



Camp Opemikon

Opemikon Camper Welcome Package
Summer 2024



Parent & Camper Information

Thank you for registering your camper with our Summer Residential Program, Camp Opemikon! This Welcome Package will provide you with the necessary information to prepare for your child's great overnight wilderness camping experience.

Please read it carefully and share with your camper.

Here at Camp Opemikon, our goal is to plan and bring forth a safe, healthy, and meaningful participation in activities promoting outdoor skills and social development. We believe our outdoor ventures facilitate an ideal setting for personal growth and development.

Additionally, we want to reassure you our staff team has been carefully selected and trained in sports and outdoor skills, along with dedicated coaching for guiding our youth community.

Transportation

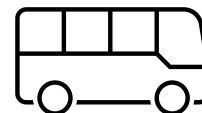
Camp begins Saturday afternoons and ends Saturday mornings, with exceptions for Beaver and Tenderpad Programs.

Beaver Programs start on Saturdays (same time as everyone else) and end on Tuesday mornings.

Tenderpad programs start on Tuesday afternoon and end on Saturday mornings (same time as everyone else).

BY BUS:

If you have signed your camper up for our bus transportation from our Scouts Canada Headquarters in Ottawa, you must report to the loading area in our dedicated parking lot **at least 30 minutes before departure**. It will be a direct route to camp, with no scheduled stops.



Scouts Canada Headquarters Address:

1345 Baseline Road
Ottawa, ON
K2C 0A7

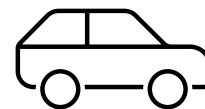
Departure time: 1:45PM



Your camper's return home will be the following Saturday, with exceptions (refer to Camp Schedule below), and **buses are set to arrive back at Scouts Canada Headquarters at 12:15PM.**

BY CAR:

If you wish to drive your camper directly to camp, our **Brownsea Shelter** is the drop-off and pick-up location. **Drop-off time is between 3:00PM and 3:30PM on Saturdays or Tuesdays**, depending on selected program.



Camper pick-up time is at 10:30-11:00am the following Saturday, unless indicated otherwise in the Camp Schedule that follows, at our Brownsea Shelter.

Kindly, do not arrive any earlier or later than the indicated times, as our staff team is preparing for your arrival, and planning the first introduction activities. We will have designated areas and games for campers signed up for programs lasting more than one week during our transition between periods.

Access to camp further than the parking lot is restricted.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP

Upon arrival at our drop-off locations, parents and legal guardians are to check-in with our staff team on-site to confirm camper presence. At the end of the camp period, we require parent/legal guardian signature before campers can officially leave us, for safety reason.

In any case where transportation changes are to be made or a change in person picking up, kindly email summercamp.opemikon@scouts.ca to inform and confirm with our team. Campers and Staff cannot make modifications without prior written communication with Senior Staff.



Camp Schedules

If campers are register for two programs back-to-back they can stay with staff during the changeover time and can follow the schedule for the their second week's departure. During that time they will have lunch and we can wash some laundry for their second program week.

Half-Week Programs:

Beavers

Camp Period (week)	Departure time from Scouts Canada HQ: 1:45PM	Arrival time to Scouts Canada HQ: 12:15PM
1	Saturday, July 6 th , 2024	Tuesday, July 9 th , 2024
2	Saturday, July 13 th , 2024	Tuesday, July 16 th , 2024
3	Saturday, July 20 th , 2024	Tuesday, July 23 rd , 2024
4	Saturday, July 27 th , 2024	Tuesday, August 30 th , 2024

Tenderpad

Camp Period (week)	Departure time from Scouts Canada HQ: 1:45PM	Arrival time to Scouts Canada HQ: 12:15PM
1	Tuesday, July 9 th , 2024	Saturday, July 13 th , 2024
2	Tuesday, July 16 th , 2024	Saturday, July 20 th , 2024
3	Tuesday, July 23 rd , 2024	Saturday, July 27 th , 2024
4	Tuesday, August 30 th , 2024	Saturday, August 3 rd , 2024



One-Week Programs:

Includes: Cubfield (Gold, Red, Black Pack, Total Pack), Brownsea, Trail, Paddling, Survival, and Vertical Skills programs.

Camp Period (week)	Departure time from Scouts Canada HQ: 1:45PM	Arrival time to Scouts Canada HQ: 12:15PM
1	Saturday, July 6 th , 2024	Saturday, July 13 th , 2024
2	Saturday, July 13 th , 2024	Saturday, July 20 th , 2024
3	Saturday, July 20 th , 2024	Saturday, July 27 th , 2024
4	Saturday, July 27 th , 2024	Saturday, August 3 rd , 2024
5	Saturday, August 3 rd , 2024	Saturday, August 10 th , 2024

Two-week Programs:

Includes Outdoor Skills & Leadership (OSL) and Counsellor-in-Training (CIT) programs.

