



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

*30th Anniversary*  
*Overnight Camp Information Guide*



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *30th Anniversary*



We are so happy that you have chosen us. YLCC is a great place for you or your camper to spend the summer. We are excited for you to meet new friends, make lasting connections, try new activities like high ropes or kayaking, roast a marshmallow or two, laugh 'till your sides hurt, and learn – by doing!

We run overnight and day camp sessions at our beautiful Lake Simcoe site just South of Orillia.

The first step towards a successful camp adventure is coming prepared. This guide will help both parents and campers prepare for this experience.

Be sure to follow us on social media to stay updated on relevant information throughout the summer!

If after reading this guide, you have any further questions please feel free to contact us.

Warmly,

Stu Saunders  
Founder and Head Gardener  
YLCC

Sydney Shepherd  
Assistant Camp Director  
YLCC

Aaron Ratko  
Co-Director of Overnight Camp  
YLCC

email: [info@ylcc.com](mailto:info@ylcc.com)  
Phone: 705-326-2433  
Fax: 705-326-1097  
498 Moon Point Drive, Oro-Medonte  
L3V 0R8

Christine Fry  
Administrator and Registrar  
YLCC



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Meet the ylcc management team*



### **Hello YLCC Parents!**

I love this time of year, the build up to summer! The excitement of a summer full of leadership, laughter, songs, games, and leading together! I reflect on the growth of YLCC, from 50 campers just 30 years ago to more than 1,600 in 2022. I am so proud of all the staff and campers who make it all happen, they learn from YLCC and then give back at YLCC!

We work hard every year to ensure we are bringing your camper's high quality summer camp programs and I am confident that this year once again, will be have even more growth and fun for your camper!

My mom sent me to camp when I was 6, and I haven't missed a summer since. It was the best decision she ever made. I can't wait to share in the fun and learning of summer camp this upcoming season with you!

### **Yours in GRATITUDE,**

Stuart Saunders, Founder and Head Gardener  
Youth Leadership Camps Canada



### **Hello Parents,**

Whether your child is attending day camp or overnight camp whether it's his or her first summer or tenth summer with us, I am excited to share the joy of discovery and of learning about Leadership.

I have the best job at summer camp. My job is to meet your kids, to laugh with them, to listen to them, to discover with them, to do a few magic tricks with them and to celebrate their successes with them.

I am honoured that you have chosen our camp. We will do our best to earn your trust. We will welcome your child. We will listen. We will care. It's going to be an incredible journey!!

### **Let the joy begin!**

Dave ORNJ Graham, Associate Director and Owner  
Youth Leadership Camps Canada

# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Meet the ylcc management team*



### **Administration and Registration Director**

Christine Fry aka Fry joined the YLCC team in the spring of 2012. Her organizational and management skills have been honed through 20 years of small business ownership and she co raised three wonderful and engaging adults who all have been a part of YLCC over the years. Fry was an avid camper and counsellor herself and came full circle to be at camp. She absolutely loves her home at YLCC. She is sometimes spotted bringing the pugs to the lake when she is not in the office



### **Assistant Camp Director**

Sydney Shepherd has a contagious energy that she has been bringing to YLCC for the past eight summers! She has an amazing ability to connect with campers of all ages whether it be discussing the outdoors, playing the ukulele, or helping campers and staff be inspired to see their full potential! When not at camp, Sydney is a Species-At-Risk Biologist and loves to spread her love of nature and animals with others at camp too. She is very excited for Summer 2022 to share with both parents, campers, and staff!



### **Co-Director of Overnight Camp**

Aaron Ratko began working at YLCC in 2004 and continued through multiple counselling roles, as part of the maintenance team, trip director roles and CIT director. He left in 2012 to travel Canada, to work for different Outdoor Education Centres and Summer Camps. Aaron is thrilled to be back home, supporting YLCC and growing his roots with the fine leaders here at camp as a co-director and kid at heart.





# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Getting to know us*



### Who Are We?

We are a family-run, private day and overnight summer camp. We believe that smaller camps equal a more personalized, family-like and impactful experience. Small group sizes are important to us – groups range from 8-12 campers each, depending on age. Our staff to camper ratio is 4:1. We average 150 campers per session.

