



# Camp Kawartha

Outdoor Education Centre • Environment Centre • Summer Camp • Facility Rentals

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September 29, 2017

Dear Leadership Applicant and Parents,

With the summer still fresh in our minds, it's hard to believe it's already time to think about 2018! We want to offer you the best possibility of success in applying for our leadership programs (CSD, WCSD, LIT and WLIT) for 2018. This letter is a guide in assisting you with your application. The programs you will be choosing to apply to are the CSD/WCSD programs if you are turning 15-16 years of age in 2018, or the LIT/WLIT programs if you are turning 16-17 years of age in 2018. Included in this package is a leadership application, and a page with frequently asked questions. These applications are sent out prior to registration. Once a leadership candidate has been accepted into a program, (see timeline on next page) a spot will be held for them and registration will follow. For the remainder of this letter "CSD," implies both CSD and WCSD programs, and "LIT," implies both LIT and WLIT programs.

I want to thank all of you for your interest in our leadership programs and the investment you have made in applying and completing the application. We appreciate the hard work it takes to answer the questions and complete the application.

At Camp Kawartha, our leadership programs are considered our flagship programs. They are led by Senior Staff members with many years of experience both at camp and within their communities. They are mentors and role-models to guide your children through our leadership model and towards great responsibility within the camp environment and beyond. They understand that leadership is about respecting one's self, others and the environment. It's about working in a positive team setting and helping others. It's about participation, trying one's best and embracing challenges. It's about demonstrating a positive attitude whether you are being watched or not. It's about self-improvement and being the best person you can be.

As a leadership applicant, you are coming to the final stages of being a camper. CSD & LIT years are often considered the best summers because it's a culmination of everything you've been building up to as a camper. It's a broader experience over a 4-week session with a group of peers and a leadership director. It's a sense of greater responsibility as you take those final steps towards becoming a staff member.

**An important note:** One of the greatest leadership traits is flexibility. Taking those final steps towards being a staff member means demonstrating flexibility. On this year's leadership application, we ask for your preference of session (July or August), and preference of program as separate questions. We make it a priority to try to ensure every candidate gets their 1<sup>st</sup> choice of month to help families schedule their summers. We will also do our best to supply candidates with their first program choice, but due to the large pool of applicants and challenges this presents, we cannot always fulfill this commitment. We expect candidates to be flexible in accepting the session in which they have been selected. This is **not** a reflection of one's competitiveness, but on the resources of the camp and the best interests of each leadership program.

There has always been an application and selection process for CSD & LIT. Campers have to demonstrate that they are prepared to meet the demands of the program through their previous experience, by answering relevant questions and completing a letter to why they would be an asset to the program.



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## The CSD applicant

CSD/WCSDs are chosen from the pool of campers who are turning 15-16 in 2018. All applicants are encouraged to apply, and although we have adhered to the growing demand for the program, applications can exceed bed space. Working thoroughly on your application and getting it in on-time will help serve you well during this process.

## The LIT applicant

LIT/WLITs are usually chosen from the pool of campers who have successfully completed CSD, Wilderness Canoe Trip, or Challenge & Adventure. Anyone turning 16-17 years old in 2018 is eligible to apply, but 16 year olds are encouraged to apply for CSD if they haven't completed one of the former programs. All successful LITs upon completion of their programs will be invited back to volunteer for Session N running from Aug 26-29, 2018 and will receive 80 community service hours. Both programs are **equivalent** training programs to being considered for staff hiring the following summer.

In reviewing the leadership applications, our process of evaluation and selection is based on 4 things:

1. **The application** – we read the application and base its merit on the abilities to answer each question and how it ties into the program.
2. **Past evaluations** – past Camp Kawartha evaluations from our staff help us determine if the applicant is prepared for the leadership program. More recent evaluations (ie. 2017 evaluations) carry the most weight.
3. **Oral evaluation** – staff may be consulted who have worked with the applicant for additional information.
4. **Leadership suitability** – based on the above, has the applicant demonstrated they are prepared to endure the challenges of leadership program, will they be a positive influence to the dynamics of the group.

## Timeline for CSD & LIT Applications

Mid to Late Sept	Applications sent out
Mon. Oct. 30	Application deadline (applications will be accepted after this date, but priority will be given to applications who make deadline.)
*Week of Nov 6	Decisions of CSD & LIT Applications
Dec 15	Deadline to accept and pay deposit

\*All applicants will be called and followed-up with by e-mail during the week of Nov 6<sup>th</sup>

Those applicants who did not get into the CSD or LIT programs are welcome to register for regular camp (Wilderness Canoe Trip, and Challenge & Adventure on a first come-first serve basis). These individuals will also be placed on a CSD/LIT waiting list. We wish to assist you with the process if you require clarity so feel free to contact the camp with additional questions throughout the process at [adam@campkawartha.ca](mailto:adam@campkawartha.ca) or 705-652-3860.

I hope your families are enjoying a good start to the school year. I look forward to receiving your applications.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Strasberg,  
Summer Camp Director