



BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Camp Kawartha's mission is to inspire environmental leaders and stewards of all ages through dynamic, accessible, year-round outdoor programming and powerful partnerships to create meaningful change.

Wishing you the best of the season ...




Your Support Matters, Now More Than Ever!

Due to the ongoing postal strike, we were unable to send you the heartfelt letter we had planned. But you don't need our holiday letter to make a difference! Your online gift today will help empower the next generation of environmental stewards.

*Let's give children the courage and experience to protect what they love most. **DONATE NOW** and join us in building a brighter, greener future!*

Quick Clicks

 [Gift Store](#)

ClassTrips!
Special rate for winter bookings!

Summer Camp Registration

Nature School at the Environment Centre

DONATE NOW

With gratitude ...

Dankbaarheid – a Dutch word for gratitude. This is a time for reflection and appreciation, to take stock of the good things we are privileged to have, even in a challenging world.

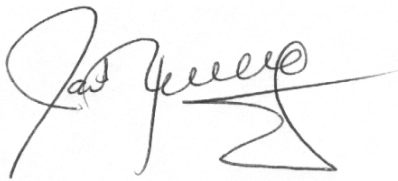
I was born in Holland, and my parents immigrated to Canada when I was small. Like many newcomers, they worked hard to build a life here. They often expressed dankbaarheid for the beauty of Canada's natural world and the space it offered compared to their crowded homeland.

Today, I'd like to express dankbaarheid for the incredible community we have here at Camp Kawartha – a community of people who make amazing things happen every day.

To our outdoor, environmental educators and office staff, some of whom have been with us for more than 20 years, thank you for your dedication. To our passionate summer camp staff, who create a welcoming and inclusive space, and to our resourceful maintenance team, who manage the unexpected with promptness and professionalism – from power outages to wild weather – dankbaarheid for all that you do.

A special thank-you to our food services team, who provide nutritious and delicious meals for everyone, including those with special dietary needs, and to our intrepid health care team, who look after the health and safety of more than 15,000 visitors each year. And gratitude to our housekeeping team – who do such a thorough and effective job of cleaning and caring for our facilities.

Finally, to our funders and supporters – I extend a warm dankbarrheid for helping us to do what we love to do – activate and empower the stewards of tomorrow. With your belief, help and support – we will continue this important work long into the future.



Jacob Rodenburg

**☐ With thanks from Summer Camp!
See you next summer!! ☐**

Thank you to all of the campers who have graced our camp with your laughter and songs, your courage and enthusiasm, and your joy of being part of our family!

From the early days of Camp Kawartha when the kids arrived by boat and their first chore was to fill their mattresses with straw (today, we fill our buildings with

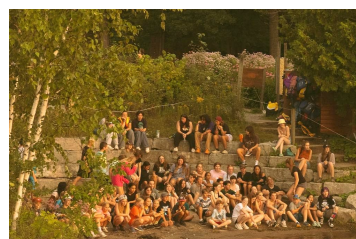
straw!) to next year when we're looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones, it's our campers (all of you!) who make this the wonderful place it is!

Thank you!

(Psst... only 201 sleeps until the first week of summer camp!)

If you haven't yet signed up, come join us! We have **Day Programs**, **Overnight Camps**, **Canoe Trips** and **Leadership Adventures**! All registration is open and spots are filling up!

To register or inquire about sessions, please reach out to our registrar **Serhii** at serhii@campkawartha.ca.



❄ Exploring Our Wonderful Winter World ❄



We love sharing what we do...!

Check out our **Resources for Teachers and Parents**!

We have lots of ideas for engaging kids, both in the classroom and at home! Glen is

sharing some snow fun in the video above! We also have videos on [Tracking](#) with Jacob and [Snow Games](#) with Jacob and Glen. Why not link what you're doing in the classroom with a [Winter Scavenger Hunt](#)! There's lots to explore on our [website](#)!



