



OCAsional News

The Newsletter of the Ontario Camping Association

May 2001

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What makes camp different?

by Michael Brandwein

People who have attended or worked at a camp know that it is a very special place. Powerful and positive things happen in the camp environment that don't happen anywhere else. The camp community and culture produce changes in people that are unique and long-lasting. It would be hard to make a complete list of all of the factors that make camp different. Here are five examples to start us off:

One: Camp leads the way in using the best methods to help children learn & grow

Camp is a lot more than "something fun for the kids to do when they are out of school." Actually, camps are outstanding places for children to learn and grow. Why? For over 125 years, camps have been the leader in using the number one key secret to teaching: children learn most from doing. They learn most from hands-on discovery and practice, especially in small groups. The fancy name for this is "experiential" learning. When children are actively involved in high-participation activities, they not only learn much more, but their levels of attention, enjoyment, and motivation really blast off.

In fact, camp is such a terrific community for learning that schools are now following the lead of camps as they look for ways to reach students. Parents have surely noticed that their children are spending much more time in school now working with "manipulatives" (hands-on materials to learn concepts) and "real-world" situations. Kids do stuff like that at camp every five minutes.

Two: Camp communities remove the typical pressures from school and support children in a positive atmosphere that cherishes effort and persistence

One fast way to explain the incredible power of camping is in two words: "no grades." It is amazing how children blossom when the burdens of constant evaluation and a "permanent record" are taken off their backs. Achievement is rewarded at camp just like it is at school. But what

See *What makes camp different?*, continued on page 8

Peanut-free manufacturing finished at Nestlé

Toronto, ON - As a responsible measure, Nestlé Canada is advising consumers with peanut/nut allergies that Nestlé Smarties, Aero, Kit Kat, Coffee Crisp, and Mirage will no longer be manufactured in a peanut/nut-free environment, effective January 1, 2002. To ensure the safety of Canadians with peanut/nut allergies, Nestlé Canada is introducing a peanut/nut allergy alert on packaging labels of Nestlé Smarties, Aero, Kit Kat, Coffee Crisp, and Mirage chocolate products over the next eight months.

"We know this business decision impacts an estimated 1.5 per cent of Canadians who have peanut/nut allergies and regret the disappointment this causes, especially for children," said Kathryn Rowan, Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Nestlé Canada. "To ensure our consumers with peanut/nut allergies are sensitized, we're making every effort to inform them eight months in advance of the change in January 2002."

In response to growing consumer demand for peanut/nut

See Nestlé, continued on page 7

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Van rollover risk | 6 |
| Conference Corner | 9 |
| Waterworks update | 10 |

in this issue

The official newsletter of the Ontario Camping Association, the *OCA*sional News is published monthly from October to June of each year. The newsletter helps to keep the OCA membership informed about developments both in and out of the Association pertaining to children's, youth, and special needs camping.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Ontario Camping Association.

Queries regarding submissions and letters to the editor are welcome. Please direct correspondence to:

*OCA*sional News
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The view from here

As summer approaches and we look forward to creating many days and nights of memories for our campers and staff, I think it is worth reminding ourselves who we are and how we got here.

There are over 500 camps in Ontario. Nearly 300 of them are members of our Association. As we are all aware, each of our camps must go through a two-year probation process and, depending on the extent of programs offered, commit to implementing up to 400 standards.

As accredited members of the OCA, we can make parents and the public aware of these facts. It indicates to all who are interested our commitment to children. The camp Standards Visits began in the 60s. Since that time, the Standards have been frequently revised and expanded to the point where the Board recently approved a proposal that the Standards Review Committee be permanent and revisions will be made on an ongoing basis.

How can we as individual camps help to make our camp families and the public more aware that the OCA logo (pictured here) is "The Sign of a Good Camp?" We can be sure to display the new Accredited Camp signs at our camps and in our



camp offices. If you would like additional signs, they are available in two sizes: the 13" x 21" sign is suitable for outdoor use, and the 7 1/2" x 10" sign is best for offices.

Your camp worked hard to earn membership in the OCA. And though membership has its privileges, it comes with responsibilities too. And one of them is to make the public aware of our commitment to their children.

Board Bulletins

At the April 23 Board meeting, the OCA Board:

1) Approved Robin Squires as the 2002 Conference Chair. Robin made a presentation to the Board. He has a Steering Committee pretty well in place and they are consulting OCA members regarding their needs and requests for our next conference (see Robin's Conference Corner column in this newsletter). We wish him all the best in this challenging endeavour.

