



## Summer Camp Planning 2021 – Kitchener Waterloo Important Dates and Events

We know it is difficult to think about summer plans with so many unknowns at this time. However, many municipal and other qualified camp programs will continue to run as they are considered essential childcare. We will do our best to share the information we do know, as well as any changes or updates as they become available

The following is a summary of important dates and resources to help you get started with your summer planning. If you have any questions, please reach out to your recreation therapist (contact below). We are always happy to answer your questions and/or meet with you to support your summer camp planning!

1. Summer Camp Planning Virtual Workshop – **February 2; Registration now open**
2. Summer Camp Fairs (virtual) – **February 8, February 22, February 24**
3. Receive additional support from a recreation therapist
4. Important dates for 2021
5. Fee Assistance programs for summer camps
6. Registration dates for local inclusive camps

### Summer Camp Planning Virtual Workshop – Feb 2, 2021

Thinking about a summer camp for your child? Do you want to learn about what camps would be the right fit for your child? Are there supports and funding that you can access to help make your child's experience a success? Do you have questions about attending camp during COVID?

In this free parent workshop, you will learn about:

- City of Kitchener and City of Waterloo summer camps
- How to find inclusive and specialized camps in your community
- How to access one to one supports such as volunteers or trained workers
- Funding for camp fees and specialized supports
- How to share information about your child to promote their success

This workshop is intended for families who have children with disabilities as well as service providers, and is presented by Nadine McNeelands, City of Kitchener and Meg Shirley, KidsAbility Recreation Therapist.

Please join us for this live workshop over zoom. A Zoom link will be emailed the morning of the workshop.

**Date:** February 2, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 - 8:30 pm

**Register:** <https://summercampplanningkw.eventbrite.ca>

**Registration Deadline:** February 1, 2021





## Summer Camp Fairs (virtual)

Are you looking for the right summer camp program for your loved one? This year KidsAbility and the Waterloo Region Family Network are partnering to host a series of virtual camp fairs. Join us via Zoom to learn about camp options and have your questions answered by the camp directors themselves!

**Focus:** Overnight Camps - Waterloo Region and beyond

**Date:** Monday, February 8, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30 pm

**Focus:** Day Camps - Waterloo Region for campers ages 4-12

**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm

**Focus:** Day Camp programs for teens and young adults

**Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm

**Cost:** Free

**Who:** Everyone is welcome

**Registration:** Registration will be available at [www.kidsability.ca/calendar](http://www.kidsability.ca/calendar). Registrants will receive a zoom link via email the morning of the event.

**Questions:** Contact Sue Furey, Waterloo Region Family Network [sue.furey@wrfn.info](mailto:sue.furey@wrfn.info) or 519-886-9150 ext. 4

## Receive additional support from a Recreation Therapist

Families on our Summer Camp Planning list will receive emails with additional information to assist with registration, funding, and inclusion supports. To have your name added to this list, please contact Meg at [mshirley@kidsability.ca](mailto:mshirley@kidsability.ca) or 519-886-8886 x1302 (Kitchener and Waterloo Sites).

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

- Recreation program options
- Navigating community recreation services
- Funding applications
- Community support options and how to access these support
- Adapted equipment to facilitate recreation participation

Contact Meg Shirley [mshirley@kidsability.ca](mailto:mshirley@kidsability.ca) or 519-886-8886 x1302 (Kitchener and Waterloo Sites)





## Important dates for 2021

**January 4th to January 31<sup>st</sup>** – Autism Direct Funding Program applications accepted (see info below)

**February 1** – YMCA Day Camps registration opens (Inclusion Facilitators will be available to provide additional supports to campers this summer)

**February**- Families interested in the Inclusion Support programs for City of Kitchener and City of Waterloo summer camps are encouraged to complete their Inclusion Memberships before camp registration opens in March. Visit [www.kitchener.ca/leisuresupport](http://www.kitchener.ca/leisuresupport) for more information

**February** – Families interested in using Leisure Access funds for City of Kitchener or City of Waterloo camps are encouraged to complete this application (if necessary) before camp registration opens in March

**Monday March 1** – KidsAbility Summer Camp registration opens for most programs

**Monday March 8** – City of Kitchener Summer Camp and Inclusion Program registration opens

**Tuesday March 9** – Township of Woolwich Summer Camp registration opens

**Wednesday March 24** – City of Waterloo Summer Camp and Inclusion Program registration opens

## Fee Assistance programs for summer camps

**Leisure Access Card** (Kitchener residents): [www.kitchener.ca/feeassistance](http://www.kitchener.ca/feeassistance)

**Leisure Access Card** (Waterloo residents): [www.waterloo.ca/feeassistance](http://www.waterloo.ca/feeassistance)

**Fee Assist** (YMCA Camps Cambridge and KW): [www.feeassist.ca](http://www.feeassist.ca)

**House of Friendship Summer Camp Sponsorship:** <https://www.houseoffriendship.org/how-we-help/family-neighbourhood-supports/>

Eligibility: You must be 17 years of age or younger living with low income in Waterloo Region  
These funds are distributed through the Family Outreach program. To connect with a Family Outreach Worker, call 519-742-8327 x240 or email [info@familyoutreach.ca](mailto:info@familyoutreach.ca) with your address, or complete the online form available on the website listed above.

