

# The Willow Grove

November 2018



## Willow Home Ed

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### Principal's Message

On September 22-24 I was privileged to be able to take 30 home education students and staff for a three day field trip to the Banff/Jasper area. After picking up the last of the students in Cochrane I was surprised how quiet the bus was. This was going to be a different experience because most of these students didn't know each other very well. Three days later I looked in the rearview mirror as we left Banff for home and witnessed kids laughing and singing and enjoying their newly made friendships. A few days of hiking, swimming, playing games, enjoying an outdoor sauna, campfires, sharing meals, and experiencing an Ice Explorer on the Columbia Icefields had really brought them together.

As we checked out of the hostel, the manager expressed to me how impressed he was with these students. He complimented them on their behavior and their willingness to cook, clean, and their general helpfulness. He went as far as to say they were the best group of students that he had ever witnessed in his years of managing the hostel. I wanted to share this with you, the parents of our students. I want you to know what a great job you are doing, and the good citizens that you are preparing to lead us into the next generation.

I would be amiss if I did not express my thanks to the leaders that gave of their time and energy to take these students to the mountains. You really made a difference with your efforts, your smiles, and the sharing of your experience and knowledge. We are all looking forward to our next trip.

Joe Smith

Principal Willow Home Ed

**"It's home education, your child's way"**

### UPCOMING DATES

#### EDMONTON-AREA

**Nov 9 1-4pm** Swimming at Millennium Place Pool, 2000 Premier Way, Sherwood Park

**Nov 30 2-4pm** Makerspace Tour EPL – Enterprise Square, 10212 Jasper Avenue

#### CALGARY-AREA

**Nov 5 10:15am** National Geographic Live's *Social by Nature*.

**Nov 7 12-2pm** - Shelter Building with Kaykima Wilderness Camps

**Nov 14 10 am** Storybook Theatre's A Boys Own Jedi Handbook

**Nov 16 10-11am**.photo retakes

#### ALL AREAS

**Nov 1** deadline for registering for January diploma exams.

**Nov 30** Resource claim deadline

### FIND US ONLINE!

Visit our website for information on registering with Willow Home Ed, resource claims, program plans, high school information, upcoming activities, and past newsletters. <http://willowhome.ca>

#### Friends of Willow Home Ed Facebook group

A place for families and friends of Willow Home Ed to get to know each other, plan activities, and share their experiences. Our home education managers are active on the Facebook group providing information on activities and events of interest, ideas for resources, and answering any questions you may have. Please join in the conversation

at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsOfWillowHomeEd/>

**Willow Home Ed Facebook page** 'Like' our page to receive general announcements from Willow Home Ed.

<https://www.facebook.com/WillowHomeEd/>

# FALL RESOURCE CLAIMS

A reminder that Fall Resource Claims are due **November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Instructions on how to complete the claim are located on page one of the resource claim form.

Include your program plan with your submitted receipts, updating as required. All claimed items must appear on your program plan. We cannot process your resource claim without a program plan.

New this year:

- You may submit one claim form per family.
- You may submit one internet receipt (x12) for the whole year, unless you are billed by usage.

Our resource claim form, as well as rules from Alberta Education, can be found here: <http://willowhome.ca/resource-claims/>. Of note, many categories of receipts (“classes”, “tangible assets”, “field trips”) have a restriction that not more than half of your total funding per student (\$417.70) can be used in that category.

Send your claims to Third Academy, at Bay 3, 510 77 Ave SE, Calgary AB, T2H 1C3, or give them to your Home Education Manager. Cheques will be mailed in late December.



## MEET OUR NEWEST HOME EDUCATION MANAGER

### NELL HEARD

Home schooled herself, Nell has been passionate about home schooling for her whole life. She became a teacher specifically to work in the home education environment and has experience working with home schoolers of all grade levels. Nell enjoys home schooling her own children, now in grades 9 and 6, and takes great pleasure in watching them learn and grow. Nell also enjoys spending time cooking with her husband, playing board games with her family, doing all sorts of needle crafts, and "home schooling" her golden retriever.

## EDMONTON "FIELD TRIP FRIDAYS"

**Nov 9 1-4pm** Swimming Millennium Place Pool, 2000 Premier Way, Sherwood Park

**Nov 30 2-4pm** Makerspace Tour EPL – Enterprise Square, 10212 Jasper Avenue

Please contact our HEM Karen Whitehead at [kwhitehead@willowhome.ca](mailto:kwhitehead@willowhome.ca) if you would like more information.

