



Join the Adventure!
It's a great time to be a
Junior Forest Warden

Junior Forest Wardens is an exciting and educational opportunity for young people and their families to have fun and develop skills in a natural environment.

The JFW Program is based on four program areas:

Forestry – Ecology – Outdoor Skills – Leadership

Junior Forest Wardens is an outdoor oriented program, with an emphasis on hands on experience to provide a greater knowledge and appreciation of our natural environment. The program is committed to providing opportunities to get outdoors in all four season, hiking, camping, backpacking, canoeing, mountaineering, tree planting and more!

Young people between the ages of 6 – 18 can join a local club, and enjoy age specific programming in one of four age classes. Parents are encouraged to participate with their children, in all aspects of the JFW program. JFW is an all-volunteer organization from top to bottom. There is no full time staff or headquarters. Adult volunteers and parents provide their expertise in leadership or resource roles, parent supervision and participating and learning right along side of their kids. It provides an affordable family based youth outdoor education program.

Junior Forest Wardens, it's all about family outdoor adventure!

Find out more at: www.jfwa.ca

Chickakoo JFW Camp



The Chickakoo JFW Camp has been an important part of that program for over thirty years.

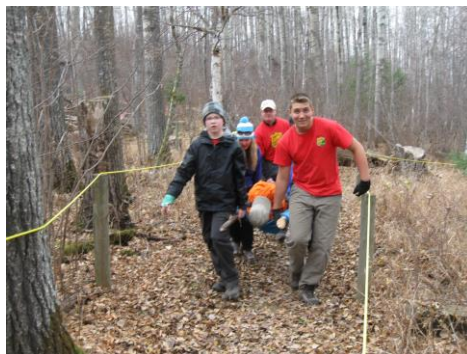
The original lease was signed in 1985 and was held by the Spruce Grove - Parkland JFW Club. The Camp has been in continuous operation since that time. As the Chickakoo Lake Recreation area grew and was developed, so too did the JFW Camp and the Spruce Grove Club. New Clubs were chartered in Parkland County to handle the overflow. By the year 2,000, there were seven JFW Clubs in Parkland County and area; Stony Plain, Clymont, Duffield, Keephills, Entwistle and Onoway. Hundreds.... no, probably thousands of JFW white spruce trees have been planted all over the Recreation area as well as at the Camp. Trails & Cabins were constructed; a log cabin and cook shelter were moved onto the site. Hundreds of Wardens and their families enjoyed the Camp over the years. It has become a special place for JFW. It's the perfect location to experience nature and learn the skills that last a lifetime. We have parents in our Clubs that went to the Camp when they were Wardens that are now sharing the experience with a new generation.

The Spruce Grove – Parkland JFW Club fell on hard times in recent years. As membership dwindled, they found it difficult to maintain and use the Chickakoo Camp. In 2010, the Spruce Grove Club closed its doors and turned over all assets including the Chickakoo Camp lease to the JFW Yellowhead Regional Council. The remaining Clubs in the area voted overwhelmingly to assume the responsibility of operating the Chickakoo JFW Camp. I'm pleased to report that in Spruce Grove, a new JFW Club rose from the ashes in 2012. The Spruce Grizzlies are now in their second year of operation and growing with over 23 families and over 35 Wardens.

The JFW Yellowhead Regional Council immediately formed a Chickakoo JFW Camp Committee and got to work bringing the Camp back to its former glory. We now have a Committee of twelve volunteers handling a variety of tasks; booking, maintenance, projects, finance and programming. Regular monthly maintenance and inspections are done and seasonal "Volunteer Days" held when all members are invited to come out to do maintenance, renovations and construction on the site. In the past two years, JFW volunteers have invested 450 volunteer hours in the Camp. Booking, Reporting, Camp Guidelines and Emergency procedures documents and forms are in place.

The Yellowhead Region is the middle level of the National / Provincial / Regional / Club, Junior Forest Wardens organization. It is the largest Region in JFW with fourteen Clubs spanning the Yellowhead highway from Tofield to Hinton. Membership for 2013-14 is at 240 families with 350 Wardens. The Council, with representation from all the Clubs, is a registered society incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta supported by bylaws, policy and oversight by the Provincial Alberta Junior Forest Wardens Association. The Council fully supports the Camp and this lease proposal and provides it with insurance and budgeted funding including AGLC casino funds plus the ability to do fundraising and access grants & non-profit funding. The Camp Committee reports monthly to the Council on all aspects of Camp operation.

This year Chickakoo JFW Camp is now available for booking by all JFW members year round. The camp has had regular bookings by JFW Clubs from small groups of 5 or 6 to whole Clubs of 60 leaders, parents and wardens. They are participating in JFW programming of; tree planting, nature hikes, backpacking, shelter building, canoeing, snow shoeing, Nordic skiing, fire lighting, wilderness survival, wilderness first aid, axe & knife safety, plant tree & wildlife identification and more.



The future of the Camp and our short and long term goals are not ambitious. We like the Camp the way it is. We want to maintain its harmonious relationship with the old growth Aspen Parkland Forest of the Chickakoo Lake Recreation area.

Even long-term users of the park that walk right through the middle of the leased land and past the entrance to the Camp are surprised when they learn that its there. With no vehicle access, we do have to make an effort to get there and that is an earned reward in itself. We are currently renovating the existing buildings and campsites, including replacing the roof on the log cabin. We have plans for more JFW programming at the Camp to add activities such as an archery range, waterfront canoeing, archery, orienteering a group challenge course and more.



We enjoy and are extremely grateful for the support and encouragement by the Parkland County Recreation and Parks Department and staff. David Cross and Lenny Richer have been very helpful and we appreciate the good working relationship that has developed over the past two years.

With your support we look forward to many more years at the home for JFW in Parkland County, the Chickakoo JFW Camp.

Happy Trails!

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Bartley
Chair, Chickakoo JFW Camp
Past President JFW Yellowhead Regional Council
Director, Provincial Board, Alberta Junior Forest Wardens Association