



# BEAVER CUTTINGS 2015

## JT Julie

Foresters and Trailblazer campers enjoyed a beautiful summer filled with fun activities, golden days, and action packed nights. Section nights included beach parties, a Terminator game, Dr. Seuss night, Architectural games (including the building of a tower out of mini marshmallows and spaghetti) and a photo scavenger hunt. We went on a field trip and explored the Algonquin Visitors center. One of the highlights of the trip was seeing three moose on the bus ride home!

There were many other exciting events that happened this summer. We had two successful JT Triathlons. Huge How! How! to TB3 camper Riley Logan for achieving the 5<sup>th</sup> best time EVER in the history of the JT triathlon! Another highlight was when F2 beat R5 in the finals of survivor. Many campers enjoyed twilights at the ball field playing in the Tamakwa Baseball League.

Throughout the summer, JTs enjoyed the beauty of Algonquin Park on 2, 3, and 4 day canoe trips. I personally enjoyed an overnight canoe trip with the trailblazers. We paddled to Ragged Lake and had a wonderful time.

Many thanks to a fantastic group of JT Staff and CITs who created an unforgettable summer for almost 100 energetic and enthusiastic campers

May the great camper of all good campers be with us until we meet again.

## Fitness

Camp Tamakwa is all about being fit and staying active. No matter where you look there are children and young adults working hard and living a healthy lifestyle. Fitness is just another activity to add to the mix. The campers learn the proper ways to work out as well as the different types of activities you can do to stay active. They learn what is healthy and ways to change their eating habits.

This summer many campers participated in yoga, zumba, circuit training, boot camps, relays and fitness games. These are just some aspects of the fitness program of 2015. Some campers even had the creativity to make choreography! Great dances were created for the songs "Stacey's Mom" by Fountains of Wayne and for Graig's favourite song "Cheerleader" by Omi. Ontop of all this fitness fun, some campers worked on achieving awards. How! How! to all the campers who worked hard this summer, and a special huge How! How! to Lara Perlmutter and George Kellie who worked extremely hard and achieved the highest award in fitness.

Overall the fitness program of 2015 was an outstanding one. It would not have been the same without the help of the staff; Clayton Jacobson, Bethany Butcher, Ben Goldfarb, Carly Abrahams and Sophie Linden. Without all of those people fitness would not be everything that it was.

Fitness is a massive part of a camper's life here at Tamakwa. I am so grateful that I got to be part of it this year.

## Outdoor Fun

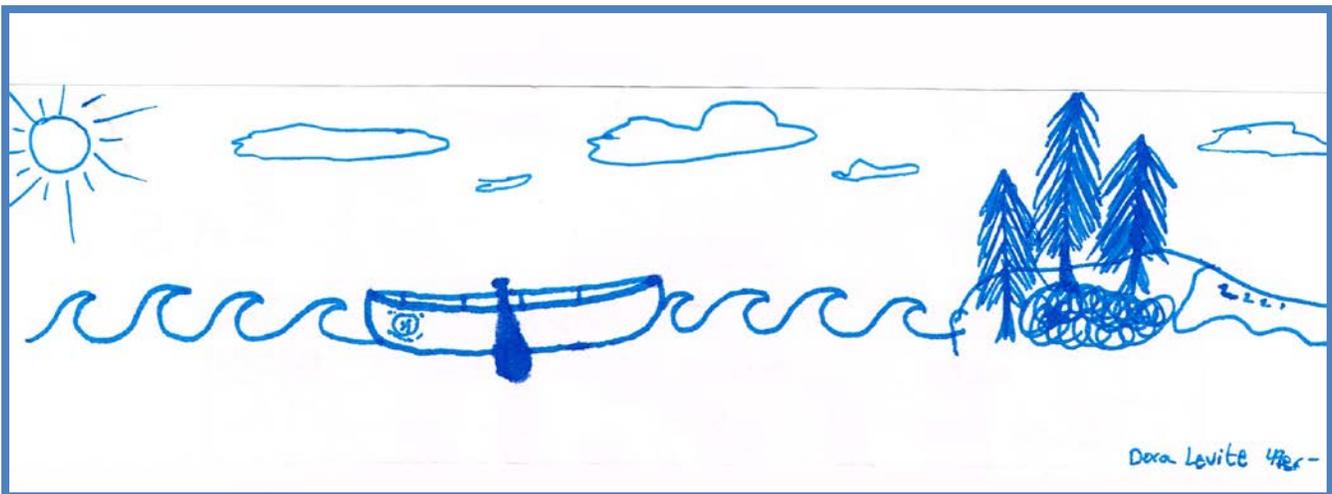
It was mid-June, and I was searching online for a last minute summer escape when I came across the Camp Tamakwa job posting. “Bored of your desk yet? This could be your new commute...” – these words, along with a picture of Lone Pine, a pointer and the beautiful water of Tea Lake were sent to me in an e-mail by Andrea. That moment I knew I had to say yes... so I accepted the position as the Outdoor Fun director at Camp Tamakwa.