2) Empowered the Executive Committee to create a WEBSITE COMMITTEE which will become a permanent part of the OCA structure.

3) Approved a proposal by MET-COM COMMUNICATIONS to offer a special price package to OCA camps and camp staff for long distance charges.

Ontario Camp Leadership Workshop



Thursday, May 31st to Sunday, June 3rd, 2001

YMCA Camp PineCrest in the Muskokas

For more info please contact

1 877 418 - OCLW (6259)

www.oclw.ca

4) Approved a proposal to have draft forms for complaints (camp/parent, camp/staff, camp/camp, commercial member/camp) to all members before the end of June.

5) Suggests that all members seriously consider the suggestion by the WATERWORKS COMMITTEE to install a meter to measure actual daily consumption. (See article on page 10 of this newsletter).

6) Accepted the resignation of Cathy Smart as Special Needs Resource Committee Chair, and thanked her for her significant contribution in making our Association more aware and inclusive of children who have special needs.

7) Confirmed Sari Gorssinger (Camp Robin Hood) and Lyssa Caine (Camp Joshua) as the new Co-chairs of the Special Needs Resource Committee.

8) Approved the Provisional Status of six new camps for the summer – we are almost at 300 now. Special thanks to Kim Mitchell (OCA office) and Polly Hodgetts (Camp Hurontario) for their fine efforts.

9) Noted that Catherine Ross's Standards Committee has arranged over 80 Standards Visits this summer. Thanks to our many volunteer Visitors - you make it happen!

by Brian Blackstock
OCA President

From minutes of a meeting of the OCA Executive, February 1, 1943:

1. Membership: Miss Govan asked the Executive if there might be a ruling made concerning the five-dollar and three-dollar membership fee, since some camp directors were paying only three dollars rather than the five-dollar fee. This matter was discussed, and Mr. Ward moved that the initial membership from any camp organization be five dollars, and all other secondary memberships be three dollars; this was seconded by Mr. Cochrane; carried.

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Our Standards Philosophy

by Barb Gilbert, OCA Standards Committee

There are three important philosophical themes underlying the OCA Standards Program.

The first one is that the Standards in our Guidelines for Accreditation are best camping practices as agreed to by OCA members. Although the OCA was started in 1933, it wasn't until 1965 that the Standards Program and Accreditation were introduced. The document, called "A Study of Camping Practices," listed the best camping practices as determined by the membership of the OCA. The Guidelines for Accreditation are the 1991 version of that document with some subsequent updates.

Although we have some standards in areas where there are government regulations, our standards are frequently higher. We also include sections that are not covered by government regulations. But the Standards Program and Accreditation are not imposed by any government or external body. Professional camp directors, all OCA members, determine these "best camping practices." Indeed our Standards have been recognized by the Ontario Government and accepted as expert testimony in at least one coroner's inquest.

The second principle follows from the first. It is voluntary compliance. One reason that camps join OCA is because the camp directors recognize the impor-

tance of health and safety and believe in the value of high standards. But we are not a licensing body. When you, the camp director, sign your name on the annual camp membership renewal form and at the bottom of the page at every Standards Visit, you are taking the responsibility of ensuring that the Standards are met at your camp. You have voluntarily agreed to join OCA, as membership is not a requirement in order to run a camp.

When you join, you agree to uphold OCA standards at your camp every day, every year, not just on the day of your Standards Visit. This is voluntary compliance.

The third principle follows again. We send a visitor, not an inspector. We send a fellow camping professional so that both visitor and visatee can review the camp's operation by going through the Guidelines for Accreditation. This philosophy views the Standards Program as a professional development tool that camp directors should use to review and improve their own operation and procedures. Visitors often find that it is an educational experience for them as well.

OCA's philosophy on Standards and Accreditation can be summed up in this statement: Voluntary compliance with mutually agreed upon high standards supported by a visit from a fellow camping professional.

Don't forget about these OCA Training Opportunities!

Camp Health Care Workshop

Saturday, May 26, 2001
Seneca College - King Campus

featuring **Dr. Milton Gold**
Paediatric Allergist,
Hospital for Sick Children

A one-day workshop for camp health care staff, camp directors, senior staff and other interested persons.

The workshop offers valuable current health information, suggestions for the management of camp health programs and an opportunity to network with experienced health care staff and to renew acquaintances.

