

The Willow Grove

September 2019



Willow Home Ed

3, 510-77 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2H 1C3

C: (403) 680-5124 Email: josmith@willowhome.ca

Principal's Message

We at Willow Home Ed are all very excited about the 2019 – 2020 academic year. We enjoy helping families reach their educational goals, whatever they may be. Willow Home Ed continues to grow and the feedback we are receiving is that our Home Education Managers (HEM) are 'the best' at serving our families' needs. I want to thank our team for all their hard work!

We are happy to welcome two new Home Education Managers to the Willow team this year. Janelle Jamieson and Jackie Michaels will join our team in serving families in the Edmonton area. We are looking forward to benefitting from their home education experience and training. Welcome aboard!

I want to remind all our families that we are offering a Kananaskis/Banff National Park fieldtrip. This trip is for Junior and Senior High School students. We would love for you to join us on this fun filled experience on September 21-23. Please check out the information contained in this newsletter. Don't miss out on this great opportunity as it fills up fast!

A reminder that September 30th is the deadline to register your student at Willow Home Ed, so if you haven't already, please download the forms here <http://willowhome.ca/resources/forms/> and email them to us at josmith@willowhome.ca

Joe Smith

Associate Principal

Willow Home Ed

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

UPCOMING DATES

Sept 30 Deadline to register as homeschool student

EDMONTON & AREA

Sept 10, 7-9pm Willow Coffee night at Remedy Café, 124 St and 103 Ave

Sept 27, 1:30-4pm – Field Trip Fridays – Swimming at Clareview Pool

Oct 3, TBA Picture Day

CALGARY & AREA

Sept 11, 1-3pm – Not Back to School Picnic - Okotoks Lions Park

Sept 11, 7-8:30 pm Open House at Third Academy

Sept 21-23 Kananaskis/Banff Field Trip for Teens (see page 5)

TBA Picture Day at Third Academy

FIND US ONLINE!

Visit our website for information on registering with Willow Home Ed, resource claims, program plans, high school information, 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/>

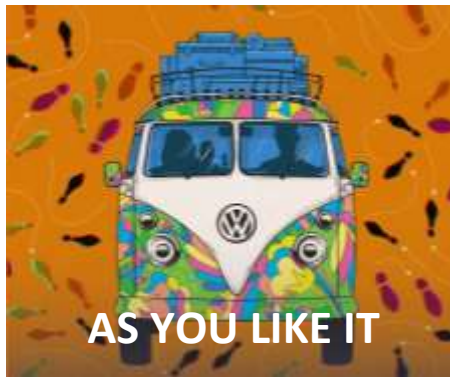
Willow Home Ed Facebook page 'Like' our page to receive general announcements from Willow Home Ed. <https://www.facebook.com/WillowHomeEd/>

EDMONTON & AREA NEWS

Welcome Edmonton area families and students! This is going to be a great year!

Our Home Education Manager, Karen Whitehead is booking tickets to two Citadel productions (*As You Like It* and *Peter Pan Goes Wrong*). Please email Karen at kwhitehead@willowhome.ca or check the Friends of Willow Home Ed Facebook group if you are interested in tickets.

- **Wed March 4, 11:00am-2:30 pm - *As You Like It*** – Rated 6+ Musical at Citadel Theatre. \$31.50/seat + approximate \$2 order fee per family.
- **Wed April 29, 11-2:30pm - *Peter Pan Goes Wrong*** - Rated 8+ at Citadel Theatre. \$20/seat + approximate \$2 order fee per family.



OUT AND ABOUT AROUND EDMONTON

If you are looking for friends to go on field trips and do activities with, don't forget to join Society for Homeschoolers in Edmonton (SHINE) or Homebased Learning Society of Alberta (HLSA). Get in touch with our HEM Karen Whitehead at kwhitehead@willowhome.ca if you need contact information for these two groups or if you want information about any of the above. Keep your eyes on the Friends of Willow Facebook group for more events to come.

September 10, 7:00pm – Willow Open House - Come meet our new HEMs! Remedy Café 10310-124 St.

