



# A Regional Junior-High Retreat

**4 - letter words**  
...that you can use anywhere



Hello Pastors and Youth Leaders,

This package brings you the details for our 2nd regional junior -high retreat, JR Pitch Alberta. We had a great launch last fall and are really looking forward to our second edition. This year it will be held Sept. 30 - Oct. 2nd at Camp Harmattan near Olds, AB, about an hour north of Calgary. This could be an excellent starting point for your junior-high ministry in the fall. Essentially all the work of planning a retreat is done for you; you can spend the weekend building relationships and memories with your students that will pave the way for a more fruitful ministry in the months that follow.

The weekend includes 4 general sessions, small group times, wide events, meals, optional sports tournaments, a variety of other recreational activities, and time and space to simply hang out and build friendships. Our primary concern is to lead students into a life changing relationship with Jesus Christ. JR Pitch Alberta attempts to reach out to students who are not in a relationship with Jesus, but all students will enjoy themselves and be challenged to grow no matter where they're at in their journey of faith. While designed specifically with grade 7 & 8 students in mind, JR Pitch Alberta is open to students in grades 6-9, depending on how you define your own junior-high ministry.



We're very excited about our line-up of guests this year. Wayne Smele will be speaking in our General Sessions. Wayne is an enthusiastic veteran youth worker with a special place in his heart for junior high students. Riley Armstrong will bring his music, comedy and quirky, loveable personality. Scott Grubbe returns as DJ to provide background tracks and to teach kids his art. Common Ground Worship Band was amazing last year will be back to lead our worship times. Our program begins with registration between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Friday evening and ends with lunch at noon on Sunday.

Camp Harmattan is a beautiful setting nestled along the Little Red Deer River. Clean cabins, indoor and outdoor chapel areas, excellent sports facilities and an awesome fireside area right by the river make this an ideal spot for JR Pitch Alberta.

JR Pitch Alberta is organized by the youth ministry department of the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada. Two similar events are held annually in Ontario, namely Pitch & Praise for high school students and JR Pitch for junior highs. A wide range of denominations and Christian youth agencies participate. We welcome any groups who wish to attend.

The early registration rate is \$80/person if registered by September 16th. After September 16th, the registration fee is \$90/person. These rates include meals, program and accommodation.

We really hope you can join us for JR Pitch Alberta this year because we think this event could be life-changing for students and that it will have a very positive impact on the shape of your student ministry for the rest of the year. Pray with us that God will use this weekend to draw students to himself.

Most of the details you'll need are enclosed. Registration forms may be downloaded from [www.jrpitchalberta.com](http://www.jrpitchalberta.com). Late breaking developments on the program, further details about our guests, etc. will be available there as well.

Hope to see you there,

Gavin Wark  
Director, EMCC Youth  
[gwark@emcc.ca](mailto:gwark@emcc.ca)

## JR PITCH FAST FACTS

- **DATE & LOCATION:** Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2011, Camp Harmattan, Olds, AB.
- **COST:** \$80 by Sept. 16th, \$90 after Sept. 16th
- **WEB SITE:** [www.jrpitchalberta.com](http://www.jrpitchalberta.com)
- **REGISTRATION INFO:** [jrpitchalberta@emcc.ca](mailto:jrpitchalberta@emcc.ca)
- **GENERAL INQUIRIES:** 877-375-7600 ext. 224

## PROGRAM INFO

### 1. DATE:

Sept.31-Oct.2, 2011. Registration from 6:00 p.m. - 8 p.m., Fri., Sept 31. The last event is lunch at noon on Sunday.

### 2. LOCATION:

Camp Harmattan, Olds, AB.

### 3. Who May Come:

Students in grades 6, 7, 8, and 9. Each church can decide if they want to include this full range of Jr. Highs or only part of it.

### 4. FOOD:

The registration fee includes all meals Saturday through Sunday lunch. Most menu items avoid nuts but we do not guarantee that foods are completely free of nut-related products. Students should bring extra money for snacks, etc.

