



Summer Camp Planning 2022 – Kitchener/Waterloo

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.

1. Summer Camp Fairs – **January 10, January 24, February 28; Registration open**
2. Summer Camp Planning Workshop – **Tuesday, February 15th @7pm; Registration open**
3. How to receive additional support for summer camp planning
4. Funding options for summer camps and support workers for camps
5. Registration dates for local inclusive camps

1. Summer Camp Fairs (virtual)

Are you looking for the right summer camp program for your child or teen? 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, January 10, 2022
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Register: <https://campfair1overnightcamps.eventbrite.ca>

Focus: Day Camps for campers ages 4-12 - Waterloo Region
Date: Monday, January 24, 2022
Time: 7:00 – 8:30pm
Register: <https://campfair2daycamps.eventbrite.ca>

Focus: Camps for Teens and Adults - Waterloo Region & Guelph Wellington
Date: Monday, February 28, 2022
Time: 7:00 – 8:30pm
Register: <https://campfair3teensadults.eventbrite.ca>

Cost: Free
Who: Everyone is welcome
Registration: Registrants will receive a zoom link via email the morning of the event.
Questions: Contact Meg Shirley at 519-886-8886 x1302 or mshirley@kidsability.ca





2. Summer Camp Planning Virtual Workshop - KW (virtual)

Are you thinking about a summer camp for your child? Come join us for a summer camp planning workshop! This workshop is designed to give parents the information they need to plan a successful summer camp experience for a child with special needs.

In this free parent workshop, you will learn about:

- How to find inclusive and specialized camps in your community
- The different types of inclusion supports available and how to access them
- Funding options for camp fees and specialized supports
- Sharing information about your child
- Preparing your child for camp
- City of Kitchener and City of Waterloo summer camps and inclusion supports

This workshop is intended for families who have children with special needs as well as service providers who support families to navigate camp and recreation opportunities. Please join us for this live workshop over zoom. Registrants will receive a Zoom link via email the morning of the workshop.

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Register: <https://summerplanningworkshopkw.eventbrite.ca>

Registration Deadline: February 14, 2022

Questions? Contact Meg Shirley at mshirley@kidsability.ca or ext. 1302

3. How to receive additional support for summer camp planning

Families on our Summer Camp Planning email 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 or 519-886-8886 x1302 (Kitchener and Waterloo Sites).

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

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

Contact Meg Shirley mshirley@kidsability.ca or 519-886-8886 x1302 (Kitchener and Waterloo 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, 2022 and March 31, 2023. Applications will be accepted from January 1 to January 31, 2022. Funding is Priority in the past has been given to families who do not receive SSAH dollars.

Deadline: January 31, 2022

Autism Ontario - Summer Camp Reimbursement Funds 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. The application is typically available on the website in April. Check the website frequently for updates. You do not have to be a member of Autism Ontario to apply for funding. Selection to receive funds is random.

Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy - Life Enriching Activity Fund: 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. The application is typically available mid January. Check the website frequently for updates.

Muscular Dystrophy Canada - Community Services Fund: <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.

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

<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. Families are required to complete 10 hours of volunteer work for WWDSS during the current calendar year to receive this bursary.

Deadline: February 14, 2022

Other Options:

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





Funding Options for Summer Camps: Income based

Leisure Access Card - City of Kitchener: www.kitchener.ca/feeassistance

Eligibility: Residents of Kitchener with low income

Details: Will provide \$300 per person, per year to be used to cover the cost of city run programs.

Leisure Access Card - City of Waterloo: www.waterloo.ca/feeassistance

Eligibility: Residents of Waterloo with low income

Details: Will provide up to \$300 per person, per year to be used to cover the cost of city-run programs (including camps), affiliated minor sports, or affiliated arts and culture programs.

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

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

Details: Will cover up to \$300 per activity, \$600 per year for sports or physically active camps. The application is typically available in January.

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

Eligibility: Financial need

Details: Will help cover registration cost of YMCA summer camps for up to two weeks. More information and step by step instructions are available here: https://www.ymcacambridgekw.ca/en/camp-outdoor-centre/Register-Now-For-Camp.asp?_mid_ =31861#WaterlooRegion

House of Friendship Summer Camp Sponsorship (Family Outreach Program):

<https://www.houseoffriendship.org/how-we-help/family-neighbourhood-supports/family-outreach-program/>

Eligibility: You must be 17 years of age or younger with financial need and living in Waterloo Region

Details: Will help cover registration costs for local day camps

5. Registration Dates for Local Inclusive Camps

Please see the chart below for information regarding registration dates for local inclusive and specialized camps. As additional information becomes available, it will be updated at the following link. Additional information about other camps in our region (Cambridge, Guelph) is also available at the following link:

Camp Information: <https://www.kidsability.ca/camp-info>

More information about each camp including descriptions about the supports they provide can be found in the inclusive camp directory located here:

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

Therapeutic Recreation



Children's Camps	Website	Ages	Registration
YMCA Day Camps	https://www.ymcacambridgekw.ca/en/camp-outdoor-centre/summer-day-camps.asp	4-12	January 24
Camp Pride	https://www.pridestables.com/programs-riders/camp-pride/	6-12, 13+	Late January
ESQ	www.uwaterloo.ca/engineering-science-quest	Grades 2-9	Late January
City of Cambridge (includes SunBlast)	www.cambridge.ca/en/parks-recreation-culture/Camps.aspx	4-12	February 1
Hidden Acres	www.hiddenacres.ca	5-12, 12+	February
Camp K	www.campk.on.ca	5-16	March 1
City of Kitchener	https://www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/summer-programs.aspx	4-12, 11-17	March 1
City of Waterloo	www.waterloo.ca/en/things-to-do/camps-and-pre-school.aspx	4-12	March 2
Woolwich Township	www.woolwich.ca/en/living-here/SummerCamps.aspx	5-14	March 8
Sunbeam MFTD	www.sdrc.ca/	4-18	unknown
Carousel Dance Centre	www.carouselcentre.ca/		unknown
Arts Abound	www.artsabound.ca/camps-events/	4-teen	unknown
AIM KW School	www.aimkwschool.com	JK- Gr. 8	unknown
KidsAbility (Firefly)	Will not run in 2022		
Arts Express	Will not run in 2022	6-14	n/a
iCan Bike	Will no run in 2022	8-21	n/a

Teen/Adult Camps	Website	Ages	Registration
Adults in Motion	www.adultsinmotion.org	16+	Ongoing
Aldaview	https://tcmhomes.com/	High School	Ongoing
Camp Pride	www.pridestables.com/programs-riders/camp-pride/	13+	late January
Hidden Acres SYAC	www.hiddenacres.ca/	16-35	February
Lighthouse Programs	www.lighthouseprograms.com		Ongoing
YOUth Sense and All About YOUth	www.kitchener.ca/en/recreation-and-sports/programs-for-those-with-disabilities.aspx	11-14, 13-17	March 1
Rainbow Day Camp	www.rainbowdaycamp.com (Guelph)	12-17	March
Youth Exploring Possibilities (YEP)	https://www.kwhab.ca/services/youth-exploring-possibilities-yep/	13-21	unknown
Extend-A-Family	www.eafwr.on.ca/programs/summer-program/	13+	unknown
Sunbeam MFTD and Summer Fun Days	www.sdrc.ca/	4-18, 18+	unknown
Community Living Cambridge	www.communitylivingcambridge.ca	14-22	unknown

