



YFC CANADA NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019



LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of YFC,

Many young people I know have been profoundly impacted by a week spent at summer camp. Connections with old friends and new friends are made and for many young people, summer camp is one of their first times away and where they start to find their identity away from their parents and the comforts of home.

Many of my summers growing up were spent at a camp where my parents were directors, so I witnessed first-hand the positive effects of a week of camp.

Some of our front-line staff take time during the school break to speak at summer camps. One staff member who reaches out to youth is **Carmen Rempel** in BC's Okanagan. This past summer, as she has done for many years, she travelled

throughout BC to speak at summer camps and share God's love with young people.

Because of your partnership, staff, like Carmen, are able to reach out to young people and show them God's unwavering love. Thank you for your continued partnership with us!

We appreciate your prayer and financial support as we work to see every young person living fully in Christ!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Coles'.

Tim Coles
National Director





RENAMED

by CARMEN REMPEL

"I met a kid tonight. I want to bring him home."

That was the text I sent Corey, my husband, while I was away speaking at a summer camp. I had just gotten back to my cabin after speaking at campfire. I had presented a message that night about God's power to rename us.

I had set out a table and chairs and place settings complete with name cards. I went from place to place reading out the various names written on the cards. "Broken", "Unwanted", "Fatherless", etc.... As I called out each name, a kid from the audience would come down and take their seat at the table. I was humbled by their bravery. Especially when I read out "Fearful" and a kid with severe anxiety came down and sat in front of everyone; their worst nightmare. I was barely able to speak after I called out "Good-for-Nothing" and three boys immediately stood up and walked down.

This was a camp for 11-13 year-olds. They hold so much pain in such little bodies.

After all seats at the table had been filled, I went back to the beginning and renamed each of them, giving them each a hunk of bread on their plate.

"You have been called *Unwanted*, but He calls you **Chosen**."

"You have been called *Fatherless*, but He calls you **Child of God**."

The 300 watching preteens held total silence and stillness as I went around from spot to spot. They honoured the courage and vulnerability of their fellow campers.

After each had been renamed I had them take their hunk of bread and stand in a line at the front. I then invited the rest of the campers to come forward and receive their new name. The brave campers became the ministers that night; they stood tall and strong, some crying as they stood, and for each person who came to them they tore off a piece of their bread and said "You have been called ____, but He calls you ____" passing on the blessing they had received just moments before.

I stood behind it all and watched with tears streaming down my face. I listened as the little voice of an 11-year-old boy repeated over and over again "You have been called *Unwanted*, but **HE** calls you **Chosen**." I listened as the Trans kid stood with their bread and tearfully choked out "You have been called *Broken*, but **HE** calls you **renewed**" over and over again, receiving hugs and giving hugs, depending on who was crying more.

It felt like sacred ground. Beautiful, inspiring, sorrowful, sacred ground.

It was 'stay back' night, which meant that kids could stay at campfire and pray if they didn't want to go right back to their cabin right away. I sat and talked with one of my brave kids who decided to stay back. He was clutching his little name card that said "Chosen" on it. He sobbed as he

told me his heart-breaking story of rejection and pain.

So much pain in such a sweet boy. I wanted to take him home.

I'm not going to divulge his secrets to you; I hold them in trust. But I was completely undone. We prayed together and I spoke words of truth to him. Things like "It's not your fault" and "Their actions say something about them, not about you."

I was emotionally and spiritually spent after that. But kid after kid after kid came up to me and asked for prayer and gave me a small glimpse into their pain.

There is so much pain.

After the music had ended and campers had been sent to bed, I was cleaning up and dousing the fire, when I saw that someone had etched into the dirt with a stick "You are no longer Broken."

This is why I go.

Thank you for supporting me and praying for me as I minister to youth. Lives were changed that night. Kids were set free, comforted, renamed, given hope, felt loved, connected with God, accepted forgiveness and made new.

It was Holy. It was Sacred.

And that was just one night, at one camp!



We are excited to share that **December 30, 2019** is **Youth for Christ's**

75th Anniversary in **Canada!** Please join us in celebrating this milestone.

We would *love* to hear your favourite YFC memory or impact story.

Please contact Elizabeth Kroeker elizabeth.kroeker@yfcanada.org or **1.800.899.9322 ext. 750**.



Now might be a great time *to have a conversation.*

We understand that most people don't want to think or talk about Wills, estate plans and end-of-life decisions. It can be hard, uncomfortable and frankly a little awkward. But, if we don't have those conversations with ourselves, our parents or our family – who will? When you don't have a Will or a plan in place, someone else will make the decisions for you and they may not reflect your faith, your values or your ideas.

Our partners at Advisors with Purpose will help get the conversation started. Their Estate Specialists are available to discuss your unique situation and can help you create a fully personalized estate plan. *This service is complimentary and completely confidential. There is no obligation and no one will try to sell you anything.*

Contact them today to speak to an estate specialist.

1.866.336.3315 plan@advisorswithpurpose.ca



LEAVING A LEGACY

There are many ways that you can leave a legacy in your community including supporting YFC Canada. We have partnered with Advisors with Purpose who can help create a plan for your Will that reflects your life and your hope for the next generation. Our partnership with **Advisors with Purpose** allows us to offer you this free and confidential service; there is no obligation to you – and they will never sell you any product.

Contact an estate specialist today at **1.866.336.3315** or plan@advisorswithpurpose.ca

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we see the *hope* and *potential* in every young person