

# Reflecting on Great Moments in Camping



**By Gill Thompson and Erin Sunstrum, Co-Directors**

**A** **SWANAPITEI** says hello to our new director Mercede Rogers, I've been thinking about my life with camp over the past 19 summers. Although my time working at camp is over, this doesn't feel like a goodbye. I know that the friendships and connections I've made through this community will continue, and I'm sure I'll be paddling on Lake Temagami someone soon. I've always felt like I belong at Wanapitei, and I hope that you all feel that way as well. After all, that's what camp is all about, right?

My first summer going to Wanapitei, I was excited but nervous. I didn't know anyone else, I'd never really been camping before, and I didn't even know I was signed up for a whitewater trip (that was a good surprise). I met one of my leaders when I was getting on the bus and she sat beside me and chatted when she noticed I was sitting by myself. When we were packing up for our trip, I couldn't get my sleeping bag in my stuff sack, but another camper came over and showed me how to make it work. Partway through the trip, I still couldn't figure out how to tie a painter rope, but my leader said it took him a few years to get it right, so it's okay to



need some practice. At the end of that trip, I knew I would be back next summer and I couldn't wait.

Those small acts of kindness made a big impact on me. I felt like people wanted me to be there, and I'm grateful they took the time to help out to a shy, quiet 13 year old who was new to everything canoe tripping. That sense of community has been with me ever since. Wanapitei is awesome, and it's full of great people. My summers there have been full of laughter, joy, adventure, challenges, growth, and everything in between. I love this camp, and I'm lucky to have spent so much time there. I hope that reading through

these pages helps remind you of what makes Wanapitei special to you.

So, this summer at camp be kind whenever you can. Help someone out when they're trying to close the tent pack, ask someone to paddle with you, make new friends, or maybe just sit beside someone when they're by themselves. That's what camp is all about. - *Gill*

Each summer we ask our staff to share their Great Moment In Camping (GMIC) as part of their staff profiles on our website. I've always loved reading about their adventures out on trip and

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# Meet Mercede, Our New Camp Director

WELCOME to Mercede Rogers, our new Director. She took the time to answer all of our burning and not so burning questions.

**What is your favourite book or book series?**

"The Marrow Thieves" by Métis Canadian writer Cherie Dimaline.

**What makes you laugh the most?**

My sisters! I am in the middle of three girls and we can be pretty ridiculous.

**What's your favourite movie?**

Frozen...I know I know...but we have young kids, the songs are catchy and I really want a friend like Olaf.

**What is your favourite game or sport to watch/play?**

Ultimate Frisbee.

**If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?**

My grandmother's spaghetti and meatballs.

**Have you ever had a nickname?**

My friends and family call me Sadie and some spell it Cede. It is rare I go by Mercede, mostly because people tend to say "Mercedes" by default.

**How many pairs of shoes do you own?**

Hmm...probably too many and only wear three...Blundstones, Birks, and mukluks.

**If you were a superhero, what powers would you have?**

I want to fly! Oh and freeze time, and time travel and teleport...ok, too many superpowers. I would just be content with being able to sing and play any instrument I pick up, that counts right?

**Are you a clean or messy person?**

Messy! I'm working on it. Sigh.

**What's your favourite family recipe?**

My mom's cranberry muffins.

**Do you collect anything?**

Not on purpose! Well, except for canoes, that collection is coming along



Mercede and her family have been tripping in the Temagami area for years.

nicely. Personally, I do have a lot of buff's and axes but who doesn't?!

**What's the next place on your travel bucket list?**

Lately it seems that many folks I know have headed to Costa Rica and that's been on my mind. I have been before but would love to go as a family.

**What's your favourite ice cream flavour?**

CHOCOLATE. Always.

**What's your favourite quote from a TV show/movie/book?**

The first thing that came to mind was a quote that goes something like "a ship in a harbour is safe, but that's not what ships were built for." I don't know if that is actually my favourite, but that's what is in my head right now.

**What's one thing that can instantly make your day better?**

A hug from our kids.

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**The Paddler**  
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# The End of an Era: Farewell Erin & Gill

*By Geoff Hodgins, CEO & Co-Chair  
of the Wanapitei Board of Directors*

**I**T IS WITH MIXED emotions that we say farewell to Erin and Gill, Directors of Camp Wanapitei for the past three years. We wish them both well, as Gill follows her passion for outdoor education and adventure to the west coast and Erin explores career opportunities flowing from her pending Masters in Counselling Psychology, but they will be missed dearly. Erin arrived at Wanapitei for a one year maternity leave position in 2011. Gill made her Wanapitei debut as a two-week Pioneer back in 2004. There are so many of you who would not know a Wanapitei without them.

Erin and Gill accepted the co-directorship of Wanapitei in December 2019, just a few months before the world plunged into the turmoil of Covid-19. Following a whirlwind of scenario planning, scrapping and re-planning, the summer was, of course, stolen from them as it was from all of us. Remember the days of Zoom campfires?

The approach to 2021 was no less tumultuous, yet Gill and Erin were determined there would be a Wanapitei summer. The Yukon opened and we committed to our V2 program – the summer of five remote northern trips. Then Ontario regulations loosened to permit organized canoe tripping while still not allowing residential camps. Did this offer a window? Could we run a season without a basecamp? Everything was on the table. And then there was the moving target of when the call

would be made for youth camps that was finally set way too late to be able to mount a program afterwards. So plans were made and staff were tentatively hired until finally the veil was lifted. But, of course, our directors also had to consider what it meant to run a camp during this still quite unpredictable stage of the Covid-19 pandemic, and to pull it off.

And here we are, reminiscing about the incredible summer of 2022. Wanapitei was bursting at the seams both with enrolment and the excited joy of over 400 kids back at camp. What a swan-song for our departing duo. What a legacy. In just three years, Erin and Gill managed to navigate from the smallest to the largest camp in the 92 year history of Wanapitei on Lake Temagami. To their staff they will be remembered as leaders and mentors who fostered a caring supportive environment. For Wanapitei and the greater youth camping community, they have helped blaze a trail of increased acceptance and inclusivity. These are among the gifts they pass on to Mercede, our new Camp Director. So, the phoenix rises, allowing our sadness to be tempered by the promise of further growth, renewal, continuity and change. Building on the strengths that have brought us to this place, I believe good things are in store for Camp Wanapitei.



# Starting the Journey with the Juniors



## JUNIORS

**DATES:** July 18 - 20, 2022

**LEADERS:** Matt Blumberg, Daniel Horton, Zoë Szabo

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sam Cowan-Dewar, Tristan Hill-Meremetci, George Jeffrey-Deway, Leo Rappaport

### Day 2

Hours on the water: 2

Distance travelled: 20KM

Weather: Hot and sunny, low winds once more.

Quote of the Day: "I'm a weakling, you guys need to save me!" - Sam & "Is that a whale?" - Tristan

We started our first morning on trip with a nice little sleep-in, then a delicious breakfast of English muffins and scrambled eggs with bacon and cheese prepared by Daniel. Dishes were washed thanks to Leo's whirlpool technique and then we packed up our site! We headed out on the water and up Ferguson Bay, meeting some lovely dragonflies and damselflies as we paddled. We even passed a few other Wanapitei groups on the water! Once we spotted our campsite, the three boats had a thrilling race which ended in a tie. To celebrate we went swimming, sliding and jumping off of the large rock at the site! There was much enthusiasm for pb+j sammies for lunch, and they were gobbled down swiftly. Next we collected firewood, with some awesome collaboration! Leo, Tristan, George and Sam alternated finding dead trees,

cracking and stacking firewood and running loads back to the campsite. With our giant pile we were able to make some very exciting pizza for dinner! As the leaders prepared the dough we did our final Scrub Club and some more swimming. Then we chose our pizza toppings, and Leo led the group in several games of Guess That Pokemon! All of the campers got to participate as we ate our dinner, and then Matt ran a game of Freeze! and Scatter! It was still light out when we had the rest of our delicious s'mores - and with no mosquitos this time! Lights out - happy last night on trip Juniors!



## JUNIORS

**DATES:** July 18 - 20, 2022

**LEADERS:** Asher Birenbaum, Min Timmins, Ella Taylor

**PARTICIPANTS:** Robyn Colman, Logan Leguia, Kurtis Matantsev, Vivian McNeil, Ruby Mitchell-Webster, George Sawh, Ryan Shaw.

### Day 2

Hours on the water: 3

Distance travelled: 3.5KM

Weather: Sunny and hot! Cloudy towards the end of the day.

Rise n shine Junior Bs! We woke up to blue skies and bacon on the fire for day 2 of trip! The campers packed up their sleeping bags and tents. Boats were put in the water thanks to Logan, Kurtis and George. So strong! As gear was being packed and boats were being loaded, breakfast of English muffins, eggs, bacon, and yogurt were on the way! Breakfast was devoured and we were on the water headed to our first and only portage of the day. Everyone was super strong and we crushed the portage in no time. Ryan even tried carrying a boat! After the portage we headed to our campsite where we enjoyed a pb + j lunch. Afterwards we headed towards

the jumping rocks where everyone jumped off into the water! Vivian and Ella went in hand-in-hand! After much jumping, snackery of apples, and blueberry picking we paddled back to our campsite. Mac n Cheese was made and stuffed into mouths and then a beautiful evening swim, and hot chocolate to finish the night. What a great day! So proud of you, Junior Bs! Tomorrow we paddle under the bridge!!



## JUNIORS

**DATES:** July 24 - 27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Asher Birenbaum, Daniel Horton, Zoë Szabo, Ella Taylor, Min Timmins.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Finn Braidwood, Oliver Braidwood, Avery Fernando, Rayna Gopalan, Owen Maish, Kurtis Matantsev, Dexter Ohm, Valerie Ohm, Ryan Shaw.

### Day 3

Hours on the water: 2

Distance travelled: 6KM

Weather: Warm and sunny, with a nice breeze from the west.

Quote of the Day: "Your fist doesn't look like quick-dry underwear!" - Finn

The VII Juniors started off the day with a nice sleep-in after our exhausting previous day of overlanding. We slowly rustled out of our tents as Ella cooked up some beautiful pancakes. Packing of sleeping bags and stuffing of tents ensued. Boats were loaded so breakfast followed, which included a delish chocolate sauce topping! After eating breakfast on the beach and playing some games we were on the water, bows toward Napoleon where we were to tackle our height of land. After battling headwinds we made it to Napoleon where we began our hike. There were blueberries galore so we munched as we walked until we reached the top of the



mountain. Finn had two full handfuls! Lunch of pb and j was prepared while we lounged in the shade. Afterward we scrambled back down, as Oli wasn't feeling well. We eventually made it back to our boats where games of mafia and wink murderer were played. After the long rest of playing games we got back into boats and paddled to our campsite. Firewood was collected and afterward some of us swam, where Kurtis, Dexter, and Owen used the rocks as a slippery slide! Dinner of lazy Ps, and a group reading of pony pals until the bugs chased us into our tents for the night. Have a good sleep, Juniors! Tomorrow, we paddle under the bridge!

cucumber and tomato. The portage went very smoothly and we are incredibly proud of our group. Special shout-out to Eli for taking the tent pack the whole way (it was practically the same size as him)! After completing the portage we paddled a short distance to our campsite on Horseshoe Island. Marie-Anne and Cy had a lot of fun playing in the forest before our pizza dinner. The leaders enjoyed Frances' company while they cooked dinner, telling them tons of fun facts. Marshmallows were greatly appreciated by everyone for dessert and some pretty amazing sticks were found for such an occasion. Rae taught everyone how to make marshmallow gum and we all gave it a try. Before it got too dark we all brushed our teeth and headed to bed to

sleep after a long and fun day. see you tomorrow, Juniors!

## JUNIORS

**DATES:** August 3-5, 2022

**LEADERS:** Gwen Elmhirst, Romey Karovitch, Sebastian (Seabass) Shaw.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Owen Cescon, Angus Gray, Joseph Rumble, Elliot Webber, Dashiell Webster.

## Day 2

Day two here we go! The leaders were pleasantly surprised by the absolute speed the campers brought to packing up their belongings this morning. Joe

## JUNIORS

**DATES:** August 3-5, 2022

**LEADERS:** Sarah Irvine, Tenley McKay, Rae Panayi

**PARTICIPANTS:** Hazel Grassick, Eli Large, Cy Mathers-McHenry, Frances McCarten, Marie-Anne Rauwerda, Molly Vollmershausen

## Day 1

Hours on the water: 4.25

Distance travelled: 7KM

Weather: Cloudy with crazy headwinds

Quote of the Day: "Chapeau, it's you." - Everyone

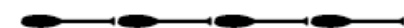
Good morning Junior A's! After a couple fun days at camp we are all finally ready (and excited) to go on our canoe trip! We woke up in camp to light rain but that wasn't going to stop us. It was around 12:15pm when we finally hit the water to make our way towards Pickerel Bay. The winds were strong, but not as strong as us. Molly and Hazel sang "purple stew", a song we learned the night before at campfire, in every single animal language they could think of. Once we arrived at the Pickerel Bay portage we unloaded our boats and enjoyed the classic first day of trip lunch, bagels with cream cheese,





hyped everyone up for our oatmeal breakfast!! Many can agree, the hype was deserved. It was a bit rainy and cloudy this morning, so we took it slow. We got the site packed up after a morning of more fishing, and guess what? Owen caught two fish!! Thankfully they weren't a wild and wacky Seabass. A flurry of excitement from everyone. The patience paid off! Our next campsite was Ferguson. We set up camp, and ate some yummy jam sandwiches. We got a visit from Gill and Alex on the motorboat who picked up Angus, and brought him back to camp. Lots of waves goodbye from everyone! We then got ready to head to the jumping rocks. After a short paddle and lots of "are those the jumping rocks???" questions from the campers about every single rock we saw, we arrived! We started off with the medium sized rock. Everyone supported and cheered on each other. SO so awesome to see!! Sometimes all it took was a nice lil warm up dip in the water beforehand to get ready. Dash shocked everyone with his lack of hesitation! We quickly graduated from the medium rock to the super tall rock! Lots of epic jumps and epic photos from Gwen and Romey. So much cheering was heard when after a little while Gwen, Seabass, Joe,

and Elliot jumped off of the biggest rock. We were all so proud! Apple snack fuelled our paddle back. We could have stayed at the jumping rocks for ages, and were sad to go. Once back at Ferguson we collected firewood and got ready to head over and meet our friends the Junior A's! Our visit with the other juniors was lovely. Lots of playing in the forest and on the rocks. We had a very yummy mac & cheese for dinner, followed by a delicious chocolate cake to celebrate the birthday of one of the Junior A's. The two groups worked together to finish dishes. A beautiful sunset was enjoyed by all, then we headed back to our site for the night. A cuddle puddle and silly tent sesh was enjoyed by all. We even got an appearance from a glow worm who looked a lot like Dash in a sleeping bag. So odd. Last night on trip Junior B's!



## JUNIORS

**DATES:** August 9-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Sarah Irvine, Tenley McKay,  
Rae Panayi

**PARTICIPANTS:** Jack Gibbons, Eli  
Large, Jenny Nakogee, Winter Noah,

Leo Robinson, James Satin Levin,  
Molly Vollmershausen,  
Talon Wheeler

## Day 1

Hours on the water: 4.25

Distance travelled: 7KM

Weather: Hot, sunny, and gorgeous.

