Campfire Chronicles

Camp Chief Hector Alumni Newsletter
Issue Number 9
March 2026

Greetings!

We're grateful to share this community with you. Camp Chief Hector YMCA has a way of bringing people together in lasting ways. As camp season approaches, there's so much to look forward to!

ALUMNI WORKDAY

Lend a hand. Volunteer at Camp.

Alumni Workday
is taking place on **Saturday, April 18, 2026**

You can imagine there is much to do to wake up camp from winter hibernation.

Opening and cleaning buildings. Trail maintenance. Preparing gear. Organizing equipment. There is always meaningful work to be done.

We will provide tools, work gloves, dinner, and an endless supply of camp coffee,tea, hot chocolate, and snacks to keep you fueled throughout the day.

Come enjoy the fresh air, a meaningful volunteer experience and connect with old friends and new faces at Camp Chief Hector.

Due to safety considerations, families are welcome to participate with children 12-years and older.

Join the CCH community on Alumni Workday and help give back to the camp that has shaped generations.

Register here for Alumni Workday

CAMP UPDATE

Bowfort Lodge Kitchen Renovation

Big things are happening inside Bowfort Lodge.

We are excited to share updates on the Bowfort Kitchen renovation project, focused on improving functionality, efficiency, and the overall experience for campers and staff.

The kitchen is truly the heart of camp. From early morning breakfasts before out trips, to warm meals after long days on the trail, this space fuels adventure and community.

Over December and January, we completed a major renovation which included:

• new walk-in refrigerator and freezer

• stainless steel countertops and backsplashes

• new windows and flooring

This project was funded through the Love, Camp Campaign supporting the revitalization of camp's critical infrastructure to ensure sustainability of our programs for future generations.

HOMECOMING

We are calling all those inspired by camp – alumni, past staff, past campers and parents - to reconnect with camp, and with your friends, here at your second home.

On **Saturday, September 12, 2026,** join us at Camp Chief Hector YMCA for **Homecoming!** from 9am to 4pm

Mark your calendars!

Registration will be opening soon. Stay tuned to upcoming newsletters for details, and start planning now to join us for a day filled with memories, reconnection, and community spirit.

Return to the place that shaped you. Celebrate Camp's legacy, share this special place with your loved ones, and be a part of its future!

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Summer Camp registration for 2026 is off to a strong start!

Within the first weeks of registration, we reached **82% capacity**. We are aiming to serve approximately **3,100 campers this summer** and currently have just **over 2,500 campers registered** and counting!

Thank you for continuing to support a camp community that grows year after year.

CAMPFIRE FRIENDS

Generations of campers have walked our trails, gathered around the fire, and discovered confidence, friendship, and belonging that stays with them long after summer ends. You can help those memories shine on by becoming a Campfire Friend.

When you become a Campfire Friend, your gift provides financial assistance to campers who need subsidy to participate in camp programs. This is nearly 1,000 youth each year.

Become a Campfire Friend and choose your level of participation:

$100 → 8–10 cm tree cookie inscribed with your first name (2-year term)

$1,930 → 18–20 cm tree cookie with your full name or family name + camp-inspired image (2-year term)

$5,000 → 30 cm tree cookie with up to 3 names/family name + camp-inspired image (4-year term)

How it works:

1. Visit **ymcacalgary.org/campfirefriends**
2. Choose your level and add your inscription
3. Complete your donation and receive your tax receipt

We are preparing the first group of wood cookies for production and would be honoured to include your name in this meaningful display.

Your generosity will keep the campfire burning for all campers.

Become a Campfire Friend today!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

ALUMNI WORKDAY
Saturday, April 18, 2026
Camp Chief Hector YMCA

CCH COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, May 9, 2026
Camp Chief Hector YMCA

Save the Date

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, June 15, 2026
Bearspaw Golf Club
Registration opens soon! Want to be a Sponsor? **Contact us for more info.**

HOMECOMING
Saturday, September 12, 2026
Camp Chief Hector YMCA
Registration opens soon!

REGISTRATION is now open for:
Family Weekend Getaway
Mountain Yoga Retreat
Basecamp for Fun in the Mountains
Camp Never Grow Up
Horsemanship Program

Learn more

Questions? Contact **Taryn Ashdown**, Annual Campaign Manager.

ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Help Grow the Camp Alumni Community

Do you know a Camp alumnus who would love to reconnect?

Please forward this newsletter and invite them to join the network.

Join the Camp Chief Hector Alumni Community

YMCA Calgary | 11300 Rocky Ridge Rd NW | Calgary, AB CA

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