[Special Winter Rates for Teachers!](#)

We are proud of our **Winter Programming** and want to share it with you! We are offering **special rates** (Dec-March) so that more kids can enjoy learning in the outdoors! Come out and find out what it was like to be a **Coeur de Bois** or learn more about the **Fur Trade** (our programs integrate Indigenous Perspectives and Knowledge). We offer **Snow-shoeing** and **Cross-Country Skiing** on our trails. For younger kids, learn about the **Wonders of Snow!** Or **Nature Sculpture!**

If you are **Priority School** or a class that just can't afford an outdoor education visit, **[we offer 70% off of our regular pricing for a winter visit.](#)** Our heartfelt thanks to the **Williams Wilson Sherport Foundation** for making this possible!

Come out and explore winter at our beautiful Clear Lake site! We offer **Overnight Visits**, **Day Visits** as well as our **New Extended Day Visits** (with campfires and s'mores!). If you'd like to keep your class closer to home, why not **book us to come to you!** Our team of award-winning educators loves to bring our programming to your classroom and schoolyard!

Immerse your students in a hands-on outdoor learning adventure . Camp Kawartha's school trips include engaging, curriculum-linked activities, comfortable accommodations, healthy meals, and seamless support to ensure an unforgettable experience for educators and students alike.

[Book a Class Visit at Clear](#)



Teachers! Bring your class to the Environment Centre!

Winter is an exciting time at the Environment Centre! Bring your class for **day visit** to discover a **Day in the Life of a Squirrel** or explore **Renewable Energy!** Try out some **Snowshoeing** or **Tracking!** We love teaching **Felting** and **Papermaking** as well as exploring **Wind Energy** (students make wind turbines!).

Check out our extensive range of programming options centred at one of the most **sustainable buildings** in Canada, designed by Fleming students in 2009.

We know that getting out on field-trips comes with additional costs of bussing students to and from the Environment Centre. For local schools, we offer a **bus subsidy** generously supported by the Gainey Foundation to help make our mandate of connecting kids with nature a reality.

Book A Class Visit at the Environment Centre



Environment Centre PA Day and March Break Camps are Back!

Your children can come explore the outdoors on their next day off! The Camp Kawartha Environment Centre is excited to be offering **PA Day and March Break Camps** once again. Get a taste of our Nature School by using exploration, play and adventure to learn about the natural world. Camps run from 9am - 3pm with drop-off and pick-up happening at the front of the Environment Centre at 2505 Pioneer Road, Peterborough.

Registration is open now! Visit campkawartha.ca for more information or contact us at

PA Day and March Break
Registration

❄️ Engage ❄️ Learn ❄️ Inspire ❄️
Environment Centre Nature School



Come join the Environment Centre Nature School for our Winter sessions! Winter is when the world opens up to new possibilities! Animal stories abound in tracks and sightings of wildlife without the summer camouflage of leaves. Winter at the Environment Centre is full of outdoor fun that brings joy and resilience.

Our programs foster whole-child learning through experiential learning and play. Our students gain a deep understanding of and connection with the land. Their knowledge of plants, animals and the way nature works goes well beyond curricular expectations. At the Environment Centre Nature School, we foster well-being so that our students can engage fully with their world and become the environmental leaders of the future, whatever career road they end up travelling!

We still have some space in our Fall programs and registration is now open for our Winter sessions! Come join us!

Forest Explorers (Mon & Wed: Ages 4-7); **Woodsy Wednesdays & Forest Fridays** (Wed & Fri: Ages 8-13); **Rootwood** (Tues: Ages 13-17); and **Forest Adventures**, our new monthly Saturday program for ages 8-13!

To Register for Nature
School



👤👤 We'd love to host your team... 👤👤👤



Winter fun isn't just for kids! Camp Kawartha's award-winning team-building programs are designed to energize, motivate, and strengthen your team. Through interactive activities and expert guidance, we help build communication skills, foster collaboration, and inspire new strategies to thrive in today's fast-paced work environment. Perfect for corporate retreats, group workshops, and professional development.

Come bring your team to do cooperative games and team-building or enjoy our range on snow-shoes or skis. Businesses love combining work with pleasure. **Book team-building activities** for the morning, enjoy a delicious lunch and then settle down for some work sessions in the afternoon!