Program & Camp Period (week)	Departure time from Scouts Canada HQ: 1:45PM	Arrival time to Scouts Canada HQ: 12:15PM
OSL Session 1 Week 1, 2	Saturday, July 6 th , 2023	Saturday, July 20 th , 2023
OSL Session 2 Week 3, 4	Saturday, July 20 th , 2023	Saturday, August 3 rd , 2023
CIT Session 1 Week 1, 2	Saturday, July 6 th , 2023	Saturday, July 20 th , 2023
CIT Session 2 Week 3, 4	Saturday, July 20 th , 2023	Saturday, August 3 rd , 2023

As OSL, and CIT are two-week programs, campers will remain on-site for the entirety of their program dates, with no additional fees.



Equipment and Camp Attire

All bags and equipment must be labelled with your camper's name and program area (i.e. John Smith, Brownsea, Period 2), as they will be brought to camp on a separate bus. Kindly, do not pack equipment in plastic bags.

We recommend campers bring **old clothing** to camp, labelled. Campers do not always recognize their gear when at camp, as many have similar articles, and name tags will help us return items to their owners.

A separate Equipment and Packing List will be sent and includes only the minimum required. Please go over the list with your camper to **ensure they are aware of what they are bringing, and where items will be packed.**

The official Scouts Canada uniforms are not required at summer camp.

Important items to bring for all campers!

- Raincoat
- Waterproof footwear
- Warm sweater or windbreaker
- Small day pack (school bag size)

Fishing gear is permissible, if properly labelled.

Overnight Out-Trips

Campers in programs with overnight out-trips will require a larger backpack, in addition to a small backpack. Personal dishes and cutlery will also be needed (plastic bowl, mug and spoon, fork, knife). Hiking boots are recommended for these trips.

Overnight out-trips are part of all programs, except Beavers and Tenderpad groups.

WHAT NOT TO SEND!

Do not send mobile devices such as cell phones, Ipods, computers, electronic games, expensive cameras, or any Bluetooth devices. Fidget spinners are not allowed at camp.

Please do not send any candy, chips, or gum, as forest critters will pay an unexpected visit to your camper's cabins or tents.

Cell Phones:

We are aware this may be the first time away from home, and possibly family for some, and parents/legal guardians want to stay in contact with campers. However, we ask you



to please understand that sending a mobile phone with your youth to camp will cause interruptions in programming.

Lots of our campers get homesick. Luckily, our staff team is fully trained to handle situations in which campers are missing home or feeling lonely without their families.

We all want your children to have as much fun as possible, so please leave these devices home. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at summercamp.opemikon@scouts.ca. Email is the fastest way to reach camp.

Pictures

With consent, we do our best to take pictures of each program to share with parents/legal guardians via Google Photos. Given the poor internet connection at times, we make every effort to regularly upload pictures.

The Google Photos link will be sent at the end of the week with our Camper Letters. We want to reassure you; these links are only shared with camper families attending camp and is not made public without parent/legal guardian approval prior.

Please note, our staff are very busy, and it is not always possible to get daily pictures, but we will do our best to capture some moment for you.

Lost & Found

Lost items are brought to our dining hall throughout the week for campers to claim their misplaced articles. If any items have been left behind after your camper's stay with us, you may email summercamp.opemikon@scouts.ca to make arrangement to reclaim them.

Medication

Please place all prescribed or over-the-counter medication in a labelled bag with your camper's name, program, and period. They are to be given to our check-in team to store and deliver them to our Health Centre staff with the filled out Prescription Information Form.

All medication must be labelled with you camper's name, program, and period. Dosage, time of administration, and purpose of medication is crucial information to ensure safety of all. Medication is dispensed only according to your instructions, by our medical staff in the Health Centre or by the Head Counsellor during outtrips.



Allergies

Opemikon can cater to all dietary restrictions. We use the information from your registration to inform our Kitchen staff and Counsellors of any allergies and dietary restrictions. The Kitchen staff use it to plan and prepare safe meals for all campers and Counsellors can help make sure campers have enough food for their dietary restrictions.

Badge Work (Canadian Path Outdoor Skills Achievements)

Here at Camp Opemikon, we practice and engage in the Canadian Path, *Plan, Do, Review* in all our programming.

Many activities center around previously established Scouts Canada Programs. Furthermore, our counselors will work with your camper to ensure they develop and hit as many milestones as possible while at camp. Each group will focus on the skills necessary to be successful on their outtrip first and then work on other skills. We will send home a letter with each camper to take back your scout leaders with the badges that we worked on during camp time.

Camp Mail

To ensure mail delivery at camp, please use the address below. We ask you do not use Priority mailing services or mail requiring signature upon delivery.

Camper's Name
Camper's Program & Period
Camp Opemikon
530 Hannah Road
Maberly, ON
K0H 2B0

We suggest you prepare any letters for your camper a few days before they leave for camp, to ensure we receive them in time before or during their period.

Alternatively, you may deliver your letter in a sealed envelope with the necessary information (camper name, program, and period) to our check-in team at departure. **This is the best way to be certain your camper will receive their mail in time. As we are in a rural area, mail often takes longer to get to us.**

Mail is distributed at various points throughout the week.



Be positive in your letters, and please avoid any sentences that may illicit homesickness (i.e. “We miss you!”). Instead use “we hope you are having a great time!” or “we are looking forward to hearing about your adventures!”.

