



2021

Activity Report

ABOUT CAMP AMY MOLSON

WHO WE ARE

Camp Amy Molson is a sleepaway summer camp for youth aged 5-14. We offer three summer sessions of 2-weeks each. We also offer a five-day farm and wilderness program. We operate in Grenville-Sur-La Rouge on 180 acres of land.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide children living in vulnerable circumstances with an affordable, happy, outdoor experience, in which they can build self-confidence, develop positive relationships and learn valuable life skills in an environment that promotes group learning and nurtures each child individually.

VALUES

At Camp Amy Molson, our three core values are, Respect, Community, and Empowerment. All three are an integral part of all programs, training and teaching. They inspire and guide all of our organizational decisions.



OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is a great pleasure to share with you that we were able to offer an overnight camp experience to our campers this year. Quebec camps were only officially given the go ahead to run overnight camps in May. We certainly had our work cut out for us in order to be able to welcome our campers in July. As we began to prepare for the upcoming summer with the public health restrictions that were in place, it became very clear that we had an enormous amount of revamping of our programs and routines to create a covid adapted version. I am very grateful to our Leadership team who made this summer happen for our campers-- who needed it more than ever!

While this pandemic has undoubtedly been trying for many, those living in vulnerable circumstances were disproportionately affected by this health crisis. I am thankful that we could provide this summer experience to our families. Thank you again to our leadership team, our entire camp staff, our donors and our Board of directors for supporting us this summer.

More than ever we have proven that camps are an essential service and we are committed to advocating the important role that camps play in our society!

Looking forward to Summer 2022!

SHAUNA JOYCE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Director Team & Board of Directors



SHAUNA JOYCE
Executive Director



DANE SAVOURY
Director of Operations



JAMES O'HAGAN
Camp Director

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Board of Directors 2020-2021

- President - Cynthia Joy
- Vice President - Jean Morin
- Treasurer - Jia Liang Shen
- Secretary - Catherine Rousseau
- Past President - Don Hay
- Director - Jake Burack
- Director - Darlene Job
- Director - Josephite McNamara
- Director - Brian McGirr
- Director - Jeff Clarke
- Director - Michael Palmer

CAM 2020-2021 Timeline

Oct 2020

Creative Development Team (CDT)

As part of our mission to provide year-round programming and involving our staff, the CDT was formed in October 2020. Their goal has been to provide events that foster connection and relationships with our campers in the off-season. This is a team of volunteers from our organization that meet bi-weekly.



Hallo-Week

What's better than an online Halloween event? 5 special events. For one week, our CDT put together arts and crafts, game shows, baking activities and more. Along with opportunities to interact with our campers, all of our content was shared through our YouTube channel for our campers to be able to watch and enjoy at their leisure.



Christmas Basket Delivery

In collaboration with Dollard Centre de la Enfance we were able to receive 6 Christmas baskets for some of our camper families. Families received food, and gifts for the entire family. We were grateful for the opportunity to spread cheer.

The Snowday

No gatherings allowed? World pandemic? Seems like we could use a "SnOOwday" which is just what we did. A visit with Santa with an ask me anything session, a Christmas themed game show along with a special Christmas play allowed all of our campers and staff to feel the holiday spirit from the comfort of their homes.

CAM4EVER Presents...

THE SNOOWDAY

Dec 19th





Tyndale Co-op Program

We are always looking for ways to connect with likeminded organizations within Montreal. We have been fortunate enough to be connected to the Tyndale Community Center and were happy to welcome them to our site. The Co-op participants were able to enjoy our sites activities and resources and had a very eventful day. We hope to continue this relationship in the future.

Sleepaway Camp 2021

We're Back! Camp Amy Molson got the green light to operate in May 2021 and to allow campers to come and stay on-site. We were able to offer 2 sessions with over 100 campers each and a large waiting list. We had eagerly anticipated the return to summer camp normalcy and in spite of the Covid rules and protocols, we were able to experience a close to normal summer experience.



June



August

Indigenous Visit

We collaborated with 2 indigenous groups -- Nations Garlic and Dearhouse Farms Nursery and hosted them for a day of programming. One of our objectives this summer was to strengthen our relationship with Indigenous communities by providing opportunities of exchange and mutual benefit. We were pleased with the end result and hope to continue to invest in this relationship in the future.

Tyndale Family Camp

We were also happy to return to our Tyndale Family Weekend. This summer, we welcomed our largest group yet numbering 22 families who came to our site. A full program was provided from Friday to Sunday which allowed our families to select and choose from different programs running simultaneously throughout the weekend.



September

Corn the Roasting IX

We most recently held our popular corn roast event. Corn the Roasting IX: The CORNucopia was a huge success which involved two buses of participants, over 20 volunteer staff members, a DJ performing music live and lots of hard work. Over 75 participants were welcomed to the site to experience our farm, our chickens and a beautiful day in the sun with friends and family.





2021 SEASON

This summer was one for the books. After a lengthy debate focused on whether or not overnight camps would be able to open their doors, we finally got the green light. In order to ensure the health and safety of our campers and staff members, we put many things into place. We reduced the total amount of sessions from 3 to 2. We also reduced our overall capacity from 144 to 100 campers.