Quote of the Day: "I've really seen a fire  
go up in flames before" - Eli

Good morning, Junior Avocado! It's time for trip. We all woke up at 7:30 to be all packed up and ready before our 8:30 breakfast of pancakes and bacon, yum! We did our last bit of packing, loaded up then set off! Everyone did great on the way to Napoleon where we hiked up for lunch. Eli, James, and Jack had fun playing only step on the rocks on the way up. Then James and Molly went crazy picking blueberries while we ate our bagel + cream cheese lunch. We headed down and loaded up to paddle to our site in Pickerel Bay. Once we finally arrived we all worked hard to get a good load of firewood then stopped for a well deserved snack of no bakes (or should I say giblits). Molly, Jenny, Winter, Talon, and Rae had a great time swimming even though they tried to drown the leader! While the leaders made pizza, Leo, James, Talon, Eli, and Jack were beating up a stump (very successfully)! We all ate then had a lot of fun putting needles in the fire and making "bombs" from twigs, bark, and needles.



## JUNIORS

**DATES:** August 9-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Gwen Elmhirst, Romey  
Karovitch, Sebastian  
(Seabass) Shaw.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Isabel Arseneau,  
Grace Halfnight, Paxton Jones,  
James Luengo, Maïa Luengo, Ella  
Matchett, Liam McNaughton,  
Jackson Mazurkiewicz



**Day 2**

Hours on the water: 0.5

Weather: Gorgeously sunny morning  
with a very stormy & windy evening  
Quote of the Day: "James, you can't steal  
seats, this is nature!" - Maïa

Day two, Juniors! This morning we awoke to sunshine in our tents! The boys packed up their things super quickly. Some major organization was done while Romey whipped whipped WHIPPED up some oatmeal. Some of us had wow butter & jam sammies instead. More playing and exploring of the site was done this morning as dishes were done. Parkour!! Liam led everyone on the route he created. Once sun screened and hatted up, we got on the water.

The winds helped us with our paddle to Fergie (Ferguson)!! We set up camp, where we then devoured lunch. Plans to go to the jumping rocks changed as the winds picked up and a storm rolled in. We battened down the hatches as the sky opened and POURED on us for a little while. While the girls, Romey, & Gwen had some bonding time in the tent, the boys & Seabass did a lightning drill under the tarp. Everyone was an absolute trooper. Thankfully, there was a lovely calm after the storm.

We had some pink lemonade juice crystals and absolutely killed the firewood game. Some resting (and less restful activities) were done before Seabass proceeded to whip whip WHIP up some amazing, incredible, awesome soup. Just what we needed. Paxton took a nice little swim, in some soup too!! Isabel gave some greatly appreciated back massages to the leaders! Dishes were once again done (way to go dish crew!) and we all got cozy into bed ready for a good night's sleep. Tomorrow- the bridge!!

# Tranquil Temagami with the Temags

**TEMAGAMI (EARLY JULY)**

**ROUTE:** *The Cowboy Boot Loop (Lake Temagami-Eye Lake-Obabika Inlet-Lake Temagami -paddle under the bridge).*

**DATES:** July 6-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Xin Law-Gallagher, Jordan Dewey Decker, Gwen Elmhirst, (with special guest Matt Chung)

**PARTICIPANTS:** Emerson Brooks, Alexine Girard, Ann Miray Rade, Adelaide Plotkin-Preston.

**Day 3**

Hours on the water: 3.5

Distance travelled: 9KM

Weather: Hot, warm, sunny

Quote of the Day: "How is there  
Marshmallow on my butt?!" - Xin

Woke up today and all I can say is that coconut milk oatmeal was awfully crazy, had this one bite so rich and creamy. Alexine was a packing up star and we set off down the Northwest arm of Lake Temagami with the winds at our backs. The stress of paddling blown away by the winds, and we told stories while imagining our dream restaurants. After threading through some islands at the armpit of lake Temagami, we prepared for a big lake crossing by eating no bakes. Ann had her first no bakes EVER!!! Having arrived decently early at our campsite, we made a hot linner of falafel while the kids played in the boat

on the beach. We were camped in the relatively populous bay called Witch Bay (Which bay?) and two houseboats moored themselves down the beach from us. We were originally quite disappointed that we would have 'company'. Jojo went over to be assertive, or intimidate them to leave? But they were actually very lovely and an hour or so after they arrived, a burly man with a Harley Davidson tank top and a handlebar moustache came to ask us if we wanted to use the slide off the back of the boat. The answer was a resounding yes (resounding in volume as well, everyone screamed). After cycling the slide for half an hour, we returned to the campsite for a 'dinner' of Smores- Emerson enjoyed his vegan shmellows. We did a Rock, Stick, Leaf debrief to make halfway through trip. Gwen's first full day with us! Goodnight Temagamis and goodnight family of ducks that swam by... Twice.

**TEMAGAMI (LATE JULY)**

**ROUTE:** *Triple "KO" Loop (Lake Temagami-Kokoko-Kokoko Bay-Bear Island-Witches Bay-Ferguson-paddle under the bridge).*

**DATES:** July 19-24, 2022

**LEADERS:** Riley Heavens, Tenley McKay, Sebastian Shaw.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Evan Cathcart, Ezra Dudek, Felix Lundin Grievson, Noah Melnik, Quinn Mitchell-Webster, Felix Ramisch, Brody Stevens, Rowan Stevens, Christian Todd, David Walsh.

**Day 3**

Distance travelled: 11KM

Weather: Slight rain all day until the evening when it got sunny

Quote of the Day: "I'm all jelly'd out." -  
Rowan



We got out of our tents this morning to grey skies and slight rain (not what we were hoping for after yesterday sigh) but started our day off strong by quickly taking down the tents. After a delicious breakfast of oatmeal and discussions about stocks, we decided to hit the water with good spirits. A short paddle later, we pulled up to the start of the portage and unloaded the boats. We started portaging, and us leaders were super impressed at how well the campers were at carrying everything (Great job guys!). After that awesome portage, we decided to raft up in the boats to eat lunch which was a very tasty pesto. While eating, we ended up dropping a couple pieces of cutlery in the water but Ezra, (hard as nails as he is) volunteered to dive down to the bottom to fetch the lost cutlery while the rest of us were all cold from the rain. What a saviour. After retrieving the cutlery, we kept on paddling some more and a short while after that the sun finally poked its head out to say hi again along with the great blue sky, only right before we rick rolled another canoe trip. The sun persisted when we pulled up to our gorgeous campsite, and we all unloaded quickly just in time for a scrub club with a visit from a leech. We continued our night by getting started on dinner making while the campers somehow all needed to pee so they marked their territory around the

kitchen. Splendid. We served up dinner after some grill licking, where Rowan ate jelly tortilla, everyone else had burritos, and Ezra had both combined. Coming to the consensus that that wasn't enough food, we decided to fry up some brownies right before everyone went to bed. What a great day everyone. Goodnight all!



## TEMAGAMI (LATE JULY)

### ROUTE: THE FRIENDSHIP LOOP!!!

(Camp - Pickerel Bay - Devil Bay - Lake Temagami - paddle under the bridge)

DATES: July 19-24, 2022

**LEADERS:** Riley Buckle, Mark Teron, Emma Tutt.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Arin Acharja, Indra Atto, Marnie Bates, Asher Chubb, Sebastian Colman, Alexine Girard, Jacob Girard, Theo Greisman-Blank, Olivia Laurie Leguia, Audrey Lindsay.

### Day 4

Hours on the water: 7.5

Distance travelled: 14KM

Weather: Started hot and windy, mix of rain and sun in the afternoon.

Quote of the Day: "Rock me mama like a wagon wheel, rock me mama like a banana peel" (but a reggae cover).

- Arin

Friends today's the day; time for the friendship loop to live up to its namesake. After a lovely pancake breakfast morning at our nice beach campsite, all the campers' favourite spot so far, we made the short paddle over to our first fellow Lake Temagami summer camp; Northwaters. They loved the letter so much that they sent us on our way with some ginger cookies. We ate them all up in one huge bite, YUM! Then out of the corner of our eyes we saw 7 red and white Wanapitei looking boats paddling on the opposite shore. On a whim, thinking they were the WLITS Audrey and Mark zoomed across the lake to intercept them. We were right, and boy were they glad to see us. Despite forgetting their aquatabs, which we so generously donated some of, they seemed to be having a great time, even managing to be ahead of schedule on their trip. We shared some trip stories and, after Indra excitedly figured out what some desert bound penguins were up to, some riddles too before parting ways. In no time we had reached our next stop in the name of friendship, Camp Wabun. After another successful delivery we stopped shortly thereafter for a quick swim and played camp trivia for a tuck chocolate bar snack. After a lengthy open water crossing into the wind, Seb and Indra crushing it in the stern of the camper boats, we finally made it to our final delivery of the day, Canadian Adventure Camp. With all of our mail for the day delivered we moseyed on back towards camp down Lake Temagami. Despite some intermittent rain we made good distance while scheming up some trip skit ideas and then finally setup camp with Camp Keewaydin, tomorrow's delivery just a hop and a skip away. We devoured some Montreal steak spice and dill powered mac and cheese and Mark played some camp guitar classics with backup singers Arin, Asher and Alexine. After a job well done and now on our home stretch



of the friendship loop we snuggled up into our tents for a good night's sleep. No better vibes to sleep to than spreading the love.



### TEMAGAMI (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Obabika Lake (Camp- Devil Bay - Obabika Inlet - Obabika Lake - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 5-10, 2022

**LEADERS:** Asher Bierenbaum, Ella Iles, Emma Tutt

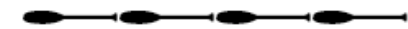
**PARTICIPANTS:** Grace Bauer, Audrey Benson, Moyra Kenward-Park, Desmond MacKinnon, Anna McNaughton, Isla Mazurkiewicz, Forest Wheeler, Solomon Young.

### Day 3

Weather: Rainy

After a little sleep in the Temags awoke to a rainy and cloudy morning. We filled up on some yummy oatmeal and shortly after hopped into the boats to start our day. It wasn't long until we reached our first portage. Although to our surprise it was an unexpected portage. We decided to tag team a lift over and all worked together to carry each boat over the 50m portage. To Isla, Anna, and Desmond's delight no bakes were eaten for snack and as the rain began to pick we began heading toward our next portage. We completed the next portage in record time and had now made it to Obabika Lake. After a short paddle we decided to camp early to get out of the rain and warm up. Once arriving at our campsite we formed a circle and took turns teaching dance moves. Asher taught everyone the 'bounce and wiggle' dance which helped everyone warm up. We ate a delicious Mac for dinner and to many people's request had s'mores for dessert. Grace and Sol both attempted a new technique where they melted chocolate

on the graham crackers before adding the marshmallow. Before going to bed we watched the sunset and stood around a fire singing 'Green Grass Grows'. Good night Temags!



### TEMAGAMI (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Obabika Loop (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Wakimika Lake - Wakimika Creek - Obabika Lake - Obabika Inlet - Devil Bay - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 5-10, 2022

**LEADERS:** Matt Blumberg, Clare Farley, Daniel Horton

**PARTICIPANTS:** Anna Benequista, Lucas Cescon, Leo Harrison, Henri Hinz-Theriault, Ruby Mathers McHenry, John McLean, Naomi Queyras, Sam Queyras, Sky Thiessen, Benjamin Van Hinte

### Day 2

Hours on the water: 7

Distance travelled: 19KM

Weather: Cloudier

Quote of the Day: "I'm excited to see what I look like after puberty" - John

Rise and shine Temags! Another beautiful blue bird sky above us and the smell of bacon, eggs, yogurt and pineapple (get used to hearing that one) wafting over to the tents to wake the group. Boats were packed, food was eaten, and off we went to Sharp Rock. On the way we had to power over a beaver dam which Henri helpfully pointed out, and passed by a Wapameo group taking out where we were putting in. It was perhaps the quickest portage to ever be portaged, and then it was on to Diamond. The paddle started out calm but winds quickly built against us slowing down our progress. Never fear, Lucas and Sky's tremendous sterning kept the boats going the right way until it was time for a pasta salad party! Onwards and onwards we went across Diamond, telling stories, singing songs, and deciding whether or not we agreed with Anna that that cloud looks like a snake and that one looks like a bird with a worm in its mouth. As the day began to wane a beautiful campsite



welcomed us with open arms that we couldn't refuse. Sam, Naomi and Ruby made dumplings while even more veggie dissections were made, combining for the biggest BIG soup any of us had ever seen. S'mores for dessert as the sun said it's last goodbye for today, quickly followed by sleeping bags and pillows. Night Temags!

## TEMAGAMI (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Clearwater Saunter (Camp - Lake Temagami - Devil Bay - Obabika Inlet - Obabika Lake - Clearwater Lake - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 20-25, 2022

**LEADERS:** Clare Farley, Riley Heavens, Xin Law-Gallagher

**PARTICIPANTS:** Davis Cho-Chu, Austin Dey-Kerr, Maxime Kun-Watson, Dean Ikiouane McBride, Ma'ayan Moscovitch, Leo Olajos, Ellis Stiegman, Nicholas Weatherhead, Henry Wilson

### Day 3

Hours on the water: 3

Distance travelled: 3KM

Weather: Hot, sunny, light breeze

Quote of the Day: "Mayo"... "more like Nay-o" -Austin

Good morning campers! We have a short and fun day ahead! We woke up early and started to pack up our stuff. The group was slow packing up but were quite speedy getting the boats

loaded. Clare and Riley made delicious oatmeal for breakfast. They put molasses and chocolate chips in it and was it ever goooood! We cleaned up and were on the water in no time! We paddled to our first portage. It was very short but it was so muddy unloading the boats. Leo and Austin helped all the boats unload and took multiple loads. One portage was done and then we were already at the next! The campers all killed it! Dean took the wani again! We finished the portage so quickly and finally made it into Obabika Lake! It was beautiful! The water was so clear. We kept paddling and made it to our third campsite. It was this huge rock that overlooked the lake. We enjoyed PB & J sandwiches and many games of scatter. Then we were off to our next adventure! Exploring Clearwater! We all hopped into 3 boats with all the leaders as mojos! We started paddling to the trail that leads to Clearwater lake when all of a sudden Clare jumped out of her boat and started splashing Riley's boat! We all jumped out of our boats and started splashing each other. Xin and Clare gave the kids a good rinse in the canoe washing machine. And then... WE HAD A MUD FIGHT! Everyone was in the water throwing mud left and right at each other. It was so much fun!!! Then we walked along the beach to the portage that led to Clearwater. It was a long trail but sooo worth it. We eventually got to the end and you could just see the clear water! It was absolutely stunning. Who knew that Clearwater Lake would actually have clear water!! We all jumped in the water

and started swimming. We enjoyed our time there then headed back towards our campsite. We got back and started making our pizza right away! It took a while but it was so worth it. When it got dark Ellis showed everyone Mars and we all listened to Xin play guitar! Good night campers!

## TEMAGAMI (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *The Obabika Scoop. (Camp - Napoleon portage - Diamond Lake - Wakimika Lake - Wakimika Creek - Obabika Lake - Shish-Kong - Bob Lake - Diamond Lake - Lake Temagami - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 20-25, 2022

**LEADERS:** Rae Panay, Ella Iles, and Riley Buckle.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Jordyn Einarson, Grace Hood, Ella Ingram, Isaac Lewinberg, Martin Lewinberg, Emma Nguyen, Sophia Parsons and Zoe Parsons.

