

## NAHANNI ODYSSEY

NAHANNI: *n.* na-han-ne. 1) the one who shines. 2) the shining one.

ODYSSEY: *n. pl.* od-ys-seys. 1) An extended adventurous voyage or trip. 2) An intellectual or spiritual quest: *an odyssey of discovery.*

A YWAM & NWA PARTNERSHIP

Jan. 24/07

Nahanni Odyssey is a Christian leadership development program designed for young adults USING ADVENTURE AND DISCOVERY. It is delivered through a partnership between Youth With A Mission also known as YWAM and Nahanni Wilderness Adventures, Canmore.

In early adulthood we are faced with a number of transitions and we need the skills, character, experiences and community to prevail to a place of health and maturity. We want to emerge as contributing leaders in our communities and make a positive impact on our world. Are you on such a quest? By combining efforts YWAM and Nahanni can create the environment and the adventure for those on this quest. We believe that by participating in a program with varied levels of training and work experience and by connecting with and serving the community we can grow and change. By being a part of a vibrant community that dares to explore and discover spiritual and physical reality in the outdoors and by experiencing work place mentorship in outdoor recreation business- we can gain skills that will provide meaningful and gainful employment in the field of outdoor recreation. The program is designed to place team members in a variety of situations to meet this objective through training and hands on learning in outdoor recreation, site maintenance, community service/outreach and discipleship training.

The Nahanni Odyssey participants are placed into small groups each with 6 - 8 individuals and a team leader. Positions within the team include river guides, river guide interns and youth ministry interns. It is believed that the combination of these experiences based upon Biblical principles within the context of a YWAM community will foster leadership development, discipleship and job skill development for each member of the team. This will happen while preparing for and providing ministry based outdoor adventure activities for groups, while participating in service learning projects and living in a small group community with other Christians.

### Nahanni Odyssey - Program Details

The 2007 Nahanni Odyssey experience is comprised of three progressive phases running April 30 - Sept. 7. These begin with a 6 week Training Phase, a 10 week Guiding Phase and lastly a 2-3 week Expedition Phase. The participants of each phase will live in small groups of 6-8 members with a qualified leader. It is the goal of the program to meet each participant at his or her you current place of maturity in Christ and help them carry this daily to become fully recognized canoe and /or raft guides within the river outfitting industry.

Our **Training Phase** is an intense 6 week program running April 30–June 10, 2007. The program is designed to prepare students for employment as Christian outdoor adventure leaders. Following a period of initial team building in an outdoor environment the students will commence a number of basic certification courses as are the standard for river guides in western Canada. These courses include SRT (Swiftwater Rescue Technician), WFA, (Wilderness First Aid) and various open canoe instructor courses. Students with these prerequisites will join their group leader on river day trips to increase their paddling and guiding skills. They will also be exposed to river base camp seasonal setup and boat/equipment maintenance and repair.

Upon completion of the certification courses each small group will be equipped with a van and boat/equipment trailer and begin progressing through our mobile training facilities. Working

from our Red Deer River raft base camp each team will experience the best whitewater rivers in southern Alberta and B.C. The list includes the Highwood, Red Deer, Kananaskis, White and Kootenay Rivers. Students will gain knowledge and skills in the following areas as they relate to the work of a river guide. Sessions will take place on water, onshore and in evening sessions.

Anatomy of a Canoe and Raft	Stocking First Aid Kits
Canoe and Raft Packing	Campsite Selection
First Day Paddling Tips	Tent and Fly Pitching
Basic Strokes Canoe & Oar Rafts	Care of Equipment
Conservation and	Equipment Repairs
Minimum Impact Techniques	Launching and Landing
Sanitation and Hygiene	Equipment Repairs
Basic River Maneuvers	Outdoor Cooking
Time Control Planning	Fire Building
Keeping Warm and Dry	Stretching
Basic Whitewater Safety	Dry Bag Packing
Hydrology	Personal Whitewater Gear
Guides Gear	Leading Day Hikes
River Crossings on Foot	Scouting Rapids
Ornithology	Weather
Fauna/Animal Signs/Tracks	Paddle Related Injuries
Environmental Injuries	and Prevention
Environmental Hazards	River Classification
Plant and Tree Identification	Knots
Stove Use and Care	Trip menus, Dutch oven baking
Servant leadership and group dynamics.	River rescue and use of river safety equipment.
Food packing for river expeditions	

Also built into the program will be a YWAM NIKO experience, a 5 day Kootenay and White River guide school, 2 day Red Deer River guide school and a week of interning as whitewater raft guide.

Successful candidates will receive a certificate of completion

Program Fee \$1500 plus GST This fee covers our costs for instruction, equipment, transportation, food and administration for 6 weeks.

A deposit of \$1000 plus GST is required to cover courses provided by outside instructors, equipment rental, camping permits and miscellaneous personal expenses.

Training and work will follow a 5-6 day work week whenever possible. Daily routines include devotions, quiet time and group Bible study.

Graduates of the Training Phase may continue into the Employment Phase of the program as river guide interns or as river guide staff with Nahanni RAFT or Nahanni Wilderness Adventures.

They may also move on to serve with other organizations that value the skills and experience they have gained.