Tamakwa has been my home for two months now, and I can honestly say it has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. Campers – Thank you for coming to ODF and putting a smile on my face. From water fights, silly games, long hikes, scavenger hunts, bannock making and even an overnight... every adventure was amazing and truly one of a kind. What an unforgettable summer!

I'd like to say thank you to Vic, Craig and Margot and of course Andrea for giving me the opportunity to be apart of the Tamakwa family this summer. Algonquin Park is one of the most beautiful places I've ever had the pleasure to call home.

To my sister Janelle – Thank you for completing me. I honestly don't know what I'm going to do without you during the year. Hunter – Thank you for being my first friend and showing me the ropes. I'm so happy you'll be so close after the summer! To all the AL's – Thank you for being such an incredible family, you're all so amazing and I'm so lucky to have met each and every one of you. Bryan and Ben – Thank you for having me at your table during first month! Eating with the AL's just wasn't the same. JD – I will seriously miss you and reading to your boys at bedtime. Finally – a HUGE Thank you to my staff and CIT's this summer. I couldn't have asked for better help. Time certainly has gone by fast. Don't forget to keep in touch!

Xoxo Outdoor Nat



## Swim

Being a rookie at Tamakwa and having to step in to fill a rather important position has its challenges. Not knowing camp, the lingo, or how anything worked really put a damper at the beginner. However, after a few days life at Tamakwa became simple. I made friends with so many campers and staff that I know will never be broken.

Swimming in Algonquin Park is an extraordinary way to spend a summer away from the chilly shores of Newfoundland. Being used to the cold Atlantic Ocean, the warm temperature of lake was a pleasant change. While some campers felt like the water never warmed up enough, the endless golden days made getting campers into the water pretty easy... most of the time. The struggle began to appear when the silver days were more prominent... or any time voyageur swim class came around... the struggle was real! (jokes!) I heard countless excuses... "I can't swim because I have athletes foot" "I can't swim because I am sick" or the classic.... "I just don't want to swim". While there were some clever excuses, generally with the help of the counselors we were able to get them all in the water... even if only to play basketball.

Being the activity leader for swimming definitely had its challenges. In saying that, the good days out weighed the bad making it a wonderful summer. Thank you to all my activity leader friends for being there with me every step of the way. My summer would not have been the same without each and every one of you! I love you all! Thank you Craig for believing in me. To all the campers, I am so proud of each and every one of you. You all did so well! Without your excitement this summer the swim docks would not have been the same! Thank you Tamakwa for the experience of a lifetime.

## Art

We had a very colourful summer at the art deck-o. We made tie-dye t-shirts, slime, Jackson Pollock paintings, dream catchers, doll houses, pillows, candles and so much more! We also had an awesome paint fight (shout out to Sam Zamir for starting it!) and card board boat races.

We had so many talented artists, and many won awards. A huge How! How! goes to Riley Logan and Rachel Gluckman who showed their creative side and made some beautiful doll houses helping them to earn their Tom Thompson award. Martina Ruffin made a number of incredible projects and was an inspiration to other campers in the art room. Her projects were innovative and creative and with all of her hard work she earned the highest art award, the group of 7 award. Summer Osak achieved her "The Scream" award for her dedication and hard work to the art program. Sophie Harris, Abby Sigel, Meagan Arviv and Emma Nulman also earned their group of 7 award after creating a beautiful plaque of the sun.



This summer we also went on an all day art trip! We paddled to Molly's island and spent the day doing crafts. We had such a great time. How!How! to Nora, Alexa and Jacob for making the art trip such a blast!

And finally, a big How! How! and thank you to the incredible art staff, without whom none of the incredible things that happened at art this summer would be possible!!!! Thanks everyone!