Sept 27, 1:30-4pm – Field Trip Fridays – Swimming at Clareview Pool

Mondays all year, 1:30-3:30pm – HLSA Park Days (non-members welcome)

Every second Tuesday, 1-3pm - Meet up at Ritchie Community Hall

Ongoing Homeschool Days Telus World of Science

<http://telusworldofscienceedmonton.ca/educators/school-programs/home-school-programs>

CALGARY & AREA NEWS

GROUP TICKETS IN CALGARY - STORYBOOK THEATRE AND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE

We are organizing group tickets to several shows for the 2019-20 year. To request tickets, please contact our HEM Risa Kawchuk at rkawchuk@willowhome.ca. Your student's ticket(s) are eligible for reimbursement from your homeschool funding. Receipts will be provided. Here are the shows we are trying to secure tickets to at this time. (Note that due to overwhelming demand, we are ordering tickets to both a Wednesday and Thursday show for *Matilda the Musical* and *The Neverending Story*)

STORYBOOK THEATRE: For show details, please see <https://www.storybooktheatre.org/season43>

- **Wed Oct 23**, 10am *Curious George: The Golden Meatball* - musical. Rated K, recommended for ages 3+, at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. Tickets \$13/each.
- **Thurs Nov 28**, OR **Wed Dec 11** 10am *Roadl Dahl's Matilda the Musical*. Rated G, recommended for ages 6+, at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. Tickets \$17/each.
- **Wed Feb 26** OR **Thurs Mar 12**, 10am *The Neverending Story* – play. Rated PG, recommended for ages 8+, at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. Tickets \$17/each.
- **Thurs Apr 30**, 10am *A Year with Frog and Toad* – musical. Rated K, recommended for ages 3+, at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre. Tickets \$13/each.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE: For show details, please see <https://artscommons.ca/arts-commons-presents/national-geographic-live/>

- **Mon Jan 27**, 10:15am *Deadliest Lifesavers*. Recommended for grades 3-12 at Arts Commons. Tickets \$12/each.
- **Tues Mar 17**, 10:15am *Building the Photo Ark*. Recommended for grades 3-12 at Arts Commons. Tickets \$12/each.
- **Mon May 4**, 10:15am *When Women Ruled the World*. Recommended for grades 3-12 at Arts Commons. Tickets \$12/each.

OUT AND ABOUT AROUND CALGARY

Sept 11, 1-3pm – Not Back to School Potluck Picnic hosted by Okotoks Homeschool Co-op - Okotoks Lions Park Campground (99 Woodhaven Dr, Okotoks)

Sept 11, 7-9pm – Willow Open House – Third Academy (3, 510-77 Ave SE, Calgary)

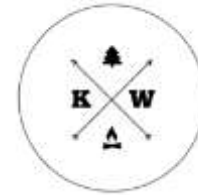
Sept 19 Fort Calgary Homeschool Day: “Explore Calgary’s Past” for ages 9-12. Register here: <https://www.showpass.com/fort-calgary-home-school-day/>

Sept 20 Heritage Park Homeschooler Day <https://www.heritagepark.ca/education-programs/school-programs/specialty-programs/home-schooler-day> - Registration deadline: Sept 13

CALGARY & AREA FIELD TRIPS

Kaykima Wilderness Workshops (outdoor education) are back for another year! A fantastic opportunity to learn survival skills in a safe but challenging outdoor setting in Bragg Creek Provincial Park.

All sessions are \$20 per student, unless otherwise noted. **Please pay Rob via cash/EMT before or at the sessions. Rob will provide receipts if requested.**



Contact HEM Carmen Beck at cbeck@willowhome.ca to sign up or for more information.

Class Times (according to age group unless otherwise indicated):

- 12:00-2:00pm for students in grade k to 5
- 2:30-4:30pm for students in grades 6 to 9

Kaykima Class Schedule:

- Monday, September 16, 11am-2:30 **FULL Wooden Speens: \$30/all ages**
- Monday, October 7 - Spruce Salve
- Monday, November 18 - Orienteering
- Monday, December 2 - 5Cs of Survival
- Monday, January 20 - Fire Starting
- Monday, February 3 - Winter Shelters
- Monday, March 2 - Winter First Aid
- Monday, April 6 - Glue & Natural Adhesives
- Monday, May 4 - Axes
- Monday, June 15 - Summer Shelters



Discover Archaeology Field Trip at Glenbow Ranch Prov. Park (FULL), Wednesday, October 16th. Contact HEM, Carmen for details.