### Day 3

Quote of the Day: "This pizza is amazing what's the secret? - Grace  
"Pancake mix! - the Leaders

Everyone woke up bright and early to PERFECT weather for the first time on trip! The leaders made a delicious oatmeal while all the campers packed up and Ella and Emma tried to revive a frog that was dead but also not dead?! We set off from the campsite at an early

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9:30 am and started our way down the Wakimika creek. Rae and Grace saw two massive turtles and Isaac and Jordyn did an awesome job sterning in the winding creek. After the creek we had a ton of fun on Obabika Lake eating lunch, swimming and watching float planes land. The leaders had to actually drag Zoe, Ella, Emma and Jordyn out of the water at the end it was so nice. Afterwards we arrived at our longest portage yet. The portage went through a beautiful old growth forest from Obabika to Shishkong Lake. Shishkong Lake was amazing so we decided to camp! At the campsite everyone swam while the leaders made some pizza dough. Eugene, Rae, Isaac and Jordyn went on a beautiful hike to see some massive trees while everyone else started on pizza. At the three sisters (three old trees) Jordyn and Isaac left notes in a box that was there expressing how grateful they were for the beautiful forest they were in. Afterwards we ate SO MUCH PIZZA, had s'mores and then enjoyed the stars! Amazing day Temags!

# Capturing Curiosity with the Coureurs de Bois



## COUREUR DE BOIS (EARLY JULY)

**ROUTE:** Centre Four (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Maple Mountain - Centre Falls - Willow Island Lakes - Devil Mountain - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 4-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Tenley McKay, Ethan Rajaratnam, Zoë Szabo

**PARTICIPANTS:** Arlind Baclet-Tirana, Mason Carley, Sage Dorcas, Xander Kurt, Felix Rade, Nicholas Rauwerda, Domenik Rockel, Riley Wood

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 10

Distance travelled: 29KM

Weather: Sunny and hot, with one passing shower in the afternoon.

Quote of the Day: "I'm a natural solar panel, that's why I'm going to get sunburnt." - Domenik

Today started off on the right foot with a delicious peach crisp for breakfast, followed by a neglected scrub club from the night before. This may seem like a difficult task but never fear! Immediately following the necessary personal hygiene came fun in the form of cliff jumping! Some excellent and some silly photos were taken while mid-air by Tenley and Ethan. Next we packed up and paddled down the last few kilometers of Lady Evelyn Lake and made our way back onto our first map! Riley decided to take a canoe as we portaged back to the top of the small chute into Diamond Lake... and as we left, spotted the first of five other canoeing groups on the water with us (but going in the opposite direction). The paddle down Diamond was interspersed with many water breaks as we fought to stay cool and hydrate, not die-drate! We arrived at the Sharp Rock portage, our last one of the trip, and decided to complete a fun challenge: Zoë timed the group to see how fast we could go! Arlind also tried his hand at carrying a canoe, and we finished the portage in sixteen and a half minutes. Go team! After that speedy run, a well-deserved snack of g-bars was in order - along with plenty more water. Energy levels returned, we sped over the beaver dam once more,

with a lovely soundtrack from Xander, Felix, Mason and Arlind to hype us up. On our way down the north arm of Lake Temagami we were hit with a sudden downpour! It soaked us all through but left after 10 minutes, and we continued our way to a rocky lunch spot. The delicious Thai Pasta Salad was not quite enough after our efforts of the day, so we had some granola as well (Sage requested leftover quinoa, but it was unfortunately not safe to consume). Finally on the home stretch of paddling! After a short detour down a mucky bay, we arrived in front of Devil's Mountain and said hi to the Temags who were camping right across from us! Delicious quesadillas were fried up for dinner and we completed our last 'Doctor's Office' check-ins of the trip in Zoë's hammock. As the sun went down it got very buggy, so the campers all escaped to their tents while the leaders stayed up to clean up and Tenley baked loaves for tomorrow's lunch. Goodnight, don't let the mosquitoes bite!



## COUREUR DE BOIS (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** Chee-bay-jing swing (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Maple Mountain - Willow Island Lakes - Pickeral Bay - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 19-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Clare Farley and Cian Wilson-Valdes

**PARTICIPANTS:** Mazzy Becker, Aster Cuddihy, Desmond Lyons, Marcus Matantsev, Nora Merringer, Ella Ramos, Zachary Senf, Jack Thorpe, Declan Turple, Hannah Ziegler.

## Day 4

Hours on the water: 4

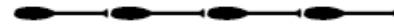
Distance travelled: 16KM

Weather: Sunny with some wind, a hint of a thunderstorm in the evening

Quote of the Day: "Give a quote from a movie for your food" - Cian "Woof... it's from AirBud" - Ella

Clear skies this morning! What a sight! We started the day off right with some scrumptious chocolate and fresh wild blueberry pancakes in the sunshine. The group packed up efficiently and we set out towards Maple Mountain. We said goodbye to our big lake paddles today as we paddled through swampy sections, narrow sections, rocky sections and damned sections. After a few bends and a little distance more we reached Tupper Lake and Maple Mountain or Chee-bay-jing! Shwiinggggg!!! As we arrived at the site, some thundering thunder warned us against hiking up the major lightening draw so we took a relaxed afternoon at our site. We devoured some bird lunch and no bakes and learned that some of the group should be actors...and others not so much. The campers crowded into a tent

to play Exploding Kittens among other games. After relaxing for the afternoon Zach and Ella prepared toppings while Mazzy made an AWESOME pizza dough. Pizza! Everyone made some delicious looking meals however more thunder and lightning rushed the group to bed. What else is new?! Night night CdeBs. Halfway done already!):



### COUREUR DE BOIS (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** *Montreal-Anima Nipissing (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Lady Evelyn Narrows - Montreal River - Anima Nipissing - Red Squirrel Lake - Red Squirrel River - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 19-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Matt Chung and Ella Iles

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sophie Barclay, Soleil Bitting, Ella Cooper, Kaiyan Gopalan, Claire Kaudelka, Jude MacDonald, Cian McDonough, Joseph Merrill, Kai Wiederhofer.

#### Day 8

Hours on the water:

o

Distance travelled:

oKM

Weather: Overcast and rainy.

Quote of the Day:

"AHAAAAH (screaming noise) I LOVE SOCK WRESTLING!!" - Soleil

We woke up late for our second rest day of the trip and had a quick breakfast of scruffins. Afterwards

we all chilled under the awesome tarp that Ella and Matt set up. To pass the time Jude and Joseph played guitar, Ella drew some beautiful portraits of people in the group and everyone had some great convos. Ella and Matt made a tasty loaf for lunch and everyone became very invested in debating the best loaf cooking methods. Afterwards Ella, Claire, Soleil, Kaiyan and Cian all had fun sock wrestling. That afternoon everyone went to ferguson to cliff jump and then curry was enjoyed for dinner.



### COUREUR DE BOIS (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *The Raven (Camp - Red Squirrel River - Red Squirrel Lake - Jackpine Lake - Chambers Lake - Kokoko Lake - Devil Bay - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 3-10, 2022

**LEADERS:** Riley Buckle and Matthew Chung

**PARTICIPANTS:** Charlotte Badenoch, Benji Christie, Nigel Kingston, Jude Lampard, Nell McIntosh, Quin Rumble, Shay Silverstein, Talia Stopper, Felix Thibault, Tobias Webb

#### Day 4

Hours on the water: 3.5

Distance travelled: 5KM

Weather: Sunny, hot and windy

Fourth day of trip!!! Was supposed to have a lovely sleep in but woke up around 8:30 because everyone was up and chatting. Took our slow time packing up, making brekkie and lunch and loading boats since we only had two short portages today. Absolutely scrumptious chocolate chip pancakes were crammed into everyone's mouths with maple syrup. Finally pushed off at 12:30 to paddle around the corner and unload. Zoomed through the easy 350 m





portage where Talia, Nigel and Tobias took boats. Beasts!!! Took a much needed swim where we found a small horizontal jumping rock. Had a cannon ball and 360 contest in which Benji landed on his bum. Ouch. The next portage was such a breeze. Campers took three or four loads before the leaders were even able to get one boat across. As we finally got onto Chambers Lake we were greeted with terrible head winds. Had to work hard to paddle 3km. The leaders realized their maps are different and the two trip reports we are following also have different coordinates. Led to major confusion but eventually figured it out. Got to the mediocre campsite at 4 and all were insanely hungry so quinoa was munched. Not too long after we got started on pierogies. Nell, Benji and Quin all helped make the dough and filling. They did an amazing job. Everyone then got to make their own pierogies and cook it too. Nigel realized he was a natural chef so he cooked other people's pierogies too. Char and Shay made the huge basil loaf for tomorrow's lunch. They had all four of their hands in the pot mixing and it worked exceptionally well. So excited to eat it!! Nell tried throwing her shoe at Riley - she missed and it flew into the lake. She then tried to get it with her paddle which she dropped and slipped into the water. As her shoe and paddle floated away she grabbed Tobias's life jacket and swam with it over to her stuff. All was returned to land but wow, the whole situation was hilarious. Singing between tents and Matt helping the boys tent close their door as usual, concluded the nice chill day. All very anxious and excited for the long portage tomorrow. We will see how that goes soon. Goodnight C de Bs.

## COUREUR DE BOIS (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Lady Evelyn-Sucker Gut Loop  
(camp - Napoleon portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Willow Island Lakes - Sucker Gut Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Diamond Lake - Lake Temagami - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 3-10, 2022

**LEADERS:** Riley Heavens and Xin Law-Gallagher

**PARTICIPANTS:** Klara Caputo, Benjamin Conboy, Clayton Donnelly, Elsie Hammond, Lorelei Kellam, Portia Kemp, Alexis Lozano, Matilda Mclean, Leo Smith Moores, Peter Smith-Moores.

### Day 7

Quote of the Day: "“I want pizza bagels” -Ben, “I want to do right... But not right now” -Clayton

The campers woke up well rested after yesterday's long and rainy day. It was another slow morning as the leaders woke up to the camper tents not down yet! We had no firewood and only the stove to cook on. Cooking muff was a challenge. Ben, Clayton and Leo each took turns aggressively mixing the muffins in a pot. They were raw but also burnt at the same time... These muffins were definitely not as good as the last but still great. We started our final full day with the Sharp Rock portage where it was quite busy once again. The campers all crushed it! We were done in no time. As we were ready to hop back in our boats we saw sooo many baby leeches swimming in the water!! Some would say they are gross but Leo calls them cute! We paddled glassy clear water all the way to the Pickerel Bay portage. It was stunning. We stopped at a campsite where we saw an abandoned tent still up. We sat on a huge rock that looked at the lake and enjoyed our

lunch of rice. It sounds weird but everyone loved it! After lunch we continued on our way to the portage. The campers killed it once again! Lorelei especially, as they carried the wannie the entire way! What a rockstar! But... it did take 7 campers to carry the half filled water jug... We kept paddling towards Ferguson Mountain when we could only see a straight line of red by the jumping rocks... What could it be? OH it's Temag A, C de B A & C de B C!! We couldn't miss the party so we stopped and enjoyed many jumps off the jumping rocks. It was so much fun! We continued on our way to the beach for our final night. Brown tent made everyone curry. As the campers got ready for bed, the houseboat camped next to us started shooting off fireworks! It was loud and beautiful! What a way to end our evening!

Goodnight campers! Wait to paddle under the bridge tomorrow!

## COUREUR DE BOIS (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Centre Falls - Maple Mountain (camp - Napoleon portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Willow Island Lakes - Lady Evelyn South Channel - Centre Falls - Hobart Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Diamond Lake - Lake Temagami - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 3-10, 2022

**LEADERS:** Ella MacPhail and Min Timmins

**PARTICIPANTS:** Skye Badenoch, Miles Benequista, Sadie Crawford, Madeleine Crummey, Stella Harrison, Gabriel Lampard, Liam Large, Emmett Oliver, Martha Radstake, and Helena Winkel

### Day 3

Hours on the water: 8.5

Distance travelled: 15KM

Weather: Sunny for the first time!

WOW!

Quote of the Day: "Watch out for the dead heads" - Martha (referring to the logs underwater); "oh like in the Lord of the Rings" - Ella; "no they're the people who listen to the Grateful Dead" - Maddie

Rise n shine ducklings! Another day, another dollar! Today something was different in the air before the campers were packing up before the leaders. Nice job! Muffs were soon put on the fire as campers loaded boats. With a lil' route change we were on our way to Centre Falls! After a bit of paddling we realized we missed our turn, so we spun around before taking a dip out of the boats. After the quick swim we charged toward Frank Falls, which we would portage just our boats to paddle to Centre Falls. A tricky, rocky portage, where Maddie carried a boat for the first time! Awesome. Amazing job! After portaging around Frank Falls we loaded 4 to a boat and began the short paddle to Centre Falls. A few slimy lily pads later, we reached the beginning of the Falls. We walked the short trails that led us to the base of Centre Falls. What a beautiful sight. Lunch of sandwiches were munched before showering ourselves under the falls and bum scooching/lazy rivering down the swifts. We even bumped into our second Jeffrey of the trip! He used to go to Wanapitei! With spirits high and clothes wet we turned back towards Frank Falls. A short paddle before deciding to camp just before lemon island. Firewood ensued before our first scrub club of trip! Nice n clean! Ella whipped up some yummy risotto for dinner and Stella took charge of dessert. Hot chocolate! Yum! Thanks for a great day campers!



## COUREUR DE BOIS (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Centre Falls (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Willow Island Lakes - Centre Falls - Barn Portage - Diamond Lake - Lake Temagami - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 18-25, 2022

**LEADERS:** Sarah Irvine and Emma Tutt

**PARTICIPANTS:** Christina Adams, Sarah Argue, Lowry Brcic-Smith, Jonah Cluer, Wyatt Crangle, Oliver Dumoulin, Owen Janes, Faye James, Claire Nguyen, Reece Villiger, John Veldhuis

### Day 7

Hours on the water: 6

Distance travelled: 15KM

Weather: Warm and cloudy

After a good night's sleep the C de B's were awoken to a gentle rustling of the tent. To start the day off right, beaver

tails were eaten for breakfast including a sugar cinnamon sauce, chocolate chips, coconut flakes, and peanut butter. We all ate the beaver tails on a small rocky island attached to the island our campsite was on. After a few games of scatter we got the water and paddled down diamond lake. Reece, Sarah, Emma, and Pont played a few rounds of 20 questions. In just a few hours we made it back to sharp rock portage which we did on day 2 of trip. The portage felt like a breeze compared to the barn. A quick lunch of dahl was had at the end of the portage before hopping back into the boats. To pass the time Sarah, Reece, Sam, Claire, Owen, John, Emma, and Pont played the picnic game. Close to the end of the paddle we traversed across a very pretty small creek section which was perfectly lit by the sun. Due to a great spotting by Sarah a few of us got to see a beaver swim under our canoes which was super cool to see. We finally made it to our campsite and we're excited to find a big pile of fire wood. After a few more



games of scatter curry was eaten for dinner.

Thanks to Faye and Claire brownies and popcorn were made for dessert while everyone sat around the fire singing songs to celebrate trip New Year's Eve. After dessert was eaten we all listened to Jonah tell some amazing renditions of movies, including Frozen and other Disney movies. With a final countdown to signal New Year's Eve we all climbed into our tents to cozy up in our sleeping bags, with thoughts of paddling under the bridge tomorrow.