## Canoe

I set a personal goal this summer to master the headstand in a canoe. Not only was I successful, but I managed to inspire others to follow suit. How! How! to Sam Borman, Chaz Frank, Dom Leckie and Spencer Robins for also mastering the canoe headstand.

Gunwhaling was another past time this summer at the Canoe dock thanks to all the wonderful weather we received from Wakonda! Both of this year's voyageur canoeists demonstrated gunwhaling at the conclusion of their test. Zach Kam ended up wet, while Eli Offman managed to stay dry.

Congratulations to our new A canoeists- Alanah Bratley, Lily Creed, Drew Levine, Joey Morof, Matthew Steck and Ruby Kolender who also received her Courier de Bois.

Our Courier du Bois recipient list is the longest in Tamakwa's history! A Huge How! How! To Chaz Frank, Jordy Godfrey, Rose Jacobs, Emma Jacobson, Ruby Kolender and Asa Levite.

I know that everyone in camp spent at least 2 days in a canoe as everyone went on canoe trip. 18 of us spent a whole day in a beaver canoe on the canoe all day. How!How! to Chaz Frank, Jordy Godfrey, Rachel Hirsh, Zack Kam, George Kellie, Ruby Kolender, Josh Koolik, Eli Offman, Spencer Robins, Jacob Saltzman, Alex Wexler, Roan Wilder and Leo Zolberg. Thank you Winona Kellie, Daniella Rodriguez and Zach Summerhayes for helping staff the adventure. Special mention goes to Zach Schram, David Stringer and Alex Weal for enhancing the visit to Tom Thompson's grave.

As with most things at camp, nothing operates well without the help of the phenomenal CITs. Thanks to Carly Abrahams, Sam Broman, Rachel Hirsh, Rose Jacobs, Jordyn Kohn, Nicky Kriegel, Anne Perlmutter and Lauren Pollack. YOU ROCK.

I would not be lying if I told you that this year I had the best staff ever. Anna Aronovitz- Voyageur Canoeist, Alanah Bratley – A Canoeist, Jake Freed – inspiring teacher, Theo Hembury – the funny man, Lily Josephs - creative fun spirit, Winona Kellie – master gunwhaler, Josh Kohn – friend to all, Dom Leckie - headstand enthusiast, Daniella Rodriguez – happy Tripper, Zach Summerhayes – calm yogi and Ella Workman – fun loving canoeist. Thank you everyone... you made my job easy.

Last but definitely not least my How!How! recipients. Noah Back – the Forester who got his JT-C, C and Beaver as well as he learned many of the B strokes. Esther Levite – she completed almost everything with style and finesse for her B but still needs to master her windy paddle. Both are potential future Voyageurs.

Thank you to everyone who came to canoeing and made it fun. Especially those 7 who fell in the water while trying to get in a canoe – Ariel Golnick ☺ See you all next year on the sunny shores

## Piano

What an exciting summer it was in the Rec Hall ! The 2015 Drama season was one of many first at Camp Tamakwa. Our first month featured two musicals that each stress the importance of being yourself and not trying to fit into someone else's idea of who you should be. "Once upon a mattress" and "Thirteen" both expressed these morals, although in very different styles. "Mattress" first debuted in the 1950s while "Thirteen" wasn't seen on Broadway until the 2000s. Over the past 65 years this message still proves to be incredibly valuable to people of all ages.

Second month started with a bang: Camp staged its very own original musical featuring pop songs from the past four decades. This musical, "The Old Witch" was adapted from a fairy tale by Joseph Jacobs during the off season by me (Vinnie Piano). My goal was to create a show that would feature as many campers as possible and to entertain using songs that we all know and love. We finished the season with a very silly version of "Monty Python's Spamalot". Even with a limited amount of rehearsal time, our older campers made this show a success. I am so proud of all of the work that the 2015 Tamakwans put into their productions. We gave them challenging dialogue, music and choreography which they all tackled with excitement and a willingness to play. I can't wait to see where the Drama program goes next summer!

## Sail

As a veteran sail staff member a returning Sail Director, it was unclear to me what exactly I needed to improve in the sailing program. Campers were learning to sail, were safe on the lake, and everyone was having fun. This summer I learned that it is still possible to make a good thing better. This summer I made it my personal goal to teach as many campers as possible to sail. In the last two weeks of camp, I was out on the lake every rest hour, often with one of the sail staff, helping our numerous dedicated sailors improve their skills. It was incredibly rewarding to see the large number of campers working through their awards and improving over the summer. Thanks to all the hard work by both the campers and my incredible sail staff this summer... you all made the sail dock an incredible place to be!