### Leadership is What We Do

Sending your camper to YLCC gives them a tangible, measurable advantage. When your camper applies what they learned at YLCC, they will do better in school, socially and academically. Our campers graduate from each program with confidence and an enthusiasm to lead and learn more.

### Frequently Asked Questions— ANSWERED

We understand sending your camper to camp for the first time or even 10th time raises questions about your camper's experience. We have put together ten short videos to answer questions that come up a lot to help the process. Feel free to watch the links below or listen to them, to gain a better understanding of your camper's experience!

Watch the videos online here: <http://bit.ly/CampfireChats>

Listen to the audio here: <http://bit.ly/CampfireChatsAudio>

## You're Invited!

### Annual Open House

Come for the day and stay for the summer! Spend some time with us and see what camp is all about - tour the camp, meet our Directors, check out the cabins, climb our rock wall, and explore camp! Rain or shine!

Sunday June 12, 2022: 1pm - 4pm



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Arrival and Departure*



### **Arrival Registration - Sundays 4:00pm - 6:00pm**

*\*Please do not arrive earlier or later. Camp activities begin promptly after registration.\**

Parents who arrive early will be directed to a local coffee shop in town. We ask that all campers eat a good lunch prior to arrival. If your camper is taking an airport shuttle, please pack a lunch or send money to buy a lunch as we will be stopping along the way. **Dinner will be after arrival for all campers.**

### **Campers arriving/Departing By Plane**

We prefer to pick up campers from Toronto Pearson Airport (YYZ) on Sundays. Please try to have your child's flight arrive as close to noon (12:00pm) as possible and book departures on Saturday for the late afternoon or early evening. Once you have confirmed the flight, please forward those details to our office as soon as you can; this will allow us to coordinate pick-ups so that your child will begin camp with the rest of our new arrivals. **Authorization for Travel with Friends:** Written authorization is required from parents who are arranging for their camper to travel with another family. Please send details to our office.

### **Stay-Overs**

Stay-overs are designed for campers to bridge sessions without going back home in between. Stay-overs are available on the following dates only. **No stay-overs available August 6-7 – no exceptions.**

July 16-17, July 23-24, July 30-31, July 13-14 \$150 + HST

### **Graduation Ceremony/Departure Day: Saturdays 10:30am - 12:00pm**

At the end of every session, all campers will participate in our Graduation Ceremony. This program is incredibly valuable to everyone who has worked hard – learning and growing as an individual and as part of a group. Your camper will stand on stage and share what has impacted them during their time at YLCC. To be able to look out and see proud parents and grandparents looking back at them is so powerful. That's why we ask that all parents attend this ceremony. It says that you support them and that you hear their new-found inspirations and goals. Please make it a priority to attend the ceremony!

We ask that families arrive no earlier than 10am to be ready to leave by 1:30 pm. Please let us know when you register your child how many will be coming for the Graduation ceremony. If you will be late for the graduation please notify by calling the office so we can inform your child.

# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *What to Expect*



### **Tuck Shop**

The Tuck Shop is the YLCC camp store. Campers will be able to visit the tuck shop once per day. This is where campers can find souvenirs, water bottles, swag, cold drinks and tasty treats! You can see sample items available at a table on Registration Day. Campers can have a pre-paid tuck tab set up for them upon arrival. All cash, debit or credit card amount are collected on Registration Day - campers will not use real money while at camp. Unused tuck money will be returned on the last day of camp. Canadian Tire Money is accepted too!

### **Meals**

Our Food Service Manager, Head Chef and our kitchen team prepare nutritious family-style meals and make sure that campers have all the food and snacks they need. No outside food, candy or snacks are allowed. Any food items sent with campers will be donated to the local food bank. Chewing gum is strictly forbidden. YLCC is able to accommodate most dietary concerns. Please be sure to submit such requests to our office in advance. If you require a consultation with our Kitchen Manager/Chef please let our office know and a phone call or a camp visit can be arranged.

### **Accommodations**

YLCC will happily accept cabin-mate requests as indicated on our registration form. We will try to honour 1 mutual request for campers of the same age whenever possible.

All campers sleep in a large wooden cabin with 10-14 other campers and a YLCC staff member. All campers sleep on a bunk with a mattress. Navigators will sleep in canvas platform tents in bunks with mattresses and Outtrippers will sleep in cabins while at camp and tents while on trip. Our bathroom complex is in close proximity to all cabins. YLCC is Ontario Camps Association (OCA) accredited and our facilities exceed all their rigorous standards.



