



## Summer Camp Planning 2023 - Cambridge

The following is a summary of important dates and resources to help you get started with your summer planning.

1. Summer Camp Planning Workshop
2. Summer Camp Fairs
3. Support for summer camp planning from KidsAbility
4. Funding Options
5. Registration dates for local inclusive camps

### 1. Summer Camp Planning Workshop - Cambridge

This workshop is designed to give parents and service providers the information they need to plan a successful summer camp experience for children with special needs.

- Finding inclusive and specialized camps in your community
- The different types of inclusion support available and how to access them
- Funding options for camp fees and specialized supports
- Sharing information about your child
- Preparing your child for camp

This workshop was held on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Find the recording [here](#), once available.

### 2. Summer Camp Fairs – (virtual)

#### Overnight Camps in Waterloo Region, Guelph Wellington, and Beyond

This camp fair focused on overnight camps that specialize in programming for individuals with special needs as well as overnight camps that have inclusion programs that provide additional supports for campers with special needs to participate in mainstream programs.

This event was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Find the recording [here](#), once available.

#### Day Camps for Children, Aged 4-12 (Waterloo Region)

This camp fair focused on day camps in Waterloo Region that specialize in programming for children with special needs as well as those that have inclusion programs to provide additional supports for campers with special needs to participate in mainstream programs.

This event took place on Monday, January 16, 2023. Find the recording [here](#), once available.





## Camps for Teens and Adults - Waterloo Region & Guelph Wellington

**Date:** Monday, February 13, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm  
**Location:** Online via Teams  
**Register:** <https://camps-for-teens-adults.eventbrite.ca>  
**Registration Deadline:** February 13 at 9 am. Registrants will receive a Teams link the morning of the event  
**Questions:** Contact Meg Shirley at 519-886-8886 x1302 or [mshirley@kidsability.ca](mailto:mshirley@kidsability.ca)

## 3. How to receive additional support for summer camp planning

### Email Information from KidsAbility

Receive emails to assist with camp registration, funding, and support. Not currently receiving camp information emails, contact Sheryl at [sdedman@kidsability.ca](mailto:sdedman@kidsability.ca) to be added to the email list (Cambridge Sites).

### Camp Resources on KidsAbility's Website

- Camp Directory: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory>
- Camp Information: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-info> (workshop and camp fair videos are located here)

### Camp Planning Clinic

Need more help? Book a camp planning consult with a Recreation Therapist from KidsAbility. Support can be provided on one or more of the following:

- Camp options and registration processes
- Identifying funding options and support with applications
- Camper support options and how to access these supports
- Accessing adapted equipment and resources to facilitate access and participation at camp

Contact Sheryl Dedman [sdedman@kidsability.ca](mailto:sdedman@kidsability.ca) or 519-886-8886 x3260 (Cambridge and Guelph Sites)  
**Not a current KidsAbility Client? Contact intake:** 519-886-8886 or 1-888-372-2259 ext. 1214





## 4. Funding Options for Summer Camps: Disability Specific

**Autism Direct Funding (summer camp specific fund):** <https://www.sdrc.ca/applying-autism-direct-funding/>

Eligibility: Waterloo Region residents with a diagnosis of Autism ages 0-17

Will provide up to \$500 to pay for summer camp, respite support or recreation program occurring between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024. Applications will be accepted from January 1 to January 31, 2023. In the past, priority has been given to families who do not receive SSAH dollars.

**Deadline:** January 31, 2023

**Summer Camp Reimbursement Funds - Autism Ontario:** [www.autismontario.com/camp](http://www.autismontario.com/camp)

Eligibility: Diagnosis of Autism

Will cover up to \$600 per child to pay for either the cost of camp or a 1:1 support worker to attend camp with your child. You do not have to be a member of Autism Ontario to apply for funding. Selection to receive funds is random.

**Application:** Usually available in April, check the website frequently for updates

**Life Enriching Activity Fund - Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy:** [www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding/leaf](http://www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding/leaf)

Eligibility: Diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy and member of Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy (OFCP)

Will cover up to \$400 which can be used towards the cost of summer camps or Physical Support workers.

