

A person is seen from behind, standing on a grassy mountain ridge. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a silhouette effect and casting a warm glow over the landscape. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The foreground shows the texture of the grass and a small rock.

AEE NORTHWEST REGION
24TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTS

FINDING YOUR EDGE

IN EXPERIENTIAL
EDUCATION

APRIL 13–15, 2012
CAMP SQUAMISH, BC

REGISTRATION KIT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Thanks for registering for the 2012 AEE NW Conference! We're excited to have you join our community of service learning. In this package you'll find all the details you'll need to get the most out of your professional development weekend in Squamish. Should you not find the answer to your question, please contact the **Conference Registrar:**

Mary Sorg, marysorg@hotmail.com, 206-715-1183.

THE VENUE: CAMP SQUAMISH

Camp Squamish is one of three BC Easter Seals Camps operated by the British Columbia Lions Society for Children with Disabilities. During the summer months, these camps provide free overnight camping experiences for children and teens with physical and/or mental disabilities throughout the province of British Columbia. Outside of summer, the camp is available for large groups and events. Full catering is offered through their on-site camp kitchens. All rental fees (including accommodation and catering) directly help kids with disabilities experience Camp Squamish – for free!



The camp is located 45 km north of Vancouver, BC (1.5 hour drive) in a peaceful setting at the foot of Mount Garibaldi and the mouth of the Squamish River. This 33-acre site features endless grass fields and forested nature trails.

CONNECT WITH US!

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aenw2012.wordpress.com

CONFERENCE REGISTRAR

Mary Sorg
marysorg@hotmail.com
206-715-1183

How do I get to Camp Squamish?

Camp Squamish is located just outside of Squamish, British Columbia at 41015 Government Road. There are many ways to travel to Squamish:

BY AIR: Vancouver International Airport (YVR) is an award-winning international airport served by Canadian airlines and most of the major US airlines.

From YVR, there is a regular direct coach bus service to Whistler offered by Pacific Coach Lines (which stops in Squamish). Contact Pacific Coach lines at the airport desk for tickets or visit their website to reserve in advance.

BY RAIL: Pacific Central Station in Vancouver is served by VIA Rail and Amtrak. From the station there is a direct Greyhound coach bus service to Whistler several times per day, most of which stop in Squamish.

If you are arriving in Squamish by bus, please notify the **Conference Registrar** of your arrival time and we will help arrange to pick you up from town and get to Camp.

BY CAR: If you're driving from Vancouver, follow Highway 99 towards Whistler (North). Continue on the Highway past Squamish city proper and turn LEFT on Garibaldi Way then RIGHT on Government Road. Camp Squamish is located on the right-hand side of Government Road.

If you are driving from Whistler, follow Highway 99 towards Vancouver (South) past Alice Lake Provincial Park. Turn RIGHT on Garibaldi Way and RIGHT on Government Road.

CARPPOOLING: If you are looking for an affordable travel option, we strongly encourage you to post on our Facebook wall with a call to carpool from your community. Please also notify the **Conference Registrar** by e-mail if you are looking to carpool from your location and she can assist in coordinating.

Participants are travelling from across the Northwest – there just might be someone else near your town travelling to Squamish!

I'm driving. Where can I park on site?

Parking is available on site at no additional cost.

Can I request to be in the same room as my friend?

Yes. Roommate requests should be made to the Conference Registrar.

Should I bring a sleeping bag and pillow if I'm in a dorm?

If you are in a dorm, you have the choice to bring your own sleeping bag and pillow, or to pay \$6.50 for linens (including pillow). Please notify the **Conference Registrar by April 4** if you require linens. If you are tenting, please bring all necessary sleeping gear.

Will there be electrical outlets available to charge my cell phone or computer?

Yes.

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What can I expect from the on-site accommodations?

All conference participants, workshop presenters, exhibitors and speakers are encouraged to stay on-site. You have the choice of dorm-style lodging or tenting. Contact the **Conference Registrar** to book your accommodation.

Dorms are basic “camp” style and located in one of two lodges (Nootka and Haida). Each lodge is heated and contains bathrooms and showers on both floors, and a lounge area with fireplace and TV/DVD.

For those tenting, you will be directed from the Registration Table to park your car and set up your tent at designated areas. You will have access to the bathrooms and showers inside the Nootka and Haida lodges.