## Ropes

We have had so much fun at ropes this year. Everyone who signed up got some awards and a lot of people managed to overcome their fears! A big How! How! To Melanie Hirsch, Roxie Parker, Jordan Dopp, Mackenzie Narens, Sophie Harris, Abby Sigel, Kaitlyn Luckoff and Nellie Fisher who all received their highest award at ropes – the Mt. Everest Team award. I would also like to say a huge well done to Molly Godfrey. When Molly first arrived at ropes with her cabin she decided to push herself out of her comfort zone and climb to the top of the zip line. With some persuasion, she also zipped down! We were so excited when she decided to further challenge herself and sign up for the next week of ropes! I would also like to say a huge thank you to Kara Tessier and Maddie Huntley who were the two best ropes specialist ever! I feel like the luckiest person for getting to work so closely with these two caring and entertaining people. I couldn't imagine running ropes with anyone better! We have loved getting to know all of the campers this year, good luck everyone and thanks for the amazing summer!

## Kayak

Whether it's a windy day or a calm day, hot or cold, silver or golden... there is always kayaking at Camp Tamakwa. Whether adventuring out on a leisure paddle or playing games (Piano keys anyone?) we always had a blast! Huge how to all the campers who worked hard on your awards this summer! You all made the kayak dock an awesome place to be!

## Hockey

This summer has been a hockey director's dream I had the highest turnout for inline that I have ever seen as a staff member!!! With this large number of talented campers, we were able to create the Tamakwa Hockey League ( The THL). The THL was as close as it gets to a real functioning professional league here on the shores. It began with a tryout where captains took turns picking their players for their team. On golden days we strapped on our skates and played. Silver days were designated for trades and free agencies, similar to the professionals.

The league lasted the second half of first month and ended with an overtime championship by the cougars. Not only was the THL a highlight of the summer for 20 kids in the league, but it was a highlight of mine as well. The THL has the potential to be a staple at camp and I hope it will continue for years to come. Thanks everyone for an amazing summer!

## Clay

After 3 summers in the clay room, you really think you have seen it all! All the pinch pots, every bowl, every cup that could possibly be made. This summer however I was proven wrong. This summer the talent and creativity by the campers in the clay room blew me away. One of the highlights this summer was when one of the voyageur boys came to clay and within one period created the most impressive pieces of the summer! Discovering these secret talents and fostering kids creativity every day is what makes all the hours of cleaning up kiln explosions worth it. Another highlight of the summer would have to be seeing how happy campers are when they see their final projects. When I returned a project to a camper this summer after the final round of the glaze kiln, he said to me "I never thought I could make something that good!" The pride he took in his project was so humbling to witness, a truly special moment.

This summer the record number of signups at clay also blew me away. Most periods we were fully booked! Campers experimented with different clay techniques, as well as glass and marble melting. I am so proud of all of the campers who came to clay this summer. Your energy, enthusiasm and creativity are what made the program so much fun! It was you and all of your hard work, not the clay that made the clay room such a special place to be  
THANK YOU!

## Windsurf

2015 marked a crucial turning point for Tamakwa's windsurfing program. This year we really took the time to keep a strong focus on the development of young surfers while still spending time on the fine-tuning of our more senior and advanced campers.

Windsurfing soared in popularity amongst younger campers due to the reincarnated teaching tactics of anchor board teaching as well as the new methods of tandem windsurfing. These new techniques worked extremely well in giving camps youngest campers a taste of the thrill of Tamakwa's most exhilarating activity.

I can say with full confidence that there has never been a more talented windsurf staff than the staff of 2015. This was evident through the development of our more advanced surfers. They were so lucky to have the chance to learn from some of Tamakwa's finest! It's truly incredible to compare the camper's abilities at the start of the summer to their abilities at the end. It was like watching two different people windsurfing! This is a credit to the incredible staff of 2015.

All in all it was a truly fantastic, fun filled summer on the sunny shores. I hope you all had an amazing summer as well! Looking forward to seeing what is in store in the years to come!

## Landsports

" You have 32 kids signed up for volley ball" Sue Binder exclaimed one morning " what is going on down there?" Anyone who was at camp this summer could answer her question without missing a beat. IT's FUN!

