

Dear Elliot and Katelyn!

Welcome to Forest Valley, lets just say you are in for the treat of your life these next for months as you learn lots about working with kids, in the outdoors, and the joys of the Forest Valley Family!

Perhaps you are feeling overwhelmed at the moment, a little confused, or just nervous about your Coop placement. We are here to urge you that you are going to have a blast! This is without a doubt one of the funniest and fun-est jobs you can have for a Coop placement. If you have never worked with kids, are an old hat, or don't know the difference between White Pine and Cedar, you will find that there is plenty of learning and support over the next few months. Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions, have a few laughs, make mistakes and get messy!

Something I wish I knew at the beginning of my placement would be the day to day schedule, you will learn this very soon, but just a heads up, here is a rough order of things for the day:

-Arrive, greet Rosie with a big smile and hug, and chit chat (she is the best and so you should probably get to know her and her wonderful personality).

-Connect with your instructor for the day about what you can be doing to help setup for your morning program. (often they will start work earlier than you, and will have some things done)

-Once everything is ready grab a coffee break and talk to specialists about their favorite topics, here is a list of surefire topics to help you get a conversation going!

Rodway: Anything Patagonia, single speed bikes, the art of being a hipster-or just living.

Rich: Broadway musicals, fine foods, or anything to do with starwars, he knows everything there is to know. If you are not from around this great city, ask Rich to tell you all about Salad King

Dean: Military, the far political right, the trouble with unions, outdoor rec, etc.

Melissa: Birding, motorcycles (preferably she can help you pick out the one you are going to start riding) and Scotland. Ask about her awesome trip to the east coast!

Shirley: Crafty things like knitting-ask her if her kids liked the Buff's they got for Christmas (She also makes deerskin mittens and will happily show you how!)

Leslie: GOLF, The Toronto Blue Jays trade deals, the good ol' days of forest valley (you need to make sure you are on Leslie's good side, or she will probably kick your ass...)

Dan: Birds, Beer, travelling

Stephanie: The CBC, The greatness of the city of Guelph,

Rosie: Anything and everything!

Alie Thompson

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