



Camp Quality Canada -NATIONAL NEWSLETTER-

Lifting the spirits of children with cancer!

Volume Number 05 Issue 1

Camp Quality Wins International Award

Camp Quality Canada is proud to announce that its Northern Ontario camp, located between Sudbury and Espanola, has won the Award for Best Program or Activity from Children's Oncology Camping Association International (www.coca-intl.org).

The winning program, called the Tyrolean Traverse, is provided free of charge by Domtar Inc. Five Domtar employees, from the company's Emergency Response Unit, come to the Northern Ontario location each summer and set up a rescue apparatus, scaling one of the huge pine trees on the camp property, anchoring the "traverse" over 100 feet up the tree and tether the ground end 250 feet from the base of the tree. Each camper is then slowly pulled to the top of the traverse in a safety harness. Gravity pulls them back down!

Camp Quality is honoured to receive this award and thanks Domtar for making a difference in the lives of children with cancer.



Camper Becomes Honourary Hot Air Balloon Pilot

Cross Canada Balloons recently recognized Nicholas, camper from Camp Quality Southern Ontario, as an honorary hot air balloon pilot for his extraordinary help during the balloon's visit to camp this past summer. Pictured below are Nicholas and past camp director, Michelle Donais. Congratulations Nicholas and thank you to Cross Canada Balloons for this honour!



Thank you Rogers Video!

Camp Quality is pleased to acknowledge the generous support of the Rogers Video Children's Charitable Fund. A donation in the amount of \$10,000 was recently presented to CQ. Special thanks to Mr. Chuck van der Lee (President of Rogers Video), Mr. Daniel Langevin (Vice President Marketing & Merchandising) and Ms. Sarah Good (Manager, Media & Community Relations) for making this happen. Pictured below are John Mathers (CQ Vice President), Daniel Langevin, Meagan Ross (CQ National Facilitator) and Bill Vlaad (CQ President.)

We are extremely grateful and we look forward to a long and rewarding partnership!



MISSION STATEMENT

Camp Quality Canada is a volunteer, charitable organization which improves the quality of life for children living with cancer through camps and year-round support programs.

CAMP QUALITY NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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OUR THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



We have "Lift Off!"

February 3rd marked the first annual spring "Lift Off!" fundraising event for Camp Quality and it was a blast! What made the event so much fun was its unique concept: every attendee was handed a balloon with a key attached. Ten locked baskets were placed throughout the room and if a guest's key opened one of the baskets, they won the prize inside! Prizes and silent auction items included gym memberships, restaurant and theatre gift certificates, as well as a private hot air balloon ride for two! Vivo Restaurant in Toronto donated the space for the evening, Gelato Fresco donated delicious tartufo for all our guests and Chateau des Charmes was the exclusive winery for the evening. The event was well attended and was a great success. Thank you to all the volunteers, donors and

**Our thanks to
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**OUR
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Safeway... "Because We Care"

Safeway Canada Ltd.'s "Because We Care" program involves each franchise to choose a charity or community group to receive all proceeds from charity events and donation boxes at each checkout during the period of November to June. The Winnipeg Fort Richard Safeway chose Camp Quality Manitoba as their charity! Pictured left, at a recent fundraising event, is CQ camper, Greer, and Camp Quality volunteer, Nancy Wilson. Thank you for caring, Safeway!



From the President's Desk

April is Volunteer Month. Which as we know doesn't mean a flood of volunteerism in the month of April (wouldn't that be nice). Rather it is a time to reflect on our community giving. It is a socially imposed "event" to give service to those who give service. At Camp Quality, many of us work right through the year not considering April as a month any different to the other eleven. However, I would hope that each one of you, as you read this, take the opportunity to recognize the impact you have made on Camp Quality and the other organizations you volunteer at (that is the thing about the Camp Quality family -- we all have big hearts and we give all over the place!). April is for respecting yourself and feeling proud of the time and energy you devote to someone else's well-being. Volunteerism is a funny business because the "currency" or fuel that gets everything done is emotion. Just like any currency or fuel, you have to re-fuel or go to the bank. That is what April is all about. Spend some time thinking about what an impact you have made, the lives you have improved, the friendships that have developed, the spirits of children with cancer that you have lifted. If you do your tank of volunteer energy will be re-fuelled and you will have plenty more of that volunteer currency to spread around. Thanks to all our Camp Quality volunteers for all you do.

To the roads ahead...

