

CAMP STEPPING STONES

MAY 30 - JUNE 1, 2025

Thank You



Camp Stepping Stones

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS!



Weather was on our side this year, sunny and warm during the day, with perfectly cool nights. Although smoky skies and fire bans meant no traditional campfire, our team jumped into action with some creative activities so that campers didn't miss a thing!



Camp kicked off Friday night with big smiles and full plates, thanks to a welcome supper provided by South West District Palliative Care. Dessert was a crowd favorite, a build your own sundae bar generously sponsored by Chapman's. While parents and caregivers participated in a cozy coffee house, campers jumped straight into the weekend's magic. A fun get to know you activity was followed by the crafting of memory frames for special pictures of loved ones to go up on our memory wall. The night wrapped up with a hayride, visit to the farm, and more sharing while enjoying some snacks before bed!



Saturday was a whirlwind of activity! Campers fueled up with breakfast and then launched into a full day of fun and activities with their new friends, this included the creation of memory pillows, memory boxes, dreamcatchers, and their own mini paddle signed by their new friends! Traditional camp activities included outdoor games, nature walks, archery and ziplining. Following dinner, rain sticks were crafted and campers participated in a luminary memorial. The evening wrapped up with a special presentation from Knowledge Keepers Kevin and Tara, and the option to take part in a traditional healing ceremony.



Sunday was about squeezing in more adventure and activity. Then, following one last meal together, everyone joined a sharing circle to reflect on their favorite camp moments. In Camp Stepping Stones tradition, the weekend ended with a butterfly release – a perfect symbol of love, hope, and remembrance.



**Your support
made all this
(and more)
possible!**

Once again Camp Stepping Stones was an amazing experience for campers and volunteers!

"THE BEST PART OF CAMP WAS MAKING NEW FRIENDS, THEY HELPED ME KNOW THAT I AM NOT ALONE" - CAMPER

“My daughter said that she was really excited to make friends that were going through the same things as she was and that they were all comforting each other. Letting those emotions go was a big thing for her. - parent”

My grandson had so much fun. He didn't want to go home. I am so grateful. I hope you can continue doing this with other kids. I believe it helps them and the people caring for them. I thank you so much.
- grandparent

"Thank you for everything. My son had a great time and it made a world of difference." - parent

"Camp is an experience you won't forget anytime soon."
-Cam, Volunteer

Volunteering at Camp Stepping Stones over the past 3 years has been a profoundly moving experience. I supported children coping with the loss of loved ones. One of the most powerful moments was the butterfly release ceremony. Each child received a butterfly to release, a symbolic gesture of letting go of their grief, honoring their loved ones, and embracing healing. In that quiet, beautiful moment, I saw how even the smallest acts of connection and ritual can bring comfort. Being part of their journey, even briefly, reminded me of the quiet strength that lives in community & compassion.
- Brenda, Volunteer

Camp this year was another incredible year. The weekend was filled with tears, smiles, and stories honouring the people who have passed. Asking to come back was a regular refrain from the kids, who first arrived feeling alone, and left knowing there's many other kids and people going through difficult and sad situations. -Terry, Volunteer

I really liked hearing everyone's stories, it helped me grieve.
- camper

“The campers were able to shed a lot of grief, anger and fear.”
- Cindy, Volunteer

The girls have talked so much about it. How they can remember their mom and that they have a hug (their scarf) to make them warm and fuzzy. They talked about chatting with the other kiddos in their cabin, the farm, climbing the ropes, zip lining and going to the lake. They cried Monday morning because they missed their camp friends. - parent

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING SUPPORTERS



Reggie Leach Classic
Elizabeth Rowbotham
Petersfield Motor Hotel
The community of Petersfield



Indra Boodoo
Sherri Purvis
Barb Ramsay
Lisa Seel



Because of you these young
people didn't have to
experience grief alone.





Camp Stepping Stones

About Camp:

Offered annually, Camp Stepping Stones is a weekend grief camp for youth ages 7 - 17, who have experienced the recent death of someone significant in their lives.

Camp provides a safe, supportive environment where grieving young people are able to share their thoughts and feelings with peers who have also experienced the death of someone close to them.

Camp is funded by donations and made possible with a dedicated volunteer team.

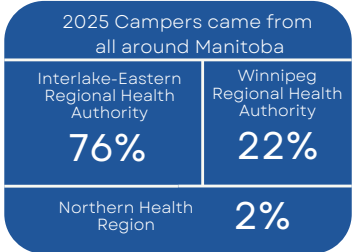


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Supporting care and community.



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