



Message from the Board President

Have you ever stopped in a field or forest to truly appreciate the beauty that surrounds us? With so much of our lives taking place in the glow of a screen, behind the wheel of a car, or in the confines of an office, these opportunities to engage with nature have become increasingly rare. As a Vice-Principal, former outdoor educator and summer camp staff member, I have witnessed firsthand the many outstanding experiences that can be gained from interacting with the natural world. Now more than ever it is imperative that we seize upon the opportunity to not only live sustainably ourselves, but to teach others to do the same. In a society that seems to be quickly moving to develop our natural spaces, Camp Kawartha has a unique role to play in empowering children and adults to become leaders in caring for our environment and galvanizing others to do the same. I invite you to join us on this exciting journey as we embark upon our \$3.5 million Branching Out For a Sustainable Future Campaign. This important fundraising initiative will help us to realize our dream of nurturing environmental stewards for future generations.

Jason Huffman

Camp Kawartha Today....

Today, Camp Kawartha is a recognized camp, outdoor education and environmental learning centre which reaches more than 12,000 people per year. Camp Kawartha has earned 16 awards for its work in connecting children to their environment. It's mission is to foster environmental stewardship.



1010 Birchview Road
Douro-Dummer, ON K0L 2H0
705-652-3860 | 1-866-532-4597
jrodenburg@campkawartha.ca
www.campkawartha.ca



Vision for the Future...

Camp Kawartha is about to embark on a remarkable journey, investing in its facilities to become a provincially recognized leader in environmental education. This will be achieved by showcasing sustainable living in action, through teaching nature and outdoor awareness and by fostering tomorrow's environmental stewards. Every renovation and addition that will come to fruition through our campaign will be a teaching tool to show what is possible in sustainable design.

Central Hub – \$2,537,000

Camp Kawartha's current dining hall was built in the 1960's. It's poorly insulated and sits on piers. The plan is to remove the current hall and replace it with a dining hall showcasing green architecture. Examples could include: straw-bale, rainwater collection, geothermal, triple pane fiberglass window, and non-toxic insulation. Camp Kawartha will also construct a residence, facing westward, at the back of the new dining hall. Additionally, the current Health Centre is quite small. Camp Kawartha's Health Centre will be moved so it can properly accommodate the overall health needs of the campers. This renovation will allow Camp Kawartha to increase Outdoor Education, Weekend Rental, and Summer Camp capacity and be a huge impact thus increasing revenues by 30 to 50%.

Greening of Infrastructure

(Waste-Water Management Upgrade) – \$536,000

The current system was constructed in 1985 and designed to accommodate 125 campers. Most septic systems last 20 to 25 years and Camp Kawartha is nearing the end of the life cycle of this system. In order to become more economically viable and sustainable, Camp Kawartha needs to modestly expand its capacity by building a system to accommodate 275 people (incl. staff and campers) which is a 30% increase. The overall goal of this campaign priority is to fund an innovate septic system that uses the latest in green technology – perhaps a wetland water treatment system. The intent is to showcase to teachers, parents, visitors and students how to responsibly deal with human waste.

Reclaiming Green Space – \$419,000

The space that is presently used for maintenance sits in the middle of the Camp and is underneath the classroom. Moving the maintenance operations to another location will reclaim green space and possibly close down traffic in this section by moving deliveries to the other entrance. Camp Kawartha's parking lot is currently in front of the administrative office. Plans include expanding the current parking lot to the south. Land in front of the office will be reclaimed and enable Camp Kawartha to have space to create a food garden. Not only will this expand the capacity to grow food (and to teach kids about organic gardening), a beautiful, entrance will be created and the central commons will be expanded to allow for more green space that will be enjoyed by all who visit Camp Kawartha

Total Campaign Goal – \$3,500,000

Invitation to Help Camp Kawartha Nurture Environmental Stewards for Future Generations.

If you are interested in being part of our *Branching Out For a Sustainable Future* Campaign Team or would like to make a donation in order to realize this vision – please contact Jacob Rodenburg, Executive Director – jacob@campkawartha.ca Together, we can create a sustainable future for our children and those many generations yet to come!

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