

REDISCOVERY INTERNATIONAL FONDATION'S  
NATIVE CRAFTS CAMP  
To be held at Soaring Spirits Camp

## INTRODUCTION

Ever wanted to make your own moccasins, beat your own skin drum, weave a cedar bark or pine needle basket, decorate a birch bark basket with porcupine quills, or make a moose call? Now's your chance to do it all, and more!

For the first time ever the Rediscovery International Foundation is running a Native Crafts Camp at the spectacular setting of the new Soaring Spirits Camp along the Skeena River. Courses are open for selection based on a first come first served basis. They include:

- Beading
- Basketry – cedar bark / birch bark / deer hide / pine needle
- Caribou & moose hide tufting
- Caribou, deer & moose antler buttons
- Deer hide rattles
- Drum making
- Moccasin making
- Moose calls (birch bark)
- Porcupine quill art

There will be four venues set up for instructor and their students: a beautiful screened in dining hall, a traditional Metis wall tent with spruce branch flooring, the screened porch of a heritage cabin and an open-air council fire site. Participants will enjoy delicious home cooked meals featuring fresh fruits and vegetables from the camp's organic gardens, as well as fresh salmon, moose meat and bison.

In addition to the crafts workshops, there will be times to enjoy a picnic lunch and a swim at a nearby lake and to stroll the lovely trails of the 175-acre Soaring Spirits Camp property. Fishing enthusiasts will be rewarded at Boulder Creek and other nearby hot spots along the Skeena River where more than 5 million salmon migrate upstream every summer. Each evening at camp will have a special group focus: a Council Fire to share personal stories with a "story stick", Gitksan songs and legends, pow wow dancing, and a special night to clear the hall for Metis jigging lessons.

Come for a great time and to expand your skill levels. This program is perfect for anyone working with youth in outdoor camps, teachers wanting to bring a stronger cultural component into the classroom or individuals just wanting to enrich their lives in a supportive environment.

**COST/PERSON: \$880**

Note: additional costs apply for material kits in some crafts but average \$45

Available for any group booking of 12 or more people. Please contact Thom Henley (thomhenley@gmail.com) to reserve dates.

## INSTRUCTORS

Jeane Walker:

Jeane is a proud Metis of Woodlands Cree and Scottish descent that has mastered many traditional native skills. She specializes in porcupine quill art, tufting with moose and caribou hair, fish scale art and finger weaving Metis sashes.

Jim Roberts:

The son of a Plains Cree father and a French mother, Jim was born with Muscular Dystrophy, but it hasn't slowed him down. Jim enjoys working with his hands, and has accomplished many crafts such as fly tying, birch bark moose calls, mini Red River carts and jiggy dolls (wooden dancing puppets). Over the years Jim has put on many workshops with these crafts in and around the Prince George area.

Jon Hansen:

Jon is a very accomplished in bead art and has designed his own regalia for pow wow dancing. He will not only offer craft courses at camp but will dazzle us with his dancing skills.

Joyce Roberts:

Joyce was born to a French/Cree father and, what she calls, "a very Irish mother". She started sewing at the tender age of nine and still continues today, making regalia for her family. Joyce brings a multitude of talents to the Native Crafts Camp. Specializing in pine needle, deer hide and birch bark baskets, she also crafts deer hide rattles, leather pouches, and does beading.

Val Morgan:

Val Morgan is a legend in northern British Columbia. Highly acclaimed for her native fashion designs and carving skills, Val has been featured on television and done countless workshops at the community level.

Born to a Kwakiutl mother from Alert Bay and a Gitksan father from Kitwanga, Val shares the pride and richness of being strongly grounded in two First Nation cultures. In addition to her vast native art talents, Val is a master chef who enjoys doing the cooking for Rediscovery camp sessions at the Soaring Spirits Camp.

Wade Charlie:

Wade hails from Port Hardy, but his First Nation ancestry was on the mainland of B.C. before his tribe was forced to relocate. Wade virtually grew up with Rediscovery, attending camp as a participant in his teens, taking Rediscovery training at Pearson College in his 20's and now serving as staff at both RIF training programs.

The proud father of five, Wade enjoys hunting and fishing to feed his family and keeps his deer skins for use as drums. Wade will not only teach participants the basics of drum making, but will help them find their voices to sing drum songs around the Council Fire.