



CAMP AWAKENING

THE PORRAGER

news to carry with you

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2021 HIGHLIGHTS!

As we reflect back on a second year without overnight summer camp, we cannot thank you enough for sticking by us, investing in our campers, and supporting Camp Awakening in these challenging times.

Last spring, when facing a second season without our core on-site, in-person camp programs, we worked hard to expand and improve the Camp Awakening virtual experience, as well as introduce NEW opportunities for engagement and NEW programs. Check out the following pages for all the highlights!

Now, as we look ahead to 2022, we are excited to celebrate our 40th Anniversary and finally return to the shores of Gull, Eagle and Wannamaker lakes. We hope you will join us on this next adventure!



CAMP AWAKENING CREATES FUN, SAFE, AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS WHERE YOUTH WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES CAN INCREASE INDEPENDENCE, LEARN NEW SKILLS, DEVELOP CONFIDENCE, AND MAKE LASTING FRIENDSHIPS.

COMPASS CREW OUTDOOR CLUB

All Ages | 3rd Wednesday of each month

Hosting our first meeting in March 2021, the outdoor club's goal is to build strong and positive nature connections and foster a love of the outdoors for all members of the Camp Awakening community. So far, we've learned to tie knots; baked campfire classics; shared canoe trip memories; participated in a focus group for Canadian Tire's camping division; improved our nature photography skills; and taken a virtual hike in Banff National Park. Next up: the 7 Wonders of the Natural World.

CAMP AWAKENING @ HOME

8-18 years | July 5-30, 2021

For 2021's Camp Awakening @ Home program, we opted to run 4 week-long virtual camp sessions. Campers could sign up for as many or as few weeks as they wished.

We kept the camp-in-a-box format from last summer and met online once or twice a day. The care packages contained instructions & supplies for both independent activities designed to get campers outside and active, plus crafts we completed together online. We also played games, participated in fitness classes and engaged with volunteer counsellors/guest speakers.

We had 22 camper spots filled over the 4 weeks of camp, including 5 brand-new to Camp Awakening campers.

LEADERS-IN-TRAINING

19-24 years | July 5-August 6, 2021

L.I.T stands for Leaders-in-Training. This brand-new virtual program for young adults was designed to be the perfect mixture of building leadership skills while having fun.

The L.I.T program ran twice a week for 5 weeks. The first 2 weeks were dedicated to group learning sessions and hands-on training in topics like group facilitation, program planning, and group dynamics. The next 2 weeks were spent applying their newfound knowledge as instructors in the Camp Awakening @ Home virtual program for younger campers. For the fifth week of the course, the L.I.T's participated in Cert Week. There were also weekly social hours for fun!

We had 9 L.I.Ts registered and the program was planned and facilitated by a wonderful volunteer who is also a former Camp Awakening camper.



CERT WEEK

14-24 years | August 3-6, 2021

Our goal for this week was to help campers' build their resume and expand their extra-curricular activities for post-secondary applications. We engaged community partners to deliver 100% virtual certification programs including:

- HIGH FIVE Principles of Healthy Child Development
- Food Handler Certificate
- Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (also known as WHMIS)

We are proud to report that we had a 100% success rate with 9 campers completing their HIGH FIVE course; 7 campers earning their Food Handlers certificate; and 6 participants completing their WHMIS certification.

Although Cert Week was not the most campy or dynamic week, our campers and LITs really valued the learnings!



CAMP AWAKENING IN THE CITY

In-Person with Camper Families! | August 9-20, 2021

This program was an incredible way to wrap up the summer - by actually seeing campers and their families in-person and providing them with a little bit of camp magic around the GTA.

We found two great community partners in the Disabled Sailing Association of Ontario (DSAO) and Abilities in Motion (AIM) to host several days of sailing, canoeing and kayaking for campers, siblings and parents/guardians.

Families jumped at the chance for in-person programming and Camp In The City was full almost immediately. We even had waiting lists! The program hosted 31 participants including 19 first-time sailors or paddlers.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

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S'MORE NEWS...



Virtual Winter Reunion on **Saturday, December 11th** at 2:00PM. Join us to catch up with your camp friends and learn more about plans for the return to in-person camp in 2022!



Virtual Hearts & Smarts trivia fundraiser on **Thursday, February 10th** at 8:00PM. Get your team together and play for the love of camp!



Founded in 1982, Camp Awakening will celebrate its **40th Anniversary** in 2022. Visit campawakening.com for information about events happening throughout the year, including the launch of the new online Tuck Shop!

GIVING TUESDAY

November 30, 2021



HELP KIDS RETURN TO CAMP

After Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes Giving Tuesday, a global movement to encourage everyone to give and volunteer for their favourite charities.

Camp Awakening does not receive any government funding and we rely on the generosity of individuals, organizations, and community groups - people like YOU - to make camp happen. We sincerely hope that you will choose to support Camp Awakening and help our campers with physical disabilities finally return to the shores of Gull, Eagle and Wannamaker lakes in 2022.

FOLLOW US!!! We share camp news, invites to virtual events, and so many photos.



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DONATION CARD | SECURE ON-LINE DONATION AT CAMP AWAKENING.COM

YES, I want to encourage a child with a physical disability to discover the wonders of nature, make new friends and try something new at Camp Awakening next summer.

Enclosed, please find my cheque (payable to Camp Awakening) in the amount of

\$500 \$200 \$100 Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____



We'd like to keep in touch with you to share camp news and other ways to support Camp Awakening. You may opt out at any time by calling the camp office.

Charitable Registration BN 11882 6577 RR0001. Official income tax receipts will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more.

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