## COUREUR DE BOIS (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Twin Peaks (Camp - Napoleon Portage - Diamond Lake - Lady Evelyn Lake - Maple Mountain - Lady Evelyn Lake - Northwest Arm - Devil Mountain - Ferguson Point - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 18-25, 2022

**LEADERS:** Asher Birenbaum and Robyn Fyfe

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sonia Banerjee, Annie Charleton-Parker, Clara Jiminez, Jester Martel, Remy Millar, Adam Nissim-Stem, Stefan Parsons, Breanna Shewfelt, Quinn Winterburn, Marco Zyp.

## Day 2

Hours on the water: 6

Distance travelled: 19KM

Weather: Warm, sunny, with some clouds, tailwinds (!)

Quote of the Day: As a way to ask whether we got their meaning: "Do you smell what I'm stepping in?" - Jester

Who's ready for our first full day on trip? Definitely these CdeBs, who braved light sprinkles of rain to load boats before enjoying a breakfast of

eggy bacony sandwiches. After our leisurely breakfast, we moseyed on down diamond lake, stopping to note the amazing pictographs that were preserved on the cliffs lining the shore. We then engaged in some tricky technical whitewater (actually we just encountered some moving current) as we passed into Lady Evelyn Lake. Jester, Marco, and Quinn all nailed the line with a little help from Asher, and we then continued on our way at a brisk pace thanks to the headwinds. A stop was made at an island campsite along the way for apples, which somehow bled into a lunch of tuna and coleslaw wraps which were eaten... creatively. We finally piled back into our boats to be pushed along by the wind almost as fast as we could paddle, entering the expanse of the lake to reach our campsite on the point. It was hot hot HOT so a swim and a scrub were in order, after which an uber cheesy mac was prepped and scarfed. After dishes, we enjoyed our view of the lake as the clouds rolled past and the stars emerged, eventually spotting a Starlink satellite racing across the sky. It was time for bed, and so the campers secured their gear against the threat of rain and hopped into bed to rest up for our next big day. Sleep tight!



## COUREUR DE BOIS (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Sturgeon-French-Killarney (Camp - Lake Temagami - Obabika River - Sturgeon River - River Valley - Field - shuttle to Dokis Bay - French River - Georgian Bay - Killarney - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 6-23, 2022

**LEADERS:** Sophie Karovitch and Gabriel Riendeau

**PARTICIPANTS:** Kennedy Dabner, William Debane, Miles Doll, Chloe Godbout, Kati Martin, Rumble Rumble

## Day 13

Hours on the water: 0

Distance travelled: 0KM

Weather: Gorg.

Quote of the Day: "squiggly diggily"- everyone referring to the reeds

Rest day!! The sleep in was far shorter than we hoped but still almost 2 hours longer than usual, our tents quickly became saunas with the sun shining bright down on us. Soph and Gab attempted to extend their sleep by taking the fly off their tent but the lack of breeze was making it still unbearable. The lack of breeze made the beautiful aquamarine water still and almost mirror-like, reflecting the clouds and islands perfectly. It also brought the worst bugs of the trip yet! Very unexpected! We battled through them. Cooking up the best beaver tails ever had on a trip, comparable with the real deal. We even had fresh lemons to garnish them. The breeze picked up and blew the bugs away! We took this opportunity to go for a big group swimming adventure! Swimming rock island to rock island. Jumping/ slipping in each time we arrived at the next! So much fun, so warm and so beautiful. What an amazing bay to finish our canoe trip! We made the final crossing back to the campsite, when Kennedy spotted a rattlesnake with a huge frog in its mouth! Pretty spooky but pretty cool to see after all the warnings we received of these venomous snakes! The afternoon brought more relaxation and lounging. Gab gave Sophie a haircut a little shorter than she would have liked. Whoops sorry Sophie!!! Gab started on pizza dinner, whipping up some restaurant quality dough while Sophie started baking lunch for tomorrow! Lemon poppy seed loaf! It smells and tastes so good! We had a little nibble;) Can't wait for more tmrw! Pizza's were fried up and left us all satisfied! The kiddos headed out to one of the islands for another swim to end off the evening!

Miles and Kati made hoco and while it was cooling down we had a little dance party headed by Sophie as the sun set. Dancing makes you happy! We headed off to bed with excitement for the days to come on Georgian bay! What a magical place! Goodnight CdeB's.

# Passion for Paddling with the Pioneers



## PIONEER (EARLY JULY)

**ROUTE:** *Noire (shuttle to put-in - Noire River - take out at Black River Inn - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 3-12, 2022

**LEADERS:** Gabriel Fischer-Schmidt and Sophie Karovitch.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Theodore Audoir, Otsirakatste Brant, Ravenna Irish, Rosalie Kalf, Charlotte Light, Galen Mueller, Sebastian Rauwerda.

## Day 3

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled: 35KM

Weather: Rainy and buggy

Quote of the Day: “\*Seb walks out of the forest with one stick\* “You know you have arms for a reason” - Sophie “I need to get my steps in” - Seb

We made the most delicious cinnamon oatmeal to celebrate a rainy day. We packed up camp super-fast considering the weather. Seb started the day in the stern of the mojo boat and did such a great job that Theo was given the opportunity to try and killed it!!!! Venna

serenaded us all the way down the buggy and winding river until our very first set! We all scouted it from about halfway down and came up with our own lines. We talked river morphology, then watched Rosie and Sophie run the first bit. Galen and Katste sterned the camper boats with near perfection. We stopped at the bottom for the most INSANE lunch, falafel, cucumber, tomato, and leftover hummus from our bus ride. Many also helped themselves to extra mac in a sac. Meanwhile Charlotte kept winning at rock, paper, scissors against the group. We passed the bridge and decided it was time to camp. Finding firewood was tough; small beach and still raining. With a tarp set up we managed to start a wet wood fire and made spaghetti. No dessert and early bed for the Pions tonight! Sleep tight and let's hope for nicer weather tomorrow!



## PIONEER (EARLY JULY)

**ROUTE:** *Temagami River (Camp - Lake Temagami - Cross Lake - Temagami River - River Valley - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 3-12, 2022

**LEADERS:** Ella Taylor, Mark Teron, Cian Wilson-Valdes

**PARTICIPANTS:** Charlie Geoffrey, Tory Mee, Mia Szabo, Kory Ward, Theo Hoeven, Maddy Loudon, Derek McMann

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 2.5

Distance travelled: 6KM

Weather: Scorching

After our earlier night sleeping to the sound of the set we swam the day before everyone was well rested for a fresh day of whitewater ripping. We munched down some dried apple and cinnamon oatmeal and then hit the

water. We started off with an upstream ferry lesson through the wash out of the chute we camped at with Tory and Theo crushing it from the stern, and then set off down the river. We paddled the funnest looking of many sets through a cluster of islands and a couple more swifts before reaching the Island Portage. Maddy crushed her first ever boat carry and the group rallied together to lower our boats and gear down a literal cliff at the put in. A couple more swifts were run with ease and we finally reached our big ticket destination; Ragged Chutes! We had a lunch of Ella's ginger molasses loaf prepared by Maddy and Charlie as we checked out the rapids below. We portaged our packs to the campsite at the bottom of the chutes, leaving our boats at the top for some fun empty boat runs through the splashy set. After a river morph lesson the gang all picked out there lines down the river and crushed them with ease. Tory and Derek followed by Mia and Kory hit some of the cleanest mid river eddy out we'd ever seen! We then portaged the boats back up in preparation for many oh many hot laps of the set tomorrow and then lounged out at the campsite with a rad view of the rapid for the afternoon. Maddy and Mia cooked up a steaming hot Mac for dinner while Charlie and Derek steeped us some spruce tip and cedar tea. We then revelled over the weirdness of high school before finally setting off to bed eager to play around Ragged Chutes all day tomorrow.



## PIONEER (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** *Spanish River (shuttle to put in - Spanish River - take out at Agnew Lake - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 17-26, 2022



**LEADERS:** Ella MacPhail, Ethan

Rajaratnam, Gabriel Riendeau

**PARTICIPANTS:** Pablo Cortes, Amon

Euteneier, Tao Fong-Jean, Kate

Landon, Etelle Li, Cameron

McKeown, Carmen Sauve, Oliver

Taback, Ben White, Meredith

Wiebe, Jaws-lyn (the inflatable shark)

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 6.5

Distance travelled: 24KM

Weather: Scary clouds but hot and sunny

This morning was amazing. We had 1 hr ½ longer to sleep in then we woke up to Gab serenading then kids, playing guitar as he does. Oatmeal was gobbled to start our day on a bunch of swifties. Shoutout to Ben for helping Ethan clean the stinky barrel. That was epic. What a legend. Kate, Meredith, and Etelle were falling a little behind the group, but they were screaming frozen songs so that's understandable... singing takes precedence over paddling for sure. We had a small set then even more swifties! Ethan went down a swiftie on Jaws-lyn who fortunately didn't deflate. She loved it and Ethan loved it even more :) A lot of swifties later we had a good but questionable snack of no bakes called "cherry chocolate fever" because of the cherry juice crystals. As we ate, Tao ventured to the other side of the river to take a closer look at the cliff face. As he was doing that, the father-son duo (who we named Chris and Jeremy) passed by us again. We said hello. Next stop was chili for lunch, then hot sun and a warm breeze (headwinds unfortunately) to the campsite where we made pizza until 9:30 pm while the bugs were RAGING outside. Kate was showing us some of her dance moves and we did a bit of yoga while the pizzas were being made. Finally after escaping the bugs for the night, the pions hung out in a tent...

playing uno? Or just chatting with a bit of singing here and there. They sang the leaders to sleep, goodnight!



## PIONEER (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** *Coulouge River (shuttle to put-in - Coulouge River - take out at Terry Fox bridge - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 17-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Jordan Dewey Decker and Lucas Whitear

**PARTICIPANTS:** Charles Bates, Isla Bitting, Jack Cowan-Dewar, Ruthie Diamond, Amelia Dykstra, Ben Gill, Peter Kaminski, Taylor Landon, Nate Leckie, Ben Walsh

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 6.75

Distance travelled: 21KM

Weather: Hot and sunny

Quote of the Day: "I'm the McDavid of house league" – Taylor "Awooooo" – Isla like a wolf

The sun finally came out! A glorious dry day was ahead of us. Apple cinny oats for breakfast was gobbled down and then a ton of sunscreen was applied next to the roaring falls. Many clothes were put out on the boats in order for things to dry from all the soggy days. We ran swifts and moseyed down the river all morning. A lunch of thai noodles was gobbled and slapped near old bridge scaffolding. Somehow Peter was

cold wearing a fleece even though every single other person was sweaty and burning. A small family passed us as we were pushing off after lunch so we hurried to catch up and beat them to the campsite we wanted. Jo powered and got there first. We WON. Lucas and Jo convinced the other group to take the further site at chutes Diable because it was better, then we took the sweet rocky campsite. Early arrival meant all things got dried. NO MORE ECOSYSTEM!! It also meant we could take time putting our dogs into little puddles and letting fish munch at them. There was some swimming off the rocks, and camper led pizza dinner took forever but was absolutely worth the wait. Bussin choco cake was made by Jojo and icing by Lucas. We then had a somewhat cult like boogie session around the campfire, played some mind sync games, then all hurried to bed as more bugs came out. Goodnight!





## PIONEER (JULY)

**ROUTE:** Dumoine River (Camp - Lake Temagami - Lac Temiskaming - Lac Kipawa - Kipawa River - Dumoine River - Grande Chutes - take out at Driftwood park - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 6-25, 2022

**LEADERS:** Jack Panayi and Laura Peberdy

**PARTICIPANTS:** Parissa Asgari, Edith Armstrong, Anna Iwanowski, Johnathan Brown, Duncan Bailey, Violet Gunner, Jared Letts, Beckett Mars, Tenzin Ruff, Luca Sovran, Malcolm Torrie, Heidi Wall.

## Day 15

Hours on the water: 11

Distance travelled: 15KM

Weather: Warm, cloudy, on and off rain

This morning, we woke up bright and early to finish up the portage from yesterday. While the rest of the group portaged, Tenzin and Laura made lunch for the day. Quickly we were all ready to go and we pushed off and had a quick breakfast of granola. Soon we were at our first sets of the day. We ran bridge set ducky and it was super fun!! We ran some more sets and did some more portages

until we got to canoe eater. Then we portaged and had the chicken pasta salad. Laura and Jack then tried to trick the campers by eating chocolate in front of them but everyone was so kind that they thought we were just extra hungry. Everyone eventually got their chocolate bars after a very high stakes wang-ho to determine picking order. Then, we kept paddling some more sets for the afternoon. Some highlights included Mac leaving Edie on a rock in the middle of a set and having a very fun encounter with Camp Temagami when we stopped at a gravel bar in the middle of a set and they thought we were having some major issues. Finally, we portaged Little Steel and arrived, quite tired, at our campsite. For dinner, we had a delicious parm-less fet made by Anna, Edie and Beckett. We then sensed some some thunderstorm risk but nonetheless, had some yummy cookies from the dessert crew. Thanks

for pushing through on a really challenging day y'all!!!

## PIONEER (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Spanish River (shuttle to put in - Spanish River - take out at Agnew Lake - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 2-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Robyn Fyfe and Mark Teron

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sophie Chase, Nathaniel (Nate) Eibner, Jackson (Jack) George, Isaac Marechal, Francis Morton, Norah Petrou, Elysabeth Rowat, Skye Senecal, Lissandra Sicuralla, Elliot Straszynsk

## Day 9

Hours on the water: 7.5

Distance travelled: 36KM

Weather: Reeeeeeeal nice, phat headwinds near the end

Quote of the Day: Francis - (after turning our barrel into a drum to accompany a rendition of 'in the jungle' from the lion king) "Oh no, this isn't acapella anymore"

The Pions were so well rested from their day of repose that they practically sprang out of their tents to start the day! Well, maybe not sprang, but perhaps zombie walked with vigour. Robyn churned out some early morning chaps for future meals, after which scruffins were scrambled and then scarfed. We bade a fond farewell to our Cedar Rapids home and ventured once more down the river. Swifties scraped the bottoms of our boats, but they also had us eating up distance. Sophie, Nate, and Elliot boasted about being the only mojo boat that didn't get beached (until they did, in fact, get beached). Boats did their best to pick the paths of least resistance in the shallow waters, teaching great lessons in communication, vigilance, and lucky



guesses. A floating snack had us marvelling at the beauty of the clouds, as well as the rest of the environment we were lucky enough to paddle through. The landscape slowly changed around us, ancient conifer old growth bleeding into grassy banks where wildflowers sprouted, until the first maple trees began to stretch out over the water. We lunched on a deliciously dense loaf with cheese and/or summer sausage, like very well-fed medieval peasants. Nate and Elliot discussed why it was that yellow mustard must be described by its color while Jack and Mark did a little bit of bouldering. After that eventful meal, we pushed onward. By now we were firmly into flatwater, fighting strong headwinds to make our way to Agnew Lake. By the time we got to open water, we had to hug the shore to avoid whitecaps. After a quick break in a bay where we discussed the many uses of cattails, we decided to go just a little further to a flat and comfy campsite to wait out the wind. We hauled up our stuff past the spruce roots and then prepared a feast of pasta and leftover desserts. After eating and singing and riddles, the Pions retired to their sleeping bags to ready themselves for an early morning push for the Agnew Lake Lodge. Sleep well sweet campers!