Mantracker at Nose Hill Park, Monday, September 16th, 12:30-2:30pm

Homeschoolers are welcomed to join us for a big game of Mantracker at Nosehill Park on Monday, September 16th from 12:30-2:30pm. We will meet at the park entrance at the intersection of Shaganappi Trail and Edgemont Blvd NW at 12:30. We will walk a few hundred metres straight into the park to a small grove of trees in a valley on your right - that is the playing field! Bring your own lawn chair or picnic blankets, and water or snacks; there are bathrooms in the parking lot. If the weather is poor, it will be cancelled on Friends of Willow Facebook group. Contact HEM Nicole Schumm for details.

For those of you unfamiliar with Mantracker, it is a hide & seek game in the trees, combined with infection tag, so once you are found and tagged, you are also it. A rule is one must admit that if they are it if asked. Wearing camouflage clothing and hiding in trees is all fair game! This is an 'all ages' game.

KANANASKIS/BANFF NATIONAL PARK FIELDTRIP

September 21st-23rd, 2019

Join us this September on a three day (two night) field trip to Kananaskis/Banff National Park. We are offering this fieldtrip to Willow Home Education students registered in Grades 7 through 12 for the 2019-2020 School Year. Students will be supervised by Willow Home Ed Principal Joe Smith and our Home Education Managers. Our itinerary includes hiking Troll Falls, touring the Seebe WWII Internment Camp, campfires, swimming at the Banff Upper Hot Springs, the opportunity to make friends with other home educated students their own age, and much more.



What is included: Transportation, park fees, accommodation for 2 nights at Hostel International's Ribbon Creek Hostel (including bedding), all food (with the exception of the first day's lunch and Monday's lunch in Banff), hikes and other activities, and admission to the Banff's Upper Hot Springs Pool.

Cost: Three Day Trip: \$200. The total cost of the trip can be deducted from your 2019-2020 resource claim.

Transportation: Students will be transported by school bus. We will pick up students at 2 locations in Calgary (SW & NW) and Cochrane.

Credits: Time spent on hikes and other physical activities can be applied to Physical Education credits.

Email josmith@willowhome.ca today for an information and registration package.

We can only accommodate 30 students on this trip. These spaces will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis upon Willow Home Ed's receipt of completed registration forms. Register early to avoid disappointment. Our registration deadline was August 23, 2019. While we anticipate all spaces will be taken, Willow Home Ed reserves the right to cancel if interest is not sufficient.

A student list of required supplies, such as walking/hiking shoes, rain gear, swimwear, washable plates and cutlery, and some money to buy lunch in Banff will be sent out as the date of the trip approaches.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

ADLC is now open for registration for those students wishing to take on-line or distance learning courses. Ask your Home Education Manager for assistance in registering for any classes that you are interested in taking. As a general rule, it is not recommended to take more than two courses at a given time. A list of available ADLC courses can be found here: <https://sis.adlc.ca/PublicCourseList.aspx>

Students choosing to do self-directed high school courses for credit this fall should be meeting with their Home Education Managers by mid-September to ensure that your program is appropriately set up. Course work will need to be submitted by Jan 7th and May 30th for fall or winter credit to be applied.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Our student spotlight is the place where our students can show what they have been doing; what they are passionate about such as a piece of school work, an award or achievement, a trip or an extracurricular activity, or a student run business. If you would like to include something (original art, poetry, short stories, video, articles, etc.) in a future newsletter, please send it to Nicole Schumm at nschumm@willowhome.ca. We will showcase one student per month.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Willow Home Ed subscribes to some educational websites and, as a member of Willow, you get free access. Contact your HEM for usernames and passwords.

Exambank (www.exambank.com) - Click "AB K-12" tab: Exambank has quizzes and tests aligned to the Alberta curriculum, in all subject areas. We recommend this site for our high school students working for credit, as well for parents of students in younger years wondering how their children are doing in core subjects like math and language arts. It's also a very quick way to learn what is taught in different grades in Alberta.

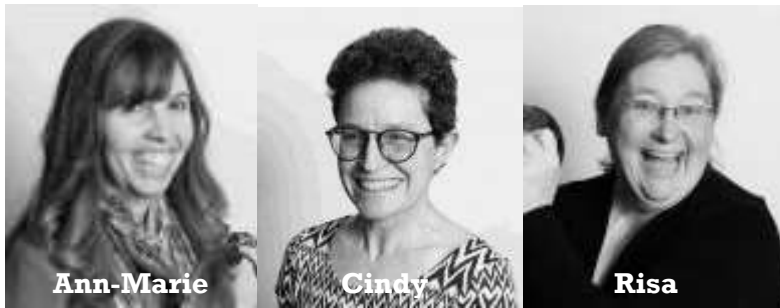
Learn Alberta (www.learnalberta.ca): A site with many, many Alberta-aligned resources which could potentially be very helpful for high-school-for-credit students and parents designing their programs (look under T4T courses). Also useful for parents of younger students looking for resources and ideas for all subject areas.