**Application:** Usually available mid January, check the website frequently for updates

**Community Services Fund - Muscular Dystrophy Canada:** <http://muscle.ca/access-help/personal-support-program/community-services-fund/>

Eligibility: Diagnosis of Muscular Dystrophy and member of Muscular Dystrophy Canada

Will cover up to \$1000 which can be used towards attendant services and fees for formal adapted recreational programs including summer camp.

**Application:** Available now

**Camp Bursary Application - Waterloo Wellington Down Syndrome Society (WWDSS):**

<https://www.wwdss.ca/programs/camp-bursary/>

Eligibility: Diagnosis of Down syndrome ages 4 - 21 and a member of WWDSS

Camp Bursaries are available to assist when the cost of sending a member to camp will be above and beyond the costs for a typical week of camp. For example, the bursary program will pay 50% of the cost of a specialized camp designed for children with special needs or will cover the cost of a support worker to attend camp with the participant. To be eligible to receive this bursary (1) Families must be a member of WWDSS for a minimum of one calendar year. (2) Families are required to complete 10 hours of volunteer work for WWDSS during the current calendar year.

**Deadline:** February 20, 2023

### Other Options:

- Special Services At Home (SSAH)
- Autism Childhood Budget





## Funding Options for Summer Camps: Income based

**Activities for Less** - City of Cambridge: <https://www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/resources/2023-Activities-for-Less-application.pdf>

Eligibility: Resident of Cambridge with financial need

Will provide up to \$300 per year per family member to be used to cover the cost of City of Cambridge run recreation programs and memberships including summer camps. Fee assistance starts from the date of approval for one full year. You must apply for funding prior to registering for camp.

**Application:** Available now

**Jumpstart:** <https://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/pages/individual-child-grants>

Eligibility: You must be between the ages of 4 - 18 with financial need

Will cover up to \$300 per activity, \$600 per year for sports or physically active camps. You must apply for funding prior to registering for camp.

**Application:** Available now

**Fee Assist** - YMCA of Three Rivers Camps (Cambridge & K-W): <https://feeassist.ca/>

Eligibility: Financial need

Will help cover registration cost of YMCA summer camps. More information and step by step instructions are available here: [https://www.ymcathreerivers.ca/camp-registration?\\_mid\\_=31861#WaterlooRegion](https://www.ymcathreerivers.ca/camp-registration?_mid_=31861#WaterlooRegion)

**Application:** Available now

**Cambridge Neighbourhood Associations** (Family Outreach Worker): <https://houseoffriendship.org/how-we-help/family-neighbourhood-supports/family-outreach-program/family-outreach-program-cambridge/>

Eligibility: You must be 17 years of age or younger with financial need

Will help cover registration cost for local recreation programs and camps.

**Application:** Contact the Family Outreach worker in your neighbourhood

### Other Options:

- **Region of Waterloo Childcare Subsidy** (some camps can accept this funding)



## 5. Registration Information for Local Inclusive Day Camps

### Camps with formal Inclusion Support programs:

**City of Cambridge** – <https://www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/Camps.aspx>

Ages: 4 – 12 (camp information will be available January 25<sup>th</sup> on the website)

Inclusion Support: 1:1, 2:1 or 3:1; Support provided for personal care.

Inclusion Questions? Contact Recreation Coordinator, Child & Youth at [camps@cambridge.ca](mailto:camps@cambridge.ca)

**Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:30 am**

### Other close by day camps with formal Inclusion Support programs you can attend:

**C.Y.O. Camp Brebeuf (Rockwood)** – <https://campbrebeuf.ca/>

Ages: 4-12 (Day Camp) & 7 – 14 (Overnight Camp)

Inclusion Support: Available for both overnight and day camps for campers born between 2013 and 2004; Support provided for personal care <https://campbrebeuf.ca/inclusion-program>

Inclusion Questions? Contact

**Registration is open**

**Camp K (Waterloo)** - [www.campk.on.ca](http://www.campk.on.ca)

Ages: 5-16 (Inclusion Program)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Email [campdirector@campk.on](mailto:campdirector@campk.on) to register for Inclusion Program prior to registering for camp

**Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Hidden Acres** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 5-12 (Day camp) 8-15 (Overnight camp)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support not provided for personal care

Inclusion Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

**Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00 am**

**City of Guelph** – <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/camps/>

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Intake form (<https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/one2one/>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Inclusion Coordinator [one2one@guelph.ca](mailto:one2one@guelph.ca) or call 519-822-1260 extension 2701

**Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>**





**City of Waterloo** - [www.waterloo.ca/en/things-to-do/camps-and-pre-school.aspx](http://www.waterloo.ca/en/things-to-do/camps-and-pre-school.aspx)

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Membership before you can apply for 1:1 support (<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229

Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup> 1st @ 8:30 am

**City of Kitchener** - <https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/summer-programs.aspx>

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Membership before you can apply for 1:1 support (<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229

Registration opens March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Rainbow Day Camp (Guelph)** - [www.rainbowdaycamp.com](http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com)

Ages: 4-10

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care

Inclusion Questions? Email [Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com) or call 519-837-0387

Registration opens March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon

**More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website:** <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory>

## Specialized day camps with lower camper to staff ratio:

**Adults In Motion** (Cambridge) - <https://adultsinmotion.org/>

Ages: Ages 16+ and adults with developmental disabilities

Questions? Email or [cambridge@adultsinmotion.org](mailto:cambridge@adultsinmotion.org) or call 519-277-3723

Registration is open

**Hidden Acres** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 5-12 (Day camp) 8-15 (Overnight camp)

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support not provided for personal care

Inclusion Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00 am

**SunBlast and Imagination Station** (City of Cambridge) - <https://www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/Camps.aspx>

Ages: 4-12

Questions? Contact Recreation Coordinator, Child & Youth at [camps@cambridge.ca](mailto:camps@cambridge.ca)

Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:30 am



**Kids On The Move & Youth on the Move** (City of Guelph) – <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/camps/>

Ages: 4-12

Inclusion Support: 1:1; Support provided for personal care. You must complete an Inclusion Intake form (<https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/one2one/>)

Inclusion Questions? Contact Inclusion Coordinator [one2one@guelph.ca](mailto:one2one@guelph.ca) or call 519-822-1260 extension 2701

**Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Beechwood Brainery Summer Camp** (Cambridge & – registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup> <https://bbrainery.ca/shape-your-future/summer-programs/>)

Ages: 4-14

Questions? Email [info@bbrainery.ca](mailto:info@bbrainery.ca) or call (519) 624-8728

**Registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup>**

**FUNdayz Camp** (Community Living Cambridge) - [www.communitylivingcambridge.ca](http://www.communitylivingcambridge.ca)

Ages: Teens and Adults with developmental disabilities

**Registration for 2023 is scheduled to open in April**

## Other close by specialized day camps with lower camper to staff ratio:

**Camp Pride Teen Camp** – [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com)

Ages: 13+

Questions? Call 519-653-4686

**Registration is open**

**Adults In Motion** (Cambridge) - <https://adultsinmotion.org/>

Who: Ages 16+ and adults with developmental disabilities

Questions? Email or [cambridge@adultsinmotion.org](mailto:cambridge@adultsinmotion.org) or call 519-277-3723

**Registration is open**

**Camp Awakening** - <https://campawakening.com/>

Ages: Ages 8-29 with physical disabilities (Overnight)

Questions? Email [info@campawakening.com](mailto:info@campawakening.com) or call 416-487-8400

**Registration is now open**

**Easter Seals Camps** – <https://www.eastersealscamps.org/programs/summer-camp-information>

Ages: 8 – 18 & 18 -26 (Overnight)

Questions? Email [camp@easterseals.org](mailto:camp@easterseals.org) or call 416-510-5094 or 1.800.668.6252 ext. 325

**Registration opens January 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Hidden Acres SEAC Camp** (Just outside New Hamburg) - [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Ages: 16-35 (Overnight camp)

Questions? Contact the camp at 519-625-8602 or [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)

**Registration opens February 1st @ 7:00 am**





**KW Gymnastics Adapted Camp** – <https://www.kwgymnastics.ca/pd-day-camp>

Questions? Contact [adaptive@kwgymnastics.ca](mailto:adaptive@kwgymnastics.ca)

Registration opens Feb 21st

**Extend-A-Family Summer Program** (Waterloo Region) - <https://www.eafwr.on.ca/programs/summer-program/>

Ages: 13+ (day camp); 15+ (overnight camp)

Questions? Contact Ben Sauder 519-741-0190 ext. 290 or [ben.sauder@eafwr.on.ca](mailto:ben.sauder@eafwr.on.ca)