## OUT AND ABOUT IN EDMONTON

**Nov 2, Dec 7 2pm-3pm** Homeschool Teen meet ups at Woodcroft library, 13420 114 Ave NW

## FIELD TRIPS IN CALGARY

### KAYKIMA WILDERNESS CAMPS IN BRAGG CREEK

We are pleased to be participating in some outdoor education workshops for Home Education families with Kaykima Wilderness Camps. These workshops will be geared toward students in grades K-5, are highly engaging, hands-on learning opportunities for learners of all levels of experience in the outdoors from newbie to expert. One Willow Home Ed student, age 8, had this to say about a past workshop: "I thought it was really cool learning about how Indigenous people would talk to the trees to know if the tree was ok with being cut down or not." Another student, age 5, said "You have to sit knees together when using the knife so you don't cut the triangle of death!"

The workshops will run rain (or snow!) or shine at Bragg Creek Provincial Park at a cost of \$15/participant (cash or EMT directly to Rob Ross the instructor on the date of the workshop). Please email our HEM Carmen Beck at [cbeck@willowhome.ca](mailto:cbeck@willowhome.ca) if you would like to participate!

**Nov 7 12-2pm** - Shelter Building

**Dec 3 12-2pm** - Winter First Aid or Lean-to Shelters (depending on snow conditions)

**Jan 23 12-2** - Snow shelters

**Feb 27 12-2** - Winter Foraging

**Mar 20 12-2** - Notches/outdoor cooking

### GROUP TICKETS IN CALGARY - STORYBOOK THEATRE AND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE

We have organized group tickets to several shows for the 2018-19 year. For tickets, please contact our HEM Risa Kawchuk at [rkawchuk@willowhome.ca](mailto:rkawchuk@willowhome.ca). Your student's ticket(s) are eligible for reimbursement from your homeschool funding. Receipts will be provided. Here are the shows and available tickets at this time:

**Mon Jan 28 10:15am** National Geographic Live's *Search for Life Beyond Earth*. Recommended for grades 3-12 at Arts Commons. 2 tickets available, \$12/each.

**Wed Feb 6 10am** Storybook Theatre's *What if Romeo and Juliet...* - *acrobatic movement theatre*. Rated G, recommended for ages 8+ at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. 10 tickets available, \$16.80/each.

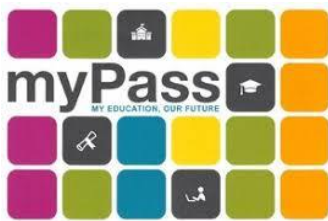
**Fri Mar 1 10am** Storybook Theatre's *The Giver* – *play*. Rated G, recommended for ages 10+ at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. 7 tickets available, \$16.80/each.

## OUT AND ABOUT IN CALGARY

**Nov 2 9:30 AM – 1:30** Fort Calgary Homeschool Day- The Great March West & Mountie Superheroes (grades 5-6) [Register Here](#)

**Nov 13** Heritage Park Homeschool Day in Gasoline Alley

<https://www.heritagepark.ca/education-programs/school-programs/specialty-programs/home-schooler-day-2.html>



[MyPass.alberta.ca](https://www.mypass.alberta.ca) is an Alberta Education secure self-service website for Alberta students to:

- ✓ Order high school transcripts
- ✓ View diploma exam marks
- ✓ Register to write or rewrite diploma exams with online payment
- ✓ View and print Detailed Academic Reports (DAR)
- ✓ View progress towards a high school credential (diploma or certificate)
- ✓ View/update student personal information
- ✓ Order additional copies of an awarded credential in English or French
- ✓ Request diploma exam rescores
- ✓ View and print letters of confirmation of name, age and enrolment
- ✓ Provide third-party (including parents and guardians) access to student's myPass account

Here is how you sign up for myPass online:

- Go to [myPass.alberta.ca](https://www.mypass.alberta.ca)
- Set up an Education Account or sign in with social media login
- Enter your [Alberta Student Number](#) and date of birth
- You will receive two things – an email with a URL and a physical letter with a four-digit PIN
- Once you have received both the email and the letter, go to the URL contained in the email and enter the four-digit PIN.



This fall, from September 22<sup>nd</sup> until September 24<sup>th</sup>, two dozen brave Willow teens, and a handful of intrepid Home Education Managers and parent volunteers stayed in the rustic Mosquito Creek Wilderness Lodge... with a bit more snow than anticipated. Despite the snow on their first day, the teens got right into a two-hour hike, followed by dinner, games, a campfire, and a sauna that involved running through the snow in swimsuits.



What a fabulous trip! Thank you all!

The next day started with a beautiful, muddy hike around Bow Lake – headwaters of the Bow River. The kids did fabulously: helping each other out, telling stories, taking pictures for each other, and encouraging those who were new to hiking. Then, at the Columbia Icefields, we had a private tour of the Athabasca Glacier from an ice explorer! Wow!

The trip finished with a well-deserved soak in the Banff Upper Hot Springs and then out for relaxing lunch with all of their new friends.