

CAMP
GOODTIMES



Canadian
Cancer
Society

A photograph of two young women wearing orange life jackets and white caps, smiling. The woman on the left has blue goggles on her forehead. The woman on the right is wearing a white cap with text and a logo. Both life jackets have a circular logo with a question mark and the word 'MUSTANG'.

2019 Volunteer Opportunities Handbook

Applicants to Camp Goodtimes:

Camp Goodtimes provides children and youth affected by cancer and their families with an extraordinary summer camp experience in a medically-supervised, safe and supportive environment. We've been friendship-building and memory-making in British Columbia since 1985 and work with nearly 500 campers each summer through our kids, family and youth camps.

We are proud to host Camp Goodtimes at two facilities throughout the summer. The first five camp sessions take place at the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest's stunning Loon Lake Retreat Centre near Maple Ridge, and our last two weeks of programming take place at Camp Pringle on the shores of Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island.

We believe that time spent at camp allows kids to just be kids, away from their diagnosis. We are proud to provide programming that gives joy, confidence, support and hope for children with cancer and their families.

Canadian Cancer Society's mission:

The Canadian Cancer Society is a national, community-based organization of volunteers whose mission is the eradication of cancer and the enhancement of the quality of life of people living with cancer.

In addition to following the Canadian Cancer Society's program standards, we are proud to work within the guidelines of the following organizations:



The Camp Goodtimes team:

Our staff and volunteer team is comprised of individuals that...

- Are positive role models and leaders for campers.
- Are self-motivated and demonstrate positive values.
- Are excited to work in an environment that is focused on helping children build connections and realize their full potential.
- Demonstrate enthusiasm for working in a team and are willing to support where needed.
- Are flexible and comfortable working in a demanding environment (24 hours a day, six days a week, living in close quarters with many other people).

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Volunteer requirements:

To ensure the safety of our participants, volunteers must meet the following requirements.

- All volunteers must be at least 19 years of age.
- Volunteers must provide evidence of up-to-date immunization.
- Volunteers must obtain a Police Background Check with Vulnerable Sector Verification.
- Standard First Aid/CPR C certification is required for caregiver roles at camp.

Required availability:

- First-time volunteers must be available to participate in the group interview process on one of the following dates:
 - Tuesday, April 2 / 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Vancouver
 - Wednesday, April 10 / 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Vancouver
 - Thursday, April 18 / 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Vancouver
 - Saturday, April 27 / 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. in Vancouver
 - Monday, April 15 / 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Vancouver Island
- All volunteers must be available for the annual Volunteer Training Weekend at Loon Lake which runs June 8 – 9, 2019.
- Volunteers must remain on site for the duration of accepted sessions.

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Family Camp volunteer opportunities:

Our Family Camps are a welcome break from reality for many of our families, all of whom have experienced having a child with a cancer diagnosis. Camp is an opportunity to connect as a family, and with other families experiencing a similar journey. The magic of Family Camp is in our commitment to ensuring the program fits the needs of every family. There are activities for our oldest campers and our littlest, from rappelling our rockface for adventurous caregivers, to music, reading and play for the little ones, and everything in between.

Family Camp: when and where

At Loon Lake, in Maple Ridge

- Tuesday, July 2 – Friday, July 5----- Family Camp 1
- Sunday, July 14 – Saturday, July 20-----Family Camp 2 and 3

At Camp Pringle, on Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island

Sunday, August 25 – Wednesday, August 28-----Family Camp

*To provide more consistent programming and maximize time for families on site, volunteers wishing to attend Family Camp 2 or 3 must be available for both sessions.

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Host role

Each family at our Family Camps is assigned a host who acts as a special friend for their time at camp, ensuring that they have the best time possible. In this role you will build relationships with the entire family and supervise and engage with children and youth when their caregivers are participating in separate activities or enjoying some rest and relaxation.

About you: You are flexible. Creating a magical camp experience is different for every family. It may mean playing with an energetic 8-year-old for hours, watching a baby sleep while their caregivers take a nap too, patiently helping a shy 14-year-old come out of their shell, hiking with the whole family, or giving them lots of space to bond as a family. You are comfortable working with people of all ages and enjoy getting to know people. You are a great communicator and happy initiating conversations with families about how you can help.