Spring Training

Saturday, May 26, 2001
Seneca College - King Campus

This fun and exciting day-long training event will help your counsellors and senior staff develop skills in areas such as:

- Camp Craft
- Drama
- Group Games
- Back Pocket Games
- Camp-Wide & Outdoor Programming
- Counselling Skills
- Program Adaptation
- Dealing with Home Sickness
- Interpersonal Camper Skills

Skills Weekend

June 8-10, 2001
Camp Northland - B'nai Brith

Streams offered this year include:

- Wilderness First Aid Certification
- Theatre/Drama and Music
- Eco and Enviro Education
- ORCA Canoeing Certification
- Trust, Initiatives and Ropes
- Kayaking
- Program Potpourri
- Leadership
- Crafts & Culture
- Outtripping

Check the OCA web site for more information!

Is your staff in the know?

by Catherine Ross,
Standards
Committee Chair

Whether or not this is your summer for re-accreditation, every director needs to reread the Guidelines for Accreditation and review their entire operation with respect to OCA Standards before the beginning of the season.

However, it is not enough for just the director to be familiar with standards.

Get your staff involved. As part of pre-camp training, copy sections of the Standards and distribute the relevant pages to your staff in each area. Schedule time for all staff (activity heads, outtrip leaders, health care staff, kitchen personnel, maintenance workers, etc.) to complete a standards review of their own activity or area of responsibility.

Acquainting your staff with the Guidelines for Accreditation will encourage them to accept ownership and to adhere willingly to the Standards. They will learn that these are not just your rules and regulations, but requirements that apply to all accredited camps across the province. Your camp and campers will benefit from such an informed staff.

During the summer, educate your junior leaders or counsellors-in-training in a similar manner. Divide the group in twos. Give each pair a clipboard and a section from the Standards booklet. Appoint them as "Standards Visitors" for the day. Instruct them to observe carefully, ask questions and gather the relevant information. Following their tour of camp, discuss what they have learned, the importance of the accreditation program and the need for their participation in maintaining the standards. The more leaders who know and live by the Standards, the safer your operation will be.

Sexual Abuse Insurance

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The 12th Annual Project Rainbow Conference

A day aimed at providing camp staff with practical skills and current information for a successful summer of inclusive camping.

June 14th, 2001 Humber College

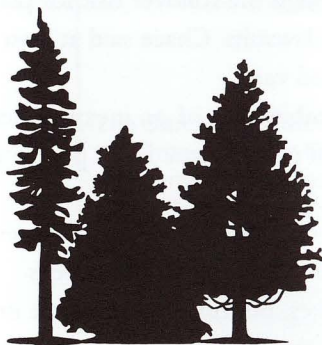
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- ★ Day Camp Adventures
- ★ Seeing Beyond Visual Impairments
- Autism (I & II) ★
- Sign Away ★
- Understanding Epilepsy ★
- Swim for All! ★

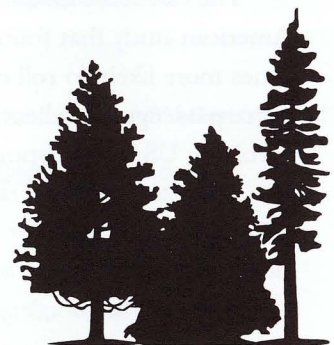
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US issues safety warning on rollover risk in passenger vans

Canadian Press, April 10, 2001 (reprinted with permission)

WASHINGTON (AP-CP) – The US government warned that 15-passenger vans – like those used to shuttle sports teams, church groups and airport passengers – have a dramatically higher risk of rollover when fully loaded.

The US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) also advised that the vans, often driven by university students or volunteers in church and civic organizations, should only be operated by experienced drivers.

The American warning follows an accident in Canada last July, when a Ford Club van carrying commuters from Toronto to Montreal crashed on Highway 401, killing five people and injuring 10 others.

Driver Baljit Singh Bajwa, 18, is scheduled to appear in court this coming June to face charges relating to the deaths.

The van driven by Bajwa was cited by the US highway administration as one of the models that consumers should be cautious about.

But an official with Transport Canada said consumers should not jump to conclusions about the Highway 401 crash.

“We have not seen a trend of rollovers,” with 15-passenger vans in Canada, said Lars Eif, chief of defects investigation and recall.

“At this point in time, the Highway 401 rollover is the only one that (Transport Canada) has known of in a decade.”

