

# Note from Joel Timmerman, Executive Director

We are all so excited to see the warm weather finally arriving! Spring brings a sense of renewal and restoration, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Saviour and anticipate what God is going to do this summer!

**Youth Connect** will be partnering with a local church for a full-day daycamp, introducing kids to Jesus through community and connections. Spots are still available if you know someone who would like to be part of it! We are also reengaging with Camp Widjitiwin and taking a group for a week of overnight camp in August!

**Café Connect** will be hosting a variety of volunteers and students throughout the summer, seeing kids learn and grow through practical hands-on learning and building skills that will help them later in life.

## Coming Up



Our Presenting Partner

**CIBC** CIBC PRIVATE WEALTH

### CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Annual Fundraising Opportunity for YFC London

9 JUNE 2025  
1 PM START  
ST. THOMAS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

REGISTER EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED

yfclondon.com



## Register Online

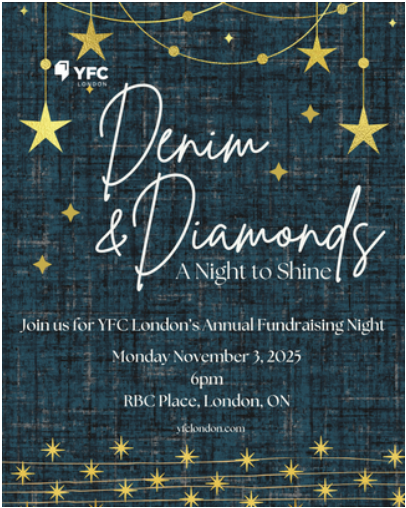


2 Rounds of Golf. One Day. Are you up to the challenge?

**IRONMAN** OF GOLF CHALLENGE

22 HIGHLAND SEPT

yfclondon.com/ironman2025



## Denim & Diamonds

A Night to Shine

Join us for YFC London's Annual Fundraising Night

Monday November 3, 2025  
6pm  
RBC Place, London, ON

yfclondon.com

**Team Compass Basketball** is in full swing and is looking forward to a spring and summer of training sessions, tournaments, and the always popular Muskoka Woods week where connections will be made that result in changed lives, forever.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to be placed in the community that we have been planted in and look to make a difference every day. I pray often that God will help us bless the people that are placed in our path on each given day, and as we lean into the joy of summer, we look forward with anticipation for the ways in which God will move in the hearts and minds of the young people we care for.

Thank you for partnering with us and being part of the story!

## YFC Sustaining Partners



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SPRING 2025

# Look at that smile on her face!

One of the cool things about youth ministry is being able to walk alongside students as they grow and mature and discover who they are. We have several students who have been coming to **YFC programs** for a few years and we've seen pretty big shifts as they become more comfortable and confident being themselves. With one of these students in particular the change has been so visible that it stood out to one of our team members last week as they were looking through pictures from a week of program: **"Look at that smile on her face!"**

When this student first started attending program she was reserved, serious, and very focused on basketball – it was hard to get her out of the gym to participate in any other activity with everyone else. In these past few months especially, it has been so fun to see her not only engaging well with our cooking programs but **stepping into her leadership skills** as well both in the kitchen and on the basketball court. A few students and leaders were playing a game of basketball during program a couple of weeks ago and she encouraged younger students as they played, noticing where they were doing well and providing encouraging tips for where they could improve.

Over the past few years through various programs and events we've had the privilege of getting to know who she is; strong, capable, funny, a leader. And now we get to encourage her and continue building into her gifts and talents here at YFC and in life.

**We are blessed to have her and other students engaging with us, and hope that you will join us in praying for them as they come to know more about themselves, life, and God through our programs!**

Hannah Smit, Youth Connect



Our smiling student on the right alongside a volunteer



# Leadership in Muskoka

Jay Lawrence, Compass Basketball

For the last 7 years we've been grateful to experience summer camp at **Muskoka Woods** with our group. For the first time this year we were generously offered an opportunity to take a group up for a weekend. We used it as training weekend for both basketball and leadership. Our group consisted of 24 high school boys and 3 leaders. The Leadership Studio lead our group through amazing leadership activities, including a NASCAR experience which taught the boys how to change tires like a NASCAR pit crew.

In one of the sessions we discussed the theme of the "inner critic." We all have a voice in our heads that sometimes will be negative or cast doubts in our identity. All the boys and leaders then journaled about the experience and how challenges in life have affected that inner critic. **It was incredible to hear the boys share in front of the entire group their personal stories and struggles.**

It was a beautiful moment and the weekend was one of the best experiences for our Compass group. It's encouraging to see so many of our players also growing in their faith and being able to share that with team mates.

Other than that we spent lots of time training in the gym, eating delicious food cooked by the MW chefs and even having fun on the high indoor climbing wall.

What a great start to a busy spring & summer season for our **Compass Basketball** teams!



## New way you can be involved: Join our YFC Champion Community

Your gifts to YFC London make a **HUGE** difference in the lives of the youth that are **connected to us and on their behalf we send out a BIG thank you!!** BUT, imagine creating even **MORE** impact with a small monthly gift! By joining our new YFC Champion Community, you provide predictable funds for our youth programs—every single month.

This works well for us as we pour more time into our youth, **AND** even bigger benefits for you?!

- **It's Convenient & Easy** - Automatic payments make giving effortless, without needing to remember each month.
- **You can make a Bigger Impact** - A small, manageable monthly donation is easier to fit into your budget than a large one-time gift.
- **Front row seats to watching God Move** - Transformed youth can transform communities, our country, and the world, because of your monthly gift.

Again, thank you for all you do for our students and we hope you will partner with us in this new community that includes **exclusive updates, impact stories, and special invitations** just for YFC Champions.



## Take a peek into the Kitchen! with Leah, Café Connect staff



I see a lot of growth and exploration at **Café Connect** and through **YFC Kitchen**. While we cook in the kitchen, we get our hands messy with flour, baking cookies and assembling meals for YFC's other ministries. There is a lot of laughter, trying new food, good smells and sharing stories.

The kitchen is where volunteers gather to chop onions, potatoes, and carrots creating so much community as both staff and volunteers bond over cafe preparations mixed with surprising conversations and connections.

Café Connect is a **place to find connection, meaningful work and ways to use God-given gifts**. 1 Peter 4:9-10 says, "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." By seeing and utilizing the gifts of those who participate in YFC's programming, Café Connect is a place for everyone to experience hospitality.