Employment Phase participants will continue to live and work in a small group setting. They will be coached by their leader and the River Manager to begin guiding at a suitable level with the intent of progressing to more responsible positions.

The **Guiding Phase** runs for 10 weeks from June 11-Aug. 19.

This phase is designed to provide river guides, river guide interns and youth ministry interns with real job experiences and employment opportunities while living in a small group community.

Participants in this phase will continue to live and work in a small group setting under the mentoring of their group leader and the River Manager.

Employment opportunities in past programs have included the following.

- Leading and assisting with day and weekend whitewater raft trips on the Red Deer River.
- Leading and assisting with 3-5 day canoeing, hiking and mountain biking out-trips with summer camps to Kananaskis Country, the Red Deer River Badlands, the North Saskatchewan, the Kootenay River and Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park.
- Service learning projects with community, church, environmental and summer camp organizations.
- Assisting with multi-day canoe and raft trips on the Nahanni and Kootenay Rivers.
- River base construction
- Equipment maintenance
- Trip food and equipment planning and packing.

The program also includes Bible based discipleship development facilitated by the Pastor and Team Leaders.

Successful candidates will receive a certificate of completion and recognition as river guides.

Interns may have the opportunity to move into paid positions as opportunities arise.

Program fee: \$1000 plus GST This fee covers our costs for staff, equipment, transportation, food and administration for 10 weeks.

Training and work will follow a 5-6 day work week whenever possible. Daily routines include devotions, quiet time and group Bible study.

The third and final part of the program is the **Expedition Phase** where members will together plan and lead their own 2-3 week canoe/raft trip on the South Nahanni River in the Northwest Territories. The expedition will take place between August 20 and September 7, 2007

It is at this time that the participants will put together everything they have learned over the past 16 weeks.

Cost: \$1000 plus transportation and GST and Park User fees.

In 2006 the Nahanni Odyssey participants made a 14 day descent of the Flat and Nahanni Rivers.

**What is included:**

- Guide training and discipleship from a small group leader.
- Room and board at our Red Deer River base while working
- Service learning exchange with Christian summer camps
- Access to Nahanni R.A.F.T. boats for personal development
- Discipleship training with YWAM
- Transportation for work related river trips.

**Nahanni Odyssey Does Not Include:**

- Personal paddling and camping equipment (see list below)
- Transportation for personal needs.
- Food outside of the training or work related program.

**Guide's Gear Paddling**

- PFD Transport Canada approved
- whistle
- canoe paddle
- river knife
- throw bag
- river emergency kit (wrap kit/first aid)
- wetsuit
- neoprene hood or cap
- helmet
- paddling gloves
- Dry top or paddling top
- river shoes neoprene socks
- Camping gear
- tent
- sleeping bag
- thermal-rest pad
- headlamp
- water bottle
- day pack
- dry pack
- pocket knife

## REMUNERATION- NAHANNI WILDERNESS ADVENTURES

### Staff Positions, Certifications, Pay

Volunteer – follow instruction

- Internship - Basic First Aid
- Red Deer River Guide School
  - Training and certificates as required by full guides to perform guide's work.
  - Bronze

Camp out-trip leader, rate \$350/week

- Wilderness First Aid
- Bronze Cross
- Swift water Rescue 2
- Nahanni Guide School
- Red Deer River Guide School
- Kananaskis River skills test – paddle
- Moving Water or Tripping Canoe Instructor for canoe trips.
- Trip leader prerequisite 5 trips

Red Deer River raft guide, rate \$100/day must have completed 3 trips

- Bronze
- Wilderness First Aid
- Swift water Rescue 2
- Annual Guide School
- Red Deer River Guide School
- Kananaskis River skills test – paddle raft
- Trip leader prerequisite 5 trips

White River raft guide, rate \$115 must have completed 3 trips

- Bronze Cross
- Wilderness First Aid
- Swift water Rescue 3
- Nahanni Guide School
- Red Deer River Guide School
- Kananaskis River skills test – paddle and oar raft
- White River Guide School
- Trip leader prerequisite 5 trips

Kootenay River raft guide, rate \$115 must have completed 3 trips

- Wilderness First Aid
- Bronze Cross
- Swift water Rescue 2

- Nahanni Guide School
- Red Deer River Guide School
- Kananaskis River skills test – paddle and oar raft
- Moving Water Canoe Instructor for canoe trips.
- Trip leader prerequisite 5 trips

Nahanni and other Northern Rivers. guide rate,\$100 plus.

- Bronze Cross
- Wilderness First Aid
- Swift water Rescue 3
- Nahanni Guide School
- Red Deer River Guide School
- Kananaskis River skills test – paddle and oar raft
- Moving Water Canoe Instructor for canoe trip.
- Nahanni River Guide Test – less \$10
- Nahanni National Park River/Trail Guide License plus \$10
- Parks Canada Interpretive Guide plus \$15
- ACMG – Hiking Guide plus \$15

Add \$2/day for each Nahanni River trip completed

Top rate \$195/day

Reductions: Missed Guide School - \$20/day

Expired Cert. - \$10

Arrive late – no prep. \$20/day

Leave early – no clean up. \$20/day

