funds generated by the facility rental program in 2018 totaled just under \$500,000, accounting for approximately a quarter of Camp's annual income. This is amazing, considering the state of the economy and increased costs.

A special thank you must be extended to staff in all of the departments who worked tirelessly. Two significant additions to our kitchen team in 2018 were the hiring of a red seal chef and his apprentice. The quality and presentation of meals has proved to be above and beyond the expectations of guests. The commitment of these individuals and all the members of the Camp He Ho Ha team, has ensured our rental program has, and will, continue to thrive.

With our gates wide open, we welcomed approximately 2,203 men, women, children, students and families from a variety of clubs, guilds, schools, businesses, churches, choirs and bands - all working to achieve their retreat goals and objectives. Satisfied customers continue to be, and always will be, our greatest rental resource. Inquiries and subsequent rentals often result from conversations with on-site guests or friends & associates of visitors whose requests then come to us by way of email, the Camp website, and phone calls.

Regardless of the length of the stay, the number of people attending, or the purpose of their visit, our Camp team works hard to ensure the doors to Camp Health, Hope & Happiness are always open to friends, old and new. Through providing a level of excellence to all our facility rental groups that we can all be proud of, we make a difference in their event. Beyond delivering excellent retreat experiences our rental guests can be proud that a portion of the proceeds support individuals with special needs.

## Did you know?

Funds generated by our facility rentals program account for roughly 23% of Camp He Ho Ha's annual revenue

For More information on our facility rentals programs please contact Bobbi Olson, Rentals Coordinator at [bobbi@camphehoha.com](mailto:bobbi@camphehoha.com) or 780-429-3277 ext 234

Story on Page 4

Please take a moment to read the story written by Debby Kehler of Debby Kelher Quilting - a message that emphasizes the importance of camp in her life and the lives of her family.





# Camp by the Numbers

## Revenue

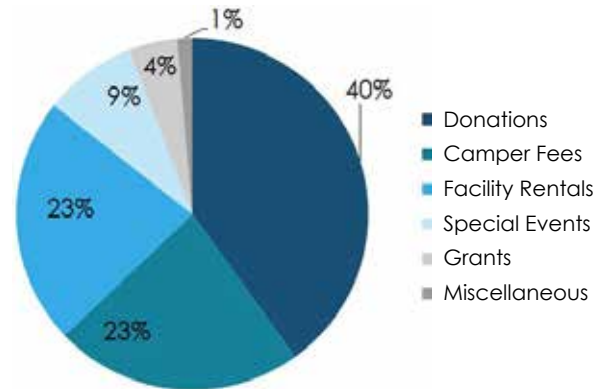
**\$2,108,376**

**\$53,453**

Employment Grants

**\$26,618**

Operating Grants



## Financial Ratios

**3.04**

Current Ratio

ability to pay off current liabilities with current assets

**599**

Days of Cash Reserve

short and long term financial strength/risk of Camp

**2.01**

Quick Ratio

one year, financial strength of Camp. Camp is more liquid than others in the same industry

Expense Trends: Cash disbursements during 2018 dropped to \$1.7M from \$2.4M in 2017, a decrease of 29%. Major decreases were seen in Repairs and Maintenance, 80%, (\$330K), and purchase of capital assets 80%, (\$ 270K)

## Campers

**743**

Campers

**45**

Waitlisted Campers

**\$650**

Registration Fee

**50%**

Registration Fee Subsidy

## Providing the Best Care

**2**

On-site Nursing Staff

**3:1**

Camper to Staff Ratio\*

**33**

Summer Staff

**6,375**

Hours of On-site Summer Staff Training

\*Our camper to staff ratio fluctuates depending on the camp being attended. Our mental disabilities camps have 4 campers to 1 staff; where as our physical disabilities camps have 3 campers to 1 staff.

# Camp is my Miracle

“I cannot begin to describe how important Camp has been in my life. I have worked here for 3 years, & every year I leave, I return home a better person. Camp has taught me so much, and for that I am incredibly thankful. But the one thing I cannot really express is how much it has taught me about love.

I honestly do not think I experienced true unconditional love until I arrived at Camp. I thought I knew what was important in life, but I was so wrong. The people that fill this space every year have had tough times and difficult pasts. They have been treated unfairly, been deemed a burden, or talked down to, but they are more capable of love, hope, and kindness than anyone I have ever encountered.

The campers accepted me for exactly who I was and loved me harder because of it. At Camp we do not see disability or differences, we see hearts, and the hearts of the campers, the staff, and everyone who makes Camp possible are the most beautiful hearts I have ever met. These hearts know no limits; they know there is dignity in risk, beauty in living far outside your comfort zone, and trying even if they know they might fail.

Camp is full of everyday miracles. Full of “firsts” and “never thought I could,” full of “only in my dreams” and “not in years!” Not only is it full of those little miracles, it is my miracle. It is the place where I found purpose and where a piece of my heart will always remain.

I am so grateful that a place like this exists and I am so blessed to have been a part of it.”