## PIONEER (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Groundhog River (shuttle to put-in - Groundhog River - take out at Fauquier - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 2-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Jordan Dewey Decker and Severen Fischer-Schmidt

**PARTICIPANTS:** Siri Borden, Sally Bruce, Silo Donald-Clarke, Logan Farlinger, Abel Hollinger, Thomas Johnston, Liam McLachlan, Ryan Prentice, Owen Tarr.

## Day 4

Hours on the water: 8.75

Distance travelled: 27KM

Weather: SUN!

Quote of the Day: "Tell me if there's a rock, okay?" – Jojo \*hits massive rock\* "There's a rock" – Thomas

OMG, sunny, clear skies! We packed up and 8 grain was enjoyed by all after some skepticism. The trail from the tent sites to the kitchen became a massive slip and slide (trigger warning Ethan) which was a fun challenge to navigate. We approached our first set of the day and after a quick group scout ran a fun R2 ledge with some bump and scrape R1 water below. Sally and Siri had a fun time with a rock, and Abel's boat miraculously did another 360 down the set! We then ferried across the bottom of the set and ran the R1 below ducky. Power hour commenced. And it was epic. We ran the next section of the river ducky as we powered over some R1s and swifts. When it was over we drank some wata, applied copious amounts of sunscreen, and gorged on Thai nood salad. Sev prepared it in an oh so special way. SO GOOD. Sally and Siri maintained epic power, as mojo boat routinely chanted "momentum". Another power hour later we made it to the top of bridge set. Amazing job and thank you to the tailwinds and slight current that helped us out. The group scouted the RRC of bridge set from the bottom of the island in RC, where the confluence of the 2 channels could be seen. Sev and Owen went down first and calmed everyone's nerves. Each boat went down one by one with some awesome speed and learned how to navigate bigger water. Shoutout to Abel, Liam, and Logan for running bridge set as a mojo boat. We camped at the bottom of bridge set (RR) around 6pm and lazy Pzzz were prepared by the campers. The leaders did some map sessions and called camp to check in on Ethan. Sadly, the decision was that

Ethan could not join the trip, and that tomorrow would be a rest day. So many decisions oh my. Unrelated but Logan somehow lost one croc today while scrubbing in flat water. Goodnight, all, amazing job today!

## PIONEER (EARLY AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Dumoine River (shuttle to put in - Dumoine River - Grande Chute - take out at Driftwood Park - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 2-11, 2022

**LEADERS:** Gabriel Fischer-Schmidt and Claire Hunter

**PARTICIPANTS:** Jack Annan, Hamish Carmichael, Ben Cescon, Noah Hollinger, Isabelle Jackson-Briggs (Izzy), Sophia Jackson-Briggs, Isabelle Kerbler (Bibo), Duncan Matthews, Fionn Quinn (Callum), Oceane Walker

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled: KM

Weather: Overcast then rainy

Quote of the Day: "woof" – everyone

Rise and shine campers! No swearing allowed today! If you swear, you must only bark for 5 minutes as punishment. We took our sweet time this morning and gobbled up a delicious breakfast of peach crisp. We headed off on the water and chatted and paddled for a bit until we got to Z drag rapids which we breezed through. We had a leisurely snack break of corn nuts and dried fruit on the wata. We met some Quebecers and said bonjour, and then we had 15 minutes where nobody could make any noise except for barking. We reached Turner Rapids, where we practiced eddying out and ferrying (great lines Noah and Bibo!). After more paddling we finally reached GRAND CHUTES. And boy were they were GRAND! We

walked down the trail to a scenic lookout point and had some Liz's Lunch. Then we went back and portaged all of our stuff down the OTHER trail and smashed the longest portage of our trip! Great job Oceane for taking the wannigan! Ben, Jack, and Noah carried boats (with some yokes more intact than others). We paddled some sweet swifts in a light rain and then searched for a campsite as rain picked up. Jack and Noah whipped up some fire mac and cheese, Hamish wore his Grizzly Media shirt, and the campers nodded off to sleep with the pitter patter sound of raindrops on their tents.



### PIONEER (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Dumoine River (shuttle to put in - Dumoine River - Grande Chute - take out at Driftwood Park - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 17-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Ella MacPhail & Ethan Rajaratnam

**PARTICIPANTS:** Daniel Cluer, Ethan Fish, Greta James, Morgana Kellam, Adrian Leonard, Nathan Naumann, Juliet Rawlyk, Sloan Villiger, Theodore Wilson. Special guest Sophie Doll

### Day 6

Hours on the water: 5.25

Distance travelled: 15.5KM

Weather: Partly cloudy

Quote of the Day: "I wonder if the ants are eating my little Nibs" - Theo

Wakey wakey oatmeal makey! We rose to fairly good weather this morning and had oatmeal for breakfast. Our brave boaters Greta, AD, Fish, accompanied Ella and Ethan bringing the last 3 boats down the set! :) We said goodbye to little steel and thank you for the last 2 days and set off for our longest day yet.

Not very far into our paddle, we stopped at some scenic chutes which were indeed very scenic. We climbed all around the falls and swam and splashed each other and just vibed. Set after set, rock dodge after rock dodge, we wound up at lunch where we ate pesto. Before setting off on the water again, we had an algae throwing fight where we gathered moss on rocks in the water, formed them into balls, and pelted them at each other. Dan was having a great time trying 1000 times to hit Ella and only actually ended up getting her once while standing 5 ft away from her. Pylons pushed on and ran some more sick sets until ANOTHER falls! We walked up to it and admired its beauty whilst monching on coffee crisp, kit kats, mars bars, and nibs :) We reached the beautiful campsite at Margaret Spry and had borscht for dinner, snowballs for dessert (a crowd favourite), and a spoonful of salt for an appetizer (Nate, Daniel, Theo, Morgana, Sloan and Fish enjoyed that last one). Sloan and Nate took a boat out and went a fishin'... no fish caught though :( We had a massage train that limbered ourselves for the night and we talked by the fire until people dwindled slowly, dragged to bed

by the sleep in their eyes. Goodnight pylons!



### PIONEER (LATE AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Coulonge River (shuttle to put-in - Coulonge River - take out at Terry Fox bridge - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 17-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Matthew Chung and Claire Hunter

**PARTICIPANTS:** Elsie Brcic-Smith, Everett Cho-Chu, Seth Crangle, Griffin Crooks-Burassa, Hazel Dowling, Soren Logan, Samuel Mason, Aisha Nabigon-Froese, Cameron Richardson, Nikko Szablowski

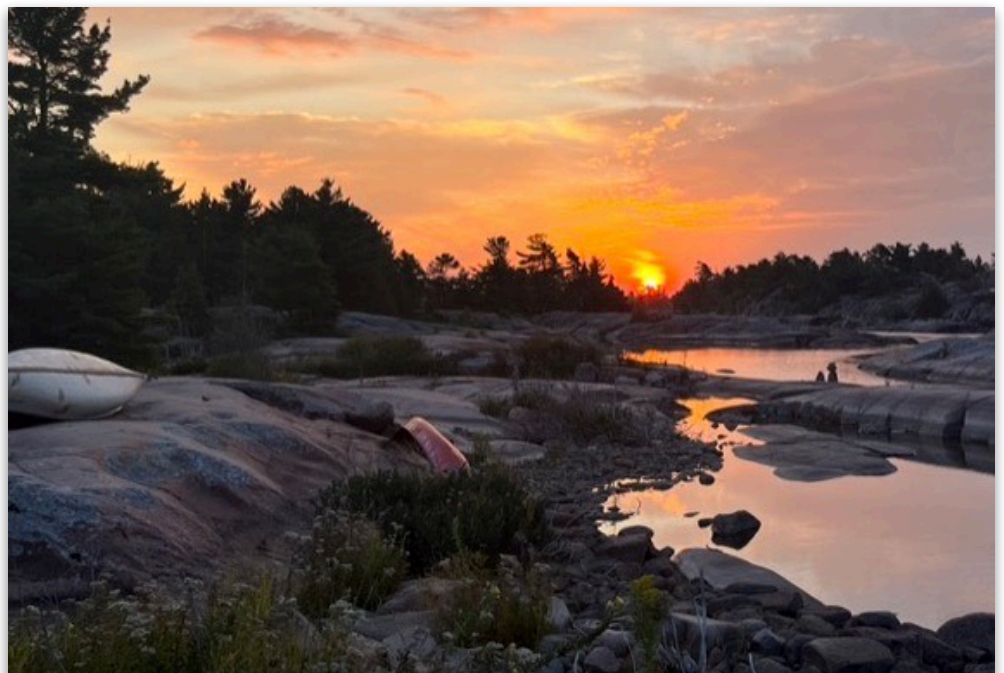
### Day 4

Hours on the water: 7.5

Distance travelled: 23KM

Weather: Hot as heck

Quote of the Day: "Sand is literally the worst thing in the entire world" - Seth





We awoke to a beautiful misty morning and had some scrumptious oatmeal to kick off the day. We paddled a bit then did a shorty porty around a wee ledge (shoutout to Cam for taking his first boat!). Evie also took a boat, and Hazel took the very heavy purple pack. Good job everyone :) We paddled some baby swifts then got to what we like to call the “portage from hell”. It didn’t seem too daunting at first glance, but we soon learned that this ‘tage was NOT to be messed with. The put in was ridiculously steep and tiny and was directly into whitewater, which resulted in one of our boats making a break for it and floating all the way downstream! NOOOO. Luckily it was only loaded with a barrel. Then things took a turn for the worse: WASPS! Hazel was bitten 8 times, Nikko 7, Seth thrice, Evie thrice, Cam 4 times, Sam twice, and Claire once! AHHHH. But the campers were strong and resilient - we won’t let a swarm of wasps stop us from doing the portage! We quickly finished the portage, running past the wasps and finally FINALLY got all of our boats loaded and started heading down river. Cam (who is SRT certified!) and Claire quickly and gracefully rescued the runaway canoe, and we had a quick snack of apples. We headed down dome swifts and after lots of twisting and turning, we pulled up at our beachy heaven (think Santa Monica vibes), where we scrubbed, had dahl, almost got eaten by a monster snapping turtle, dug a big hole, and went to sleep.



## PIONEER (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Dumoine River (Camp - Lake Temagami - Lac Temiskaming - Lac Kipawa - Kipawa River - Dumoine River - Grande Chutes - take out at Driftwood park - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 5-24, 2022

**LEADERS:** Liz Evans and Lucas Whitear

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sophie Doll, Calla Hyland, Gillian Keith, Anais Payne, Leigha Taylor, Charlotte Travers (Thing 2), Jacob Hargadon, Callum Brooks, Charlotte Iles (Thing 1)

## Day 6

Hours on the water: 0

Distance travelled: 3.5KM

Weather: Sunny and warm, finally!!

Quote of the Day: “Hot girl summer!”

Charlotte I (Thing 1) while listening to music and eating no bakes with some on her face

## GOOOOOOD MORNING

CAMPERS!! Are you ready to tackle Sauvage?! Get amped! But first a little sleep in. Once Lucas and Liz got the fire lit and already had the peach oatmeal cooked, the campers started to wake and pack up. After the last of the molasses was licked from the bowls, the final pack up began. Lucas donned his yellow bandanna, threw his pack on, flipped a canoe over his head and set the phone track to “Come on feel the noise” and set off down the trail. The group made quick work of the first uphill trek, so a snack of no bakes was enjoyed. Gillian’s hand was nominated to mix while Liz set the tone with some of Cian’s music. Once Charlotte licked the last of the no bakes off her face, Liz set off the trail but shortly ran into another even steeper uphill! Shout out to Charlotte T and Leigha for helping Lucas get the boat up that section! The group pushed through one more section before needing some real sustenance, thank goodness Lucas saved the last of the Mac from last night! Forks dove into the cold sackie sack before the final push to the end. Once all the gear was brought to the end, the group collapsed and kicked their shoes off. Everyone was eager to clean off in the lake before a dinner of taco salad that was to be our lunch, was assembled. Did Jacob finally get his jersey clean?? Probably not, jersey stank lives on.

Callum and Jacob also tried wearing some sports bras, “to see how it feels”. As Liz was starting to do the trip report in the tent, she heard some howling in the distance and shushed the group. They waited patiently for it to return, and it was LOUD! We decided it was an adult wolf teaching little wolf pups how to howl. So cool! Somehow the campers still had some energy after a whole day of portaging, so they had a little pion wrestling night in their tents before finally falling asleep.



## PIONEER (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Coulonge River (shuttle to put-in - Coulonge River - Lac Bryson - back to Coulonge River - take out at Terry Fox Bridge - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 5-24, 2022

**LEADERS:** Liz Andrews and Cian Wilson-Valdes

**PARTICIPANTS:** Julian Blumberg, Ned Burns, Anjani Cheran, Ellon Cheran, Rowan Conrad, Chloe Ceeggan, Isabelle Martin, Eli Payne, Roxy Pearce Basman, Elsie Robb, Chloe Zyp.

## Day 9

Hours on the water: 9

Distance travelled: 38KM

Weather: Sunny and hot

Quote of the Day: “Let’s burn it down...respectfully” -Eli

(Radio static) Hello this is your captain speaking, welcome aboard Pion Air flight 4 week B. The weather on the Coulonge River today is cold as but will become hot as a mother once the sun comes up. Please exit your tents in the next 4 to 5 minutes or else leader Cian will start taking them down around you. Good day and thank you for choosing pion air. That was along the lines of what the pions were awoken by this

morning. Finding that the weather report was accurate they bundled up into their sweaters and packed up quickly. Once people personals were packed some granola was eaten, and some smarties were added big thanks to Alex for bringing them to Cian during the evac. After breakfast was finished we got onto the water and headed on our merry way. The river was windy and sandy but the pions occupied their time singing songs and playing games. Ellon, Elsie, and Julian headed a game 'guess that MCU actor' for what seemed like hours until we decided lunch. Once we had rated up and started to eat lunch the leaders told everyone some existing news. We had gone so far so fast that we were already at our Campsite, and the leaders had decided to start our upstream as opposed to waiting till tomorrow. Everyone agreed and off we went up a small stream, leaving the Coulonge River for good. Good by Coulonge. The next part of our day was spent pulling and paddling our boats up this stream until we reached 3 large ledges. after the leader scouted around and found a nice portage they concluded the information on the trip report given to them was not written very well. Nonetheless we trucked on and finished the portage and reached Lac Bryson where we camped on a small island. Well people did scrub club Cian called camp and got some wonderful news! Chloe was to be re-vaced onto the trip! Woouoooooooo. We are to pick her up at a lodge down the lake before heading back up the lake to get back on track. With joy in our hearts and a unique take on Dahl for dinner in our belly we hugged our way to our beds. More fun in the coming days, pions just you wait.

## Capturing the Current with Canot du Nords



### CANOT DU NORD (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** Missinaibi River (shuttle to put in - Missinaibi Lake - Missinaibi River - take out at Mattice - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 16-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Jack Gardiner and Claire Hunter

**PARTICIPANTS:** Alexa Adourian, Brenden Gray, Benjamin Kohn, Thomas Myckan, Euan Pearson, Saydie Roy, Jinya Scott

### Day 9

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled:

30KM

Weather: Beauty

Quote of the Day: "“Do you think that if I loosen my life jacket, I'll be able to eat more?” – Thomas

Another beautiful day on the river was started with a load of group gear down the portage trail we had camped at the previous night. For the first time in their camp careers, Jack and Claire watched as an entire pot of 8-grain (Red River cereal/star goop) was completely demolished, with

Brenden eating 5<sup>th</sup>s. Continuing with the action-packed ad, the group moved toward Z-drag Rapids, where Saydie and Jinya nailed the line. Finally, we got to Albany Rapids, where we weaved and maneuvered through a massive boulder garden and Thomas and Euan hit the perfect line for the R2, with no hit rocks. Unfortunately, that only left a long portion of flat water to be completed, where the group saw lots of wildlife - bald eagles, beavers, and an otter. Alexa even pointed out a baby moose on river right! As we reached our campsite, firewood was collected and Dhal was made by Euan and Jinya. The sunset was watched and Saydie served the leaders cookies.