Those two simple words sum up Landsports 2015. It was definitely a summer of fun!!

Every day at 3<sup>rd</sup> period we had tons of kids at volleyball. Campers could be found working on their awards, playing volley ball and lots of Nuke em! Big kids and little kids all played together and had a blast.

Never before have so many younger kids earned volley ball awards. Forester Ari Michaels earned his bronze spike. Rangers Dex Frank and Jacob Coburn earned their high award , the platinum spike. Pioneer Phoebe Fingold earned her platinum spike and competed on the 16U Volleyball team.

Our 16U team crushed Manitou in August sweeping them in two straight dominant wins. Player/ coach Emma Nulman carried the team to victory with 18 straight points on serve.

We had many exciting days and nights at the field of dreams. The Tamakwa baseball league was established and we played many exciting games at twilight. The Tigers went undefeated in July while the Cubs dominated in August. A big How! How! to senior boys Josh Klein and Ben Jerris for coaching the Pilots and helping the kids to create amazing team shirts.

Softball was better than ever this summer. USA once again dominated over Canada in the July 4<sup>th</sup> CanAm staff game. USA bats came up big and defense came on as Canada staged a threatening comeback in the last inning. Mike TV came up with the big defensive play of the game going airborne to rob AD Ellen of a line drive hit. It was a catch that would make any highlight reel!

The 12U softball team came up big this summer. At Manitou in July, pitcher Sam Wittenberg preserved a Tamakwa victory in the bottom of the last inning by diving for a pop up – catching

it on a bounce- and shoveling it to the catcher for a force at home. Sam's play prevented the tying run from scoring! How! How! Sam! The game ended on the next play when Cooper Sosin cleanly fielded a bounding ball to second and made an easy put out at first.

The 12U team remained undefeated by coming up big when Manitou came to visit in August. Trailing by three in the last inning, Tamakwa rallied back. With the bases loaded and 2 outs, Ozzy Borman connected for a run scoring single to win the game in walk off fashion. The crowd went WILD!

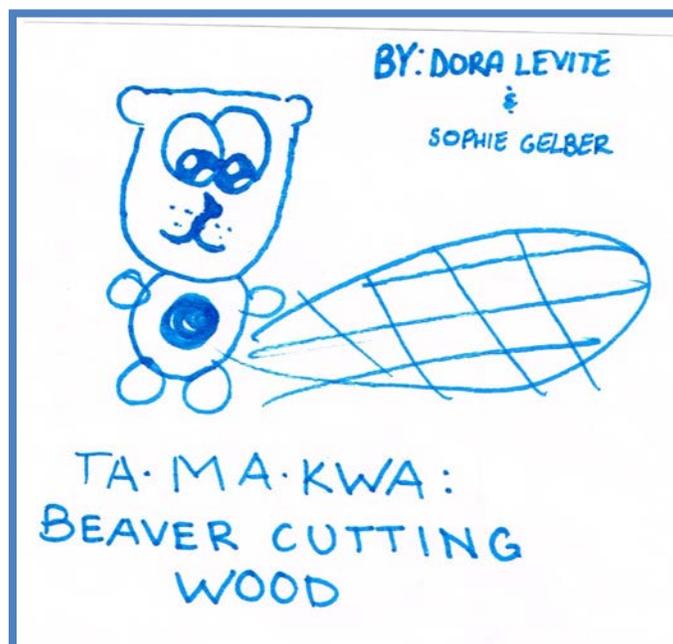
The spirit of fun engulfed the platform all summer long. The Tamakwa Basketball Academy was born and more kids than ever learned the finer points of basketball. 2 ball was HUGE! Every period and every free moment campers and staff were shooting three's and competing with each other.

The Bad Boy staff of Dylan Deitch, Mitchell August, Josh Bender, Evan Ketaj, Jake Migdal, Alex Sigel and Daniel Garfinkel dominated both the Arowhon and Ahmek staff teams. They later put on a clinic with their teamwork and skill.

HAND BALL!!!! After a two-year wait, the 16U girls handball team returned to Camp Walden's 4 team tournament. We went in knowing we would accept nothing less than a championship. Led by Max Huberman's 24 goals in 5 games, the girls dominated the tournament and returned victorious!