Dining hall role

This role is only available for Family Camp programs at Loon Lake. At camp we have a wonderful kitchen team who prepare our meals. The dining hall volunteer team consists of three to four volunteers who support meal times by serving tea, coffee and desserts to families, clearing tables, helping with dishes, and creating a warm and welcoming dining experience by greeting families with smiles and high fives!

While the role is high energy and demanding during meal times, dining hall volunteers love to make the most of their down time by participating and assisting in program areas, engaging with families or enjoying the peace and beauty of our site.

About you: You are excited to work hard to create the best possible experience for our families and are prepared for some physical work. As the role involves some elements of serving, you may have experience working in customer service. You do not need to have previous experience with children and youth, but you must be excited to be part of the camp magic!

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Kids Camp volunteer opportunities:

Kids Camp is open to children aged 7 to 15 who have had a cancer diagnosis, had a sibling with a cancer diagnosis, or who have lost a sibling to cancer. For our campers, camp is a warm, loving and safe place to try new things, grow independence and meet peers who have had similar experiences. Campers have opportunities to learn through action-packed days of arts and crafts, water activities and special programs.

Kids Camp: when and where

At Loon Lake, Maple Ridge.

- Sunday, July 7 – Friday, July 12..... Kids Camp 1
- Monday, July 22 – Saturday, August 3..... Kids Camp 2 and 3

* To provide more consistent programming and maximize time for families on site, volunteers wishing to attend Kids Camp 2 or 3 must be available for both sessions. Volunteers participating during this period are invited to spend the nights between sessions (July 27 and 28) on site where meals will be provided.

Skip role

Our skips are our cabin leaders. Working in a team of two to three co-Skips, and with the close support of the Camp Goodtimes staff and leadership team, skips lead a group of campers through their camp experience. As a skip you are responsible for the safety and well-being of your campers at camp. Skips sleep in the cabin and accompany, supervise and engage with campers throughout the day. This includes programmed time such as taking your campers canoeing or swimming, joining them for high ropes and art activities, and helping them with daily life, such as morning and nighttime routines, dressing appropriately for weather and activities, eating at meals, managing relationships within camper groups and setting behaviour expectations. Campers sometimes refer to their skips as their camp parents! While being a skip is one of the most immersive (and tiring!) roles at camp, skips love the relationships they are able to build with their campers and enjoy working closely with their co-skips.

About you: Skips can be quiet, shy, outgoing or loud, but above all, they should be enthusiastic about creating a safe, fun, inclusive and supportive environment for campers. You are able to communicate with your co-Skips about the needs of your campers and yourself as well as communicate with the leadership team in response to any significant camper events. Previous experience working with children and youth aged 7 to 15 is an asset. Breaks and support are provided for skips throughout the week, however this is a 24/7 role. You should be prepared to put your campers needs first while at camp.

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Dining hall role

At Loon Lake we have a wonderful kitchen staff team who prepare our meals. The dining hall volunteer team consists of three to four volunteers who support meal times by setting up and taking down the dining hall, clearing tables, helping with dishes and creating a warm and welcoming dining experience for our campers by greeting them with smiles and high fives!

While the role is high energy and demanding during meal times, dining hall volunteers love to make the most of their down time by participating and assisting in program areas, engaging with campers or enjoying the peace and beauty of our site.

About you: You are excited to work hard to create the best possible experience for our campers and are prepared for some physical work. You do not need to have previous experience with children and youth, but you must be excited to be part of the camp magic!

Arts and Crafts Role

Arts, crafts and creating are a huge part of camp life! Each session a team of two arts and crafts volunteers work closely with the Program Director to facilitate pre-planned arts and crafts activities. In addition to facilitating these activities, you are responsible for maintaining all craft spaces at camp, ensuring they are clean, organized and well stocked. When not engaged in all things crafty, arts and crafts volunteers also participate in camp life at large, supporting programs and engaging with cabin groups at meal times, etc.

About you: You are comfortable instructing a group of 10 to 20 participants and are excited to help children and youth to connect with others and express themselves through their projects. This role is great for volunteers who want to gain more experience working with children and youth or get to know the Camp Goodtimes program before taking on a caregiver role (Skip or Host).

