

# OAK CAMP ORIENTATION PACKAGE

Dear Evans Lake Camper & Family,

Summer Camp is just around the corner so we thought we'd write you a letter to make sure you can prepare properly for your upcoming adventure! We've focused our years of camp experience to craft a "What to Bring" list, as well as some general tips and tricks that are sure to make your camp a blast!

## THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- A Snapshot of the Program
- A Packing List, incl. tips on Ideal Clothing/Fabric
- Camp Rules & Expectations
- Transportation Information
- An Invitation to our June Open House
- Communicable Diseases Safety Plan Details

## A SNAPSHOT OF THE PROGRAM:

### WELCOME TO EVANS LAKE

Outdoor Adventure Kamp (OAK) is an unforgettable journey into some of the Sea-to-Sky regions favourite backcountry adventures and hidden gems! After an orientation to camp, we gear up to play an awesome camp-wide game, followed by a swim and our opening campfire! The first day is designed to connect our OAK staff and team for the journey ahead.



### DAY 1

The first day of OAK is all about meeting the OAK team (of campers & staff), and getting oriented with the out-tripping gear! Once at camp, the OAK staff will take you on your own unique orientation, distribute our camping equipment and teach the group how to use it, introduce concepts like "Zero Trace" hiking, and lead the group through team-building exercises. Whether we are setting up tents, firing up stoves, or properly loading our packs, we cover it all.

### DAY 2-4

We'll enter Garibaldi Provincial Park and set up base station at Elfin Lakes. From there, Columnar, the Saddle & Gargoyles, the rim of an extinct volcano (the Opal Cone), and Mamquam Lake are all within our reach. Whatever our plans, we can't go wrong with the breathtaking views of the Garibaldi range and Bishop Glacier. Have we mentioned that we'll be tenting in the backcountry during the Perseids Meteor shower?



### DAY 5-6

With a night's rest at Evans Lake, we'll head out on a Sea Safari of the Howe Sound in jet boats! We'll cruise by the seals at Pam Rocks, the bird sanctuary near Christie Island, and the towering cliffs of Anvil Island. After an action-filled week, we'll pack up all of our remaining equipment, and say our goodbyes to close a very memorable OAK camp.

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PREVENTION AT CAMP

Ensuring the well-being of our campers and staff is our foremost concern at Evans Lake. Our Communicable Diseases Prevention Plan has been created to align with the guidelines outlined by the BCCDC and BC Camps Association. To view, kindly check out [our website](#).

***Should your child become unwell in the days preceding the camp, we urge you to contact our office promptly.***



## PACKING LIST:

These are the items we suggest campers should bring in order to have a fun, safe and comfortable OAK experience. On top of the packing list, Evans Lake will provide all participants with: foamie, all cooking utensils and supplies, tent, and an internal-frame backpack (if needed). *\*If the sleeping bag or backpack you bring is not sufficient for the conditions, Evans Lake can loan one from our camp set.*

### Campers Should Bring:

- Pillow (if desired, must be small)
- Sleeping Bag\*
- Internal-frame backpack\*
- Pajamas
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo
- Bath Towel, washcloth
- Adequate pairs of socks & underwear
- 1 pair light runners
- **1 pair of hiking boots**
- 2-3 pairs shorts
- 2-3 pairs long pants
- 4-5 light-weight shirts or T-shirts
- Long-sleeved shirt
- Swimsuit and towel
- Hiking backpack

**Please do not bring:** Electronics (e.g. cell phones), matches, knives, cigarettes, vapes, alcohol, drugs, very expensive or hard to replace items, food items (including gum), money.

**Optional:** Lock (with 2 keys), camera, flashlight, insect repellent, book/journal.

**Note:** Digital or film cameras are preferable to cell phones being used as cameras.

## CAMP RULES & EXPECTATIONS

The camp experience involves living in a small community setting for the week. In order to ensure the quality of experience for everyone, we expect all campers to treat each other, the staff, and camp property with respect. Families should review the following rules and expectations with their child prior to arrival at camp:

- The Evans Lake Forest Education Society is proud to uphold human rights, we value the inclusion of all members of our community, and we strive to create a fun environment for everyone to explore forests.
- Campers are expected to follow the instructions of camp leaders.
- Camp is a positive and inclusive space. As such, verbal abuse, physical aggression, harassment and bullying are not permitted.
- Smoking, vaping, drinking alcohol or consuming drugs is not permitted at any time.
- Items on the “Please do not bring” list that find their way to camp may be held by camp staff until the end of camp.

In the past, we have found the vast majority of campers at Evans Lake have an exciting and rewarding experience. Many return year after year and eventually take part in our Leadership Program or join our staff team! Unfortunately, on rare occasions, we have had to send campers home early for behaving in a manner that was considered a threat to their own safety or the safety of others, or inconsistent with the behaviour expectations detailed here and during the Orientation on the first day of camp. To avoid the disappointment of a camper returning home early, we ask families to review the camp rules with their child. In the event that a child must be depart early from the program for behavioural or safety concerns, families are responsible for picking up their child.