The rare US consumer advisory was prompted by an American study that found 15-passenger vans are three times more likely to roll over when loaded with 10 or more passengers, and comes after several fatal accidents involving US college sports teams.

A spokesman for Transport Canada said the department is not investigating the issue in Canada and will not be putting out a similar advisory.

South of the border, four members of the Prairie

View A&M University track team were killed and seven others were seriously injured when their van rolled over on the way to a meet last year. Other serious rollover accidents last year involved the Wisconsin-Oshkosh swim team, DePaul’s women’s track team and the Kenyon College swim team.

NHTSA found that when fully loaded, the vans’ centre of gravity shifts up and to the back, increasing the risk of rollovers, especially in emergency manoeuvres.

“You have a vehicle that behaves entirely differently than when they are lightly loaded,” NHTSA spokesman Rae Tyson said. “There is nothing inherently wrong with these vehicles as long as you understand those characteristics and take that into account.”

The NHTSA identified a number of 15-passenger models, although its list may not include all models: Ford Econoline E350, Ford Club Wagon E350, Chevrolet Express 3500, GMC Savana G3500, GMC Rally/Vandura G3500, Dodge Ram Van/Wagon B3500 and Dodge Ram Wagon B350.

Officials from General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler AG agreed that van drivers need to be especially cautious. Ford, which makes the top-selling Econoline, warns drivers in its owner’s manual to avoid sharp turns, excessive speed and abrupt manoeuvres, but the other two manufacturers do not.

There are at least half a million of the vans on the road, according to Milton Chace, an Ann Arbor, Mich., engineer who has researched the rollover risk for plaintiffs’ attorneys in several lawsuits. Chace said at least half the lawsuits involve rented vans.

“You have a bad combination of an inexperienced driver who is going to fill it with close to 15 people and luggage,” Chace said.

Anyone carrying 16 or more people for commercial purposes is required to have a commercial driver’s licence in the United States, but no special licence or experience is required in the US for the 15-passenger vans.

US federal law bans the purchase of 15-passenger vans for schools, but there is no such ban for colleges.

NHTSA had no estimate on the number of 15-person vans currently in operation, but the vehicles are available at many rental agencies.

Peace Of Mind Camp Insurance

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Nestlé bars no longer
peanut-free,
continued from page 1

chocolate products, Nestlé
Canada made the difficult
business decision to forgo its
peanut/nut-free manufactur-
ing environment. This change
gives the company flexibility

to effectively meet growing consumer demand for
peanut/nut chocolate products, and, as a result, strengthens
the position of its Canadian chocolate factory along with its
500 employees. Segregating a peanut/nut-free section of the
Canadian factory was considered, but was not possible, as it
would not meet the company's standards for a peanut/nut-
free manufacturing environment.

To ensure the safety of consumers, Nestlé Canada is
making every effort to inform Canadians with peanut/nut
allergies, along with their friends and families, eight months
in advance of the change in January 2002. To this end, the
company is directly advising: members of the Anaphylaxis
Network of Canada, Allergy Asthma Information Associa-
tion, Association Québécoise des Allergies Alimentaires,
Medic Alert, and the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clini-
cal Immunology Schools across the country - public, sepa-
rate and private, general/family physicians and pediatricians
across the country

"We'd like to thank the Anaphylaxis Network of Canada
and the Allergy Asthma Information Association for their
invaluable input and advice on how to reach Canadians with
peanut/nut allergies," added Kathryn Rowan. "We strongly
recommend that Canadians with peanut/nut allergies join an
allergy association and carefully read food labels to stay
informed of manufacturing changes."

For further information, consumers can visit www.nestle.ca or call Nestlé Canada's toll-free telephone number at
1-800-387-4636.



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|-----------|---------------|
| May 17-21 | Ottawa Area |
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Ropes Course Skills Update

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| June 1-3 | Hamilton Area |
|----------|---------------|

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| | |
|-----------|---------------|
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|-----------|---------------|

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| | |
|---------|--------------|
| June 16 | Peterborough |
|---------|--------------|

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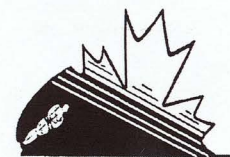
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What makes camp different?,
continued from page 1

even if they don't succeed right away. In this less pressured atmosphere, children learn more readily what positive things to say and do when they make mistakes or face challenges. At camp, children learn to be persistent and positive. These values build stronger children.