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Staying in Touch*



### Email

Bunk1 is a professional 3rd party email service that allows parents to send emails to their children at camp in a quick, and efficient manner. Registering with Bunk1 is the only way for you to communicate with your camper through email. Through Bunk1 services, you have the option of purchasing 1-way "Bunk Notes" or 2-way "Bunk Replies". Simply sign on to the password protected website, select your camper and hit send. Bunk1 automatically sends letters to YLCC every day at 8am and we print them off and deliver them at dinner with the regular mail. Bunk1 Replies allow campers to send letters home electronically. With this option, your child will have the ability to write home during their rest time and you will receive their handwritten notes through email.

**Bunk notes are not delivered or sent on weekends.**

Bunk1 Registration Code: YLCC2022

### Mail

For parents who are not interested in purchasing Bunk1 services, we encourage writing letters... there is no question that a handwritten letter is the best surprise for campers young and old.

We have regular mail service to camp but because we are located in a rural area, mail can be slow getting to us. If you have a letter that you want to get to your child quickly, we suggest you use Canada Post's Priority Post service. Purolator and UPS also deliver to camp. If you get an unhappy letter or email from your child, do not panic. In all likelihood whatever made them unhappy when they wrote the letter is long since forgotten or has been resolved by your camper's counsellor. If you do have a concern, please call us at camp. We want camp to be a positive experience for both campers and parents. **You can also hand us mail at registration which we can hand out to campers throughout the week (well labelled).**

### Care Packages

Please do not send food packages to your child due to the risk of exposing the camp environment to allergens (eg. nut products) and causing problems with nuisance animals around the camp and in the cabins. All care packages are to be opened in the presence of a staff member and all food will be removed and disposed of. Packages containing books, crossword puzzles, cards, etc. are acceptable.



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Staying in Touch*



### Homesickness

Camp is an exciting and fun-filled place with new friends and new experiences. It's also a very different place- a different bed, different washrooms, food, schedule and people. When campers are away from home, it is reasonable to expect that until they become adjusted to the camp environment, they may go through a period of homesickness. It is important that parents realize, however, that this is something that a child may need to experience and see through in order to reach a higher degree of independence. Our Counsellors receive training on how to help children feel comfortable at camp and how to respond to their individual needs. Campers are not typically permitted to call home as we have found this usually increases the level of homesickness. If there is a situation at camp that requires a phone call, we will contact you immediately. Please refrain from telling your child they can call home or go home early if they wish.

### Phone Calls

Campers do not have access to the camp phone. However, if our staff feels it is in the best interest of a camper, a call can be arranged. All outgoing calls made are done under the supervision of our Camp Director or Assistant Directors. **Cell phones are not permitted at YLCC.** Camp is the place to unplug and be present. Campers are not allowed to have any type of phone or screen with them at camp. We need parents to work with us, not against us. Should your child have a phone in their possession while at camp, it will be confiscated and your camp account will be charged a \$100 storage fee. **Do not send a phone with your child.** This policy is truly about your child's safety, privacy and their mental health. If there are circumstances or plans that change in your family while your child is at camp which may upset them please contact us directly and we can discuss the best way to inform your child. Though the phone is not for campers' use, we will make exceptions in extenuating circumstances.

# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Health and Safety*



### **Healthy Campers**

Camp is a place with close contact and busy schedules. In the event that your child contracts a communicable illness or other condition before camp, please contact the Camp Office. Campers with communicable illnesses may be asked to delay their arrival at camp.

### **Medical Care**

Our entire staff team is First-Aid and CPR certified. YLCC has a nurse or doctor that lives on site during the summer and a local doctor that is on-call.

### **Medication**

All medication, excluding pi-pens and asthma puffers, must be handed in at registration. These will be secured by the camp nurse. All medications must be well labeled and in their original containers. Over-the-counter medications must arrive in a clear zip lock bag labeled with the camper's name which will be handed to our health team at registration. We have Tylenol and Band-Aids on hand at camp please leave yours at home.

### **Head lice**

YLCC has a nit-free policy. We ask parents to check their camper personally or have them visit their family doctor prior to arrival. The Ontario Camps Association (OCA) requires that overnight camps check for lice. If your camper has head lice upon arrival at camp, they will be treated at the cost of the parents.

