

4th Annual Athabasca Youth Culture Camp



The 4th Annual Athabasca Youth Culture Gathering took place March 15th to 19th, 2007. Approximately fifty youth ages 10 to 14 years old, and thirty volunteers took part in the five-day program hosted by the school and community of Stony Rapids. Youth from surrounding communities also attended including: Black Lake, Fond du Lac, Wollaston and Hatchet Lake. The host committee scheduled a variety of cultural activities for youth to participate in.

During the 'in-town' portion of the camp participants enjoyed many indoor and outdoor carnival events, outdoor telescope viewing, archery, youth dance, astronomy program (dome), traditional arts & crafts, fiddling, sliding, Dene hand games, outdoor cooking (caribou, fish & bannock) and a movie night. On Saturday morning twenty five youth traveled by truck and snowmobile to the wilderness camp on Wapata Lake. Saskatchewan Environment assisted with the transportation of all participants and gear. John and Josephine Echodh of Black Lake hosted the wilderness portion of the camp. Activities included: fish net setting, snow shoeing, trap setting, beading, demonstrations of hide stretching/tanning, outdoor cooking, fish filleting, dry meat preparation, and indoor Dene games. Monday morning, participants packed up and headed back to their respective communities. This program was made possible through funding from Sask Culture Inc., Community Initiatives Fund, NSCRD and Prince Albert Grand Council - Athabasca.