The 2015 summer of fun would not have been possible without the amazing landsports staff. Their teaching, coaching, playing and positivity are what made this summer such a success.

A BIG How! How! and thank you to all of the incredible campers who came out to landsports! You positive attitudes and love of play made the activity so special. THANK YOU!



## CAMPER ARTICLES

Roses are Red  
Violets are Blue  
We Love Tamakwa, YES WE DO!  
Tamakwa is great  
And all of us campers are 8  
So don't hate ☺  
-F2

The Birds chirp  
And the sun rises  
The bell rings.  
And the children awake  
And are eager to start  
their day.  
When the eggs roll  
Out of the kitchen  
The stomach starts to turn  
- Senior girls

Teeheehee is what the campers say  
**A**mazing  
**M**arvelous  
**A**wesome  
**K**ids  
**W**ater  
**A** lot of fun!  
- Maya Wolberg P3

**T**errific  
**A**mazing  
**M**argot  
**A**crostic Poem  
**K**ats ( big Nate has one)  
**W**OW  
**A**wkay  
- Becca Logan p3

Hi, I am Ava Stolberg and this is my first year at Camp Tamakwa. I was told to think of something to put in a time capsule of Tamakwa. I would put a picture of my cabin because of everything we have done together like survivor and air bands. We have had so much fun together, and I hope everyone comes back next year! That is what I would put in a Tamakwa time capsule. A picture of TB3  
- Ava Stolberg, TB3

Traditions are the driving force behind Tamakwa's history.  
Growing up as campers, we have looked up to senior girls year after year.

From cheering in the dining hall to being colour war captains, they form a group of model campers commonly looked up to by Junior Tamakwans. One of the most treasured events done only by the Senior Girls in Mini Banquet. Although the last night of camp is thought of as sad banquet is looked forward to by all of the campers at Tamakwa. The Senior Girls are responsible to come up with an elaborate theme and decorate the dining hall as such. We are honored to be able to follow in the footsteps of the past senior girls and the memorable nights they have created.

- Emma Jacobson and Kate Gordon, 49er 3

My topic today is what I would put in a time capsule from my first year as a trailblazer. I would probably put in some pictures of what we did when we were at Tamakwa so people who open it can see what we did back then. I would do that because if I put something else in then people who would open it would wonder what we did and would want to see pictures of it

- Ameila Hecht TB3

If I had to put something in a time capsule it would be something I love A LOT. So, that means I would put something that symbolized my first summer at Tamakwa. To symbolize that, I would put in my cabin photo so I would always remember who was with me. Thanks for reading this. Xoxo

- Riley Logan TB3

This year at camp was really fun. I liked how I met a lot of new friends. Their names are Judah, Everret and Noah. The people in my cabin are really nice. Thank you counselors for teaching me all these new things. Also, thank you for being so kind to me.

- Madden Gunsberg F3

I got to tie-dye marshmallows on August 10 2015 at outdoor fun. I tie dyed them green yellow and red and blue. Then I roasted them until they were golden brown. It was so yummy. I hope to come back to the best camp again next summer.

- Cole Silverman F3

My favourite part of my second year was getting a lot of awards. Another thing I liked was moving cabins. I also like swimming

- Austin Saunders F3

My favourite thing at camp is inline. I like it because in Toronto I play a lot of hockey. I think they are similar. Hockey and inline both involve patience, trying hard and having fun. Of the 6 individual choice periods, I have done inline 5 times. I feel inline is an exciting fun and fast paced game. These are the reasons I really like inline.

- Josh Cooper F3

I love swimming because Janelle works there. Camp is so fun. My Second favourite activity is sailing.

- Ethan Brady

I love camp. My favourite activity is archery. I got my blue award!

- Alec Dorf F3

My favourite thing at camp was when my brother came on trip with me and I had a blast. It was the forester four day. We all went to burnt lake. I had a great time at Tamakwa.

- Daniel Saunders F4

This year when I went to camp I was really excited for trip and second session I went on the forester long trip. The forester four day was so fun!

- Ari Michaels F3

Hello my name is Charlotte and this is my first year at Tamakwa. If I had a time capsule I would put a picture of my family and my pets and other people I love in it. I would also put a picture of my friends and me from camp standing outside of our cabin. I would put those things in because they are my favourite memories. My camp friends all mean so much to me and it is really important for me to remember them. I would of course put in a picture of my counselors also as they mean a lot to me. I would also put in a picture from colour war. I was on the green team it was a lot of fun!