Three: Camp has distinctive value in preparing children for future success

How do we prepare children for life in a modern world? Key current buzzwords in the workplace are "teamwork" and "greater responsibility for independent problem-solving." There are higher expectations for employees to get along with others and to think for themselves. Again, camp has been leading the way by creating communities where kids make daily decisions about activities. They are put into situations every hour where how they act and meet their responsibilities will affect everyone else in their groups.

It's important to teach our children to get along with others, especially in an increasingly diverse world. Camps make a unique contribution here. Camps are communities where children are put into groups with many children that they may not know. This is often not true at school, for example, where children may move from grade to grade with many children from prior classes who may live on the very same block or not much farther. Campers may have a special friend or two in their group, but at most camps the group

makes camp a special community is its focus on celebrating effort. It provides recognition when children try their best

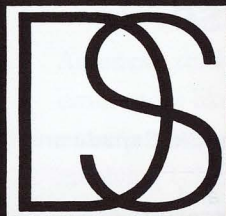
assignments encourage building new relationships and provide lots of practice in cooperation and compromise.

Four: Camp offers an unequalled variety of opportunities to develop well-rounded children

Camps cut like a laser through the negative expectations and beliefs that can stick to children and hold them back.

Each year of a child's life, he or she collects more "I can't's" than "I cans." It is, I believe, a tragedy that children often "decide" what they are "good at" and "not good at" when they very young. These early, limiting self-assessments may last through adulthood. When children get more recognition for abilities in, for example, math and athletics than they get for reading and music, then their choice of future activities and how they spend their time will naturally tend to gravitate toward areas in which they have had the greatest success in the past. This is why many of us as college students took some interesting classes "pass/fail" - we wanted to learn without worrying about getting a bad grade and ruining our record.

Like most parents, I want my children to be "well-rounded." One of the big reasons my wife and I have sent our children to camps is because they encourage dabbling. Children can participate in, learn about, and enjoy a wide variety of activities without any need to be an expert in all of them. Camps offer a fantastic variety of different opportunities throughout every day. I cannot identify any other institution that comes even close to the range of recreational, dramatic, musical, artistic, environmental, and other interest areas that are offered to boys and girls at camp.



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Five: Camp combats youth isolation by offering positive and accepting communities

There has been a lot of recent media attention about the isolation of many young people. Camp is about belonging - belonging to a group that respects and values each member. The traditions and customs of each different camp are like a secret code that allows those who know it to feel embraced by something unique and very special. Adult camp alumni often return many years later to camp still thrilled by the "inside knowledge" of camp legends and rituals that continue to inspire loyalty and a sense of connection.

Camp is, at its core, about learning how to make positive connections. The directors and staff of camps work hard to create a community that is enormously positive and accepting. Campers are urged to include, not exclude, others. They

Conference Corner

by Robin Squires,
RKY Camp

Hello, everyone! I know you're all busy getting ready for the camp season, but the OCA Conference 2002 is JUST AROUND THE CORNER! Okay, maybe it's not.

But planning has already begun, believe it or not. Our Conference Steering Committee is already meeting, and the Conference Program Committee will begin meeting any day now.

We'd like to involve ALL OF YOU in the planning. If you have an idea for the conference - a speaker, a session, a game we can play at a meal, an exhibitor, or anything else that you think we should know when we're planning this, please let us know. And if you're one of those who can't seem to get enough on their plate (like me), and you'd like to get involved on a committee to plan a part of the Conference, please let us know that, too. You can contact the Steering Committee through my email address: rkycamp@kingston.net, or through the OCA office.

We'll be putting this update in the *OCA News* regularly to keep you posted on important developments - please keep in touch with us to let us know what you think! For now, the details as we know them so far:

DATE: February 14-16, 2002

LOCATION: We're going back to the Sheraton Parkway - Toronto North Hotel (insert crowds cheering) for the conference next year. We simply could not beat their convenience or cost for this event. We looked at downtown hotels and found either that costs were prohibitive, space did not meet our needs, or the hotels simply were not interested in a conference of our size. Rest assured though, we'll be arranging ways of getting people from out of town/province/country downtown for entertainment and

are praised for choosing new partners and not always the same ones. They are encouraged to respect the differences between people. In an increasingly sarcastic, put-down-oriented world, camps aim to be an oasis of personal safety where demeaning comments and disrespectful behavior are not tolerated and children are taught responsible and positive ways to resolve conflicts.