**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  
Funding for summer camp, respite support & leisure activities occurring between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022. Applications will be accepted from January 4<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. Funding is Priority in the past has been given to families who do not receive SSAH dollars.





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

Eligibility: Diagnosis of Autism

Will cover up to \$350 per child to pay for either the cost of camp or a 1:1 support worker to attend camp with your child. The application is typically available on their website beginning in April, however last year the application window was in June. Check their website frequently for updates.

## **Jumpstart** (families with low income): <https://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/>

Families with children ages 4 – 18 in financial need registering for a weekly activity or physically active camp may apply for up to \$300. (50% of camp programming must be physically active to qualify)

## **OFCP LEAF** (for OFCP members with cerebral palsy): [www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding](http://www.ofcp.ca/programs/funding)

Members of the Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy (OFCP) will be able to apply for LEAF funding (Life Enriching Activity Fund) for up to \$500 which can be used towards the cost of summer camps or Physical Support workers.

## **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.

### **Other Options:**

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

## **Registration Dates for Local Inclusive Camps**

- Camp Pride – Open now [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com)
- YWCA Cambridge - Feb 1<sup>st</sup> <http://www.ywcacambridge.ca/programs/summer-camps>
- YMCA Day Camp Registration opens <https://www.ymcacambridgekw.ca/en/camp-outdoor-centre/summer-day-camps.asp> (\*\*NEW Inclusion Facilitator support available for 2021)
- City of Cambridge (includes Sunblast camp) March 1<sup>st</sup> [www.cambridge.ca/camps](http://www.cambridge.ca/camps)
- KidsAbility Camps (formerly Firefly) March 1<sup>st</sup> [www.kidsability.ca](http://www.kidsability.ca)
- City of Kitchener March 8<sup>th</sup> [www.kitchener.ca/camps](http://www.kitchener.ca/camps)
- Woolwich Township Camps March 9<sup>th</sup> [www.woolwich.ca](http://www.woolwich.ca)
- City of Waterloo March 24<sup>th</sup> [www.waterloo.ca](http://www.waterloo.ca)
- Camp Kummoniwannago March 1<sup>st</sup> [www.campk.on.ca](http://www.campk.on.ca)

### **The following camps have not announced registration details for summer 2021:**

- ESQ [www.uwaterloo.ca/engineering-science-quest](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/engineering-science-quest)
- Carousel Dance Centre [www.carouseldancecentre.ca](http://www.carouseldancecentre.ca)
- Arts Abound [www.artsabound.ca](http://www.artsabound.ca)





**The following camps will not run in 2021:**

- Arts Express – [www.wlu.ca](http://www.wlu.ca)
- Movin' and Groovin'

**Teen and Young Adult Summer Programs:**

- YOUTH Sense (ages 11-14) and All About YOUTH (Ages 13-17), City of Kitchener - Registration Opens March 8th [www.kitchener.ca/activenet](http://www.kitchener.ca/activenet) or [www.kitchener.ca/camps](http://www.kitchener.ca/camps)
- Extend-A-Family – no information available yet [www.eafwr.on.ca/programs/summer-program/](http://www.eafwr.on.ca/programs/summer-program/)
- Lighthouse Programs [www.lighthouseprograms.com](http://www.lighthouseprograms.com)
- AIM [www.adultsinmotion.org](http://www.adultsinmotion.org) Registration open now (ages 16+, 5:1 ratio)
- Youth Exploring Possibilities [www.kwhab.ca](http://www.kwhab.ca) (ages 13-21)
- Aldaview Services [www.tcmhomes.com](http://www.tcmhomes.com)
- Sunbeam Centre [www.sunbeamcommunity.ca](http://www.sunbeamcommunity.ca)
- Hidden Acres [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)
- Fun Dayz [www.communitylivingcambridge.ca](http://www.communitylivingcambridge.ca)
- Kerry's Place [www.kerrysplace.org](http://www.kerrysplace.org)
- KidsAbility [www.kidsability.ca](http://www.kidsability.ca)
- Carousel Dance Centre [www.carouseldancecentre.ca](http://www.carouseldancecentre.ca)
- Our Studio 519-501-6747 [info@ourstudiokw.com](mailto:info@ourstudiokw.com)



# Therapeutic Recreation



Information prepared by:

Meg Shirley, Recreation Therapist

[mshirley@kidsability.ca](mailto:mshirley@kidsability.ca)

519-886-8886 x1302