- Charlotte

Hi my name is Caitlin Hillman. If I had to put something in a time capsule it would be my beaverboard from my first year as a trailblazer. I would put this in there because it is a memory of my first summer at Camp Tamakwa. Everyone in my cabin signed their names on it and that is why I would put it in my time capsule.

- Caitlin Hillman

Hi my name is Emily Jerris and the highlight of my year is camp. One of my favourite camp memories is my 3-day trip last year. It rained the whole time and on our way back it was freezing and raining and we had a really bad headwind. We had to paddle our hardest! I LOVED IT! We were laughing and smiling. It was at that point that I knew that I wanted to be a tripper.

- Emily Jerris

On the 80<sup>th</sup> summer of camp Tamakwa P4 had an amazing 1<sup>st</sup> session. As a cabin, we made so many amazing memories. For block period one day we had canoe. As we got into the canoes, our friends Kate and Thea stood up at the same time and fell out! Everyone was laughing so hard. It was an amazing cabin memory that we will never forget.

- Izzy Jacobson and Mia Haddad P4

Second month I went on a 4 day canoe trip. On the first day we got to our camp site so early we had a lot of time to hang out. When we were paddling to our camp site, we saw an amazing waterfall. So after setting up camp, we paddled over to see the falls. I have to say it was the prettiest thing I've ever seen. I'm so glad I was able to see such an amazing view

- Maya Saltzman 49 -1

Today I went sailing. My friend and I took out a boat. We aren't that great at sailing. We tried our best and had so much fun. I fell out of the boat and was in the water for five minutes, I finally got back into the sail boat, and we sailed in. I forgot to turn, so we crashed into the Hobie and a few others. This is just one of my many hilarious memories at Camp Tamakwa.

- Kayla Kriegel 49-1

Sunny skies  
Clear lakes  
Fluffy clouds  
Green bushes  
Silver canoes  
Crisp apples  
Pink sunsets  
What is it you ask?  
ALGONQUIN PARK.  
Wait, no.  
HOME  
- Lauren Shostak 49-1

On 13 day first month we were on Nadine lake at the end of our rest day when we started hearing strange noises. The noises sounded like the biffy was opening and closing. Our staff went out of their tent to see what all the noise was. They then told us that a huge tree has fallen near the biffy box. About 2 hours later, we started hearing a different type of noise. It sounded like a basketball bouncing. All of the kids got scared so we went into "survival mode" and started packing up all of our stuff. Everything turned out to be ok. The second noise we figured out was only a grouse. That night is now a night that the 2015 girls 13 day will never forget  
- Stacey Hirsch 49-1

#### A REMIX OF TICK TOCK

Wake up in the morning feeling like Nate Zahn.  
Put on my bug spray, I'm out the tent.  
I'm going to hit the lake.  
Before I leave, I brush my teeth with a pile of sticks cause when I leave for the night I aint coming back.  
I'm talking dirt all over my clothes (clothes )  
Leeches on my toes (toes)  
Singing my favourite songs (songs)  
Padding all day long (long)  
Trying to stay hydrated  
Don't stop paddling till you reach the portage tonight.      ~~Will~~ have a really good s'more.  
Then we will go swimming and cool off  
Cooooool off coooooool off  
- Maya Hochberg 49-1

**T** is for the beautiful trees and scenery at camp  
**A** is for the awesome friendships you create  
**M** is for the most amazing counselors  
**A** is for the activities that are so great  
**K** is for the killer evening programs  
**W** is for the water that is so clear and beautiful  
**A** is for the amazing memories I will have forever  
-Nellie Fisher 49-1

The Tamakwa camp wide triathlon is a monthly chance for campers to practice some of the activities Tamakwans hold near and dear to their hearts. It also provides a chance for the triathletes to improve on their personal best times, and of course some friendly competition between the participants. With the push from those around them campers are able to exceed their own expectations.

This year was my first year at Tamakwa and I wanted to participate in all that I could. So, I signed up for the triathlon. Now that I have done it I can truthfully tell you that this is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. That feeling you get when you cross the finish line is one of enormous achievement and pride. Your time is not what matters. What matters the most is that YOU DID IT! And personally, I think that is pretty amazing!