Michael Brandwein is a speaker, educator and author. He has done presentations in 48 states, most provinces, and on 5 continents. He has keynoted for the American, Canadian, and Ontario Camping Associations, and received two national honours from the ACA for his training of directors and staff. He is the author of a best-selling staff training book, Training Terrific Staff. Michael has written and presented three Emmy Award-winning programs for public television on communicating with children. He lives in the Chicago area.

evening programs...and arranging transportation to and from TTC for delegates on the Saturday.

FORMAT: Lots is still being worked out, but you can expect the return of the Camp Sub-Class Kindred Day, the Saturday for seasonal and seasoned camp staff and two full days of themed educational sessions on current and future issues for camping.

Watch for more information in future issues.

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Waterworks legislation update

The accompanying information was sent to us by Lisa and Bruce Wilson of Camp Oconto. Along with Cliff Labbett, they have spent many hours on behalf of the OCA trying to determine where our camps stand with regard to the Waterworks matter. It appears that the situation may be more easily resolved than had first been anticipated.

Most OCA camps will fit into the Small Seasonal Waterworks category. Check with your local Ministry of the Environment office to verify this and that you are interpreting the information correctly.

If your system is Small Seasonal you have to:

A: Obtain a Permit to Take Water if your water source system was constructed after March 1961. These permits are available from your local Ministry of the Environment office.

B: Determine if your water system requires licensing:

1.2.1 Drinking Water System is Exempt:

- Any drinking water treatment system which is not capable of supplying more than 50,000 L of water per day.
- Any water treatment supplying water that is not for human consumption.
- Any drinking water treatment system which supplies water to less than six private residences (water supplied to customers of a resort or campground are not considered private residences).

If any of the above conditions are met the drinking water system is EXEMPT and does not require licensed

operators. These drinking water systems also do not require operators to complete a training course.

1.2.2 Training Required:

• Drinking water systems which have an average design capacity (capable of pumping) between 50,000 - 200,000 L/day may not require licensed operators. To be eligible for the partial exemption a camp must meet ALL of the following conditions:

- a) The average daily design flow is less than 200,000 litres per day.
- b) The camp is not open for a total of one month per year (this can be two weeks in the Spring and two weeks in the Fall)
- c) The water system does not use any advanced treatment methods to clean the water. This includes sand filtration and chemical addition. Disinfection (chlorination, ozonation or ultra violet light), water softeners, filters placed on taps and disposable cartridge filters are NOT considered advanced treatment.
- d) The drinking water source is considered excellent. This means that there has not been a problem with the water in the past. This includes the quality of the raw water, or the quality of the final drinking water.

Operators of camps with drinking water systems which REQUIRE TRAINING do not require licensed operators. However, the owner or operator of the camp water system must successfully complete a correspondence course on the operation of drinking water systems. The course is called Small Seasonal Drinking Water Systems. For more information, call Val Plant at 905-796-3584.

C: Obtain a Certificate of Approval for your drinking water system. Contact your local MOE for their advice as to which companies they suggest you call to work with. Water quality, filtration, chlorination contact time and other system specific details will be specified in the conditions of your Certificate of Approval.

At this time, Small and Small Seasonal Water Systems are still being discussed by the MOE. Legislation is currently being written. You are strongly advised to contact your local Ministry of the Environment office to verify and/or discuss the details above and how they affect your camp.

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Wash those hands!

Coleman Rotstein, M.D.

Dr Rotstein provided the following handwashing pointers in response to a request from Mary Casey of the OCA Healthcare Committee:

1) Bacteria present on the hands as the result of normal daily activities may enter the body when one touches the eyes, nose or mouth. These bacteria may spread to objects or other people that are touched by hands "contaminated" by these bacteria.

2) The best way to stop the spread of bacteria is to wash one's hands. When one washes one's hands, one removes most bacteria by friction, soap and water.

3) Hands should be washed before preparing food to eat, before eating, after using the restroom, and after touching animals such as dogs and cats.

4) It is preferable to wash one's hands with liquid soap and water, rather than bars of soap with water. Bacteria may live on wet bars of soap. Approximately 3 ml of liquid soap should be employed when washing the hands.

5) The hands should be washed together for 10-15 seconds or longer to remove all dirt on the hands.

6) The hands should then be rinsed thoroughly with warm water and patted dry, preferably with paper towelling or a blow dryer.