The Canadian Reader and **What in the World?:** PDF booklets of current events and issues of relevance for Canadian kids, published 8 times per year. Comes in three versions: The Canadian Reader is recommended for grades 3 and up; What in the World Level 1 is recommended for grades 5 and up, and What in the World Level 2 for grades 8 and up. We recommend you print the PDF as a given issue's link only remains active on the website for a few months. To access, go to their subscriber page: <http://www.lesplan.com/en/subscribers> Passwords will be sent out and updated every month.

From time to time, Willow may change passwords, so if you have any trouble logging on please let your HEM know. Also, if you have suggestions for other websites your family has found helpful and you believe would benefit our families, please pass them along!

YOUR WILLOW HOME EDUCATION MANAGERS (HEMs)

South Central Alberta and Calgary Area Team



Ann-Marie

Cindy

Risa

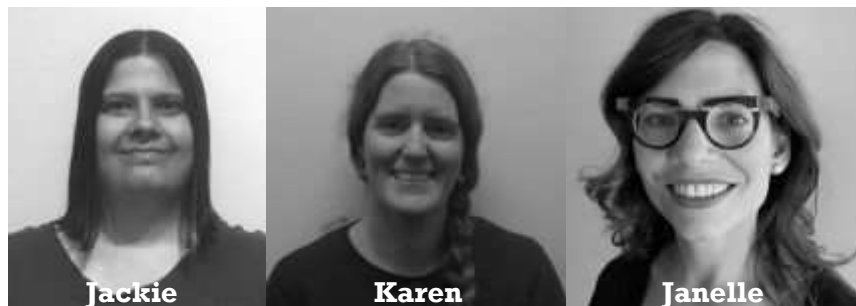


Carmen

Nell

Nicole

North Central Alberta and Edmonton Area Team:



Jackie

Karen

Janelle

MEET WILLOW'S NEW HOME EDUCATION MANAGERS IN EDMONTON

Jackie Michaels

As a new member of the Willow Home Ed team, Jackie is looking forward to working with Willow families this year. She has been homeschooling her children for 3 years and loves the pace of life they are able to enjoy. There is time to enjoy their passions and learn about the world around them. You might find them at the dog park, learning with friends, doing experiments, or playing Minecraft together. Jackie loves to share her passion for homeschooling with people and help them to figure out what works best for their family.

Janelle Jamieson

Janelle is excited to join Willow Home Ed this year as a Home Education Manager. She homeschools her two children and loves the closeness it has brought to her family. She also has many years of experience teaching Home Economics and special needs programs at both the junior and senior high levels. One of the many reasons she loves homeschooling is being able to travel in the off season. She loves exploring the world with her family. While at home, her family enjoys cooking, playing board and video games, riding bikes, and snowboarding. Living in St. Albert, Janelle is eager to assist homeschool families in the Edmonton and surrounding areas.

OPEN HOUSES



Please share with your friends and family who are considering homeschooling.

Curious about parent-directed (“traditional”) home education? Want to learn more about what we offer at Willow Home Ed, and meet our Home Education Managers?

Come to our **Open House and Home Education Information Night**

When? **Edmonton** Sept 10, 7:00-9:00pm
 Calgary Sept 11, 7:00-9:00pm

Where? **Edmonton** Remedy Café, 10310-124 Street
 Calgary Third Academy, 3, 510 – 77 Ave SE

We will be discussing our program, which is 100% parent-directed home education, and how we support you and your child’s learning. We provide two visits per year in your home, knowledgeable home education managers who are experienced homeschooling parents themselves, monthly newsletters, flexible options at high school including self/parent-directed for credit, a graduation ceremony for grade 12 students, and more.

Topics to be covered include:

- How to Get Started
- Home education regulations
- Program plans
- Resources
- Connecting with the homeschool community
- Classes, workshops, field trips and other learning opportunities for homeschoolers
- High School options
- Resource claims

Everyone welcome, so please invite your homeschooling friends and family and those thinking about it.

While this session is aimed at parents, students are also welcome. Please ensure that small children are supervised.