

ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT

Registration Package for Rotarians

September 21 - 24, 2017

Southern Alberta Bible Camp



For More Information Contact:

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Rotary
District 5360





PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

RYPEN provides youth between the ages of 13 and 18 years old the opportunity to enhance and develop individual self-confidence and personal growth/life skills. This particular conference is focused on youth who have had limited opportunities to attend leadership development programs. The leadership development philosophy of the RYPEN program is based upon the “holistic – meaning whole person” approach (developed by Lyle Benson), with self-esteem enhancement through the small group process as the foundation. Youth will be involved in a variety of active experiential sessions addressing areas such as cooperation, goal setting, group decision making, interpersonal skill development, problem solving attitudes, values clarification, conflict resolution, and active listening and communication. This is all accomplished through a “learn by doing” approach, and a “fun with a purpose” attitude. Throughout the seminar, participants work together in small groups paired with youth leaders from previous RYPEN Experiences. Each group also has an adult mentor.

What is RYPEN?

RYPEN stands for the Rotary Youth Program of ENrichment. RYPEN is a residential experience, where the participants are involved in a variety of sessions, workshops and activities. Each activity provides an opportunity to develop oneself, to challenge oneself, and build friendships with other people. We also provide the opportunity to learn, and build skills in areas like:

- leadership;
- working in a team;
- communication;
- goal setting;
- challenging oneself
- contributing to the community; and
- growing up in a digital world.

RYPEN also provides an opportunity to:

- increase confidence;
- increase self-esteem and self-awareness;
- consider the impact of life choices;
- build trust;
- explore values;
- explore ways to deal with stress;
- challenge fears;
- reflect on how to make a difference in their school and the broader community;
- and HAVE FUN!



INFORMATION FOR ROTARY CLUBS

- **Cost is \$550.00** per student, plus bussing costs if applicable.
- Included in this fee is meals, accommodation, and program and specialty equipment.
- Confirmation of number (not necessarily names) of students to be sent to Karen Johnson at kfjrotary@gmail.com by **September 9**.
- Cheques are to be sent by September 22 and made payable to “Rotary District 5360” with a memo of “Fall RYPEN 2016” and mailed to:

Charlene Bearden
Rotary District 5360 Inc.
201- 4 Parkdale Crescent N.W.
Calgary, AB, Canada T2N 3T8

- THE LOCATION: ABOUT SOUTHERN ALBERTA BIBLE CAMP (SABC) Southern Alberta Bible Camp is located near Little Bow Provincial Park, a short 1 hour drive from Vulcan, 100 km from Lethbridge. This modern facility sits on the edge of Travers Reservoir and includes the Lodge building, lodge cabins and gymnasium. The camp also offers a soccer field, climbing wall, giant swing, and campfire. Campers will stay in the cabins located just outside the Lodge building.
- Transportation to SABC is the responsibility of the participant and/or the sponsoring Rotary Club. Further information on buses from Lethbridge and Calgary to follow. Please ensure arrangements for pick up at any other locations are pre-arranged with Karen Johnson. RYPEN participants must arrive at camp by 3:30 PM, on Thursday, September 21, 2017. Participants will be ready to leave the camp by 11:00 am on Sunday, September 24, 2017.
- Space is limited to approximately 66 participants. Confirmation of spaces will be forwarded to Rotary Clubs via e-mail upon receipt of their commitment in terms of how many students they will sponsor. **The number of participants is contingent on the number of Volunteers.**
- We **HIGHLY** recommend that Clubs begin their search for students as soon as the school year starts!
- Registration Forms **MUST** be completed and sent to arrive to Karen by **Friday, September 15**. Email to kfjrotary@gmail.com.
- If you are interested in a presentation about RYPEN for your club, please contact Karen to request a copy. This letter is from a student participant from 2015 (with permission).



Make Dreams Real 2015 – Camp Testimonial

Good afternoon everyone,

I've recently had the opportunity to attend the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment, known as RYPEN, thanks to the sponsorship of the Calgary Rotaract Club. RYPEN created an environment where I was able to move beyond my comfort zone, connect with other like-minded people, and challenge the way I typically view others. The biggest thing this camp did was facilitate opportunities to talk to people I normally wouldn't have a chance to, and, through this, develop an understanding of the broad range of opinions out there. I had started exploring this topic last year, when I created a website called "The Other Side," which encouraged people to share their stories, and create a better awareness of people living around the world. I was delighted to find another avenue through which to explore this idea. This year, with the growing confidence I have gained from experiences like RYPEN, I am pursuing the idea of becoming more actively involved in humanitarian efforts in third world countries. One of the benefits of attending RYPEN that appeared universal to all participants, was an increase in confidence and self-awareness. Challenging conversation topics made it essential for all of us to open up to one another. This, combined with listening to what others had to say, helped us understand our own views on life, and to feel more confident in embracing and expressing them. Young adults often go through a lot of emotional upheaval, which can leave them feeling isolated and insecure. Camps like RYPEN provide a supportive and nurturing environment where we can move beyond that point of feeling stuck, and regain self-awareness. The support of Rotary organizations, through the sponsorship of young people to attend these camps, is deeply appreciated for all it gives us, and not just when we attend the camp, but the ideas and skills we take with us for the rest of our lives.

Thank you,

Participant RYPEN 2015



Who are the Adults involved in this program?

The RYPEN 2016 Experience will be led by Trevor Brown, a member of the Rotary Club of Lethbridge Mosaic, supported by volunteers who have chosen RYPEN 2016 Experience as a volunteer activity this year.

All adult team members carry current Police record checks, and have completed the Rotary Volunteer Application Process.

The team includes:

Camp Facilitator	Trevor Brown
Camp Nurse (Health & Safety)	Kim Derksen
Camp Program Facilitator	Cyndi Starzyk- Frey
Evalutations	Marlys Reynar

Our leaders will be trained prior to the camp in the areas of the role of the volunteer, rapport building and disclosures, community web of support, suicide awareness, self-care, review of the camp program, and getting to know each other! Our trainer and camp facilitator is a former camp leader!! Trevor Brown brings a wealth of experience and skills from his work locally, provincially and volunteering internationally, and has been working with youth in a variety of roles across Alberta.

Trevor ran a consultant business called Operation Humanity that worked with schools, agencies, and municipal/provincial governments that provided presentations, facilitation and consultation on youth initiatives and events. He travelled provincially to help create and facilitate multiple youth councils that engaged the youth voice in municipal and provincial politics and social issues. It was through this work that Trevor began working closely with a local not for profit to provide suicide and bullying prevention programming to youth in Southern Alberta. Trevor was instrumental in the grant writing, creation and implementation of the many incarnations of the Building Bridges programming. In approximately 8 years of operation, Trevor and the Building Bridges program engaged over 3,000 youth with experiential learning opportunities including 5 summer camps. Trevor is the executive director of 5th on 5th Youth Services in Lethbridge.

Trevor is an energetic and engaging facilitator that has been well recognized for his work in Southern Alberta. On a personal note, Trevor has a 5-year-old daughter that he loves dearly, cares for 5 crazy cats and has travelled to over 20 countries on 4 continents.

We will also have some very special guest speakers!!

Are you looking for an amazing volunteer experience? Contact the Camp Chair.