

Greetings From Gary



Gary and Ryan hard at work

The 2013 camping season is now over and looking back I have to say that it was one of the best. Yes, the weather was awful but apart from the cool, wet months, here is what stands out for me:

- Our summer staff. Such enthusiastic, caring and dedicated people. YOU make Shadow Lake a great vacation destination for our guests.
- Rick Taylor and his associates in the insurance industry have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the camp via the annual Golf Tournament. This year alone, close to \$50,000.00 was raised to support our work. Thanks Rick.
- Our hearts ached when we heard of the passing of long time guests of Shadow Lake. Our thoughts are with the families of Bert Turner, Liz Morris and Bruce Walling.
- The additions of the wheelchair accessible swings and dock made a huge improvement in our program.
- New gazebos at the waterfront, new kitchen equipment, wheelchair accessible picnic tables, more paved pathways...camp just keeps getting better and better each season.
- Our new web page is getting rave reviews. Thanks Jason. Check it out at www.shadowlakecentre.ca. The 2014 dates should be posted in early January.

Best wishes everyone; see all of you next spring.

Grant Win Pays for New Accessible Dock



On April 30th, four young men from Royal St. George's College, Matthew, Kai, Liam and Sean, won a \$5,000 grant for

Community Living Toronto as part of the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative. This initiative provides secondary school students a hands-on, reality-based experience through an academic philanthropy course. While preparing presentations, groups of students assess the needs of their Communities, and compete for grants for community based charities. This group chose to do their presentation on Community Living Toronto as Matthew wanted to give back to the Association that provides supports for his cousin.

While doing research for their presentation, the boys learned how important Shadow Lake Centre is to the

guests that visit it every summer. The boys spent a day at Shadow Lake before making their final decision regarding what the money would be used for. The boys completed their day with a pontoon boat ride before ultimately deciding that the grant would go towards building an accessible dock to allow camp guests in wheelchairs to fully take advantage of the lake including boat rides and fishing! The dock was completed in time for guests to enjoy it before summer ended. Thanks to the four young men with the winning presentation, the dock will be here for guests to enjoy for many years to come.



Marisa's Corner



Paul is seen here with Marisa taking time out for a photo op

I can't believe the summer is over as it seems like only yesterday that we were putting the boats in the water. Now we're busy taking out the water toys and closing down the splash pad. Way too fast of a summer!!

It was a great summer thanks to the hard working girls of the maintenance department. You did a great job in keeping Shadow Lake in top shape.

There were so many new improvements at camp this summer. We were able to construct new porches on the double cabins, we paved the main entrance to the camp, and we purchased new wheelchair accessible swings, picnic tables and dock. The addition of added pathways has helped everyone.

High water levels are still a big issue but some landscaping in the playing field is making a difference. And speaking of making a difference, we purchased 3D coyote decoys and we haven't seen a goose in the past 3 weeks. This should make Jocelyn very happy.

On a personal note I will away from the camp for a few months on a personal leave. I am looking forward to seeing you all in the spring.

Did You Know That...

- In addition to our summer camping program we offer specialty camps for people with Prader-Willi Syndrome, a camp for youth with Autism and Deaf Respite programs.
- From September until mid-May, we rent out the camp to schools, scouts, guides, air cadets, faith groups, music groups and many others.
- Over 500 guests attend our camp in the summer.
- During the summer months we hire over 80 University students.
- Shadow Lake has been operating since 1965.
- This January, Gary will celebrate 39 years of service with Community Living Toronto.
- On our new web page there is a section for Shadow Lake Alumni. All former staff are encouraged to keep in touch with us as new projects and reunions will be taking place.
- Kyla Evans will re-join the Shadow Lake Staff in January to help hire our summer staff and process the guest application forms. Welcome Kyla.

New Outdoor Fun!

Thanks to the many donations made to the Mike Doto fund, we were able to purchase wheelchair accessible swings and picnic tables so that our guests who use a wheelchair can maximize their outdoor fun.

Located next to the splash pad, these swings have made many guests very, very happy. Just look!



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