- Warm sweater
- Toque (suitable if we encounter residual snow)
- Rain jacket, rain pants
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Sunglasses (\*glare from the snow can be bright)

### LOST & FOUND

Please mark your child's name on their belongings. Lost & Found will be held for 2 weeks maximum.

### Don't have a Rain Jacket?

*Let our on-site staff team know and we can lend you a rain jacket.*

**When packing:** Consider marking all luggage with a distinctive marker/ribbon/tag so that you can easily identify your luggage at the transport point on the return from camp. Where possible, black plastic garbage bags are not recommended as they can be easily mistaken for another camper's belongings.

## CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR ON OAK

Consider fabrics such as wool, polypropylene, or fleece over cotton as they will keep you warm even if they become wet. Also, consider bringing several layers of clothing so that you can adjust your body temperature while we hike and at night.

**Hiking boots with proper ankle support are mandatory to participate in the OAK program. If you are bringing new hiking boots, they must be worn in by the time your child arrives at camp.**

## GENERAL NOTE ON WEATHER

As on any hiking trip, participants should be prepared for changing weather conditions including heavy rain, wind, and residual snow pack. Having clothes that will keep you warm and dry are essential for both your happiness and your effectiveness as a hiker!

# TRANSPORTATION:

Here is more detailed information about the locations to meet the bus to Evans Lake, and returning from Evans Lake.

## Pick-up/Drop Off Location

Your child will be picked up and returned to the location that you indicated in the on-line registration.

## Changing Your Bus Stop

If you decide to change your bus, please contact our office by emailing [info@evanslake.com](mailto:info@evanslake.com) or phoning (604)294-2267. **Changes to transportation must be made no later than 4PM Wednesday prior to travel.** If the session starts on a weekend you can leave a voicemail, as we check it frequently. **Changes may not be possible due to bus capacity limits.**

## Arrival Times

Please arrive at your bus location 30 min. prior to the departure times listed below. Campers need to check in and have their gear stowed away properly. Due to time schedules, buses cannot wait for tardy campers.

## Bus Stop Locations

### Old Yale Road School (Surrey)

10135-132 St, Surrey

132nd St. & Old Yale Rd, 1km West of King George Hwy

**Departs for Camp:** 10:00AM

**Return from Camp (approximate time):** 5:30PM

### Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal (Horseshoe Bay)

Meet at the entrance to the Foot Passenger loading area.

**Departs for Camp:** 11:00AM

If arriving by ferry, plan to arrive no later than 10:30AM

**Return from Camp (approximate time):** 4:30PM

## Transport Delay

If, as the buses return from Evans Lake on the final day of camp, there is a transport delay of 30 minutes or more, we will send an email/text to all families to notify them of the delay and provide them with a new estimated arrival time.

## If You Miss the Bus...

Call 604-294-2267 to discuss options or email [info@evanslake.com](mailto:info@evanslake.com). Office Hours Mon–Thurs: 9AM-5PM. Sunday: 9AM-12PM when traveling to camp, and Friday: 2PM-6PM when returning from camp.

## Changes To Who Picks Up Your Child

During registration you listed names of people who may pick up your child from camp. You also noted a 'Family Pick Up Code'. If your plans change and you need to send someone else to pick up your child, simply give them the 'Pick Up Code' and we will release your child to them.

### Patterson SkyTrain Station (Burnaby)

Located across from Central Park

On Beresford St. at Patterson St.

**Departs for Camp:** 10:30AM

**Return from Camp (approximate time):** 5:00PM

### Brennan Park Rec. Centre (Squamish)

1009 Centennial Way, Squamish, BC V8B 0E2

200 m west of Loggers Ln and Centennial Way, by baseball field

**Departs for Camp:** 12:00PM

**Return from Camp (approximate time):** 3:30PM

## Evans Lake's Vision, Mission & Values

**Vision:** Our community has an intimate connection to, and understanding of, the natural environment.

**Mission:** We offer immersive nature experiences, where children, youth, and community engage in play, connection, and learning.

### Values:

**Respect** - We demonstrate respect for the forest and environment, for one another, land, history, reciprocal relations and learning.

**Empower** - We empower leaders of the future and enable responsible stewards/citizens through education.

**Explore** - We learn through exploration, having fun, getting our hands dirty, community building, personal experiences and relationships.

**Sense of Belonging** - We nurture a sense of belonging, through inclusion, cultural, physical, emotional safety, and accessibility.

## Open House, June 21, 11 AM - 3 PM

We will be hosting Open House for you to see camp, try our activities, enjoy lunch (\$), and meet our incredible staff. There will also be a silent auction benefiting our Campership fund. Please check [our website](#) for additional details.



## Memories to Last a Lifetime

Your camper(s) will return home with countless stories about their camp experience! To help you piece them together and have some keepsakes, we'll share photos during camp on Instagram and Facebook. After each session, parents will receive a Flickr link to that session's photos.

## See You Soon!

Whether this is your first year or your eighth, we've spent the whole year making camp a perfect place to spend time this summer. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Our staff is truly looking forward to meeting you all and crafting some unforgettable memories!