

Camp Outlook Summer Staff Information 2012



For over 40 years, Camp Outlook has operated as a non-profit, charitable organization run entirely by volunteers. We bring youth experiencing social, behavioural, economic or other difficulties from the Kingston area on wilderness canoe trips. Why? Because we believe that wilderness tripping provides unique opportunities for personal growth and has a therapeutic benefit. The woods act as a levelling ground from which all members of the group can start anew. We leave behind the expectations, hierarchies, and social roles that have come to fill our daily lives. Shedding traditional roles, tripping fosters a non-judgmental environment where we take more risks and learn about ourselves. "Outlookers" are caring, dedicated individuals who work to foster these experiences for campers at no cost. In many instances, Outlook plays an important part in their lives. It is for this reason that Camp Outlook has endured.

So, you want to trip with Outlook this summer? As a volunteer, you will venture on three or four 7, 9 or even 15 day trips in beautiful Algonquin Park. You and one or two co-staff will lead a small group of youth who are aged 13 to 17 and live in Kingston and the surrounding areas. Our campers are referred to us from social agencies, schools, and other youth agencies. Many campers return for multiple years to expand their experience of both the wilderness and the activities we provide for them on trip.

For June, July, and August we provide you with food and a place to stay (if you need it) and all the necessary training all at no cost. **No experience is necessary.** We've had many wonderful staff who have never set foot in a canoe before Outlook. **Our training will begin TUESDAY MAY 29th 2012.** The first month is spent in Kingston doing Wilderness First Aid, Bronze Medallion/Bronze Cross, and ORCKA canoe training as well as a host of invaluable skill sets in leadership, management, and social work. Staff training month includes an instructive 8 day staff canoe trip to Algonquin Park to solidify your wilderness camping and leadership skills. Finally, at the beginning of July camper trips begin and continue through to the end of August.

A full summer consists of at least three trips and goes until the end of August. The average stay in Kingston between trips is about 4 days. Due to the high cost of training and certification of staff, we cannot accept staff who are available for less than 3 camper trips.

A summer staff position with Outlook is not a summer holiday. It demands dedication and a strong sense of responsibility as well as an open-minded outlook. You have to be able to 'roll with the punches'. However, **Outlook is as rewarding as it is challenging. You will never forget your summer with Outlook, the campers, the staff, the park ... Your salary is paid in experience and stories!**

For more information please visit www.campoutlook.ca, email us at summer@campoutlook.ca or leave a message at (613)-544-64.

Applications are available on our website at www.campoutlook.ca/volunteer.htm and outside our office, Room 341 John Deutsch University Centre, Queen's University (up the Union St. stairs). Applications are due **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29th, 2012 at NOON.**

Please send your application and resume **as soon as possible** to summer@campoutlook.ca. If you are unable to send them by email, please mail them to Camp Outlook, P.O. Box 811, Kingston ON, K7L 4X6 or fax them to (613)-544-3186.

Zoë Godfrey-Davies and Tim Richardson

Summer Outlook Directors 2012

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability using as much or as little space as you need! Feel free to include any additional information that you feel is relevant.

1. Camp Outlook staff training provides you with all the skills necessary to plan and lead a canoe trip, even if you have never camped before. What work, life, or extracurricular experiences have you had that would assist you in working with youth this summer and being a part of the Outlook team?

2. Youth that Camp Outlook works with have been described as at-risk. What does "at-risk" mean to you?

3. Camp Outlook is run *entirely* by volunteers, and a main principle of it's philosophy is that it is a non-hierarchical organization. In your opinion, what characterizes a non-hierarchical and volunteer organization?

4. How would your experience with Camp Outlook differ from past experiences?

5. Why do you want to volunteer with Camp Outlook this summer?

The following questions will **not** affect your employability.

6. Do you have any first-aid, swimming/lifeguarding, canoeing, camping, driving, and/or other certifications? Please indicate if they are current or expired.

7. Please describe your swimming ability/fitness level.

8. Do you have any allergies, sensitivities, dietary restrictions, or medical conditions?
Please note that Outlook is not a peanut-free environment. Contact the directors if this may be an issue for you.

9. Do you have a valid drivers licence in Canada? If so, how many years of driving experience do you have?

Signature (you may type to sign): _____

Date: _____