



May 20, 2020

KWASIND SUMMER 2020 UPDATE

Yesterday, Premier Ford announced that all overnight camps need to suspend operation of their 2020 summer programs. This is heart-breaking news for us and we know for many campers, families, and summer staff.

SUMMER CAMP 2020 SUSPENDED

It is important to me that you know that our first priority at Kwasind is always to provide a safe and healthy environment for our campers, staff and guests. After 8 weeks of thorough conversations with other camp directors and our staff team about modified summer plans, and analyzing the information, limitations and potential guidelines for running overnight summer camp coming from the Ontario Camping Association (OCA), Public Health and the government – we arrived at the same conclusion that the government shared yesterday – **suspending all of our summer 2020 camp programming at Camp Kwasind** (*except LIT which will be moving to an online option with more details following this week*). While this decision is very difficult, it is the right decision.

Given our current reality, the crucial rules, limitations, restrictions and guidelines put out by Public Health, would have made it next to impossible to run camp as you and I know it in a way that campers would love and enjoy to the fullest.

We look forward to the time when the necessary medical findings and adjustments will be in place that will allow us to be back as Camp Kwasind, running the thriving, safe and memorable camp experience that we know and love.

REGISTERED FOR CAMP?

For those currently registered for Camp Kwasind this summer, you will receive another email from me regarding your registration and some resource links on how to talk with your camper about the cancellation of camp. Now comes a choice for you to make. You can:

1. Receive a **full refund** for all camp registration fees and deposits paid to date
2. **Donate some or all of your paid fees** to Camp Kwasind
3. **Rollover the fees** to save a spot for our EPIC Summer 2021 at our 2019 rates

ABLE TO SUPPORT CAMP KWASIND?

For those who are “Friends of Kwasind” and in a position to do so, we invite you to consider supporting camp through prayer and a much needed donation. Leading with safety is the right thing to do but it is also costly. We have a great future ahead of us given the ongoing growth of camp over the past five years. However, with the suspension of our summer programs, it will mean a significant impact to our **operating revenue** for this year which is needed to cover many fixed costs that happen whether we run camp or not. If you have the ability to support Kwasind through making a tax deductible donation, that would be greatly appreciated: www.kwasind.com/donate . If you want to join our prayer team, please visit www.kwasindupdates.com and select prayer team e-news to get monthly updates to support camp through prayer.

GOOD NEWS GOING FORWARD

For 75 years, we have connected together on the shores of Skeleton Lake. While we can't gather at Kwasind this summer, the **Kwasind staff team are committed to ensuring that campers still have a fun, safe and memorable experience connected with the Kwasind community throughout this upcoming summer** – more information will be shared with you in the coming weeks.

While we find ourselves in a time that is challenging and uncertain, please know that camp will be ready and committed to **making summer 2021 an EPIC experience** for our campers - our planning for that time begins now!

On the last night at campfire, we sing “This is good night, and not goodbye.” We will meet again at camp and we will all get back together again in 2021 doing all the things we love about camp – building friendships, growing in faith, laughing around the campfire, telling stories in our cabins, enjoying our great waterfront, running around camp playing “Phobia” and enjoying great meals in Mondamin. **I can't wait for the day when we will all be back together at Kwasind – that day is coming** - it will just be a little further away than we want it to be!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me personally. I'd be happy to answer your questions as best I can at this point in time. On behalf of the CBOQ Board Executive Committee and Camp Kwasind Management Team, we appreciate your patience, partnership, and on-going support.

Peace,



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