

FOLKERTS MINISTRY UPDATE

September 2025

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CLOSE CALL AND CHANGED LIFE!

Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." Mark 5:19

After every summer camp season, we always talk about how God showed up and revealed Himself in some way or another, sometimes this is once and other times it is multiple times. During these times, as leaders, we praise God for showing His goodness and providence, for wowing the youth and slowly changing them and their understanding of Him, and this year, it was no different.

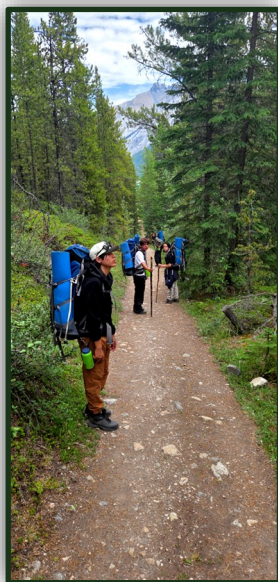
Our first camp was a doozy! We back-packed 30 km into the back country and climbed a mountain called Little Horn. We then got back to a base camp to train and prepare the campers for canoeing down the

North Saskatchewan River.

Since the river had a lot of white water, we decided to spend a day training the youth in river rescue,

because, well, you never know what's about to happen...

During our T-rescue demonstration, things got out of hand quickly. A youth, we'll call him "John", and I were going to flip a canoe in the river, and another leader and youth were going to rescue us. The river was high and fast, so we thought we would stay close to the bank in slower water, but the wind was also gusting, and a gust blew us in the middle as we tipped as well as the rescue canoe. Before long, we were all in the middle of the river in a very uncontrolled state, John and I were being swept





away through waves and very quick water. I managed to help the rescuers do a successful T-Rescue; however, John missed the rescue boat and was swept away down the river, panicking as the 3-degree water temp was starting to affect him. I swam after him. When I reached him, he was screaming "What do I do Sean?" over and over. I grabbed his life jacket with one hand and swam as hard as I could upriver at an angle, a ferrying rescue swim. Although we both had wet suits on, the temp of the water

was starting to affect me too. I was gassing out, and I saw a big set of rapids around a corner and knew that if we didn't get out, we would be swept back into the middle of the river by the rapids and then we would be fighting the river as well as hypothermia. So I prayed, "God I need something... energy, a miracle, anything!" and a thought went through my mind, John didn't know Jesus, but my kids did, and I thought that if all I could do was get him to shore, even if I didn't make it, then it would give John a chance to know Jesus... I lowered my feet, something you should never do in a river, and boom, a large rock hit my feet, and with every passing large rock I was able to bounce John and I closer to the shore and a mere 10 feet away from the rapids we finally crawled out onto the bank. We lay there for a long time with hardly enough energy to breathe. After de-briefing with the youth, we talked about how each of us felt helpless and knew there was nothing anyone could do, but how through prayer, God was with us and come to our aid.



That was the end of the story, so we thought. John ended up coming on our second camp. We worked through a 5-day presentation of the Gospel. The last night, John asked to pray for supper, and he talked to Jesus like as if he knew Him his whole life! The final morning, we presented Jesus, our Saviour and forgiver of sins, and while we were praying the sinner's prayer, John prayed out loud as he accepted Jesus in his life. We get into the canoes to go and again John asked to pray to start the trip, it was so amazing listening to him I cried on the riverbank, knowing that God used the previous trip to get to John's heart. As scary as it was, it

brings such peace knowing that God's got us, others, creation and all in His hands while He unfolds His perfect plan! Praise God for allowing us to see what He is doing in other's lives!

Thank you everyone for all your prayers and support this past summer as we walked with the youth of Maskwacis! We are coming into the fall planning stage and ask that you continue lift us up as we anticipate seeing God work in Maskwacis.



Thank you!

Sean, Becky and Tribe!

To support this ministry financially, checks should be made out to NAIM with **Project #433** in the memo line. Donations can also be made online at www.naim.ca/donate