



Camp Thunderbird, Y Outdoor Centre

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Question – Summer Camp

We continue to monitor Public Health Orders and Recommendations. Our practices will evolve as updated information and regulations are made available. Our practices are based on BCCA guidelines for Overnight School Trips, and the BC school recommendations, and may go above the recommended minimums. Last update: June 21, 2022.

- When will everyone need to wear masks?
 - Masks are worn on the bus.
 - In rare circumstances where close contact is needed for an extended period (e.g., providing first aid), masks will be worn.
- When will campers wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer?
 - Upon arrival at camp.
 - Before and after eating.
 - Before and after using the bathroom or outhouse.
 - Before getting back on the bus at the end of their day or stay.
- Will hand sanitizer be available?
 - We will provide hand sanitizer throughout the camp area.
 - Campers may also bring their own hand sanitizer.
- What are the cleaning protocols?
 - Shared equipment is cleaned and maintained regularly.
 - Bathrooms, taps/handwashing stations are also cleaned throughout the day.
 - Accommodations are cleaned by our staff between each camp and as a group with the campers, regularly.
- How many people will be in each cabin group?
 - Camp activities will take place in small groups of 9-10 campers, with two staff.
 - Most larger gatherings will take place outdoors.
 - Groups will be together in the dining hall while eating, or for rainy day activities.
- What are the sleeping arrangements?
 - Ventilation will be maximized by opening doors and windows whenever possible.
 - Participants should bring warm bedding.
 - Cabin access will be limited to only the campers and staff staying in that cabin.
 - When possible, participants will be arranged in beds to maximize distance between heads.
- How will the dining hall be organized?
 - Everyone will wash and sanitize their hands prior to eating and after using the bathroom.
 - We will make every effort to maximize ventilation in the dining hall:



- Doors and windows will be kept open as much as possible
 - Participants should be prepared to keep their coats on if the weather is cool.
 - Participants will sit with their cabin groups (up to 12 at a table).
 - Food service is Family Style, meaning that each table will be given shared trays/bowls of food and each person at the table serves themselves with the provided utensils.
- Will campers and staff be screened for COVID-19 symptoms?
 - Campers will be asked “Are you feeling sick?” on arrival. Any symptoms not related to allergies, or an ongoing condition will need to be resolved prior to coming to camp (see final FAQ, below).
 - Staff and campers are expected to self-declare any time they feel unwell, reporting all symptoms.
- What is your vaccination and testing policy?
 - Vaccination is not required for campers.
 - The YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island has implemented a vaccine mandate for all employees - camp employees will be vaccinated.
 - Staff undergo rapid testing every Monday prior to starting work. Groups going on extended out trips will be offered rapid testing for staff and campers before departure (same day morning or night before).
- What will happen if a camper or staff member develops possible COVID-19 symptoms, while at camp?
 - The camper and their belongings will be isolated in one of our yurts or cabins, and cared for by camp staff (wearing a mask), until arrangements can be made for them to go home.
 - Camp staff will contact parents/caregivers to collect the sick person from camp, as soon as possible.
 - This person will not be allowed to return to camp until:
 - At least 5 days have passed since their symptoms started, **AND**
 - Their fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Tylenol, Advil), **AND**
 - They are feeling better (e.g., improvement in cough, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue or other symptoms),
AND
 - They can show proof of a negative COVID-19 test that was completed after their symptoms began.