Bill Vlaad, CQ Canada President



"Kids at heart." Bill Vlaad, CQ President, Tim Benson, CQ National Board Director and David Doyle, CQMB Treasurer, practice walking on stilts at CQSO.



INTRODUCING...OUR CAMP DIRECTORS

Terry has been involved with Camp Quality Alberta since 2001 when she was a companion. The following years saw her as Program Coordinator, Assistant Director and now Camp Director. Terry is the heart of CQAB.



Terry Katernchuk
CQAB

Noelle has great camp experience from being a Girl Guide Leader, to instructing swimming and canoeing to volunteering at a burn camp. She has eagerly stepped forward to direct Manitoba's first year of camp this summer. Thank you and welcome Noelle!



Noelle Bowles
CQMB

Until very recently, Teresa was always CQNO's secretary. She was, and is, their source of grounding whenever anyone begins to forget about CQ's roots with the Entwistles and Australia. She is one of the founding members of the COC for Northern Ontario. She has always been "Camp Quality" here in the North.



Teresa Fryer
CQNO

Marc has always volunteered. This past year as camp director of NWO has seen many implementations to the marketing and promotions strategies. He has taken on the challenge of boosting CQNWO's image in the region. CQNWO is lucky to have found this leader.



Marc Butikofer
CQNWO

Stephanie started in CQEO's first year (2000) as a companion and quickly became an ambassador of the Camp Quality philosophy. In 2002/03, she took on an additional new role as the Companion Representative and in 2004 became Assistant Director. Stephanie will definitely be the driving force that will grow Camp Quality Eastern Ontario into the future.



Stephanie Walsh
CQEO



Cindy Anthony
CQSO

A very warm welcome to Cindy Anthony, CQSO's new camp director. Cindy was a full time Camp Director for 5 years at a residential camp. She missed her camp involvement, and is now very excited to be involved with camp life again. Welcome Cindy!

Tour For Kids 2005!

In 2005, Tour for Kids will be building on our success of last year, with an exciting 4 day (August 11-14) cycling event. Highlights of this year's event includes:

- Fully supported and all inclusive - (accommodation, food, tour marshals, technical support, etc.) four-day public cycling event August 11th – August 14th starting and ending in Toronto
- Set your own pace – you choose the days and total distance you want to ride
- Ride somewhere meaningful – travel over scenic backroads along a 840 km circuit that takes you past the very camps you are supporting
- Each day there's a festival event - a wonderful and entertaining event with lots of surprises including music for all ages, food, crafts, buskers, displays by local artists, party boat rides, fireworks, and much more.
- Major fall celebratory fundraising event featuring Barenaked Ladies and other musical entertainment as well as surprise guests

And to get started there is a one-day "tune-up for spring" event on May 7th to get "in the spirit" and build awareness for our August main event.

Your participation in the Tour for Kids event (as a rider, as a volunteer, or as a sponsor) is very important in raising awareness and funds for the extraordinary camp organizations like Camp Quality we support. Over \$300,000 was raised that will go directly to helping these children and their families build confidence, courage and friendships.

If you would like more information about Tour for Kids, or would like to participate as a volunteer or rider, you can go to the website www.tourforkids.com or call 905-271-6203.

Camp Quality Puppet Program

Children with cancer often experience difficulties upon their return to school following cancer treatment. The Camp Quality Puppet Program uses life-sized puppets and through short plays endeavours to encourage sensitivity about cancer and its effects. This program is offered to schools free of charge. If you, or someone you know might be interested in volunteering as a puppeteer and/or starting a puppet program in your area, please email information@campquality.com.



What's happening at the camps?

To help beat those winter blahs, our camps have been busy hosting weekend get-aways and fundays for our campers, their families and volunteers. Activities have included skiing, snowshoeing, spas, weekend reunions at hotels and campgrounds, swimming, mini-golf, movie day, tobogganing, crafts. All events have been very successful and well attended with lots of memories of camp via yearbooks and videos being shared.

Now that spring is just around the corner, camps are gearing up for more family fundays, volunteer recruiting and trainings, and the planning of camp week. Themes for this year's camps include Western, Fear Factor, Survivor, Pirates and Holidays of the Year.

Thank you to all of our Camp Organizing Committees for their passion and hard work!



WANTED!

**Volunteers to execute a
National Skating
Fundraiser.**

1-866-738-8011

**Coming soon . . .
a new look for our website.
Stay tuned!**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAMP QUALITY, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.campquality.com