



## Who We Are

Since 1970, we have been bringing youth from the Kingston area on 5-to-14 day canoe trips in Algonquin Provincial Park. Camp Outlook does this to provide young people with the opportunity to develop their self-worth, inner strength, and their capacity to succeed. The woods act as a leveling ground from which all members of the group can start anew, and by leaving behind the social roles that are expected of them our campers can explore a non-judgmental environment where they can take more risks and learn about themselves. We believe that every young person should have the opportunity to go to camp and experience the benefits of the outdoors, and as such we do not charge any fees. Our youth come from a wide variety of backgrounds and are referred to us by schools, social workers, doctors, and community organizations.

**Don't have any experience as a tripping guide? No problem.** We provide full training for our staff to become qualified canoe trip leaders. While this is a volunteer position, Camp Outlook provides staff with room and board throughout the summer, along with the necessary tripping equipment.

## Description

The summer begins near the end of May, when staff will move to Kingston in order to begin their training. During the summer, you have the option of living in the Outlook house with other staff members or living independently in Kingston. Over the first 5 weeks of the summer, staff will be trained in all the skills they will need (from paddling to camp cooking to first aid) as well as a wide variety of youth work related skills, such as communication, conflict mediation, and emotionally supportive strategies. Staff training includes an 8-day staff canoe trip to Algonquin Park to solidify your wilderness camping and leadership skills, and we provide the following certifications to our staff in exchange for your commitment:

- Bronze Cross/Bronze Medallion
- Mental Health First Aid for Adults who Interact with Youth
- Advanced Wilderness First Aid
- MEND (conflict mediation training)
- A few qualified staff will also get an F class driver's licence to drive our vehicle

During July and August, you will embark upon three or four 5-, 9-, or even 14-day trips in beautiful Algonquin Park. Our trip groups are small, with either 2 staff and 4 campers or 3 staff and 6 campers on each trip, as we have found that this allows our staff to create an excellent community spirit and get to know their campers better. We allow our staff the freedom to personalize their trips in most areas, and a large part of the role is to prepare every aspect of your trips before you leave. While in the park, staff have unsupervised responsibility for our campers, and as such you must ensure that they have a positive and safe experience throughout their trip.

On a typical day you will prepare breakfast for your group and coordinate site tear-down and packing. From your backcountry campsite you will paddle across lakes and move on land carrying your equipment (“portaging”) to get to your next site. Between one site and the next: the day is yours! Break it up with games, swimming, long lunches and snacks, or general relaxing at your discretion. In the evenings, you will light your campfire and begin dinner as the campers set up their tents and shelters. This is a great opportunity to teach skills such as rope work and fire craft. After dinner, everyone tends to be pretty tired out, and you can take a relaxed evening to chat with your campers, play cards, and watch the stars before falling asleep in the beauty of Algonquin Provincial Park.

Staff are expected to participate in ALL training sessions from the end of May until the beginning of July. Training requires more than a 9-5 commitment and is run throughout the week, including weekends.

## What we need from you

- A vulnerable sector police check (the cost is covered by Outlook).
- An unwavering commitment to our youth. No prior experience, certifications, or formal education is necessary, but an openness to learning, feedback, and adaptability is required.
- An unwavering commitment to each other. You will be living, working, and socializing with a large group of diverse co-staff, and we expect our staff to provide emotional support to everyone around them. An openness to different perspectives, equitably supporting each other, respect, and general self awareness is paramount.
- Camp Outlook values having a diverse team and a team that reflects the backgrounds of our campers. People (age 18+) of all backgrounds, identities, and life experiences are encouraged to apply.

Interviews will take place at the end of February and the beginning of March, and can be conducted in person or online. All staff are required to arrive in Kingston around May 24<sup>th</sup> (exact date TBD) for training, then lead at least 3 camper trips throughout July and August. Time off may be negotiated between trips but this is not guaranteed. This may seem like a large commitment, but without fail our staff find their time with Outlook to be extremely rewarding and unforgettable. If you would like to apply or find out more, please visit [campoutlook.ca](http://campoutlook.ca) for the application or email the summer directors at [summer@campoutlook.ca](mailto:summer@campoutlook.ca).

**Deadline to apply: Midnight, March 6.**

Thank you for your interest!

Talia Leibovitz, David Reyn, and Jana Philipp  
2017 Camp Outlook Summer Camp Directors