### 5. PROGRAM:

The tentative schedule included will give you a fair idea of what to expect. Here are a few features to keep in mind:

#### A) Sports Tournaments:

You can register your church team(s) for one or more of the Saturday afternoon sports tournaments when you arrive at camp. If your group is not large enough to form a team, we will try to match you up with another group. Tournaments may include:

**Volleyball** - 6 players needed, co-ed

**Soccer** - 11 players needed, co-ed

**3-on-3 Basketball** - any combination of girls or guys, but no adults on these teams

**Dodgeball** - 9 players needed, co-ed

#### B) Recreational Electives:

In addition to the sports tournaments, campers have the option of participating in DJ workshops, graffiti art workshops, video game tournaments, hand crafts, inflatable obstacle courses, table games and more.

#### C) Camp Store

There will be opportunity to purchase CD's, snacks, camp clothing, etc. Students will need some extra money for these options.

## SPECIAL GUESTS

### Wayne Smele

Wayne knows his way around youth ministry and has lots of experience with junior high students both as camp director and youth pastor. This is still one of his favourite age groups.



He has served as a youth pastor, regional and national ministry leader, and adjunct youth ministry professor among other things. He is currently the Program Director for Leadership Development at Rocky Mountain College. He lives in Calgary, AB.

### Riley Armstrong

Riley has been entertaining young people with music and comedy for at least the past 10 years. In addition to



singer-songwriter and comedian, he also brings the perspectives of a youth pastor and a young father.

We're pretty sure that you'll like Riley right away - he has a magnetic personality and is just a lot of fun to be around. He will be performing and leading workshops on Friday and Saturday.

### Common Ground Worship Band

The Common Ground Worship Band leads worship on a regular basis for a student ministry at Camp Harmattan and were very well received at JR Pitch Alberta last year. They will keep the worship elements of our General Sessions highly energized.

### Scott Grubbe

Scott Grubbe aka DJ Transform 12.2 aka Grubernaut Scott was at our first JR Pitch Alberta, providing an awesome soundtrack for the weekend and teaching his trade. We very excited to have him back. The name Transform 12.2 comes from Romans 12.2: Do not conform any



longer to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve God's will, His perfect pleasing will.

## SPONSORE GUIDE

## CAMPER GUIDE

### A. Sponsor Qualifications:

1. Each church will be responsible to have at least one male adult sponsor for every seven (7) male young people and one female adult sponsor for every seven (7) female young people.

2. The adult sponsor should be over the age of 18 and attending the entire retreat. The adult sponsor should participate in the main activities of the weekend and should encourage the young people to participate as well. Sponsors register in the same manner as the teens.



### B. Responsibilities:

1. Supervision of your own young people. Please know where your young people are at all times. Make sure your young people adhere to the basic camp rules (as specified on the individual registration forms) as well as any additional rules you work out as a group ahead of time.

2. Handle the discipline of your own youth. Leaders on supervision will just do what has to be done on the spot for control, and then leave the details for the specific church sponsors to work out with their own young people.

3. Be alert to safety and property damage problems.

4. Set a good example in cooperation and enthusiasm.

5. Be available to lead a young person to Christ, and to counsel as opportunities arise.

6. Be positive.

### IMPORTANT:

We rely almost entirely on your help for the matter of peace and order. It will be a great help to everyone if you go over these guidelines ahead of time with your group, and encourage your students to abide by them to the best of your ability.

Thanks a lot for your cooperation!

### ***The Camp Rules are kept to a minimum but they are important:***

1. Everyone must attend the General Sessions.
2. No booze, drugs, firecrackers/fireworks or weapons on the grounds at any time.
3. Discourage your young people from leaving the camp property.
4. Campers are expected to be back in their area of accommodation, and to be quiet after lights out.
5. Be respectful of one another's property, rights and feelings.

Note: We suggest you leave music players and other valuables etc. at home to ensure they don't get lost or damaged.