### CANOT DU NORD (LATE JULY)

**ROUTE:** Bazin River (shuttle to put in - Bazin River - Gatineau river - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 16-26, 2022





**LEADERS:** Jacob Fischer and Molly Heintzman

**PARTICIPANTS:** Cameron Burston, Eden Diamond, Skyler Gruner, Andrew Mann, Lily Merrill, Amiah Saville, Kalev “Kal” Timusk

## Day 8

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled: 15KM

Weather: Sun, Rain, Overcast and lots of headwinds.

The Canots arose well rested from our day full of leisure, swimming and bonfires to a slightly cloudy sky. The group was fast after our rest and had boats in the water Pronto before enjoying a breakfast of 8-grain with peanut butter and raspberry jam. We said good-bye to our home for the last few days and started down the river again. Before we knew it we were upon our first set of the day.

At this point we were pros and breezed past our first few sets no problem. The weather was nice and the group was full of energy so we were able to maintain momentum and keep going at an above-average pace. We hit our first big set of the day. Despite the many convoluted steps, the group inched down the set, expertly lining a solid ledge before punching through some crashing waves. After some hours of the sun beating down on us, the clouds returned with rain. Energy was slightly down due to the drizzle so we had a quick gorp snack to boost our spirits before continuing on. We continued through the rain and lots of splashing making tight maneuver after tight maneuver before reaching our final set of the day, a solid R3. The group successfully moved down the RL shore before dodging a massive ledge and hitting one last V to finish the set. Eden in the mojo kept getting splashed over and over. After we all let out a sigh of relief for that last set, we paddled the remaining kilometre to our campsite.

The sky cleared and boats were unloaded and camp was set up quickly. Molly dumped her boat full of water in the middle of our kitchen and our chapati lunch was brought out, though Andrew opted for just plain PB from a spoon to avoid eating another gluten free tortilla. The group also went for a quick swim before collecting firewood. Cameron and Amiah began making dinner while Kal brought out some of his favourite Toronto slang. Jacob's chicken shawarma experiment was a massive success. Everyone loved it, especially the garlic sauce that people ended up pouring over plain rice when chicken was no longer available. Satisfied, everyone packed it in for the night exhausted from the long day. Congrats on an awesome day everyone!

# Beauty Abounds with the Bay Trippers



## BAYTRIP (JULY)

**ROUTE:** Kesagami River (shuttle to put in - Little Kesagami Lake - creek - Kesagami Lake - Kesagami River - Hannah Bay - Moosonee - train to Cochrane - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 3-27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Eamonn Gogan, Romey Karovitch, and Kai Malcolm.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Jonathan Cao, Quinn De Pencier, Charlie Drever, Hartley Frise Rucklidge, Simon Lundin Grieveson, Jayden O'Neill, Pyper Rajaratnam, Hannah Squires,

Cameron Swayze, Sarah Thomson, Lyric White.

## Day 14

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled: 4KM

Weather: Overcast, but then... sunny & hot

Quote of the Day: ““Is Mayo vegan??”, Quinn: “yeah”, “what animal product is in it?”, Quinn: “butter”

We got on the water with another fun, continuous set. Unfortunately, Eamonn's walkie died so it took longer due to confusion. Some thought Eamonn dumped and disappeared, some thought he ditched the group. In the end, it all worked out. Today was also VALENTINE'S DAY. Love notes circulated and people held hands extra tight. With love in the air, we made it to our longest portage of trip. We had some no-bakes to get us going and then we were off. The portage was muuuuddy. Eamonn revealed his Shrek voice. Pyper despised the Shrek voice. Big shout out to Simon, Charlie, Hartley, Pyper, and Lyric for taking on the tandem boat through the mud. After the portage we continued through more fun sets. Then we made it to the portage to Turtle rock and announced our rest day!!!! Woohooo. Quinn acted as a controversial portage coordinator, but soon we were GLAMPING. Hannah curated the vibes and Eamonn finally got to listen to All Too Well (10 min version)... although the speaker died at the best part. Eamonn's bday bash tmrw!



## BAYTRIP (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Kesagami River (shuttle to put in - Little Kesagami Lake - creek - Kesagami Lake - Kesagami River - Hannah Bay - Moosonee - train to Cochrane - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 5-24, 2022



**LEADERS:** Jacob Fischer and Kai Malcolm

**PARTICIPANTS:** Samantha Bridgmen, Owen Buckle, Beth Bruce, Orson Di Rosa, Desmond "Dezmo" Dyson, Jack Harkness, Eric Ingoe, Max Mital, Nicholas Parsons, Lucas Richards, Magnolia Saul, Charlotte Wiese.

## Day 20

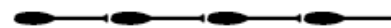
Hours on the water: 4  
Distance travelled: 30KM  
Weather: Overcast and calm

After the blazing heat of the day before, we were thankful to wake up to some chillier weather for our first day on the bay. We loaded the boats in the mud, slammed back some muffin and granola, and pushed off. After about two hours, there it was!! The BAY! We'd seen a lot of beautiful sights so far this trip, but this one was absolutely

brehtaking. We pushed onto the bay, into ideal conditions, until we had over a 180 degree view of water and sky. We remarked that it is the flattest place you could be on earth, with the longest view you could possibly have while at sea level. No waves, no trees, no hills and no islands. We even realized that when you stood up in your boat you could see more shoreline than when you were sitting

down. That was it! We had our doubts, but it has at last been proven in front of our very eyes. THE EARTH IS INDEED ROUND!! We marveled at James Bay until the water left from underneath our boats around 2pm. We felt and watched the tide leave, leaving us stranded on a mudflat multiple kilometers away from the tree line. We took out some moldy loaf, threw it away. Took out some uncooked loaf, ate it with hummus. And one more perfect loaf to finish up lunch, and a game of "Bang!" was started. We all goofed around, and started dragging with the tides 4 hours after we had been beached. We only had nine kilometers to make it to Netitishi point!! Let's hustle! After one of the most beautiful sunsets we'll ever see, we made it to Netitishi. The stoke was real. The long gravel bar of Netitishi littered with driftwood made up possibly the greatest campsite of the trip. We settled in, a

fettuccine alfredo dinner coupled with a viewing of the northern lights capped off a simply amazing day. Off to bed with thoughts of a beautiful rest day the next day, hoping the insane bugs of the evening wouldn't reappear.



## BAYTRIP (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Harricana River (shuttle to put in - Harricana River - Hannab Bay - Moosonee - train to Cochrane - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 2-26, 2022

**LEADERS:** Kai Bruce and Helen Thomas

**PARTICIPANTS:** Callum 'Cal' Bender, Ella Burgess, Eloise Debane, Achille Di Rosa, Evan Gautreau, Maureen 'Mo' Hodnett, Tait Hyland, Mado Iles, Griffin Merskey, Jedadiah Saul, Emma Syme, Simon West.

## Day 17

Hours on the water: 4.5  
Distance travelled: 22KM  
Weather: Too hot. No escape.

Another hot one! This insane heatwave is making us very nervous that the weather will change and we will get slammed by a massive storm on the Bay. We moved slowly, already beaten by the heat. The morning brought us fun current-y wavy sets, many rocks to dodge, and the most important island choice of the trip. Do we go left of Low Shoal? Right??? We went left. Would we regret it? I don't know! I really don't think there's much of a difference but also left is clearly the right choice. We swam, we sweated, and swam again. We powered to our tidal campsite, dragged through some mud, and ate our delicious lunch of lentil salad (it was actually very good, some folks had thirds). Post-lunch, we only had one choice which was to become big dirty



babies by rolling in the squelchy smelly tidal mud. Well the ladies and Kai did this, while the lads did some engineering and created a pool for this fresh-water stream. Very cool. Eloise tried to keep her feet from getting muddy and actually succeeded (true magic). We went back to sweating in the sun, weirdly it seems to just get hotter and hotter until about 5 pm. We sheltered under canoes and bushes as there is really no shade here. However, this epic heatwave and early day allowed us to finally put a proper patch on the leaky boat in preparation for the Bay. Hooray, let's throw out all the bailers! More swimming as the tide flew in and started its march up the shore to our campsite. We made a questionable choice for such a hot day and had a very good potato soup with tea biscuit for dinner, though hot liquids do cool you down, it's good for you! Achille and Jed started to make chapatis but it soon became very apparent that the tide was really coming up the shore and that our kitchen was about to be aquafied. The Chap chaps valiantly cooked on until the fire was put out by the rising tide, and we had to move up the shore to a drier spot. By this point, all of our stuff was haphazardly tossed into the bushes and we accepted that the tide was coming up a lot more than we had initially thought. A good reminder for the Bay! Eloise taught us a french card game "Belote" while others made "scrookies" (scrambled cookies). Finally, we all tried to sleep in our new sub-par tent spots, their only positive being that they are above the high water line.



**LEADERS:** Jack Gardiner and Laura Puberty

**PARTICIPANTS:** Charlie Binne, Helene Briggs, Malcolm Charlton-Parker, Dove Dey-Kerr, Daniel Duran, Sierra Horak, Abigail Jimenez, Colin MacDonald Miles Millar, Isabella (Izzy) Parker, Leila Rabbat, Oscar Szablowski.

### Day 24

Hours on the water: 4

Distance travelled: 19KM

Weather: Overcast

Today is the day! The last day of paddling!!! We awoke, slightly chilly after a sleep in and then got ready to go. The last day of gnola! Though Oscar wanted us to have two bags of granola to make up for small portion sizes, the second bag was a little damp so we opted to just have one. While we ate, we were befuddled by how quickly Helen and Kai's group packed up and pushed off. Nonetheless, soon we were paddling too! We were going super zoomy! In no time, we pulled into tide water. We were done trip!! We got to

chat with the other group which was very nice for everyone. Soon they were on their way to Moose Factory and we set up our things so that we could follow. This took quite a while so we opted to go to Moosonee instead. We paddled with 3-4 people per boat and we looked like little Temags. We went and got so.much.food. We got some treats from the Northern and some pizza and/or KFC from the combination Pizza Hut and KFC. We then went to a little park to eat some food and play on the playground. We then headed back to the campsite. Everyone made their food and we realized that some made better financial choices than others. Nonetheless, there were many hotdogs to go around. After dinner we had a very wholesome little music event around the campfire and it was a very good way to end off trip. Way to go y'all.



### BAYTRIP (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Kesagami River (shuttle to put in - Little Kesagami Lake - creek - Kesagami Lake - Kesagami River - Hannah Bay - Moosonee - train to Cochrane - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 5-24, 2022





others. Overall, it was a good weather day. We ate lunch, shortly after crushed a portage, and we arrived at Kokoko lake. Some rain and wind hit us on the last stretch, but we soon made it to the site! A nice island with many tent sites and squirrel friends. We ate spag and cookies, had a game of

slender, and went to bed.



## VOYAGEURI (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Kitchigama - Nottaway (shuttle to put in off James Bay Highway - Creek - Nottaway River - overland - creek - Kitchigama River - Nottaway River - Rupert Bay - take out at Waskaganish - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 1-27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Molly Heintzman and Cameron MacPhail

**PARTICIPANTS:** Kate Blumberg, Simyn Greene, Destiny Greyson, Abbey McColgan, Kaia McColgan, Josie Nutall, Stanislas Pronost, Madeleine Zarull.

## Day 20

Hours on the water: 8.5

Distance travelled: 15KM

Weather: Rainy

Big things today. Our campsite was dark and wet as we emerged. We did a quick physio-emotional check-in as we loaded the boats and then set off down the last leg of the Kitchigama. We crushed out our first portage then

Quote of the Day: "Duncan, do you want to have a lick-off?" - Ezra, a Temag

It was a quick (kinda) morning for the WLITs. 7:30 am wakeup for muff and coffee. It was sunny for a change. We left the campsite at around 9:15. The group headed down the Northwest arm with the only real goal of "make it to Kokoko." Not too far into the morning we ran into some Temags! They were at Northwaters making a stop for their friendship loop. One of their leaders, Mark, heroically paddled over to give us our Aquatabs! No more bleach water! We exchanged hellos before splitting off. Wind had picked up, so we island hopped and before we knew it, we were near Bear Island! Keitay and Simyn gave us a tour (from the water) of their home, including a guest appearance from Simyn's grandpa. On the other side of B.I. we ran into the other Temags! They were coming out of Kokoko and on the trail for candy. We had a g-bar snack break and Keitay directed Seabass on how to get to the Bear Island store and we were on our way. The sky became grey in some spots and blue in others. Until we hit the site, the weather switched over and over. Thunder was heard, light rain spit at times, harsh sun beat down at

# Winding Waterways with the WLITs and VIs



## WILDERNESS LEADERS IN TRAINING (JULY)

**DATES:** July 21-25, 2023

**LEADERS:** Cameron MacPhail and Brigid Roeder

**PARTICIPANTS:** Islay Ballantyne, Keitay Becker, Jemima Cohnstaedt, Kate Funnekotter, Sasha Grainger, Simyn Green, Madeline Kurt, Evelyn Light, Duncan McKay, Josie Nuttall, Laura Pychyl, Oscar Ruiz, Seth Wiebe.

## Day 4

Hours on the water: 7.5

Weather: All of the above

warmed up on what is a rarity on the Kitch: chill, easy CIs. As we rocked up to our last significant set, we felt at our most ready. A lengthy scout session later and it was determined we would run it (not line it as the campers immediately suspected). A quick ferry to the left, line explained and campers pumped up and we tore down the snaking left-hand route ducky. Kaia and Stan had a rough go, but made it down intact, and all had a great time. More white water and meandering and we arrived at one final set. Beyond, our destiny. Entering the Nottoway was not an experience we were prepared for. At first, seemingly normal. But wait, the current is really moving. And it opens up, islands and a huge expanse of water, ALL moving inexorably onwards. Sheets of misting rain blanket the landscape. In the distance, a roar. Paddling the Nottoway feels like encountering a monster from legends of old. The great serpent Jormungandr,

winding its way through the boreal forest.

We stopped for lunch to take it all in. Afterwards, we continued creeping down, watching as the water which was swift current a moment ago begins to be whipped into whitewater kilometres across. On this side of an island, a CIV ledge, on the other, a CII set. The immense amount of water defies your preconceptions of what whitewater can look like. Eventually, we made it to the edge of the most significant part of the first elevation drop.

We portaged into our site, which was beautiful and impressively dry in the woods. Big soup, a big warming fire, an incredible cake baked by Destiny (Happy Birthday Kate!!) served to wrap the day up. Night guys, see you tomorrow for another day on this immense, insane river.



