



The End Of LUNA As We Know It

NINE YEAR-OLD LUNA PROGRAM BECOMES A DIFFERENT ANIMAL IN 2012

Whistler, BC – December 16, 2011

Wrapping up nine years of engaging young adults in meaningful learning opportunities, providing year-round healthy nightlife activities and helping to shape Whistler's visitor experience, LUNA will celebrate its last event under its current format – Hockey 101 – on Friday, December 30, 2011 at Meadow Park Sports Centre at 8:30 p.m.

<http://www.lunawhistler.com/hockey101.html>.

LUNA, behind such programs as Lunafliks: Whistler's Fresh Air Films, Cinema Politica Whistler, Sea to Sky Battle of the Bands and Moist, the Pool Party, will reduce its programming and end its Community Event Coordination internship program in the New Year due to budget cuts after the RMOW's internal service review. The review was undertaken to evaluate how to best deliver municipal services to residents and guests in the most fiscally responsible way to reflect the trends, environment and changing needs facing the organization and the community at large.

LUNA's programming has contributed to a 20% reduction in alcohol-related calls to the Whistler RCMP as established by a 2005 RCMP statistical analysis, and in 2009 LUNA received a Community Capacity Building Award from the British Columbia Healthy Living Alliance for its commitment. LUNA produced Whistler's first ever Green Art Show in 2007, and Whistler's first Pedal-Powered Concert in 2011, helping Whistler to reduce the most energy use to date during Earth Hour.

In 2012, LUNA will become a seasonal program. A few events will be programmed with the arrival of new seasonal workers in the winter. Volunteers will be sought to assist where needed. After helping to integrate the newcomers, LUNA will engage the community via social media and an online calendar to further promote healthy community life. Stay tuned for more details in January.

LUNA's coordinator and interns welcome hockey virgins, Wayne Gretzkys and all LUNA friends to attend their Hockey 101 event on Friday, December 30.

<http://www.lunawhistler.com/hockey101.html>

<http://www.whistler.ca/media/news/rmow-releases-2011-service-review-report>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teVcmZ1OM40>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XlMD_CrAEAQ&feature=related

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