Registration begins on My Community Hub on March 1<sup>st</sup>

**Sunbeam Centre MFTD Camp** (Sunbeam Community and Developmental Services) - [www.sdrc.ca/](http://www.sdrc.ca/)

Ages: 4-18 who are medically fragile or technologically depended, and aged 18+

Sunbeam Summer fun Days (Sunbeam Community and Developmental Services) - [www.sdrc.ca/](http://www.sdrc.ca/)

Ages: 18+

Question? Nicole Tailby at 519-893-6200 x 1234 or Email [programbookings@sunbeamcommunity.ca](mailto:programbookings@sunbeamcommunity.ca)

registration opens March 1 [www.mycommunityhub.ca](http://www.mycommunityhub.ca)

Registration opens March 1<sup>st</sup>, via [www.mycommunityhub.ca](http://www.mycommunityhub.ca)

**Independent Teen camp for teens, Rainbow Day Camp** - <http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com/teen-camp>

Ages: 13-18 – 3:1 ratio

Questions? Email [Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:Rainbowdaycamp@gmail.com) or call 519-837-0387

Registration opens March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon

**Youth on the Move & Kids on the Move for Children** (City of Guelph) –

<https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/camps/>

Ages: 4-12 & 14 - 21

Questions? Contact Inclusion Coordinator [one2one@guelph.ca](mailto:one2one@guelph.ca) or call 519-822-1260 extension 2701

Registration opens March 8<sup>th</sup>

**About Youth and Youth Sense** (City of Kitchener) - <https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/summer-programs.aspx>

Ages: 11-14, 13-17

Questions? Contact Olivia at 519-741-2200 ext. 7229. Inclusion Membership required before you register

(<https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/inclusion-support.aspx>)

Registration opens March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Youth Exploring Possibilities** (Kitchener) - <https://www.kwhab.ca/services/youth-exploring-possibilities-yep/>

Ages: Ages 13-21 who meet eligibility for Developmental Services

Questions? Email [jdelhorbe@kwhab.ca](mailto:jdelhorbe@kwhab.ca) or call 519-744-6307

Registration typically opens in late April/May

**Specialized camp for children with Autism** (Kerry's Place) – <https://www.kerrysplace.org/camp-options/>

Registration opens March

More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website:

<https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory>





## Camps with an Inclusive Philosophy

**YMCA of Three Rivers** (Cambridge) – <https://www.ymcathreerivers.ca/camp-and-outdoor-centre>

Ages: 4 – 12

Questions? Email [camp@ytr.ymca.ca](mailto:camp@ytr.ymca.ca) or call 519-699-5100

Registration now open

**YWCA Summer Camps at Shade's Mills** (Cambridge) – <https://www.ywcacambridge.ca/summer-camps/>

Ages: 4 – 14

Questions? Email [camp@ywcacambridge.ca](mailto:camp@ywcacambridge.ca) or call 226.220.6285

Registration opens February 1<sup>st</sup>

**Cambridge Neighbourhood Associations** (Alison, Fiddlesticks, Greenway-Chaplin, Kinbridge, Silverheights, Langs, Preston and Hespeler Village) - <https://cambridgeneighbourhoods.ca/>

## Other close by Camps with an Inclusive Philosophy

**Camp Pride** (Kitchener) – [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com)

Ages: 6-12

Questions? Call 519-653-4686

Registration is open

**Engineering Science Quest (ESQ)** (Waterloo) - <https://uwaterloo.ca/engineering-science-quest/parents/summer-camps>

Ages: Grades 2 - 9

Questions? Email [esqinfo@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:esqinfo@uwaterloo.ca) or call 519-888-4856

Registration opens late February/Early March

**Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre** (Puslinch) – <https://sunrise-therapeutic.ca/portfolio/summer-camp/>

Ages: 4 – 16; campers with a diagnosis/special need can attend from 13 – 21 years of age

Questions? Email [info@sunrise-therapeutic.ca](mailto:info@sunrise-therapeutic.ca) or call (519) 837-0558

Registration date is unknown

**Bulldog For Kids** (Guelph) – <https://www.guelphbulldog.com/summer>

Ages: 3 – 13

Questions? Call 519-836-3838

Registration opens Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>

More Day and Overnight options are available on KidsAbility's website: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-directory>

We will do our best to share the information we do know, as well as any changes or updates as they become available.