Additionally, consider sending a journal and pen with your camper to log their daily activities, making it easier for them to share all the fun they had with us at camp.

Program overview

Scouts Canada is a member of the worldwide youth movement. Summer Programs at Camp Opemikon are designed around the expertise and experience of this movement. Campers learn by doing, working in small groups, and in individual activities. They are challenged and encouraged to do their best and try new experiences.

A typical day includes a variety of age-appropriate activities. Our daytime schedules may include swimming, canoeing, archery, high or low ropes, crafts, nature lore, stories, wide games, hiking, picnics, pioneering work, orienteering and more. Evening activities permit a variety of electives, where campers choose one of their favourite daytime activities or new ones such as supervised cooking, fishing off the dock or cruising around the bay in a paddle boat or kayak.

To help your camper plan what activities they would like to do, each program will go through a list of options to choose for their week at camp together.

Evening Activities

After dinner and electives, we have a different evening activities each night for all campers that are not on outtrips. Saturday is Field Games, Sunday is Opening Camp Fire, Monday is Carnival night (dress up in costumes), Tuesday is Movie Night, Thursday is Ope’s Got Talent (show your talent), Friday is Closing Camp Fire.

Theme Day

Cubfield (including Tenderpad) have fun on Thursdays on Theme Day. Campers will travel around camp (in costume or not) having fun playing games and activities based on the theme that week. On Tuesday evening we have Carnival night that the campers and staff dress up for the theme of the week and head to the Dining Hall for carnival games and dancing.

Period 1 & 3: Fairy Tales

Dress up as your favourite Fairy Tale creature as we join Shrek on an adventure around camp!



Period 2 & 4: Ope Olympics

The Olympics are here! Dress up as your favourite mythological immortal and join Hercules during Ope's Olympic Games!

Period 5: Time Warp

Ope is going back in time to the 80s. Join us in your tie-dye and neon and let's dance the night away!

Camper Code of Conduct

Attached is the Camper Code of Contact. Please review it with your child. The language is specific and may need to be adjusted for younger campers. The counsellors will review it, at an age appropriate level, with the campers during the first day of camp and sign it with them.

Tuck Shop

Every camper will be given a Opemikon 2024 Badge and a camper T-shirt. There is no canteen or trading post at camp. Therefore, please do not send money with your campers. We do have an online tuck shop if you are looking for more Opemikon merch.
<https://baloosbadgebin.com/product-category/opemikon/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any question or concerns at summercamp.opemikon@scouts.ca.

**WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO HAVE YOUR CAMPERS JOINING US AT CAMP
OPEMIKON THIS SUMMER!**



Camper Code of Conduct

Camp Opemikon

Camper's Name (Please print clearly): _____

Program Area: _____ Camp Period: _____

Camp Opemikon has a code of conduct for both campers and staff. Everyone is expected to abide by this code. Any violations will be cause for discipline, which may result in restriction of privileges or dismissal from camp. Interpretation and application of the code is at the discretion of the Camp Director. Parents of campers are required to make themselves available to pick up a camper should there be a major violation.

This document is being signed to remind the camper of the rules at Camp Opemikon and what is expected of them during their stay with us.

CAMPER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Everyone deserves respect. Therefore, no person will by words or actions, humiliate or subject to ridicule any camper or staff member.
2. Everyone is entitled to be comfortable and secure at camp. Therefore, no person shall yell or speak in a degrading manner to any person in camp. No person shall physically, verbally, sexually or emotionally abuse any camper or staff member.
3. As we are all members of the scouting movement, no person shall devalue the reputation, whether professionally or personally, of another person, of Camp Opemikon or of Scouts Canada.
4. No person shall discriminate against another individual based on race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed or sexual orientation, sex, age, record of offence, marital status or handicap as set out in the Ontario Human Rights Code. This agreement is applicable while you are on Scouts Canada property, wearing camp or Scouting uniform, or engaged in Scouting programs whether on site or participating in an out-trip activity.
5. Scouts Canada Property should be always treated with respect. Any intentional destruction of abuse of the property and budlings will not be tolerated.

Declaration: I have read and understood the **Camper Code of Conduct**, and I agree to adhere to it during my time as a camper at Camp Opemikon.

Camper signature: _____ Date: _____



Camper Prescription Information Form

Please inform us if your camper is coming to camp with any prescribed or over-the-counter medication, and fill out the information below for our Health Centre staff to ensure timely and safe administration. **Please print this form, fill it out, and hand it in during check-in.**

Thank you!

Camper's Name (Please print clearly): _____

Program Area: _____ **Camp Period:** _____

Does your camper take any prescribed or over-the-counter medication?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you selected Yes, please fill out the required information below.

Medication name: _____

Dose (i.e., 1 pill, 10ml): _____

Administration time (i.e., 8AM, 12PM, 8PM): _____

Medication name: _____

Dose (i.e., 1 pill, 10ml): _____

Administration time (i.e., 8AM, 12PM, 8PM): _____

Medication name: _____

Dose (i.e., 1 pill, 10ml): _____

Administration time (i.e., 8AM, 12PM, 8PM): _____

Parent/Legal Guardian signature: _____ **Date:** _____