## VOLUNTEERS



We may be in need of a few volunteers to help with various aspects of the retreat. If you have adults or senior students in your church who would like to serve on our volunteer staff, please direct them to the volunteer application on our website. ([jrpitchalberta.com](http://jrpitchalberta.com))

# REGISTRATION

## 1. Cost

Early Registration Fee by Sept. 16: \$80.00/person  
Late Registration Fee after Sept. 16: \$90.00/person

The registration fee covers camping, program and all meals from Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch. A \$20 deposit will be retained for individuals who cancel. Campers should bring extra cash for snacks, merch, trail rides, etc.

## 2. Accommodation

We expect that there will be enough space in cabins for all who attend this year. Cabin space will be assigned to your group on arrival at the camp. If you would prefer to stay in your own tents, please let us know and we will make sure that space is allotted for this.

## 3. Payment Options

You may pay at the time you register by faxing in the credit card payment form provided in this package or on our web site, or by bringing cash or a single cheque from your church with you to JR Pitch Alberta.

## 4. Registration Steps

- 1) Distribute individual registration forms to everyone in your group. These may be downloaded from [www.jpitchalberta.com](http://www.jpitchalberta.com)
- 2) One leader, appointed as your registrar, collects all of the completed registration forms and fees. Cheques from students should be payable to your church.
- 3) Your registrar now has 2 options:
  - A) Register everyone from whom you have collected forms using our on-line registration at [jpitchalberta.com](http://jpitchalberta.com).
  - OR
  - B) Download the Group Registration Excel spreadsheet from [jpitchalberta.com](http://jpitchalberta.com), fill it in and e-mail it to our registrar. Names received in our office by Sept 16th will be registered at \$80/person. Names received after Sept 16th will be registered at \$90/person for the weekend.
- 4) If you did not use the on-line registration method, you may pay the balance owing for your group using the credit card payment form available at [jpitchalberta.com](http://jpitchalberta.com), or bring a cheque or cash with you to the retreat. Cheques should be payable to Evangelical Missionary Youth. Your payment should include a \$20.00 garbage deposit. This deposit will be returned to you when your accommodations have been cleaned and you are ready to leave the retreat.
- 5) Late registrations should be e-mailed in as they come to you. Send these to [jpitchalberta@emcc.ca](mailto:jpitchalberta@emcc.ca).
- 6) Your registrar should bring to the retreat the completed individual registration forms for each person registered, and one cheque to cover any balance owing. When you arrive at the camp only your registrar should report to the office to hand in your individual registration forms, pay the balance owing, and receive name tags, schedules, etc. for your group.

# DRAFT SCHEDULE

## Friday, September 30th

6-8 p.m. Registration (Sports Sign-up, Inflatable Games, Games Room)  
8 p.m. Youth Leaders' Meeting  
8:30 p.m. General Session I  
9:45 p.m. Tuck Open  
10:30 p.m. Wide Event  
11:30 p.m. Small Group Time at your camp site  
12 p.m. Lights Out

## Saturday, October 1st

8:30 a.m. Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. General Session II  
10:30 a.m. Small Group Time  
11:00 a.m. Elective Activity I  
12:30 p.m. Lunch  
1:30 p.m. Elective Activity II  
3:00 p.m. Tuck Open  
3:30 p.m. Sports Tournaments Begin  
Video Games Tournament  
5:30 p.m. Supper  
7:00 p.m. General Session III  
8:30 p.m. Small Groups  
9:00 p.m. Tuck  
10:00 p.m. Campfire or Talent Show  
11:00 p.m. Wind Up  
11:30 p.m. Lights Out

## Sunday, October 2nd

8:30 a.m. Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. General Session IV  
11:00 a.m. Small Groups  
11:45 a.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Clean-up, Hit the Road



## Map to Camp Harmattan

RR2 Site 7 Box 20  
Olds AB T4H 1P3  
[www.campharmattan.com](http://www.campharmattan.com)

