

Islands kids enjoy fun, friendship and fitness at summer day camps

Photo Credit: Haida Gwaii Recreation



While school's out for summer, kids on the islands have been enjoying a series of activity-filled day camps, thanks to the Haida Gwaii Recreation Commission and the Gwaii Trust.

The Haida Gwaii Recreation Summer Program day camps have been held in Sandspit, Massett, and Port Clements already this summer, with a final session to be held in Skidegate in the last two weeks of August. The camps are open

to all children from kindergarten to grade 6. Sports skills, healthy snacks, cultural activities, and crafts are features of the popular program, which helps nurture kids' knowledge and abilities during the school holidays.

Camp leader Tianna Grosse and assistant Fergus Wilson organize the schedule, and bring in adult mentors from all islands communities to share their skills and knowledge with the kids. Some of the highlights this summer, Tianna and Fergus said, have

been paddleboarding, archery, rugby and cedar weaving. One day, the day campers went out berry picking and then learned how to make jam. In Massett, they got to visit the fire hall. And in all communities they've gone out to explore the beach at low tide and learn about the plants and animals that live there.

The Gwaii Trust's \$10,000 contribution helps pay wages and buy craft supplies and healthy, local food for snacks. The rec commission also receives support from Canada Summer Jobs.

Spots are still available at the Skidegate camp, which takes place August 17 to 21 and August 24 to 28 at Sk'aadgaa Naay Elementary. Campers can register for a whole week, or drop in for a day or two if space permits. Contact Haida Gwaii Rec at 250-626-5652 to register or for more information.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Gwaii Trust is providing \$60,000 in grants to summer camps on Haida Gwaii this year, including Swan Bay Rediscovery and the Rediscovery camp at T'aalan Stl'ang