



For so many of us, summer is our favourite time of year. It is a time for holidays, time with family, trips, and often a time for rest. Most of our YFC programs shift gears through the summer as our staff's focus becomes one-to-one ministry which can look like taking youth out to the lake, climbing gyms, going for ice cream, and other places where discipleship takes place.

The major focus for our Nanaimo team is our Adventure Camps: 2 free camps (one junior, one senior) that we put on for youth that are a part of our ministries through the year. We effort to have a minimum of 50% of the campers come from non-church homes who may not have the ability to take in a camp or even hear messages of Hope in their current situations.

Our Nanaimo team do an amazing job of putting together teaching materials that present God's heart for the youth. In addition, a number of volunteers join us for the week to cook and provide meals, mentor kids, run games and activity areas, lead worship, present the Gospel in our services, and so much more. It is truly a community effort and without everyone's help, we simply wouldn't be able to put on these camps.

This year, we had 130 youth join us and be impacted by the Gospel message. Following the camps, we heard from 35 of them who had made a first-time decision to follow Jesus. Praise God! What an effort and what a beautiful harvest! We know that there will be a lot of work to follow up these youth, but through our partnerships with local churches in the area, we expect to see God continue to deepen His relationship with these youth.

Enjoy a couple of the stories our camp staff have shared with us on the following page!
Lindsay Hodges, Executive Director - YFC South Island

Youth for Christ South Island: Welcomes New Staff

This summer has also brought us 2 new staff members! Both these men have come from established ministries in other areas and we're thrilled to have them. Sam has volunteered with the Blue Bus for a few years already and has spent the last two months going out with Indigenous youth from the Cowichan. Jon has had a ministry history of youth pastoring and then working with YFC in Kelowna and he has hit the ground running here in August. We're so blessed to have added them to our team!



Samuel de Oliveira
Blue Bus and Cowichan Tribes



Jon Rothern
Saanich Peninsula Youth Worker

YFC NANAIMO - ADVENTURE CAMP 2026
RYAN SCHMAND, JANIQUE CAMPBELL, MARGARET ANDERSON

Our theme this year was “Believe the Promise,” based on the story of Abraham. Through this story, campers were reminded that God is faithful and that we can trust His promises.

This summer we hosted 84 juniors and 46 teens to our 2 summer camps in Nanaimo!

From games and activities like soccer, volleyball, archery, biblical puppet shows, our agricultural mushroom station, our popular ninja course, climbing wall and skywalk to days spent at the beach and floating down the Cowichan River, every youth experienced a thrilling week of excitement and pushing their limits.



One of our teen campers was invited to Adventure Camp by his best friend. He has been attending for three years. Last year he gave his heart to Jesus, this year he requested to be baptized. So on Thursday, we went to Westwood Lake and baptized him.



This was our second year hosting camp on our new property, and we were able to make many improvements. Our Ninja Course, 9 Square and Rock Wall received major upgrades, and we added a new Skywalk high up in the trees. Campers loved the added challenges and opportunities to step outside their comfort zones. They also had the opportunity to learn more about mushrooms and discover the next phase of our mushroom seeding project.



At the end of each week, we saw 28 juniors and 7 teenagers make the choice to welcome Jesus into their hearts at our camps!! Praise God!



During both our junior and teen camps, the music team was made up almost entirely of youth, aged 14-18. Being able to give an opportunity for young people to use their God-given gifts to give Him glory is such an incredible blessing and privilege. By the end of camp, we had at least half a dozen other youth who approached us to inquire about joining the music team for next year!

A standout moment during worship happened on the Thursday night of teen camp, when a large portion of the youth in attendance raised their hands in worship and surrender to the Lord as we sang about the faithfulness of God.