NOTE: There are no RV hook-ups available on site.

POTLUCK SNACK BAR

To fuel up between workshops and meals, there will be a potluck-style snack bar. Every participant is encouraged to bring a dozen of your favourite healthy snacks to share at the conference! This communal snacking is a great way to discover new food ideas and to contribute to the health and energy levels of our learning community!

Health snacks can include (but are not limited to):

- Fresh fruit
- Granola bars
- Juice boxes
- Trail mix or Gorp
- Nuts and dried fruit
- Sliced vegetables and hummus
- Chips and salsa
- Cheese and crackers
- Pretzels and peanut butter
- Mini yogurts
- Popcorn

Snack bar contributions should be dropped off with the **Conference Registrar** upon arrival. Please do not store food in your lodgings as it will attract rodents.

I have special dietary requirements. Can I specify meal preferences?

With advance notice, Camp Squamish makes every effort to accommodate special dietary requirements. Please identify your meal preferences to the **Conference Registrar** by **Wednesday, April 4.**

I want to bring my own food. Where can I store it?

The **Conference Registrar** will direct you to a central fridge in the Dining Hall to store personal food. Please remove unused food at the end of the weekend.

NOTE: Food cannot be stored in the lodges as it will attract rodents.

TIP: TRAVELLING WITH FOOD FROM THE USA

For participants travelling from the US, please review the restrictions and limitations on importing food into Canada:

<http://www.beaware.gc.ca/english/brirape.shtml>

When does Registration open on Friday and Saturday?

Registration opens at 10:00 am on Friday and closes at 9:00 pm. For those only attending Saturday, registration will be open as of 10:00 am until 12:00 noon.

Workshops on Friday will begin at 1:30 pm. Please give yourself plenty of time for travel.

When does the conference weekend end?

The conference will finish around 2:00 pm on Sunday.

Where can I see the conference schedule?

The schedule will be posted on the website and blog ASAP. It will also be posted in large format at the Registration Table throughout the weekend.

I'm part of the Service Crew. When should I arrive on Friday?

All Service Crew members will be contacted by the Service Crew Coordinator, Brooklynn Griffith, about arrival times and expectations for the weekend.

WHAT NOT TO FORGET:

- Toiletries (e.g. shampoo, soap, razors)
- A blank t-shirt for silkscreening
- Pen and notepad
- Books to share at the Browsing Library
- Mobile phone and/or laptop, with battery charger
- Lock for dorm lockers
- Medications (e.g. prescriptions, ibuprofen)
- Earplugs (if you're a light sleeper)
- Beverages of choice (with moderation in mind)
- Rain gear, warm clothes, gumboots or hiking boots as feet might get wet when outside
- Business cards
- Items to donate to the Silent Auction and Raffle
- A reusable mug and/or water bottle

When will meals be served?

Your conference fee includes all meals from Friday dinner through to Sunday lunch. Meals are served in the Dining Hall and will include vegetarian options. NOTE: Lunch will not be served on Friday, so plan accordingly.

8:00 am Breakfast

12:00 noon Lunch

5:30 pm Dinner

I'm traveling from the US. How should I prepare to cross the border?

To prepare for your cross-border trip, please review these helpful websites:

Canada Border Service Agency:

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/noncan-eng.html>

Bureau of Consular Affairs, US Department of State:

http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/tips_1232.html

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Where can I find out about the workshops and when they are held?

All workshop descriptions, presenter biographies and schedules are available on our official Conference website, on our Conference blog and in the Conference Program Guide which you will receive upon check in. The Conference Program Guide will also be made available on our website after the conference for you to refer to later.

When will conference activities begin and end each day?

On Friday, workshops begin at 1:30 pm and just before dinner. Evening activities will run until about midnight.

On Saturday, workshops begin at 9:00 am after breakfast and end for dinner. Again, evening activities will run until about midnight.

On Sunday, workshops run 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Closing ceremonies and lunch will be served prior to check out and goodbyes at approximately 2:00 pm.

Will there be any breaks or down-time?

Yes! Refreshment breaks and communal meal times will be held between workshops and activities. There will also be time to participate in the silent auction, awards ceremony, live music, dancing, and morning runs, walks and yoga.

Is alcohol allowed on site?

