

Life **STORIES**



These are the **BEST** Days

Summer is by far my favourite season! We have taken every opportunity to **soak in the sunsets by the fire** during drop in and the youth are **taking full advantage of the outdoor space**. This is a **good day**; and it fills my heart to watch these youth thriving in their environment.

The backyard projects have been put on the back burner for a bit, but not before the summer staff at YFC Saskatoon got their hands on the back yard! They spent a full day helping remove the plywood from the beach volleyball court! I couldn't believe how much that opened the space up! The reason for the pause is a good one though! We're preparing for our **annual canoe trip!**

This year we're preparing to take nine youth to McLennan Lake for a five days. This is an amazing time for personal growth and development. Last year I got to watch nine other youth experience the wilderness and all the challenges and that goes with new experiences. My friends, **they blossomed!** They gained so much self confidence that they **were all but glowing!** I seriously live for moments like these. And they will carry these memories with them for a lifetime. If you would like to sponsor a youth for this canoe trip, please reach out!

Thank You!

Friends! Thank you all so much for letting me do what I do! I still can't believe that this is my job! I am so blessed to be pouring into the lives of these young people,. This is all because you have caught the vision and believed in the value of having a safe place for youth to find belonging. Thank you friends! This journey is better because of you!

LOOK AT THE TRANSFORMATION!!

Look at this thing we did! I must admit, I did not realize the scope of what “renovations” meant until I was neck deep in it and **thought it would never end**. We may have pushed the opening date back a couple times, but my friends, **it was SO WORTH IT!!** The youth absolutely love the feel of the space. In fact, they love it so much that we’ve started attracting youth from as far as Martinsville to come and hang out with us! We’ve also had a ton more inquires for hosting functions, it makes me feel good to be able to **serve the community in another way**.



BEFORE



AFTER!



The good 'ol stink eye ranks 3rd in frequent looks I get from the youth.

Catching the BIG Vision

Managing a non-profit youth centre is tricky. Like anything, **time management is really important**. My typical week includes budgeting time between working hours with the youth, cleaning, meetings, building up support and operating accounts, and orchestrating fundraisers. There are a lot of places my time and energy go besides quality time with the youth. But I can only work within the limiting factors and right now that’s my support account.

Being fully funded by the community would allow me to focus less on fundraisers and focus more on the youth. I have some fairly ambitious goals with the space I get to manage. The thing is, I **need help with my personal support account** before I can pursue additional student programming and initiatives.

There is a lot of humility in asking for financial support, and I am repeatedly learning that humility is a critically necessary part of my life to, well, keep me humble. It’s the darnedest thing. Asking for financial aid is probably my least favourite part about my job. I’d much rather send funny stories or encouraging letters to all of you. But **reaching out when I need help** this IS part of being part of the community, and right now, I could use