

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
Between  
Lutheran Outdoor Ministry - \_\_\_\_\_ Camp  
And  
The Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Rationale:

Recognizing that outdoor ministry, as a unique regional expression of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories including those churches with whom we are in full communion,

- brings the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people through the programs provided;
- offers support to congregations in their mission endeavours; and
- lives out the dreams and sacrifices of early Lutheran pioneers;

the Synod honours this commitment to mission by

- promoting outdoor ministry,
- providing access to efforts of other related ministries in the Synod (i.e. leadership development, youth, etc...), and
- encouraging congregational support.

This implies a valuable partnership that needs clarity in how this will function and connect.

Partnership:

The gathering of outdoor ministries, represented by board members/staff from the various Camps, works in a collaborative manner for mutual benefit, support and with the assurance that Christian outdoor ministry will have a place in the future. The relationship will operate with respect, corporate responsibility, good stewardship and faithfulness to the Gospel.

There shall be a review of this document every 3<sup>rd</sup> year by the Camp or its representative and by the Synodical person responsible for outdoor ministry.

This covenant will outline the division of responsibilities which guide our work together:

*As a Camp located in the Synod, this Camp will*

- uphold Christian teaching and worship life;
- recognize the partnership with congregational ministry which provides for the on-going discipleship and growth in faith of campers;
- operate with responsible, representative and elected governance that complies with the laws of this province and this country;
- provide programs and facilities that comply with professional standards of health and safety practiced in the camping industry;
- participate in an annual gathering of Lutheran camps for the mutual benefit of support; sharing of resources and information; and for the coordination of programming, where applicable;
- recognize the unique partnership with the Synod by considering reduced rental fees for camp usage such as Synod Youth Gatherings, meetings of the Synod Council and/or Ministry Teams of the Synod.

*As The Synod of Alberta and the Territories, this Synod will*

- recognize that this Camp provides important experiences of faith formation for people of all ages and is a unique vehicle for evangelism, leadership development and stewardship of the environment;
- provide opportunities for this Camp to collaborate with congregations and other synodical ministries for support, education, advocacy and promotion;
- encourage congregations in the Synod to support the camping ministry through prayer, participation and usage, and with financial gifts;
- provide access to congregations for publicity, fund-raising, and awareness of camp ministry;
- encourage rostered Lutherans to be resource people for camping programs; and recommend congregational support for these leadership efforts;
- consider financial support of the joint efforts of these outdoor ministry associations;
- invite Camps to participate in the annual conferences, conventions and area gatherings of the Synod for the purpose of relationship-building and awareness-raising.
- encourage the use of camp settings for various synod meetings and events.
- seek to participate in the Annual Joint Staff training as invited by the JST Planning Team.

Adopted by (Camp): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted by the Synod: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_