7) Waterless alcohol rinses or gels do kill bacteria but they may not remove dirt. Thus it is important to remove the dirt from one's hands prior to using a waterless alcohol rinse or gel.

8) Cleansing wipes or towelettes can help to remove dirt from the hands when water is not available. Some also contain alcohol, which helps kill bacteria.

9) Antibacterial soaps containing triclosan have effective antimicrobial properties and have been demonstrated to reduce bacterial loads on the hands. Triclosan is rarely associated with skin irritation or sensitisation in human beings. It does not act as a carcinogen, mutagen or teratogen. Thus, antibacterial liquid soaps are preferable over other liquid

soaps when washing the hands in order to reduce bacterial loads.

References:

- 1) Larsen, E.L., EkE, P.I., Wilder, M.P., Laughon, B.E. Quantity of soap as a variable in handwashing. *Infect Control* 1987; 8: 371-375.
- 2) Brook, S.J., Brook, I. Contamination of bar soaps in a household setting. *Microbios* 1993; 76: 55-57.
- 3) Bhargava, H.N., Leonard, P.A. Triclosan: applications and safety. *Am J Infect Control* 1996; 24: 209-218.
- 4) Jones, R.D., Jampani, H.B., Newman, J.L., Lee, A.S. Triclosan: A review of effectiveness and safety in healthcare settings. *Am J Infect Control* 2000; 28: 184-196.
- 5) Community and Hospital Infection Control Association - Canada. Website: <http://www.chica.org/> Professional and Practice Standards; ABC consumer information: Handwashing: your most powerful defence against infections.

Coleman Rotstein, M.D., F.R.C.P. (C), F.A.C.P., F.I.D.S.A. is the Chair of the Public Relations Committee of the Canadian Infectious Disease Society.

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Executive Director: The Fowler Center for Outdoor Learning is seeking a dynamic professional camp administrator for its year-round camping program annually serving 4,000 children and adults with disabilities. Campers have a wide variety of physical/mental challenges. Responsible for overall camp management including program development, financial management, human resource management, board/volunteer development, risk management, marketing, community relations. BA or equivalent and five years' minimum experience in camping, recreation, human service, youth development, or related field. The Fowler Center is a private, non-profit organization. Position to be filled by September 2001. Competitive salary, housing, medical, health club. For more information or to submit resume contact: Search Committee, 2315 Harmon Lake Rd. Mayville, MI 48744. 517-673-2050, director@thefowlercenter.org, www.thefowlercenter.org.

Position Available: Outdoor Education instructor/ senior camp staff required for private, residential centre south-west of Barrie. Responsibilities include teaching curriculum based outdoor education and cross-country skiing programs, senior team member of camp and meal supervision. Other duties could include: marketing/maintenance/mountain biking/computer, web page and internet skills. Subsidized accommodation available. Position start-date - September 2001. Reply to Mansfield Outdoor Centre, Box 95, Mansfield, Ontario. L0N 1M0. phone 705-435-4479 or fax 705-435-3370 or email mansfield@sympatico.ca.

Ontario Camp Leadership Workshop: Training and Resources for Senior Staff and Directors. May 31 - June 3 at Camp PineCrest. www.oclw.ca 1-877-418-OCLW(6259).

Seeking Senior Staff/Group Facilitators to work as part of a dedicated and highly motivated team working with youth from the inner city of Toronto. Experience working with youth and an understanding of the issues they face are essential. A background in some of the following areas would be an asset: Group Leading, Leadership Development, Experiential & Outdoor Education, Knowledge of inner city issues and community resources, Trip Leading, Risk Management. Summer contracts range from 2-8 weeks with option of year-round weekend employment. \$2600-\$3800 for the summer. Please contact: Vicky Boomgaardt, Director of Programme Services, Trails Youth Initiatives, 15635 Warden Avenue, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4W1. Phone: 905-836-0100, Fax: 905-898-0741, email: vicky@trails.ca.

Looking for: 1) Fine Arts Graduates for art camp program. Experience in sculpture, pottery, watercolours, print-making, etc. 2) Suitable candidates to work at our daycamps. Day-camp experience preferred. Fax résumés to Kerri at 416-284-0407, or mail to Sunshine Day Camps, 4679 Kingston Rd., #8, Scarborough, ON M1E 2P8.

Employment wanted: A secondary school teacher of food service with camp experience wishes to operate a summer camp kitchen. Contact jim.fraser@home.com or call 705-725-9862.

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