



Week of August 7th to 11th, 2017 570 campers this summer!!!

LAST CAMP NEWSLETTER FROM THEO VECERA 😊

Dear parents,

On behalf of Fr. Richard, Anna Tafuto, the coordinating and animating teams, I would like to thank you for your trust and support in giving us the opportunity to welcome your child(ren) into our camp structure! It has been a wonderful “SafeFun” summer filled with memorable moments and everlasting memories! **This summer is my 27th year involved with camp and I am very blessed to be surrounded by wonderful “joyful noise” everyday!** This last week has been a very emotional one for our camp staff as the hot days of camp are almost over. But for everyone involved here at the camps and the YLC, this is not a goodbye...but a “see you later”!!!



Don Bosco use to say that “Education is a matter of the heart.” We implement his philosophy in order to empower child(ren) to be aware that he/she is unique, appreciated, loved and that they are really, really, really awesome!!! The YLC is your home away from home 😊

Please share a few words of gratitude with your animator and coordinators who have given of themselves completely and who have shared their gifts and talents for the betterment of youth today...unselfishly...especially in the wallet!!! It’s not often you hear of a young person working 40 plus hours plus but are only paid 15 or 30 hours a week. That is a true testament of their character and connection to the community! We are a staff of over 70 people...many of them once campers/teenagers in our programs. Hopefully, your child will be next!

In summary, thank you for your prayers and trust. We hope you were satisfied and happy with the summer camp experience we provided. We take great joy in being a “real community camp” whose main goal is the happiness of the children and not financial gain. Any “profit” that the camp makes goes back into the programming and activities at the non-profit Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre (dbylc.com). Remember, the place to be in RDP is the YLC! Check out all that we do by visiting dbylc.com (20\$ tutoring, sports, dance, Girls and Boys clubs and so much more!). And remember the magic word...SAFEFUN 😊 Look for our YLC pamphlets at the local English elementary schools in mid-September. All our programming begins the first week of October but you can sign up anytime during the school year! Have a great rest of the summer. We will see you around RDP!!!

In friendship, **Theo** “The Big Cheese” **VECERA** ylctheo@hotmail.com

Please take note the YLC will be closed for vacation, clean up and preparation starting Tuesday, August 15th. We will be back on Monday, September 11th between 3pm and 9pm. Thank you for your understanding!



The YLC will be open **ONLY** on Monday, August 15th from 9am to 2pm. The person in charge of the YLC is Frankie Cirillo (YLC Activity Coordinator). **Lost and found items can be claimed during this time. Anything that is not picked up will be thrown away or donated.** Please keep in mind that the YLC is not responsible for any lost or damaged items. Please take note the YLC will be closed for vacation, clean up and preparation starting Tuesday, August 15th. We will be back on Monday, September 11th between 3pm and 9pm. Thank you for your understanding!

the Big Show

Our annual "Big Show" will be held at the Church parking lot (Maria Ausiliatrice Parish) on Friday, August 11th at 630pm!!!

Please have your child present in the church parking lot at 6:15pm.

1. The coordinators and animators will then bring them into the church hall. They will then be in the "Safe Zone" parking area watching the show. This is also where you will pick up your child (ren) after the show is over. Theo and/or Anna will be dismissing them group by group starting with the younger ones.

- Don't forget your lawn chair and get ready to celebrate the simplicity and beauty of being forever young! The show will consist mostly of dances and skits by the majority of the groups at camp.
- In case of cancellation because of rain, you will be notified by our website (dbylc.com) and Facebook page "Don Bosco YLC" between 4:30pm and 6pm. The campers will have already performed their dance/skits during the last week of camp at their respective centers as a precaution if it indeed does rain. More info to follow by your coordinators/animators on what to wear or bring 😊



Look for our YLC school brochure in Mid-September at your local English schools! Information will be online at dbylc.com in mid-September. All programming begins in October! Over 1000 young people every year!!! Tutoring (20\$/hr). Kids and teens Ball hockey. Girls and Boys Clubs. Funky Dance. Future Leaders Project, more!

The YLC is always looking for sponsorship and donations of equipment that we can use for our youth/teen programming. Please visit our website dbylc.com for more information on income tax receipts and more!

WHAT IS THE YLC?

“The Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre” was founded in 1997.

It is a non-profit youth centre that reaches out annually to over 1000 children, youth and families in the East end of Montreal. Named after Saint John Bosco, a universally recognized educator and evangelizer of the young, the DBYLC strives to follow in his footsteps. The mission of the DBYLC is to foster the development of honest citizens, good Christians and positive leaders. This mission is carried out through a variety of youth activities that have as their finality education, prevention, and leadership training. We welcome all youth and families of different languages and cultures in an environment that is nurturing and respectful and prosperous.

Don Bosco used to say: “Give the most to those who have the least.” The DBYLC is particularly attentive to needier youth: those from poorer families, in dysfunctional family settings, or influenced by negative and harmful peer influences.

The DBYLC receives some financial support from the Municipal, Provincial & Federal Governments and benefits from free rent in its locale. But the DBYLC is not sufficiently financed to cover its annual operating costs. In the name of the young we thank you for any financial help you can offer us.

Please visit dbylc.com and download our sponsorship/donation form. Thank you for helping out the youth and families of our community. Together, we can make a difference. And together, it works!



About Theo Vecera

Theo has been actively involved in the community since 1990 and is the co-founder and Program Director of the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre (YLC). Theo has been working every summer at camp since 1990 and has been responsible for the coordination since 1994. This year makes 26 years of active community involvement for Theo.

A resident of RDP since 1980, he's happily married and has four beautiful children (ages 6 to 11). All of his children were at camp this summer.

Theo's passion is with youth; offering them different types of activities, developing their leadership skills and helping them to express their skills and talents. His personal philosophy is that "No young person is invisible. Everyone is someone."

He also enjoys providing opportunities for adults to give back to the community. Theo accomplishes this objective by addressing their social and recreational needs and in turn, challenging them to have a social responsibility and accountability to their community.



He is also an active promoter of the community and works with politicians, government and city officials to construct new facilities/services for youth and the community and to make sure the City remains accountable to its citizens. His challenge remains to highlight the east-end district of Montreal as a valuable and healthy environment to raise a family and for its business investment potential and especially for RDP not to be taken for granted. He has been approached on various occasions to enter the political life but will only do so if it benefits the youth and families of RDP. It is important for Theo that his voice, presence and actions can still be an instrument of **REAL CHANGE** in RDP and not just for photo-ops.

His dreams continue to evolve as Theo is constantly looking at how we as a community, can reach out to more youth, adults and families. Not only in program planning but in creating awareness that all of us can make a positive impact by sharing our resources, skills and talents. Theo is always available to network, discuss big ideas and share resources for the benefit of the RDP community. Contact Theo at 514.648.6421 or ylctheo@hotmail.com.

Sponsor a YLC program: "For only 600\$, you will be able to provide a year long service to hire a young adult to coordinate/animate an important teen program. Charity receipt and other incentives/publicity available!" Speak to Theo at ylctheo@hotmail.com