



Welcome to Project Canoe!

Project Canoe's programs are designed to meet the needs of youth ages 13-18 who are facing social, emotional, behavioural, learning or economic barriers that would otherwise prevent them from accessing these experiences. A canoe trip with Project Canoe is an opportunity to develop resilience, life skills, social competencies, empathy, environmental stewardship, and feel a sense of personal success. Youth will step outside of their comfort zones, meet new friends and challenge themselves physically and mentally, all in the beautiful Algonquin Provincial Park while guided by highly trained and supportive leaders.

Our enrollment process is extensive which allows us to provide the safest environment for all participants. This **Application Form** is the first step in the process of joining us on a trip this summer.

Our enrollment process consists of the following steps:

1| Application Form (this form) - This initial form is for you to sign up for a trip, show interest and share some preliminary information about yourself for us to create a sense of how we may best support you on your potential canoe trip.

2| Virtual Youth Meeting - This is a chance for us to get to know each other, for you to hear all about what a canoe trip is like, and to answer any questions you may have. It is also a chance for us to learn more about how we may best support you on your canoe trip.

3| Registration Forms - This includes a medical form, subsidy request form, and consent and liability waivers. Once your registration forms have been submitted, we can secure your spot on a trip.

4| Trip Confirmation - This is the final confirmation that you will be joining us this summer, it will include your trip dates, important information and additional details about your trip.

If you have any questions at any point, please reach out to the Project Canoe Team, we will be happy to help.

Let's get started with your application!

- Thank you in advance for your interest and time in filling out our application form. We recognize that our enrollment process is lengthy and detailed, but we assure you this is the best plan for each youth's individual and unique needs.
- You will need about 15 minutes to complete this form. Please see above for a full description of our enrollment process.
- Do your best to fully complete the form. It's helpful to get to know each youth and their current context fairly well, in order to determine how to support each youth on our canoe trips.
- We encourage our youth applicants to fill out their application with the assistance of or together with a trusted adult.
- If there are any questions you don't feel comfortable answering please reach out to the Project Canoe team (info@canoe.org) as we are always happy to chat about our enrollment process.
- Because of the nature of our summer program, sometimes the decision is made that a wilderness canoe trip is not the best program for the applicant, if that is the case, we will always try to share alternative activities or programs that do support the applicant where they are at.

Submit your completed application through one of the following four channels:

Mail: Project Canoe | 720 Bathurst Street | Toronto, ON | M5S 2R4

Fax: 416.572.3736 (machine is shared, please call ahead to schedule a fax!)

Email: info@canoe.org

Online Registration: <https://projectcanoe.campbrainregistration.com/>

Potential Limitations to Participation

Before getting into the application, we want to share below a list of potential limitations to being able to participate in an overnight Project Canoe program. Our summer canoe trips operate in remote wilderness areas, therefore there are some levels of support that we can not adequately give in order to maintain a safe environment for everyone.

We recognize however that every individual and circumstance may differ and thus we operate situation by situation. In order to do this, we need to know beforehand if any of the following apply to the youth applicant so that we can initiate a conversation about whether we are able to support them. Thank you in advance for your openness and honesty.

1. Is pregnant, diabetic, or has any chronic, recurring, and/or life-threatening medical condition or on medication whose effects that may not be managed in a remote setting;
2. Is epileptic and/or has had a seizure in the past year;
3. Has any serious allergy to food, insect stings, and/or other allergens to the extent that a doctor has prescribed epinephrine (epi-pen) for treatment if they are exposed;
4. Have a court-assigned custody agreement or legal probationary agreement that does not allow change of residence;
5. Currently participating in a rehabilitation or treatment program that cannot be interrupted;
6. Has a history of violent behaviour including, but not limited to, violent behaviour involving weapons, an explosively violent temper, and/or a history of aggressive behaviour towards others including, but not limited to, those in authority;
7. Has a history of sexually abusive and/or molesting behaviour towards other persons, of any gender, of any age, including, but not limited to, acting in a sexually aggressive, sexually inappropriate, and/or sexually harassing manner;
8. Has a history of running away, suicide attempts, serious mental health conditions, and/or psychiatric illness which may make it unsafe for them to be on the trip. **We understand that these behaviours can sometimes be situational or a by-product of a challenging situation which is out of a youth's control. If you would like to chat with us about this, please reach out (info@canoe.org)*

Please share below if any of the above limitations apply to you. This does not necessarily mean you will be unable to participate, but allow us to open up the conversation with you to see if we are able to provide the support you would need to be successful on a canoe trip.