We also book Weddings and other Events at both our Clear Lake and Environment Centre Sites!

Bring your Team to Camp Kawartha!



Winter Gifts!

The holidays are a time of giving gifts! We have a wide range of games, clothing and other camp-inspired gifts! Check out our **gift store** for the nature lovers on your list!

We are happy to hand deliver to local addresses!

❄️❄️❄️ In other news ...

Birch Cabin: Construction Update

Thanks to the generosity of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, work is well underway in replacing Birch Cabin with an amazing sustainable, negative-carbon building. Deidre from Strawworks has laid the foundation and has the framing for the walls and roof up! The straw is next! Keep watching our socials for updates.



We're looking forward to welcoming campers this summer to the newly constructed Birch Cabin, another example of sustainable building in action!

Congratulations to Straworks for Winning First Place

Straworks won First Place in the Small Buildings Category at the Ontario Embodied Carbon Awards for their construction of the Camp Kawartha Rotary Health Centre. These awards celebrate outstanding low embodied carbon projects across Ontario. Straworks calculated that the Camp Kawartha Rotary Health Centre absorbs 6.5 tonnes of carbon, making it a carbon negative build. A conventional building of the same size would emit 35 tonnes! Camp Kawartha is excited to promote education about sequestered carbon architecture!



Camp Kawartha a 'Diamond Winner' for Best Learning Centre!

Camp Kawartha was the Diamond Winner for the 2024 Reader's Choice 'Best Learning Centre'! Thanks to all those who voted for us. We strive to create exceptional outdoor learning experiences through experiential and inquiry-based programming. Thanks to all our educators, staff and, of course, our school visitors who make this possible!



Camp Kawartha wins Green Business Award!

Camp Kawartha is the winner in the Green Categories for the Peterborough/Kawartha Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award! We want to extend gratitude to all our staff and educators who are dedicated to a more sustainable and regenerative future. Many thanks to all those who put our name forward for this award. We are grateful for your continued support and interest in Camp Kawartha!

From Our Kitchen to Yours...

After a day outside, it's great to come back to hot chocolate! Our colleague, Meghan, gifted us with a holiday hot chocolate party at lunch. This was definitely next level and we wanted to share it with you!

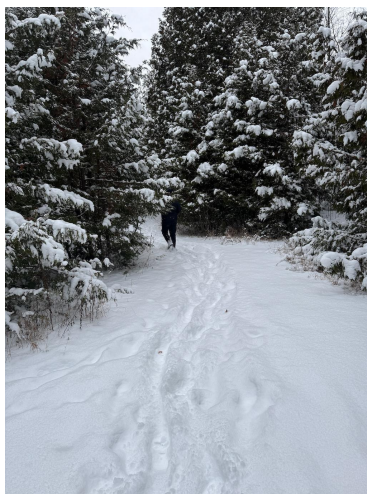
1. Get a hot chocolate mix of your choice!
2. Make a nice rich hot chocolate in your favourite holiday mug (every tablespoon should be heaping!)
3. **Jacob's tip: Don't fill the mug so it is full (see the next step!)**
4. Top with whipped cream (the extra room in the mug makes all the difference).
5. **Level up with Meghan: Top with crushed candy cane, sparkles, chocolate shavings,**
6. Enjoy with cookies of your choice (we enjoyed shortbread and chocolate dipped cookies ~ Thanks Meghan!).



This can be had indoors or outdoors!

Along our Trails...

Here are some amazing pictures of the life all around us! **Send in your pictures and a story!** We'd love to hear about your moments of awe and adventure! In our next newsletter, we'll share some of the moments from around our community.



Through the Orchard at the Environment Centre



Frosted Asters



Look up!

🧊 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM CAMP KAWARTHA** 🧊

Summer
Camp

Outdoor
Education

Facility
Rentals

Nature
School

Environment
Centre

Employment
Opportunities

Volunteer

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Pathway to
Stewardship

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