-Stella Holt

Inside this wonderful place,  
Life thrives as wildlife sprouts,  
Ongoing laughing and fun,  
Victoriously drown out doubts.  
Every day when the bell rings,  
There is so much you can do,  
Always meeting new people,  
Making good memories too.  
All from Robbies to Beaver,  
Kindly warms your heart and mind,  
When you reach the South Tea Shores ,  
A dream come true's what you'll find  
I LOVE TAMAKWA  
- Lucas Campa

My favourite part of camp is individual choice because you can choose what you like and be the camper you want to be. For example, you could work on high awards or do creative things that you would never imagined you could do! Like adopting a paddle, and making it look awesome... you might even make some new friends and memories when you try something new! That is why individual choice is my favourite part of Camp Tamakwa  
-Lucy Zate

### **The trip of a Lifetime - by David Niddam-Dent**

As Bayview summer approaches, this year's senior men were looking forward to many things. Bayview cheers, fake breaks ( maybe), colour war and all day captains, seeing how far we can push head staff, and having a great time on the shores with amazing friends. In the many weeks and months leading up to camp, one of the most anticipated and most hyped experiences of your Bayview summer is the 15 day trip.

Whether it is Day 1 to Big Trout, Day 9 to White Partridge, Coyote Rock, High Falls or Jacob Pigeon Toe, the legend of 15 day grows with every day until the eventual departure (dragged on by Garf for at least an extra 30 seconds). Before you know it, you find yourself taking your last look at camp for a little over 2 weeks. For some, the reality of no mattresses, low hygiene or lunches that aren't salami/ corned beef and cheese in a wrap sets in right away. For

others, it might take until the beloved Joe Lake portage. Others, it might be the somewhat less beloved Otterslides. Or perhaps its not until the first bad headwind or the first long portage of trip. But as you and the 8 or 11 other smelly men on your trip forge deeper into the wilderness many amazing things happen. You begin to forget. Stress from home melts away into the steady rhythm of paddling. Heavy breathing on a portage or the buzz of a mosquito in your ear becomes your normal.

Of course new problems begin to develop. Blisters, bruises and facial hair ensure that there is a measure of discomfort at all times. The stories don't like. The trip is hard. Arriving at Catfish, Radiant or the Natch at dinnertime cold and wet and hungry isn't always fun. But looking up at Wakonda's Throne on Eustache, drinking Natch water on top of coyote rock at sunset, or flying down 5 mile rapids make it easy to forget the aches and pains and you again simply enjoy the wonder that is Algonquin Park.

The best part of 15 day? How close you become to the other people on your trip. The men you embark on this journey with may not start as your best friends. While you might all come from different places and have different interests one thing is for sure. While out in the wilderness of Algonquin, you become as close as brothers. Somewhere during the long paddles, the seemingly endless portages and cleaning dishes among the swarms of mosquitos your differences melt away. In the furthest corners of the wilderness, these men are your family.

Breathtakingly fast yet painfully slow at the same time the days of trip melt away. Days 1,2,3,4, 5 and 6 all pass and before you know it you are being resupplied. Reading letters from your family and friends (thanks Bayview) back at camp truly warm your heart.

With the joys of The dry clothes and full food barrels (much to the barrel boys dismay) another thought begins to loom. Hell Day.

Every camper experiences hell day a little differently. By now, they have it memorized. Wake up, 6km portage, uphill for the first 2, down hill for the last 4/ A short paddle, then a 1.5k. Lunch on Loon skin (looking for hexagons on the trees) followed by the killer 4.7k into the North Branch. Once you are done, there is still another 1.3 into May lake and then, finally, the 500m into White Partridge. Whether staff hyped them up with a pregame speech or war paint... even if you broke down on every portage or stayed positive all day long every camper experiences hell day differently. For most, this will prove to be the most physically demanding and mentally challenging day of their lives. Hell day provides campers with an opportunity to truly look inside themselves, to test their limits and to push through pain like they never have before. At the end they will be sore, but they will be stronger for their efforts.

Outside of Hell day, the second half of the trip is a time for really appreciating where you are. Whether it's the crows Nest, High Falls or Barron Canyon, Algonquin Parks natural wonders are on full display. The park is one of the most beautiful places on the planet and getting to the share it with friends makes 15 day such an incredible experience.

For some, 15 day is a window into themselves. For others, it's a way to connect with nature and friends. For all, it is an incredibly rewarding experience that participants will surely remember for the rest of their lives. It is quite simply the trip of a lifetime.