Part 1: Trip Information

Please select all trips you are interested in, and available for. It is most helpful to us if you are able to select more than one option.

5-day Trips <input type="checkbox"/> July 2nd - 6th <input type="checkbox"/> July 12th- 16th <input type="checkbox"/> August 22nd- 26th	8-day Trips <input type="checkbox"/> July 22nd- 29th <input type="checkbox"/> August 9th- 16th
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Leadership and Partnership Trips

If you are signing up to participate in our leadership program or a partnership trip, please select which one below. You do not need to select trip dates above.

Leadership Trip (July 16th-29th) Partnership Trip

If you checked Partnership Trip, which organization are you signing up with?

How did you hear about Project Canoe?

Community Agency Internet Friend or Family Community Centre School Other:

Part 2: General Information

Applicant - Is this youth a returning participant to Project Canoe? Yes No

Name:		
Preferred Name/Alias:		
Gender:	Date of Birth: DD / MM / YYYY	Age:
Address:		
City:	Postal Code	
Email Address (optional):		

How would you rate your swimming ability?

Non-swimmer Weak swimmer Moderate swimmer Strong swimmer

It is not required to have previous swimming experience to come on a canoe trip, but it is required of all youth to wear a PFD (life jacket) while swimming and canoeing no matter what their swimming ability is.

Parent / Guardian

Name:	
Relationship to youth:	
Phone # 1:	Phone # 2:
Email Address:	

Referring Organization Information - If you are signing up as part of a Partnership Trip, you do not need to complete this section.

Were you referred to Project Canoe from another agency or organization?

Yes No

Organization Name:	
Name of person who referred you:	
Phone # 1:	Email Address:

Part 3: Tell us a little bit more about yourself!

Why do you want to participate in a Project Canoe canoe trip? What are you most excited for?

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Please tell us something positive about yourself.

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What are some things that have been challenging for you lately?

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What are some ways in which you cope with challenges?

What are some of the questions or concerns that you have about going on a canoe trip?

Part 4: Community Agreements

Community Agreements - Each youth must read, and sign below to agree to follow the community agreements in order to participate in our programs. These agreements are to help set expectations for how we hope to show up as a community and support a positive environment.

While participating in my Project Canoe program I am willing to:

- Fully engage, participate and try my best;
- Follow all Project Canoe safety procedures, environmental practices and COVID-19 specific requirements, as explained by my leaders;
- Be a reliable team member and act respectfully towards other youth and my leaders;
- Ask for help to resolve conflict, if necessary and, work together with other group members to accomplish all camp tasks;
- Refrain from bringing, obtaining, or using tobacco*, alcohol or drugs; bringing weapons, including pocket knives; and bringing electronics;
- Refrain from sexual activity and/or socially exclusive behaviour;

**some exceptions made in agreement with our smoking/vaping policy for youth who may not be able to go without*

Safety Expectations

- Wear footwear at all times, including while swimming
- Wear a lifejacket at all times while on, or in the water, including while swimming
- Follow all instructions given by Project Canoe staff to ensure safety during trip

Electronics Policies

- Cell phones, music devices, and video games are not permitted on PC trips. Part of the purpose of the trip is to provide an opportunity to disconnect, and additionally, the wilderness can be a difficult place to keep these expensive things safe from getting broken.
- Camera's may be permitted depending on the situation. Please ask further about whether you are able to bring your camera.
- If there are any other electronic devices you hope to bring, please let us know ahead of time to determine if it can be supported.

Youth Signature: _____

Date: _____

You are almost there!

It is important to Project Canoe that the youth applying wants and is willing to go on a canoe trip. Please acknowledge below with both the youth's signature, and guardian's signature that the person submitting this application to go on a canoe trip this summer does want to participate.

We recognize that sometimes it can be hard to sign up for a new experience and if you have any questions, are still feeling hesitant, or would like to learn more about what a canoe trip is before submitting your application please do not hesitate to call or email our program director Jaimie at jaimie@canoe.org or 416-778-4311.

Youth Signature _____

Guardian/Parent Signature _____

When you are finished with your form, review all of your answers to ensure they give the clearest picture of who you are and how we may best work alongside you. After the application is received, you will receive an invitation to meet with a Project Canoe staff. If you do not hear from us within a week, please call us at 416-778-4311 or email info@canoe.org to check that we have received your application.

If you want to get even more excited or keep up to date with what is going on at Project Canoe, our social media pages are good places to do so. Follow us @project.canoe.

We look forward to chatting with you about coming on a canoe trip this summer!