The challenge was rethinking the way we do things. Our summer camp program operated as five distinct bubbles although a sense of community was still maintained. From singing at the bell to the dining hall experience to tuck and free-play. Our management team along with our staff dedicated one full day with our 60 staff to brainstorm solutions, alternatives and protective factors in order to ensure that camp could remain "camp" but adapted to enforce safety protocols. The end result? A unique summer experience for both our staff and our campers. By reimagining our traditions and typical camp culture with

Summer Camp

A CLOSER LOOK

COVID protocols and safety measures we were able to give our campers an experience that they had been anxiously awaiting two years for. Rather than split our camp into four tribes, we split out groups into 5 different bubbles. Within those bubbles, campers were able to experience a normal-ish summer experience by travelling together, experiencing special days together, picnics and evening program. Staff found in our exit surveys that the bubble system ended up benefitting our campers and staff more than we had anticipated. By participating in so many different facets of camp life with the same four cabins, campers were able to develop stronger relationships with their "bubble-mates" as well as the staff within the bubble. One of our priorities at camp is developing meaningful and intentional relationships which which we accomplished through the bubble system. Other alterations and adaptations included having Christmas with Santa visiting the campers in their own bubble. Having alternating mealtimes in the dining hall as well as picnic style lunches everyday outside. Ultimately, the summer season was a huge success in



providing a safe, positive experience for our campers and staff. Rekindling relationships between our returning campers and staff in addition to providing a unique and truly one-of-a-kind experience for our new campers made it all worth it.



Teen Haven was back in 2021 after our first successful foray in 2020 with our two days of day camp. This time, we welcomed **Teen Haven** for a weekend of specialized programming for the group home. The staff were able to enjoy the site and the teens participated in everything from volleyball, to boating, farming as well as team building challenges and more. We are continually looking for more ways to engage our community and glad that we were able to maintain this relationship.

We were grateful to welcome Tyndale St-Georges back to camp for our **family weekend**. This summer boasted the largest group to date with 22 families attending. We are fortunate that in the midst of the pandemic, Camp Amy Molson is able to forge new relationships, maintain past connections and continually cast vision for the future of our organization.

A Look at the Numbers...



of campers
this
summer
lived below
the poverty
line



over
summer
capacity



different
campers
participated
in the
summer
program



camper spots
that were
filled this
summer



Teen Haven
participants
on site this
summer



summer
staff hired
and on-site
for the
reduced
program



families for our
Tyndale Family
Camp Weekend



campers
benefitted from
camper support
service



participated in
our water
drinking camp
initiative



2021 SEASON

One of the objectives that we had was to reduce our carbon footprint as a camp. They were able to launch this as a project for our campers and even used a visual model for our campers to see their progress. We were pleased with our overall results and will continue to focus on this for future summers.

After going a year without any animals on the farm we were happy to welcome 10 chickens. As part of our farm program, we always want to provide our children with as much exposure to new experiences at camp. The children enjoyed naming the animals and spending time watching them grow, learning about their eating habits and collecting eggs.

We were also able to start and finish two new projects this summer including an forced air compost system as well as a cob oven. We benefited from the upgrade to our compost capacity and campers were excited to help and be involved in the compost process. Cooking remains a fan favorite and so campers were able to participate in cooking challenges as well as creating new recipes and sauces and salad dressings.

Lastly, we were overjoyed to return to our farm and wilderness camp program. We welcomed 12 participants for a week where campers were involved in workshops, cooking, baking as well as completing a personal project.

Farm Program

A CLOSER LOOK

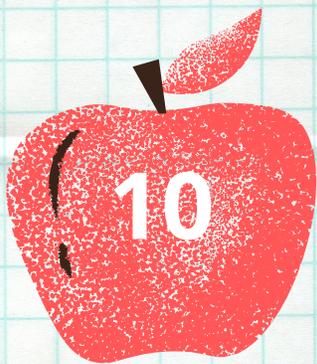
A Look at the Numbers...



**cabins
participated
in analyzing
our carbon
footprint**



**different
vegetables and
crops grown this
summer**



**egg laying chickens
on-site this summer**



**new projects
launched and
completed (cob
oven and air
compost system)**



**participants for
our week long
Farm and
Wilderness
program**



**attendees for our
Corn the
Roasting IX event**



2021 SEASON

This summer required a lot of creative thinking and problem solving in order to accomplish things. We wanted to make sure that staff training was a meaningful and impactful time together as well as practical. We were pleased with the end result and what we were able to put together. Many of our workshops took place outside in order to allow us to socially distance. In addition, we were able to reinvent the ways we approached certain summer situations. Rather than focus solely on workshops and team building opportunities, we also designated a full day for collaborative problem solving. Each group, was assigned situations, programs and periods of day during the summer where we would brainstorm alternatives for non-covid friendly practices. The staff were happy to be part of the creative process to generate these ideas, and solutions. In the end, some of the very ideas generated by these sessions were later touted as some of the best aspects of camp.

We were happy to have our LIT and LITA programs running again this summer. From the workshops to the team building challenges, the children were able to learn tools to be leaders not just on-site this summer but in their communities and beyond.

Thanks to our relationship with McGill University MYST labs, we were able to have Emily Stubbert, do a Zoom workshop with both groups. The groups were able to ask questions and be able to benefit from the knowledge and experience from Emily.

Leadership & Development

A CLOSER LOOK

A Look at the Numbers...

17

LITAS were part of the program this summer

100%

of the LITs were from Montreal and below the poverty line

30

LITs were able to be part of our program.

31

training and development sessions were given to the LITs

18

sessions/workshops were provided for the purpose of training and developing all staff



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