

NIFA Youth Camps

Over A decade of growth and youth soccer development!

In the spring of 2001 aboriginal soccer communities commented on the ladies program which was preparing for another overseas tour to Australia, a memorable exciting trip for two ladies teams. I was asked if there were any youth opportunities for BC aboriginal youth. My answer was NO, so I thought for a few days what I could do.

In a moment I founded my NIFA youth summer soccer camps. As a BC Staff Coach at the Shawnigan Lake Soccer Academy and a National Coaching Institute Soccer Graduate I felt I was ready to develop youth soccer players at an affordable fee. In July of 2001 I travelled to Mt Currie and Facilitated my first soccer camp for 45 kids. I hired two female athletes to assist me and this became a common thing to hire my players to give them experience in coaching and assist them in raising money for our soccer tours.

The program took off and has been a amazing experience working with our first nation and aboriginal communities across BC and western Canada. We have travelled to Cowichan, Namgis, Sechelt, Nanaimo, Campbell River, Mt. Currie, Lillooet, Squamish, Williams Lake, West Bank, Penticton, Smithers , Bella Coola , Bella Bella , Seabird Island, Musqueam, Pt. Hardy, Sliammon, Kingcome, Esquimalt, Saanich and friendship centres.

We have assisted with development camps with Team BC, Team Alberta and the North West Territory with plans to travel to Yukon and Saskatchewan in the winter of 2013/2014.

I wanted to thank my longest serving coach Bill Wasden for helping me with our NIFA teams since 2000 thank you Bill so many magnificent memories, more to come!

Likewise thanks to the ladies who have worked with me at my NIFA camps and our youth program. Vanessa Daniels , Karajan Willie, Katie Day, Tara Thorne, Rachael Allen, Samantha Schroeder, Lonnie-Lee Peters, Margaret Badger, Deanna Lewis , Marilyn Johnny , Samantha Shaughnessy and new coaches Kerri Timothy and our just graduated Varsity College Players and new coaches Mariah Robinson and Jolene Nagy , Thank you to each of you for hosting top level soccer instruction to our Aboriginal youth soccer players in the past 13 years , I look forward to carrying on our NIFA youth soccer programs.

Dano

Head Coach