## VOYAGEURI (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** *Kanaaupscow River (shuttle to put in on Lac Des Oeufs - Kanaaupscow River - La Grande Riviere Reservoir - take out at Radisson - dam tour - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** August 1-27, 2022

**LEADERS:** David James and Brigid Roeder

**PARTICIPANTS:** Sam Brown, Kate "Spitty" Funnekotter, Sadi Gibson, Rowan Helman, Abby Hunter, Rafe Murray, Oscar Ruiz, Sasha Zuchlinkski

### Day 15

Hours on the water: 7.5

Distance travelled: 11KM

Weather: Hot and Sunny

Quote of the Day: "(Dad voice) Look where we are right now!" -Sasha

G'mornin chilluns. We started our day with some rice pudding which had a sugar/salt mixup (thanks roadkill). Then we headed out into the gorgeous day, we had some semi staged photo ops with the hughmongo rocks then cruised down to the first portage which would be a doozy. All would suffer but the boat carriers languished most of all, Spitty, Oscar and Sasha would be nearly broken by their experience. But ultimately we prevailed against the difficult terrain. Part 2: the loading. Bucket brigade down the cliff slowly and steadily got us there, with one tragic casualty: Sasha's paddle was cut down in its prime by a stray foot. With no extra paddles remaining, it received a hideous splint (but it has great personality). A fun sneak channel brought us into lunch which was suspiciously tangy couscous. Then the day got amazing. We took a journey through rock and time and water and it just got beautifuller and beautifuller. To cap it all off we ground out a tough





portage into a site with more (typical) gorgeous views. Rafe and Sasha embarked upon a culinary adventure that was ultimately a great success (Japanese Curry) (also that weird mashed potato looking mixture of rue they created). Goodnight all!



## VOYAGEUR I (AUGUST)

**ROUTE:** Albany River (shuttle to put in at Osnaburgh Lake - Albany River - take out at Fort Albany - flight to Moosonee - train to Cochrane - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** August 1-27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Connor Cepella and Owen Melanson.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Islay Ballantyne, Myrna Burns, Jaclyn Decker, Mika Hoffer, Ellie Keith, Nuan Qi Law-Gallagher, Duncan McKay, Lauren Richardson

### Day 18

Hours on the water: 9  
Distance travelled: 50.5KM  
Weather: Windy, chilly

Jaclyn and Myrna made breakfast this morning: carrot muffins. Delicious. We paddled away through the mist into increasing headwinds which persisted throughout the day. After a no-bake snack we hit the Kenogami confluence, what a wide river this has become! We stuck close to shore, inching our way along. We stopped for Thai Noodle Salad and a game of ninja before paddling into headwinds. Ellie fell out of her boat into the river, self-sonk! A rumor was spread that Lauren pee-d in her water bottle. True? We paddled to Comb Island as the clouds were breaking, we sit waiting for Big Soup to warm us up. Goodnight homie!



# Value of the Vast North with the VIIs



## VOYAGEUR II

**ROUTE:** Flights to put in on Horton Lake - down Horton River - Tadnet Lake - overland to Anderson River - down Anderson River - Arctic Ocean - Husky Lakes - take out at Tuktoyaktuk - shuttle to Inuvik - flight to Toronto - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)

**DATES:** July 1-August 27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Liam Agnew and Emmerson Wilson

**PARTICIPANTS:** Charlie Baar, Aenea Briggs, Anne Carscallen, Tegan

Henry, Oliver Ingoe, Gideon Solomon, Derek Tutt, Michael Waymann, Bridget West, Margot West

### Day 3

Hours on the water: 8.5  
Distance travelled: 45KM  
Weather: Sunny with smokey haze  
Quote of the Day: "Margot, I'm sorry I forgot you existed for a minute." - Charlie

A beaut of a day greeted us as we awoke bright and early on... you guessed it: another bright and (mostly) sunny morning. After a quick pack-up fueled by the ravenous bugs we munched some fresh peach crisp. Our departure was temporarily delayed by a lost painter, but after a quick, successful, search our journey began. Highlights from the morning included: a herd of muskox, a LOAG or two, plus a juicy orange. Aenea also enjoyed the orange peel. We continued our paddle through gorgeous scenery until we stopped for a crazy floating lunch navigating two sets and a rock splitter.



Liam read us a bit of our story time story (The Night Circus) before we de-raftered and continued paddling. Our afternoon sounded like the audio of a Glee episode or Pitch Perfect movie before finding our gorgeous campsite. A phat spag was cooked up by Teags (with an insane blue fit) and Derek. We munched and quickly learned that the Frank's extra hot was in fact extra hot. A post-dinner swim was well in order with the temperature, and Oliver and Anne helped to fry up pancakes for breakfast the next day. Aight, g'night dawgs. XOXO V2A

## Day 5

Hours on the water: 9.25

Distance travelled: 49KM

Weather: Sunny and hot, mix of tail and head winds, tiniest bit of rain

Quote of the Day: ""Damn... This Mac..." - Oliver

We woke up to clear blue and sunny skies. For breakfast we had delicious crisp topped with strawberry and apple pie filling. The coffee was also impeccable. We set off and paddled in the cool, crisp, morning air. To everyone's delight, generous tailwind began to blow us down the river we saw three more caribou along the way. As we floated down the river while munching on trail mix (a supreme

snack), Margot decided to rub the colour of her M&M's off on her face to use as 'makeup' (as one does). Shortly after, Aenea began licking her M&M's and applying them to Charlie's face. He had an exquisite blue winged eye liner going on. We continued on and eventually got to an island with a channel on either side. Half of us went each direction, but as the right side group quickly started to regret their choice due to the shallowness, they spotted a massive frozen, glacial, lake/pond. Eventually the left side group noticed and before you know it our entire group is running over to this incredible discovery. We reached the snow and people were throwing snowballs at each other in the middle of a hot July. It didn't feel real. We drank the ice cold water running in streams over the ice. The surface had a hint of turquoise. We all took a polar dip in a small pond right at the back of it. It was definitely the coldest LOAG so far (editor's note: while this water was certainly the coldest we swam in, the hot and sunny day made it one of the more manageable ones). We ate icicles and took a picture in the middle of a big ice crack carved through by a stream. Charlie found a frozen fish as well. Sad to leave, but eager to thaw our numb feet, we set off back to our boats and continued on. We entered a

big bend in the river where we faced big headwinds but pushed through. Before we knew it, insane tailwinds had our backs once again. We made good distance and ended up passing what was supposed to be our day 6 campsite. The winds were blowing all the bugs away while we set up camp. Bridget and Aenea made an incredible mac for dinner. While everyone was digesting their food, Tegan took out her kite and everyone took turns flying it. We then decided to hike up the hillside at around 10pm. When we reached the top, we stared in awe at the views around us. It was a wide open area at the top and suddenly someone spotted a caribou. It looked so majestic in the sunlight. While we were exploring, Tegan spotted a large, geode-covered rock. Everyone began looking for geodes as we realized that they were all around us. Aenea found the most amazing heart-shaped geode with massive crystals on it. While we were rock-hunting, the caribou kept coming back and looking at us, so we decided to leave it be and head back down to the campsite. Day 5, you were quite remarkable. Good night! XOXO

## Day 20

Hours on the water: 7.75

Distance travelled: 31KM

Weather: Cloudy and cool, a little bit of sun, then rain when we got to the campsite

Quotes of the Day: "Girl, that's not giardia, that's menopause." - Bridget

"Zero holes per inch! Dab, whip, nae nae." - Margot

We awoke in the 20th day to some cloudy skies. After a speedy pack-up we consumed some 8-grain and pancakes with honey, PB, and some mini smarties. Post-breakfast we began our descent of the Anderson. Throughout the morning we saw many eagles and a couple of Arctic swans. Despite our James Charles impression we managed



to see a herd of muskox before they fled from our questionable singing. We stopped for a snack of Clif bars and some saltines (PSA: unsalted tops should be banned). Continuing on, the group continued to practice our questionable boat-peeing techniques. Charlie and Aenea perfected the double boat pee, and Michael completed the infamous plank pee #proudparents. We stopped for lunch of Logan loaf while Liam and Emmerson scoured the first of the Anderson whitewater. Some people enjoyed the loaf more than others. All the boats made it down the sets safe, though some with more questionable lines than others. We then portaged the gear into our gorgeous campsite while we ran the set empty-boated, as storm clouds loomed overhead. Tents and the tarp were quickly set up, and just as they were done the rain began. We braved the rain for our daily LOAG, but soon after the skies cleared, and Bridget and Derek cooked up a Big Soup that was in fact very big. Michael and Aenea cooked some couscous for tomorrow while we made hot-chocolate to the sound of The Night Circus. Goodnight V2 A! Good luck, stay safe, have fun! Sleep tight. We woke very early this morning and ate a quick breakfast of granola before setting off on a hike up the cliffs. The scenery was indescribable, and we spent a good chunk of our day up there exploring and taking in the views. Eventually, we did have to go back down and paddle, but a quick sesame snack on the water helped us get going. We thought the day couldn't get much better until... wolf pups! There were about ten babies in shades of black, white, and grey. We watched as they played around and ran up a hillside, until we saw the mama wolf emerge. She was speedy as hell as she ran across the shore and caught a goose. We watched in awe as she dragged her

kill back to the little ones. The rest of the day was a bit more calm but we rode that high until lunch. Bird lunch slapped, and wasps stung Derek when he went ashore for a bathroom break. We passed the start of the incredible rainbow cliffs and came upon a nice flat spot to camp. Bridget and Tegan absolutely slayed a butter chicken (seriously, best thing I've ever had), and then we said goodnight to our eventful day.

## Day 40

Hours on the water: 6

Distance travelled: 20KM

Weather: Calm and warm

Quote of the Day: "It's so much easier to close the pack liners when they're emptier!" - Tegan

G'day, pretty ladies, welcome to day 40 in the outback. Brekky was granola with hot chocolate, and once again the bug tent cheered those going out for their scheduled morning appointments. We kicked off the beach, the skies grey with a slight breeze on this chilly morning. We paddled, paddled some more,





completed the crossing with ease and style. Once across we found out Derek was late to his morning appointment, so while he attended to his needs we skipped rocks, searched for fresh water that wasn't actually there, and discussed the hot pilots we raved over on the first day. We continued on, spotting a cheeky bear (so cute, fuzzy, and cuddle-able), and jellyfish (so cute, squishy, and cuddle-able)! As we looked around, we saw creeping behind us some sopping wet dawgs that looked like seals! Yes, you heard that right, we were being hunted by seals. In the midst of the chaos we rafted up for some scrumptious cookie gorp. The four seals surrounded us, scoping out their prey. We attempted to scare them off by making seal noises, but they only ended up coming closer (shocking, I know). Not long after we de-rafted we spotted another pod of belugas to our right. Aenea and Bridget were blissfully paddling when a massive beluga pulled up right next to them. Immediately we moved to raft up, but it was too late. The beluga did a fliperoo then swam directly under the boat. Screams pierced the air as the friendly yet still terrifying beluga swam away. We rafted up and watched as the biggest pod yet swam out towards the ocean. We de-rafted and continued on, getting to the campsite surprisingly early, unloaded the boats for the first time in a hot minute, and set up the tents on the edge of a cute cliff (some more precariously than others). We had a scrumptious lunch of garlic buns with cheese and sausage. We LOAGed and many hit the hay while lunch and dinner crews got started. Derek fortunately did not get hypothermia. We ate creamy mac for dinner, and Aenea decided to garnish hers with sprinkles. Belugas continued to swim past our campsite, over a hundred in all, and we watched them in awe before heading to bed. XOXO



## VOYAGEUR II

**ROUTE:** *Great Slave Lake - Hoarfrost - Lockhart - Courageous - Coppermine (flight to put in on Northeastern Great Slave Lake - Overland/upstream to Hoarfrost River - Up Hoarfrost River - Up Lockhart River - McKay Lake - Courageous Lake - Providence Lake - Coppermine River - take out at Kugluktuk - flight to Toronto - shuttle to camp - paddle under the bridge)*

**DATES:** July 1-August 27, 2022

**LEADERS:** Logan Germain and Henry Gould

**PARTICIPANTS:** Bella Arsenault, Robbie Carey, Coleman Farvolden, Colin Gould, Oscar Kim, Rhys Matthew, Iliana Rawlyk, Amalia Tinmouth

### Day 2

Hours on the water: 9.5

Distance travelled: 10KM

Weather: Overcast. Great for portaging.

Quote of the Day: "We gotta call Logan "an", cuz she lost her LOAG privileges." - Robbie

First real day of trip! And boy oh boy, Day 2 was a doozy. We woke up at our beautiful campsite just downstream of the mouth of the Hoarfrost River, a falls partially hidden around the bend. Dave came by and dropped us off another screwdriver bit because he was worried some of his bigger screws might not work with our smaller driver. What a kind and thoughtful guy. After our first morning circle of trip, we headed off paddling. First a quick pop by Dave's to look for our spare paddles, but no luck. They must have gotten lost in transit. We will have to order another couple paddles for the food drop. We paddled our way, about 5 km, to the start of the portage. Annika had left a cute message, "this way to Kugluktuk!" And there we were,

standing at the beginning of a beast of a 4km portage. Let's do this! And we took off, people working their hardest, all together. Leg one, two and three were pumped out super fast, and we saw our first herd of Muskox! Four of them up on a rocky ridge, beautiful. We had a great lunch of pesto served by Colin and Bella, and three rounds of 9 Jellybeans, courtesy of Rhys. Thank you Rhys! Those beans were truly our saving grace today. We decided our timing was such that we needed to only take campsite related stuff, and leave canoes and food packs behind. Our timing worked quite well, and we rolled into camp around 6:30pm exhausted, and screaming "Hallelujah!" at the great Hallelujah Lake. It is great to be here, even though it is a gross marsh. Colin and Bella crushed spag, except for the forgotten salt part. And Robbie and Oscar decided to go on a 4km adventure at 10 pm to go retrieve jelly beans from the canoes, at the cost of 3 jelly beans per person. A steal!

### Day 31

Hours on the water: 10

Distance travelled: 29KM

Weather: Sunny, mild headwinds

A nice, long paddling day was in store for us. We awoke at sunset, which soon turned into sunrise as we soon discovered there is no real darkness here yet. The light was beautiful over the lake, a rosy colour filled the hills. The scenery began to change and at snack we climbed to the top of a hill to take in the view. Huge rocky hills all around us. We also took Day 31 headshots here. At lunch we again climbed a big hill. Awesome chaps and BB dip courtesy of Iliana and Rhys. We paddled on and on. Oh, and we played hours of 'Story'. We all voted to kill off Coleman's character and the gods allowed it. Pulled up to an awesome flat rock campsite and many people scrubbed and swam. At dinner time, everyone came out in their costumes.





Iliana's was definitely the best - she put on colorful face stickers in the shape of butterfly wings. Henry's costume was a Bostonian accent. A lovely day.

### Day 34

Hours on the water: 12

Distance travelled: 38KM

Weather: Little bit of wind and rain in the morning then glassy water! Sun and cloud.