Volunteer assistant role

Volunteer assistants (VAs) are part of a team of two to four experienced volunteers who work closely with the camper experience team to support the volunteer force at camp. VAs offer support, coaching and feedback to Skips. They spend time with cabin groups, helping to set up routines, behavioural expectations and role modeling best practices in the camp community. As a fresh face in the cabins, VAs are able to inject new energy as needed. VAs act as a communication link within camp, ensuring that the wants and needs of campers are met either by themselves, program leaders or the leadership team.

About you: You have experience being a skip at Camp Goodtimes. You may have worked with children and youth in similar capacities such as teaching, ECE or as a behaviour specialist, and have a good understanding of positive and inclusive behaviour management techniques. You are a great communicator. You are a kid and camp expert and are excited to share your passion with the entire camp community!

This role is available to returning volunteers only

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Teen and youth program volunteer opportunities:

Teen Camp skip role

Our Teen Camp program is for youth ages 15 to 18 who have had a cancer diagnosis. While Teen Camp maintains all the typical camp activities, it reflects the age and needs of our teens with a more relaxed and self-directed approach. Youth are able to choose which activities they want to try and are more able to move at their own pace. The focus of the camp is self-discovery, confidence building and creating relationships with youth experiencing a similar journey.

*At Camp Pringle, on Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island
Sunday, August 18 – Friday, August 23*

About the role: Campers will be divided into cabins, with each cabin being led by a team of at least two cabin leaders or skips. Skips are responsible for the physical and emotional safety of their campers while at camp. They create a healthy cabin environment that supports positive behaviour and attitudes and support program leaders by actively engaging participants and assisting with program duties.

About you: You have experience working with teens and young adults and are comfortable setting appropriate boundaries with participants. You have great communication skills and are comfortable communicating with your co-skip about participants' needs and reaching out to the leadership team when larger issues arise. Teen Camp skips love supporting and championing our campers, watching them develop into strong young adults and being part of creating of an amazing supportive community!

Volunteers must be at least 22 years old at the start of the camp session.

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LIT assistant role

The Leaders in Training (LIT) program runs alongside both Family Camp and Kids Camp and provides an opportunity for youth to foster and grow their leadership skills both for in-camp and real-life application. During the LIT program, participants learn about their own personal leadership styles, how to lead and work in a team setting, and develop their communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution skills.

The LIT program is divided into two courses. The Discovery Program is for campers who have not yet completed a year of LIT (regardless of age). Campers spend most of their time at camp with peers learning about what it means to lead both a group and themselves through various interactive sessions. After completing the Discovery Program, campers become eligible for the Venture Program which combines these skill-building sessions with opportunities to practice their leadership skills by working in younger camper cabins or program shadowing volunteer roles.

At Loon Lake, Maple Ridge.

- **Tuesday, July 2 – Friday, July 5**LIT Discovery 1 at Family Camp 1
- **Sunday, July 7 – Friday, July 12**LIT Venture 1 at Kids Camp 1
- **Sunday, July 14 – Wednesday, July 17**LIT Discovery 2 at Family Camp 2
- **Monday, July 22 – Saturday, July 27**LIT Venture 2 at Kids Camp 2
- **Monday, July 29 – Saturday, August 3**LIT Venture 3 at Kids Camp 3

* To create more consistent programming and maximize time for families on site some of our programs have been paired together this year. Volunteers wishing to come to Family Camp 2 or 3 must be available for both, and volunteers wishing to come to Kids camp 2 or 3, must be available for both sessions. LIT assistant applicants may apply for the same position for both sessions, or change positions for each.

About the role: The LIT (Leaders in Training) assistants support the implementation of the leadership program run by the youth and leadership coordinator. This means supporting youth through the program as participants develop their communication skills, trust and respectbuilding skills, presentation skills and general leadership skills. The role also entails supervising participants during down time and ensuring the physical and emotional safety of campers on site.

About you: You have previous experience at Camp Goodtimes and previous experience working with adolescents or young adults. You are passionate about supporting campers as they learn, grow and discover at camp.

**This role is available to returning volunteers only.
Volunteers must be at least 22 years old at the start of the camp session.**

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How to Apply:

Click the link below to apply:

APPLY HERE

The deadline for all applications is **March 31, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.**

Any questions regarding the application process can be directed to:
Caitlin Griffiths, Coordinator Volunteer and Community Engagement
Email campvolunteer@cancer.ca

In the spirit of leadership, personal development and professionalism during and after this hiring process, Camp Goodtimes will only communicate directly with applicants.



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