



A CAMPING TRADITION SINCE 1936 IN ALGONQUIN PARK, ONTARIO

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## **CANOE TRIP LEADER** **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Founded in 1936, Camp Tamakwa is a coed children's overnight summer camp located in beautiful Algonquin Provincial Park. We offer a diverse in-camp program with over 20 activities as well as a canoe tripping program. Every camper will embark on a canoe trip as an important and valued part of their camp experience. Canoe tripping with Camp Tamakwa offers campers the opportunity for individual challenge, team building, adventure and an appreciation of nature.

Canoe Trip Leaders report to the Canoe Trip Director and Camp Directors and are responsible for all aspects of the canoe trip experience. This includes the safety and well-being of campers and staff while upholding the values and traditions of Camp Tamakwa's canoe tripping program.

Canoe Trip Leaders at Camp Tamakwa spend their summer paddling and portaging through Algonquin Park leading cabin groups of six campers (ages 7-16) and two staff members on trips ranging from two to five days. Camp Tamakwa also offers optional longer trips of 8-15 days with some groups travelling north to the Temagami area. The Canoe Trip Leader guides the staff team, that consists of counsellors and CITs, to plan and deliver a fun personalized program to the campers.

Camp Tamakwa supports the growth and development of emerging leaders in the field of outdoor adventure education with their Canoe Trip Leader-in-Training program. Older and experienced Canoe Trip Leaders will support this initiative by acting as mentors to the Canoe Trip Leaders-in-Training both on the trail and in camp. As a mentor you will be called upon to share your wilderness skills and experience, allow opportunities for the Canoe Trip Leaders-in-Training to develop their leadership skills, and provide timely feedback to help them grow and develop throughout the summer.

Canoe Trip Leaders are responsible for the planning, preparation, leadership on the trail, and evaluation of their trips when they return to camp. Before the trip; Canoe Trip Leaders meet with campers and staff to plan a menu based on allergies and preferences, prepare and pack the food, consult with the Medical Staff to review health concerns and medications required, and make sure that all campers and staff are ready for the trip with adequate clothing and personal gear.

While on the canoe trip: Canoe Trip Leaders teach campers and staff paddling and portaging skills, ensure that you and your group adhere to the rules of Algonquin Park as noted on your backcountry permit, act as responsible and respectful ambassadors of Camp Tamakwa, and model, teach and reinforce the proper use and care of the tripping equipment.

Canoe Trip Leaders are issued a full outfit of tripping equipment but you must provide your own sleeping bag, PFD, and appropriate personal gear (rain wear, good footwear, and clothing).

When in camp the Canoe Trip Leaders are often called upon to help with a variety of activities that may include; assisting with moving campers in and out of camp, teaching canoe trip skills, lifeguarding, and participating during camp-wide events.

All Canoe Trip Leaders attend a pre-camp training period in June that includes a four-day canoe trip with the Canoe Trip Director and senior Canoe Trip Leaders. This trip enables all Canoe Trip Leaders to become familiar with Algonquin Park and all it has to offer while also learning wilderness travel skills, and Camp Tamakwa's canoe tripping policies and emergency protocols.