### **Off-Site Medical Attention.**

In the event that your child needs medical attention, apart from injuries of a minor nature, our staff will provide immediate transportation to the Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Orillia. An ambulance will be called in for critical emergency situations.

We will make every effort to contact you as soon as possible should medical treatment be necessary, and will stay with your camper until the situation is resolved. If any prescription drugs are necessary as a result of consultation with the doctor, you will be contacted and billed for the amount after camp. All medical expenses are the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the camper.

# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## Packing Guide



YLCC is not responsible for loss or damage to personal property. If necessary, we can secure your valuables in the camp office, however we recommend leaving high value items at home.

### MANDATORY

#### BEDDING

- Pillow
- Sleeping bag or comforter (sleeping bag highly recommended for any initiatives program)
- Extra blanket (fleece recommended)
- 1 sheet for your bunk

#### CLOTHING

- pyjamas
- adequate supply of undergarments
- socks (extra in case of wet weather)
- shorts
- pants
- t-shirts
- long sleeved t-shirts (light colours)
- fleece sweater
- sweatshirts or hoodies
- 1 semi-formal outfit (For our Banquet)
- seasonal jacket
- sun hat
- 2 bathing suits

#### RAIN GEAR

- rain jacket
- rain boots

#### FOOTWEAR

- flip flops for the shower
- sandals with back straps
- closed toed shoes for running/hiking/climbing

#### OTHER

- water bottle
- blank journal and pen
- 2 towels (1 beach, 1 shower)
- flashlight
- sunglasses and sunscreen
- insect repellent
- YLCC ACE medallion (for returning campers)

#### TOILETRIES

- prescription medication (handed over to our Health Team during registration)
- as-needed medication (handed over to our Health Team during registration)
- toothbrush and toothpaste
- shampoo
- deodorant

#### PROHIBITED

- chewing gum
- tablets, screens and cellphones
- alcoholic beverages
- cannabis, tobacco and vapes
- weapons (knives, hatchets, etc.)
- clothing or items with offensive messaging
- money (tuck tabs can be set-up during registration)

Campers found with these items will be asked to hand them into the Camp Office. Upon discretion of the Camp Management Team, a camper may be discharged without warning. YLCC Is not responsible for any costs incurred due to discharge - no refunds will be granted.

### OPTIONAL

- paddle
- musical instrument
- books for reading
- camera
- letter writing supplies



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Packing Guide*



YLCC is not responsible for loss or damage to personal property. If necessary, we can secure your valuables in the camp office, however we recommend leaving high value items at home.

## Extras for Tripping Programs

(Explorers, Adventurers, Navigators, Outtrippers)

- large, durable, refillable water bottle
- wool socks - 2 pairs
- 1 pair of lightweight long pants
- 1 pair of good quality shoes for hiking/portaging
- sunglasses
- wide-brimmed sun hat
- sleeping bag
- quick dry clothing
- bathing suit
- disposable camera
- medium sized backpack (mandatory for Adventurers, helpful for other programs)
- sleeping bag
- sunscreen
- insect repellent

Many of these items are repeats from the previous list. These items are recommended to make the tripping portion of your campers experience run smooooother.



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Packing Guide*



### **Label Everything**

At the end of summer, there is always a pile of campers' belongings left behind. This is an expensive waste for our campers (and their parents!) As a way to combat the problem of lost belongings and a large lost and found closet, we encourage parents to label all belongings. We look forward to sending campers home with **ALL** their belongings this summer.

### **Lost and Found**

Be sure to visit the lost and found out on display when picking up your camper. All clothing and equipment remaining at camp will be available for pickup at our camp office before Labour Day. Any unclaimed items will be donated. Recovered items can be sent by mail or courier COD or can be arranged to be picked up.

### **Lifejacket - Personal Flotation Device (PFD)**

It is mandatory that all campers wear a lifejacket during all watercraft activities. Please send your camper with a government-approved PFD that fits properly. Please label the lifejacket clearly with the camper's full name. If you are unable to provide a lifejacket for your camper, we offer PFD rentals for \$25.00 per session.

