



Working hard to be ready
to welcome you
and your family back
to camp when this
pandemic has ended.

April 20, 2020

Hello from Camp Caroline!

This is an incredible season. After the province declared a public health emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak we temporarily closed camp last month. At this time we have cancelled all retreats and rentals for the spring. We continue to monitor the status of this emergency and remain committed to complying with the province's restrictions on businesses and gatherings.

While closed we have arranged to have some of our staff work remotely from their homes and to have a few continue working around camp. The rest of our team has been temporarily laid off until we are able to reopen. **Those working at home and around camp are working hard to be ready to welcome you and your family back to camp when this public health emergency has ended.** #heretoserve



Our ministries team is getting ready for the summer and fall ministry seasons. At this point, we have not cancelled summer camps, fall retreats, or fall rentals. The team is preparing to walk alongside campers, counselors, guests, and speakers to invite everyone coming to camp to draw closer to Jesus.

Our facilities team is taking advantage of this season to get a jump on spring cleaning and to finish a few outstanding maintenance jobs. Our housekeeping staff have already thoroughly cleaned and disinfected every room in the lodges. They have also cleaned all the carpets. The maintenance staff have been repairing pools and patching and painting in Hillside and Aspen.

We can hardly wait to have campers and guests back at camp! We long to sing songs of worship to God with them, to see them quietly praying together, and to share in their stories of life-transformation. #madeformore



We recognize we cannot predict when we will be able to reopen camp, and that we may end up cancelling additional camps, retreats, and rentals but we'll continue planning and preparing until such decisions are made. At this point we are planning one month at a time. **We are praying we will have enough information to make a decision about summer camps before the end of May.**

You can stay up-to-date on our COVID-19 response by visiting us online at campcaroline.ab.ca/covid-19-response or contacting me directly at ben@campcaroline.ab.ca.

GIVE A FINANCIAL GIFT THIS SPRING

Closing the camp and cancelling retreats and rentals this spring translates into an income loss of more than \$300,000. This loss will increase if we end up cancelling any of our summer camps, fall retreats, or fall rentals or experience decreases in registration.

We have been able to eliminate many operational costs but certainly not all. Even with camp closed there are ongoing costs. Immediately after closing I worked with the team to adjust planned spending to manage essential costs and avoid non-essential ones. By God's provision and protection we have a reserve of funds on hand. These funds are helping us maintain cash flow and manage costs. In addition, we have taken advantage of available financial aid provided by the Canadian government and have submitted an insurance claim with our insurer for loss of income due to this emergency.

Are you able to give a financial gift to the ministry of Camp Caroline this spring? Your gift will help the ministry manage ongoing costs and be ready to reopen when this emergency is over. Financial gifts to the ministry of Camp Caroline can be made online at campcaroline.ab.ca/donation. Until we are able to reopen, we are asking you to consider directing gifts to the *General Fund* to allow us to maintain appropriate cash flow and manage ongoing costs.

PRAY WITH US THIS SPRING

Would you also pray with us this spring? We are praying for wisdom in decision making during this public health emergency. You can specifically pray for a clear sense of when and how to reopen, and for God's continued provision and protection.

This season will not endure indefinitely. It may be terribly disruptive now but it will come to an end. Until then we are committed to doing what we can to steward the ministry, trusting God will provide for present needs and allow us to reopen as this emergency ends and we are able to gather together again. Ultimately, our hope is God. [#psalm91](#)

Thank you for your support. We appreciate and are continually humbled by your commitment to the ministry. **And, please know as you are praying for us, we are praying for you!**



Warmly,



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