



OUTDOOR COUNCIL
OF CANADA

To Inform & Engage

CONNECTIONS

Issue No 4 - Fall 2011

Our Vision

Every Canadian will have access to outdoor education and recreation.

Our Mission

To promote and enable accessible education and recreation in the outdoor environment.

Our Members

- Are people like you: Anybody who is active in the outdoors, and who has led others there, is invited to join us as a 'Practitioner Member'. You will help support the health and positive development of outdoor activities and education.
- Are organizations like yours: Your organization can join as an 'Associate Member' and help build our industry.

2011 AGM

Join the OCC for our upcoming AGM. Invest in your organization by electing board members, asking your questions and giving feedback. Bring friends who are interested and help expand the OCC's membership.

When: October 29th, 6:00 pm

Where: The University of Calgary, KNB 126



AGM & course schedule

Leadership Level 1 -
October 27 & 28 - 9 am - 5 pm

Leadership Level 1 Winter Module -
October 29 - 9 am - 12 pm

Leadership Level 1 Navigation Module -
October 29 1 pm - 4 pm

Leadership Level 1 Instructor -
October 27 & 28 - 9 am - 5 pm

See the [website](#) for more info and to register

Board positions up for election

- Vice President
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Member Director
- Regional Directors for:
 - Prairies
 - Quebec
 - Canada North

Custom OCC Courses

If you would like an OCC course specifically for your organization, please contact [Albi Sole](#) to arrange



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Executive Director Albi Sole -



This summer, five days into a ten day, 180 km, paddle in Haida Gwaii my 15yr old son asked "Why do I have to carry heavy loads over rocks in the rain while my buddies are on the beach in Hawaii?" We laughed because he understands as only the converted do why humping up a mountain fills the soul with joy or why cross-country is 'thrilling'. This is something you can't explain, you have to experience it to know it is true.

Today I presented the case for 'outdoor activity as therapy' to a medical audience. On one hand I know it is a hard sell. For those that have never experienced the joy of outdoor activity, the idea that dirty, sweaty, and often uncomfortable activities might provide the spiritual nourishment that keeps a person coming back for more must be almost impossible.

On the other hand, the scientific evidence in favour of our case continues to mount and I think people are increasingly willing to listen to that case. These are challenging times for those providing outdoor programming for youth. The bureaucratic hurdles we have to jump seem to get ever higher, but the need for what we do is also getting higher. It is always darkest before dawn and while the road ahead will not be easy, I think that dawn is getting closer.



Contact Information

The Outdoor Council of Canada

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