Friday and Saturday evenings will offer opportunities for socializing around the campfire. There will be no alcohol provided at the conference (for sale or otherwise), however you are welcome to bring your own and should be consumed in moderation. Sealed bottles can be stored in lodges so long as there are no spills.

Will there be Wi-Fi Internet service at Camp Squamish?

Yes – and it's free!

SQUAMISH?

Squamish is known as the Outdoor Recreation Capital of Canada. Besides the array of outdoor activities, people choose Squamish because the community is made up of diverse people that are working together to find a balance between work, nature and themselves. The community is also home to many outdoor schools and programs, making it an ideal fit for our conference: Camp Summit, North Vancouver School District's Outdoor School, Capilano University's Advanced Wilderness Leadership Certificate Program, and Coast Mountain Academy.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.tourismsquamish.com/squamish>

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CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

BYOT-shirt Silkscreening Station

To help you share your passion for EE, and to offer an alternative to the standard conference t-shirt takeaway, we'll be hosting a Bring Your Own T-shirt Silkscreening Station - for free! You'll learn something new, reduce the waste of single-use clothing, support a local artist, and spark meaningful conversations! Here's how:

Pack along your favourite, bright coloured t-shirt. Make sure it's clean, cotton-based, and clear of any other text or graphics on at least one side. We recommend you bring a shirt that you already love to wear, though we will have a few shirts on hand in case you forget.

Then visit the station on Saturday evening to print an original, eye-grabbing and engaging piece of art on your shirt. We're working with a local, North Vancouver artist to create the screen. And we'll teach you how to practice a dying art form!

Donate Silent Auction items and Raffle Prizes

Do you have some amazing gear, gifts, or services you can donate for the Silent Auction or Raffle Draws? Carabiners, merino wool shirts, trek poles, leather-bound writing journals, and once-in-a-lifetime adventures are just a few things to donate. All funds raised will contribute directly to: the operation of AEE Northwest; future conferences; and our mission to support experiential education.

Please drop off your donations with the **Conference Registrar** upon Registration. Raffle tickets will be sold throughout the conference and draws will be made frequently during meal times. Silent and Live Auction items will be available for bidding Saturday evening.

Browsing Library

In lieu of an official bookstore, we are inviting participants to bring and share their most useful, educational, interesting theory books and practical guides from their personal collection. This communal collection of books will be a fantastic way to discover new, recommended resources without risking the upfront cost of purchase.

We are also aiming to facilitate online ordering at the conference.

When you arrive on site with your books to loan, we will log your books into our inventory and check to ensure your name and address are written inside the front cover. When the conference is over, your books will be waiting for you at pick up!

For more info about the Browsing Library, please contact:

Michael Sarrow, michaelsarrow@gmail.com

What clothing should I pack?

Like much of the Northwest, the weather in Squamish can vary! Pack comfortable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities including appropriate footwear for both situations. Rain gear and warm layers along with toques, hats and gloves are good to have in case of damp weather. If you'd like to participate in the morning activities, pack your yoga or running attire too. Temperatures drop at night so bring a jacket for evening activities.

I am traveling with my family. Is childcare available?

Due to the unavailability of licensed childcare providers, there will be no organized childcare. However, parents are encouraged to share child-minding responsibilities. Parents can also use their discretion and bring older children along to the workshops. Families are welcome during all meal and social times.

What activities and entertainment will be offered?

Enjoy campfire, music and dancing on Friday and Saturday evenings. The Bring Your Own T-shirt Silkscreening Station will be available Saturday evening, too! You can look forward to frequent raffle prize draws and highly-desired silent auction items. We have also organized morning yoga and runs/walks along the Squamish River.

CHECK LIST:

Before the conference, make sure you have done the following:

1. Booked your accommodation with the Conference Registrar.
2. Organized your travel needs.
3. Reviewed the Official Conference website for schedule and workshop descriptions.
4. 'Liked' us on Facebook and subscribed to our blog for timely updates.

The Association for Experiential Education (AEE) is a non-profit international professional organization with a mission to develop and promote experiential learning. AEE was formed in the early 1970s and today has over 1,500 members in 35 countries. AEE is committed to supporting professional development, theoretical advancement, and evaluation of experiential education worldwide. Our intent is to contribute to a more just and compassionate world by transforming education.

The Northwest Region looks forward to your participation in our 24th annual conference!

CONNECT WITH US!

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