Quote of the Day: "These clouds are cool. Not cool enough to have giants walking on top of them, but still cool." - Iliana

Paddle paddle paddle! Another huge day! Woke up to some strong winds, but winds we thought might be tailwinds later in the day, so we weren't too fazed. Granola with freshly picked blueberries was amazing and we had a lovely breakfast fire. Molly offered a fantastic morning question. Something like "what is a topic you know a lot about, and you want to be asked about?" We headed off onto the water, and the conversations began fervently. Politics! Big Pharma! Taxes! Income inequality! Literature! Economics! The discussions were wide-ranging and illuminating. And fun! We powered through the head winds and they

slowly lessened, and after a couple hours there was only clear glassy water as far as the eye could see. We stopped for lunch of PB&J tortillas and Colin pulled out his group gift, Biltong! South African style homemade dried meats, and it was absolutely incredible, with flavours of pepper and coriander dancing across your mouth. After a long lunch (we got caught up trying to determine if the ratio of arable soil, if spread out evenly across the earth, to the volume of earth, is the same ratio of a basketball to a one atom thick layer. A consensus of its plausibility was not reached), we kept on paddling, and we just... kept on paddling. The conversations devolved into a heated debate of what is an object, as to clarify a "no" answer in 20 Questions for "is it an object?" Clearly, we were deep into the day, and trip. We carried on for a 12-hour day, camped on a nice site and had another one of Coleman and Iliana's incredible Mac's. Good night!

### Day 48

Hours on the water: 8

Distance travelled: 29KM

Weather: Sunny! Tailwinds!

Quote of the Day: "Biggest fumble of trip!" - Robbie, informing Henry and Coleman of the char Colin and

## JOIN US AT CAMP THIS SUMMER

### BANQUETS

JULY 11

JULY 26

AUGUST 11

HARVEST WEEKEND  
AUGUST 25: GOURMET  
DINNER

AUGUST 26: HARVEST  
BANQUET

### FAMILY CAMP

JULY 7-12

AUGUST 14-19 (WAITLIST  
AVAILABLE)

### COMMUNITY WEEKEND

JULY 27-30



Oscar both had in their hands that somehow slipped away.

An absolutely amaze-balls day! Had a leisurely birthday breakfast of coffee cake and impromptu breakfast brownies??? Took off and had a lovely morning paddle, with tailwinds and some light rain. We arrived at our first proper sets and had a wildly fun time crashing through the big waves. Next up, Muskox. It did not disappoint—big, fun waves. Bella and Molly trailblazed a bit too far river right, and went broadside over the hole, but somehow stayed calm and collected—and upright—in the process. Gorp snack only because it had chocolate balls in it. Seems like most people rook the chocolate and left the rest behind. Some trip foods just aren't hitting like they used to. Kept moseying along and had a fantastic Nutella and peanut butter chapati with a great view of the basalt tower. The rest of the group ran

ducky while Henry took some plaque-photo-worthy pictures. At this point the canyon started cutting down into the earth, exposing beautiful slabs of sandstone on either side of the river, so the next and last set of the day was aptly named. Sandstone Rapids. Big, long and stunningly beautiful. The wave train on river left must have been 150 M long, and we rode it out in style, with Iliana reportedly taking the driest line Robbie could have imagined. Oh, and just before we ferried across the top of Sandstone, Logan stumbled across a char motionless against the shore. It stayed there as the group caught up and Colin and Oscar attempted to grab it with their hands. Oscar first had both hands on it, but it slipped away, through Colin's legs. Colin then reached through his own legs and grabbed the char by the tail, but it still managed to slip away. Fumble, even by Robbie's assessment.

Camped at an insanely gorgeous ridge on river left. Overall, an amazing day!

## Day 52

Hours on the water: 4

Distance travelled: 18KM

Weather: Light winds, but very, very cold.

Last day of trip! We have officially arrived in Kugluktuk. Insane to think that trip is officially over. We left Bloody Falls after our final cooked breakfast of trip—coffee cake. We ran some lovely swifts. It was a very cold day, which made us paddle hard and we arrived in Kug by lunch! We were warmly welcomed by a few locals, who helped us unload. One of them, Roy, became our tour guide for the few days in Kug. We grabbed some takeout at the Tundra Takeout and enjoyed the best burgers we've ever had! Amazing trip with amazing people. Quana, everyone.

## GMIC Reflections

... continued from page 2

the significance that even small moments can have at camp.

I loved reading Gill's part of this story because she was actually one of the people who gave me a moment of kindness when I came to Wanapitei, and that became my first GMIC. I was coming into summer 2011 as the new Administrator and, even as an adult, VERY nervous to be surrounded by new people. Gill sat next to me at a meal on the first day, asked me questions and filled me in on some Wanapitei lore. She made me feel like I belonged. My contract was only meant to be a year, but by the end of that first summer, I knew I'd found my community. Wanapitei welcomed me to

be myself, while pushing me to see what I was capable of.

This culture of acceptance and challenge is something Gill and I embraced as a guiding philosophy for our time as directors, and one that Mercede shows an eagerness to carry forward. We want Wanapitei to continue being a place that encourages campers and staff to bring their different interests, identities, strengths, and opportunities together to form a community that shares a love of tripping and the outdoors. Furthermore, we want that community to continue beyond the confines of summer.

Like Gill, moving on does not feel like goodbye. This community comes with me in the next phase of my life. I'm bringing the lifelong camp friendships I've formed, the memories made, the skills I've learned.

One of the highlights of my career is hearing from families about the difference Wanapitei has made in their children. They are stronger, more open, more inquisitive, more resilient, more passionate because of their time at camp. Wanapitei has made me all of these things too.

If it's your first summer, or you're reading this as an alum who was greeted under the Bridge by Stan and Laura Belle, I hope this is a reminder that Wanapitei will always be home for you.

Bruce Hodgins shared the following in his book, *Wanapitei on Temagami*, and it explains my feelings far better than I can: "Wanapitei is more than just a place or a group of people: it is an idea, an inner emotion, perhaps even a moment of truth which lives on in the memory of those who have shared the experience."

Be seeing you.



# Renovations to the Blue Bird Cage (aka Our Camp Office)

By Jackie Hodgins, Site Director

**D**ID YOU EVER experience the chaos of the Wanapitei Office prior to our renovations that occurred this past spring? The bustle of parents arriving with their camper, people checking out the merch, phone calls coming in from two different phones, staff scurrying around finishing up paperwork, a pile of laptops charging in the centre table, meetings happening while hanging over the directors' desks, the shouts of 'KitKat and a bag of Skittles' over top of everyone's heads as tuck was handed out, all while someone was attempting to answer the radio phone with over a dozen voices in the background. The clutter, the craziness, the patience required to be in there. Kudos to all previous management that endured the space. Some that spent time in there absolutely loved it. I think I would have pulled my hair out.

Does anyone remember the camper cabin, the Blue Bird Cage, with its roll down tarps that covered the bug screening? The four log high partial walls with 4-foot high screens above. If you didn't drop the tarps in time during a rainstorm, your bunk would get soaked. It was truly a bird cage back in my childhood. The Blue Bird Cage has seen some changes over the years. The building was converted into the office in 1995 after it was decided that the original Post Office was a ridiculously small space. Seventeen years later, we knew we had to make some more changes as our operations had outgrown the relocated office! The Board of Directors made a decision in the fall of 2021 to invest in upgrading and upsizing the office. During the winter months we got to work on plans, submitted them for permit, and in April of 2022 we embarked on the renovations that you can see today. I hauled the first few lifts of materials in by snowmobile and

changed over to the boat soon after break-up. We hired a contractor to do the major construction while the spring crew and I put in solid days doing all the siding. Furniture was built, and we worked on both interior and exterior finishing with the looming deadline of summer start-up. Did we make it?

Not quite. We were able to hand over the old portion to management as pre-camp training began while the new portion dragged into July. We had some pandemic-related hangovers with material shortages or (in some cases) no availability. We learn to improvise.

The end result is amazing. We kept the integrity of the building and tried hard not to take away from the beautiful log structure that was our starting point. We had large handmade wood windows made to ensure we had good airflow and also making sure we stayed true to the vision of our site. We reshaped spaces, created a new covered outdoor porch, organized the electricity needs, and provide a valuable private meeting space. What a change it made for the folks that spent hours in that building this past summer. Although we ran out of time to complete all the finishing touches this past year, I am proud to say we achieved



*From construction zone to hang out space. The 2022 Office renovations provided a welcome expansion to a busy space.*

what we set out to accomplish. What do you think?

PS. When you go into the office the next time, take a look at the ceiling. A canoe sits in the rafters, and beautiful beams and planks share the names of campers and staff who once called Bird Cage "home". It is quite beautiful and people forget to look up with all the wonderful things happening at floor level. Enjoy the new space.



# Welcome Mercede

... continued from page 2

## What's your favourite season and why?

Ahhh, such a hard question! I love them all and I really appreciate living somewhere that has a change of season. I love the stillness and calmness that can come with winter and I also love the sound of the fire while baking bannock on a summer day and the way the mud smells in the spring and the cool air of fall. But really...you can't beat any season when you can go paddling!

## What's your most prized possession and why?

Do kids count? haha but really...

## How would your 10-year-old self react to your new job?

They would be THRILLED! and probably not surprised in the least.

## How do you define your family right now?

Define? Hmm, we are Lego obsessed, Paw Patrol mega fans and an outside everyday

## Snooze button or wake up immediately?

Wake up.

## When making a PB&J sandwich, you put the peanut butter or jelly on first?

Wait, there's more than one way to make a PB & J sandwich? What is happening in the world?! Peanut butter first and lots of it.

## What was the first thing you wanted to be when you grew up?

A marine biologist. I even started out in University studying to become one, until it hit me that I needed to be outside with young people forever. So I switched majors, went to teachers



Our new director is no stranger to the joy of read-alouds on trip.

college and specialized in Outdoor and Experiential Ed and here we are!

Mercede can be reached all year at [mercede@wanapitei.net](mailto:mercede@wanapitei.net) and during the summer on the shores of Lake Temagami.

# To Our Donors: With a World of Thanks

**A** SINCERE thank-you to every person who contributes positively to Camp Wanapitei, both financially and through countless hours of volunteer time.

## Repairs and Recanvassing of Wood Canvas Canoes

Glenn Hodgins

## COVID Recovery Support

Evelyn Andrews, Alison McCarney, the Paulsen-Kerr Family, Trish Preston

## Camper Sponsorship for 7 Wanapitei Campers

Partnership with Taylor Statten Camping Bursary Fund

## Camper Sponsorship for 6 Wanapitei Campers

Partnership with Temagami First Nations

## Additional Contributions - Mabel's Labels

Mabel's Labels donated 35% of all sales from families who purchased clothing labels through their business to our bursary.

## Wanapitei Camper Bursary Fund Direct Donation of \$3225

Families who chose to donate to the Camper Bursary program at the time of registration or independently.

## Wanapitei Camper Bursary Fund Cash Donation of \$2154.76

Families who chose to donate the balance of their child's camp store account. This money helped us support campers who would otherwise not attend camp for financial reasons.

# Mark Your Calendars: 2023 Important Camp Dates

## APRIL

### THIS MONTH:

Medical Forms and supporting documents now online!

Paddler in your inbox!

**1st:** Final balance of camp fees due for those not on a payment plan.

**1st:** 2nd instalment of camp fees due for families on a payment plan.

**22nd:** VII 2023

Family Information

Session (for this summer's VII campers and their families) on Zoom

**23rd:** Camp Wanapitei Annual General Meeting for shareholders (Zoom)

## MAY

**THIS MONTH:** Spring Annual Work Weekend

**1st:** 3rd and final instalment of camp fees due for families on a payment plan

**15th:** Last day to submit Medical Forms

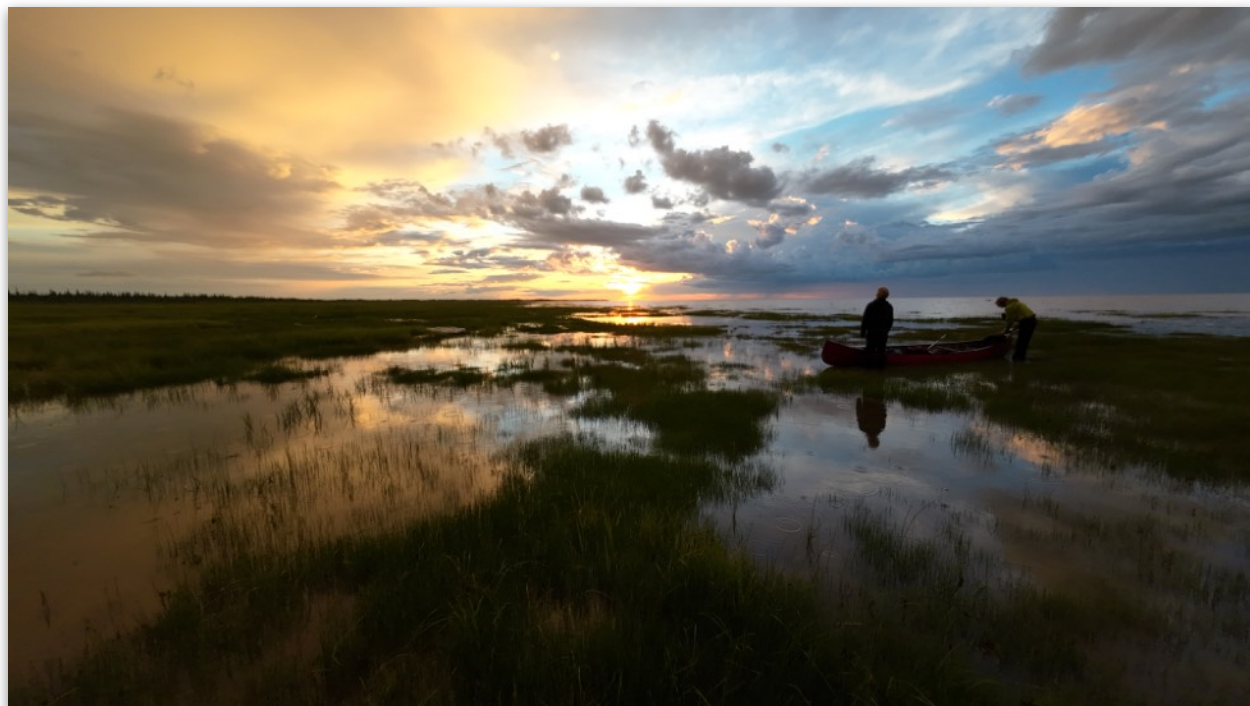
## JUNE

**1st:** Last day to confirm travel plans and equipment rentals

**14th:** Camp office moves to Temagami.

**20th:** Staff training begins.

**30th:** Early July, July, and Full Summer sessions begin.



## JULY

**7th - 12th:** July Family Camp.

**11th:** Mid-July Banquet.

**12th:** Early July session ends.

**14th:** Trail Blazer 3 and Late July sessions begin.

**20th:** Trail Blazer 3 session ends.

**21st:** Trail Blazer 4 session begins.

**26th:** End of July Banquet

**27th:** Trail Blazer 4, Late July, and July sessions end.

**27th-30th:** Community Weekend.

**30th:** Early August sessions begin.

## AUGUST

**5th:** Trail Blazer 5 session ends.

**6th:** Trail Blazer 6 session begins.

**11th:** Mid-August Banquet.

**12th:** Junior 6 and Early August sessions end.

**14th:** Late August session begins.

**14th-19th:** Family Camp.

**16th-19th:** Family Camp three-night option.

**25th:** Gourmet Dinner.

**26th:** Harvest Night. VI and VII Campers paddle under the Bridge.

**27th:** Camp ends.

## SEPTEMBER

**THIS MONTH:** Summer 2024 registration opens online.

## OCTOBER

**THIS MONTH:** Summer photos online

## NOVEMBER

**THIS MONTH:**

Ottawa Reception

Toronto Reception

Trip reports in your inbox!