### **Laundry Service**

This service is available once a week. Laundry is picked up on Thursday night and delivered back on Friday morning. The cost is \$25.00 for one load (mixed white and darks) which will be washed, dried, folded and delivered. Many campers staying for 14 days will choose this so that they only have to pack for 7 days.

Parents who are picking their campers up from camp and then heading to another summer hot spot may choose to have the laundry done also. You can pick up your happy camper and have no laundry to do! If you would like your camper to come home with all their camp items washed and folded, you can also purchase the service by contacting the Camp Office or purchasing this in your account online.



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## *Camper Expectations and Policies*



### **Camp Behaviour**

Each camper must have a desire to be a part of the YLCC Family. At Youth Leadership Camps Canada, we strive to teach each camper valuable skills and leadership qualities. One of them is respect: respect for the camp, nature, yourself, and others. Please come to camp with an open mind and a willingness to learn. It will truly enhance your overall camp experience. While camp offers opportunities for close friendships and new group skills, young people can react to these changes in many different ways. At YLCC, it is our goal to provide a safe, comfortable and supportive environment. There will be zero tolerance for bullying of any kind. Please discuss appropriate behaviour expectations with your child prior to arrival. On registration day, every camper and parent must sign the YLCC Code of Conduct. Our staff are trained and experienced in providing high quality care for our campers and ensuring that the needs of each individual are met. If a situation arises where a camper threatens the safety or security of another camper, or themselves, we will make every appropriate effort to inform the parent involved, correct the behaviour and provide a positive camp experience for everyone. However, should disruptive behaviour continue, the child may be dismissed from camp at the discretion of the Camp Director. The camp will not provide a refund or be held responsible for any costs associated with a camper's dismissal.

### **Theft**

We have a zero tolerance policy for theft. If any camper is caught stealing or suspected of theft of any item from camp or a fellow camper, they will be sent home at their own expense. We reserve the right to search any camper's bag with their permission.

## **POLICIES**

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### **Tax receipt**

You can access your tax receipt online at: [ylcc.campbrainregistration.com](http://ylcc.campbrainregistration.com)

### **Session Changes**

Session changes must be requested in writing (email or mail) and are subject to availability. There is a \$25 administration fee for every session change.

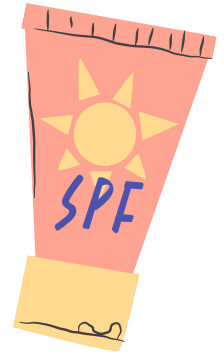
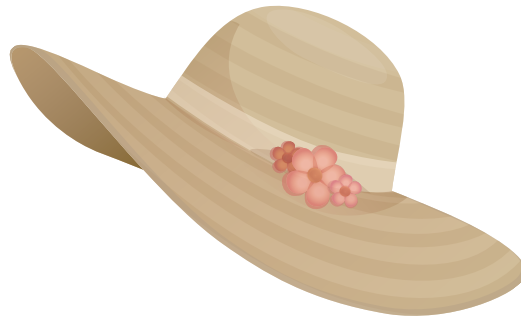
### **Other Policies**

All other camp policies can be found online at [www.ylcc.com/policies](http://www.ylcc.com/policies) or by contacting our office at [info@ylcc.com](mailto:info@ylcc.com). All of our policies are designed around the health and safety of all campers with all OCA standards put into place.



# Youth Leadership Camps Canada

## Sun Safety



We commit to making sun safety a part of our camp culture. We will:

- Ensure that all staff complete sun safety training and hold themselves as sun safety role models
- Sell broad spectrum SPF 30 sunscreen in our tuck shop
- Conduct activities in the shade during peak UV Ray hours (11 am - 3pm) when possible.
- Encourage re-application and constant sunscreen reminders and breaks throughout the day

As parents, we ask that you:

- Pack 30 SPF sunscreen or higher for all campers
- Pack Sun shirts and UPF rated clothing
- Pack wide-brimmed hats
- Talk about the importance of sun-safety and sun-safe behaviour setting at home, prior to coming to camp.





## Come to camp ready for fun & adventure!

One of the best ways to prepare for camp is to label your stuff!



Sleepaway  
& Day Camp  
label packs  
now available!

Go to the "support a fundraiser section" or  
click here!

mabel's labels

Go to [camps.mabelslabels.com](https://camps.mabelslabels.com)  
and choose our camp from the list!