



CAMP KIN

2023 SUMMER CAMP WELCOME PACKAGE



WELCOME TO CAMP!

We're so excited to spend the week with you at Comox Lake this summer! Please read through the following information carefully, especially the ***Essential Camp Information*** and ***What To Bring*** sections. Arriving prepared will help us all have a fantastic week together.

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Howdy Campers,

We are so excited to have you join us for the second year of Camp Kin at Comox Lake! We are going to have an incredible week of queer celebration, forest adventures, and water exploration.

We welcome you as you are, bring your fantastic, nervous, weird, joyous self to share. There is no such thing as normal here! Our mission is to celebrate queer youth, make connections, and be our full, authentic queer selves. This is a space for you to try out a new name, experiment with pronouns, and chant 'GAY' as loud as you can. Expect to get messy doing crafts, playing in the woods, and making friends. We are going to have so much fun!

It is an honour to be your summer camp leader this year. I work hard to be the queer role model I never got to see as a youth, and to inspire people to be loud, out and proud ♡.

Excitedly,
Your Summer Camp Leader,
meika johnson
they/them



Dear Camper,

We're so happy you've signed up for one of Lake Park Societies' 2023 summer camps!

Lake Park Society is a not-for-profit community organization that has been serving Cumberland and the Comox Valley since 2015 with the aim of “creating wonder and connection through outdoor experiences” as an “inclusive community hub for outdoor education and adventure.” Our society operates the Cumberland Lake Park Campground and offers a wide variety of programs, not just summer camps. You can learn more about Lake Park Society by visiting us at www.cumberlandlakepark.ca.

Lake Park Society gratefully acknowledges that our camps occur on the unceded traditional territory of the Pentlatch, Eieksan, Sasitla and Sathloot peoples of the K'omox First Nation. We endeavour to be good guests, caring for this land and people in everything we do.

We are so excited to have an amazing team of summer camp staff with us this year. You can find out who they are, as well as learn lots of other useful information, by reading this welcome package. We hope it will help you arrive prepared for a great week. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the campground by calling (250) 702-8833 or emailing our Executive Director, Genevieve Burdett, at executivedirector@clws.ca.

Thanks for sharing your precious summer days with us. We look forward to seeing you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Higgs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stuart" and last name "Higgs" clearly distinguishable.

Stuart Higgs

Director of Education and Events, Lake Park Society

YOUR CAMP LEADERS



ALANA

THEM/THEM

Heyo! My name is Alana. I am a joyful queer, trans non-binary human living as a uninvited settler on Secwépemc and Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw lands, colonially known as Kamloops and Squamish, BC. I enjoy all things outdoors from backpacking to ice climbing to small nature walks. When not adventuring I love crafting poetry, playing guitar and cooking new foods. I am beyond excited to be your Camp Leader for Camp Kin, and lean into all the queer and trans joy together. I believe through goofiness, playfulness, and compassion we can create spaces where we can show up as our unique selves. See you at Camp, already counting down the days!



MEIKA

THEY/THEM

hi, I'm meika, a non-binary metis person who loves community building and being weird outside. I grew up in the Lower Mainland, and moved to K'omoks territory two years ago, I absolutely love living here. I enjoy reading comics, swimming, learning to paint, and being bad at chess. I work hard to accept myself as I am in the moment, and to share the skills of radical self acceptance with others. I dream of a world where we can all show up as our true selves, without fear or harm. I love being queer and want to share my joy with the world.

ESSENTIAL CAMP INFORMATION

- If you have an urgent need to reach your camper during camp, first try calling the **Campground Office at (250) 702-8833**. If there is no answer, then try calling your **camp leaders directly at (250) 702-8083**.
- Camp **starts at 9:00 am** each morning. Unfortunately, we cannot welcome campers prior to 9:00 as we need to prepare for our day of fun!
- Camp **ends at 3:00 pm** each afternoon. Please ensure someone is available to collect your camper promptly at 3:00 pm. Your camp leaders always have some clean-up to do at the end of the day.
- Drop off and pick up is at the **Gathering Place**, the grassy field across the parking lot from the **Cumberland Lake Park Campground Office**, at 1100 Comox Lake Rd, Cumberland. Look for the 6 ft tall green flag and stretch tent.
- Campers must **sign-in** and **sign-out** each day. Please speak with your camp leader at the start and end of the day.
- All campers must complete an **informed consent form** and **provide emergency contact information** during registration. If you did not do this during online registration, please be prepared to complete a paper copy on the first day.
- Please complete the **guest details questionnaire**. A link is available through your online registration. A paper copy will be provided on the first day of camp if you have not completed it.
- If you have any concerns about mobility, behavior, or the comfort of your camper during our programs, please contact the campground office at (250) 702-8833 or info@clws.ca
- Please pack all of the items listed under **What To Bring**. Campers who arrive inadequately prepared may be refused participation by camp leaders.

WHAT TO BRING

PLEASE ARRIVE EACH MORNING WITH...

- ☐ A comfortable and appropriately-sized **backpack**.
- ☐ Comfortable, **closed-toe shoes** that you can hike, run, climb and get wet in.
- ☐ **Clothes that can get adventurous**. We are planning to tie-dye and paint, crawl in the forest, swim in the lake, climb through bushes and get messy.
- ☐ A complete **change of clothes**, packed in a waterproof (ziplock bag).
- ☐ A **swimsuit** and **beach towel**.
- ☐ An emergency **warm layer** (sweater or fleece). Yes, even though it's summer.
- ☐ A **rain jacket**. It might happen.
- ☐ A full, **750+ mL water bottle**. We can refill water bottles at lunch on most days.
- ☐ A picnic **lunch** every day. Lunch is not provided and we may eat at different locations in the forest, away from the main campground.
- ☐ Enough **snacks** for two stops. We stop to eat a snack at 10:30 & 2:00 each day.
- ☐ **Sunscreen, sunglasses** and a **hat with a brim**. We are expecting some hot and sunny days and want to stay sun safe!
- ☐ Any **medication** or other personal items. Medication must include written instructions and can only be self-administered.

OPTIONAL ITEMS...

- ☐ **Bug spray** can be helpful for some campers, especially if it rains prior to camp. We cannot provide bug spray but can help campers apply their own.
- ☐ Additional **clothing or fabric items to tie-dye**. We will likely tie-dye custom bandanas for everyone on the second day of camp. There may be extra dye. Bring 100% cotton items (shirts, socks, or pillowcases) if you'd like.

PLEASE DON'T BRING...

- ☐ Electronic devices such as phones and cameras. They risk getting wet and we aim to enjoy a week without screen time.
- ☐ Toys, stuffies, trading cards or personal items from home – unless they can get dirty and lost. Staff may ask participants to leave personal items at home if they may cause conflict. Expect to share any items with the whole group.

LOCATION

Find us at **Cumberland Lake Park**, 1100 Comox Lake Road, marked by the gold star on the maps below.