-Rachel Simpson, (Team Leader 2018)



# Thank You 2018 Major Donors

Our donors support summer camp programming, facilities, and operations, which expand opportunities for campers. Thank you to the donors who have joined us in making a difference in the lives of Albertans with disabilities. We have more donors than this space will allow, so we have listed donors who gave \$1000 or more between January 1, 2018 and December 1, 2018. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed.

Anonymous	District 4 Kin Foundation	Barb & James Robinson
A and K Tax Tyme Ltd	Drayton Valley Lions Club	Rotary Club of Stony Plain
A Clark Roofing & Siding LP	Michelle Eaton	Royal Alexandra Hospital – Employees Charity
ACT/UCT #1016 Edmonton Club	Edmonton Area Council One Society	Royal Purple #125 Vegreville
ACT/UCT #1017 Edmonton South Club	Edmonton Chinese Lions Club	Royal Purple #212 Fort Saskatchewan
ACT/UCT #1021 Red Deer Club	Edmonton Lodge #30 Independent Order Oddfellows	Royal Purple #22 Edmonton
ACT Edmonettes	Edmonton Millwoods Lions Club	Grace Rumbold
Alberta Beach & District Lions Club	Edmonton Southgate Lions Club	Samies I.O.O.B.
Alberta Heartland Chorus Society	Edmonton Strathcona lions Club	Troy & Lori Sartison
Alberta Royal Purple Lodges Association	Elk Point Royal Purple Lodge No 269	Jim Schlitter
Alta/Sask Provincial Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles	Dale & Brenda Evjen	Sherwood Park Breakfast Lions Club
Allard Foundation Ltd	Faulkner Family Fund	Side Management Ltd
Janet Assinger	Beverley Fausak	Jason Sopka
ATCO Gas (EPIC)	Frank J Flaman Foundation	South Edmonton Lions Club
ATCO	Bodil Hall	St. Albert Breakfast Lions Club
Automated Aquatics Canada Ltd	Terry & Linda Hanlon	St. Albert Host Lions Club
Roger & Jaenie Ayotte	Holy Family Columbus Club	STEP – Government of Alberta
Battle River Community Foundation	IA Financial Group	Stony Plain Lions
Chris Bauman	International Cooling Tower Inc	Suncor Energy Foundation
Crystal Kids	Jasper Lions Club	James Taylor
Benevity Causes	Jugs Construction Ltd	Technichrome Industries Ltd
Rene Blais	Kiwanis Club of Edmonton Oil Capital	The Allan & Sally Sawin Foundation
Cory Boddy	Eileen Labonte	The Jordan Family Foundation
George Boelcke	Leduc Lions Club	The Thrift Shop St. Andrews United Church
BPO Elks Lodge #11 Edmonton	Tervor & Jodi Lee	Trophy Book Archery Ltd
BPO Elks Lodge #216 Acme	Lions Club of Edmonton Foundation	Union 52 Benevolent Society
BPO Elks Lodge #470 Lac La Biche	Eugenia Lipinski	Van De Walle Real Estate Group Ltd
James Brown	Kim Lundquist	Vancouver Foundation-Keith Lord Sport Foundation
Cam Clark Ford Sales (2012) Ltd	Mark A Dashkewytch Professional Corporation	Vermilion Lions Club
Camp Health, Hope & Happiness Society Fund	Martin Deerline	Veteran & District Lions Club
Camrose Swans & Roses Lions Club	Norman & Betty Mayer	Wabamun & District Lions Club
Canada Summer Jobs – Government of Canada	Hugh & Madge McColl Camp Fund	Warehouse Services
Canlin Resource Partnership	Morinville Lions Club	Nellie Watson
Caroline Lions Club	Herman & Evelyn Neudeck	WFG Charitable Trust
Central Agencies Inc	Armand & Pearl Nielsen	Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta
Jason Chartrand	Greg Nielsen	Cindy Wilms
Children's Ability Fund	Joan & Victor Nielsen	Bev Wittmack
Choice Africa Safaris Can/Positive Choices Training & Dev Ltd	Christine Palmer	Brenda Wyne
CIBC Children's Foundation	Parkland County	Brian & Linda Wittmack
Cybertech Automation	Anne Paterson	Brenda Wyne
Florence Dales	Pembina Pipeline Corporation	Joe & Nancy Yamniuk
Darrel & Edith Martin Family Fund	Ivan & Beverly Peterson	Ralph & Gay Young
Dave Kehler Trucking Ltd	Bruce & Corinne Picton	
Devco Development Corp	Tina Pollock	
Dickinson Logging Ltd	Ponoka Lions Club	
	Probeauty Group Inc	
	REALTORS® Community Foundation	
	Rimby Lions Club	





camp he ho ha

**Donate Today!**

[www.camphehoha.com](http://www.camphehoha.com)

780-429-3277

Camp Health, Hope & Happiness

Box 182, Seba Beach, Alberta

TOE 2B0

charitable registration:

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