



YMCA
Camp Elphinstone

2025
Camp
Program
Guide



Shine On



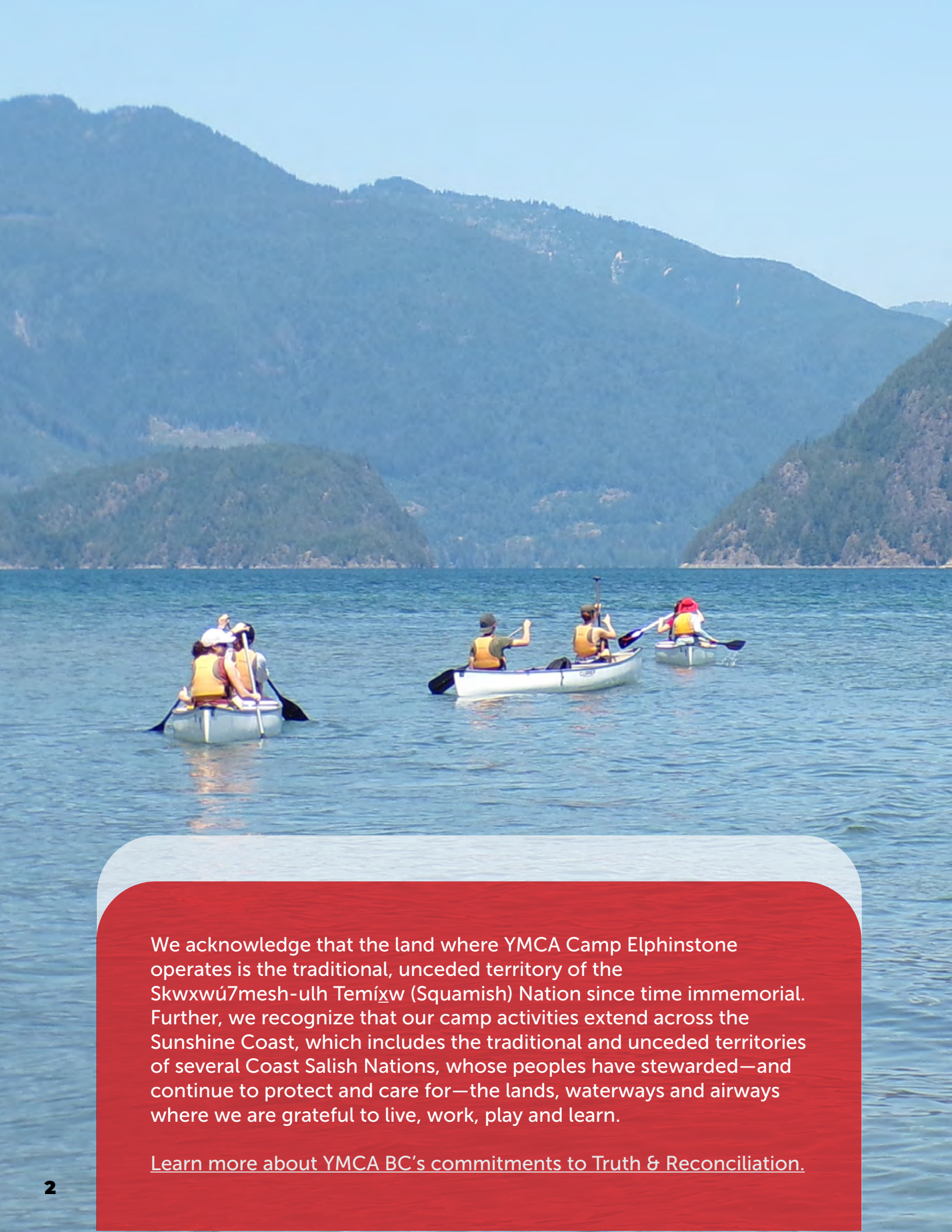


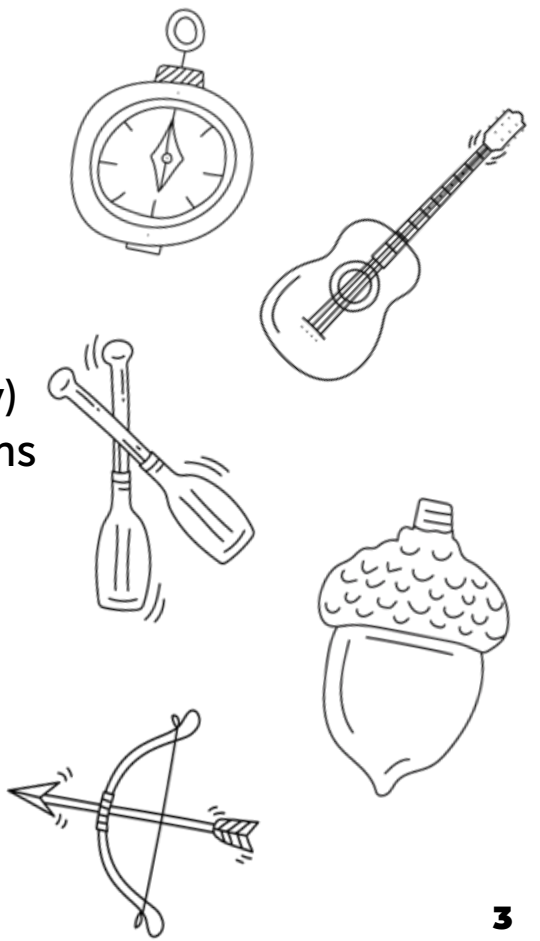
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We acknowledge that the land where YMCA Camp Elphinstone operates is the traditional, unceded territory of the Skwxwú7mesh-ulh Temíxw (Squamish) Nation since time immemorial. Further, we recognize that our camp activities extend across the Sunshine Coast, which includes the traditional and unceded territories of several Coast Salish Nations, whose peoples have stewarded—and continue to protect and care for—the lands, waterways and airways where we are grateful to live, work, play and learn.

[Learn more about YMCA BC's commitments to Truth & Reconciliation.](#)

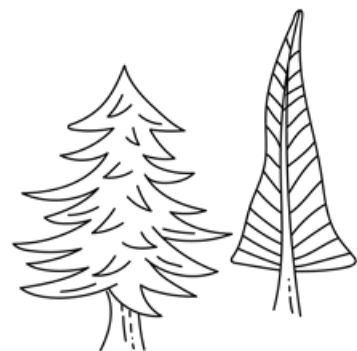
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About YMCA Camp Elphinstone

Surrounded by temperate rainforest and the rocky shoreline of Howe Sound, YMCA Camp Elphinstone lets campers experience the beauty of the Pacific Northwest.

From archery to high ropes, out-tripping to day camp, Camp Elphinstone offers a variety of traditional and specialized programming—there is something for everyone! Serving the community for 118 years, choose YMCA Camp Elphinstone for your next camp experience and join us at the Place of a Million Memories.



Inclusion at Camp



Camp Inclusion Statement

At YMCA Camp Elphinstone, we are committed to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (EDIB). This includes creating inclusive spaces and programming for everyone who comes to camp, where we celebrate and value all backgrounds and identities. [Learn more about our commitment to EDIB here.](#)

Inclusion Program

YMCA Camp Elphinstone offers one-to-one support from our Inclusion Counsellors to a limited number of campers. A strong indicator that our Inclusion Program is appropriate for your child is if they receive full-time, shared or one-to-one support in the school system.

If you believe your camper requires participation in the Inclusion Program to have a successful camp experience, please reach out to the camp team to discuss prior to registering your child for a camp session. If, in collaboration with you, we agree that our Inclusion Program is appropriate for your child and we have space available, you will receive a specific registration link. Before your child arrives at camp, the Supervisor of the Inclusion Program will arrange a time to discuss the best ways to support your child at camp over the phone.

While our Counsellors are experienced in supporting children with diverse abilities, they are not educational assistants (EAs), behavioural interventionists, occupational therapists (OTs), etc. All campers must have control of bowel and bladder, the ability to wipe independently as well as listen to basic instructions.

As we are committed to EDIB, we will continue to learn, grow, and strengthen our Inclusion Program as we move forward.

Typical Day at Camp

Cabin Activities

Campers participate in a variety of activities as a cabin, helping to build friendships and develop teamwork. Campers will have an opportunity to experience a wide array of Camp Elphinstone's programs with the cabin groups.

Skill Blocks

Campers choose one land-based activity and one water-based activity to focus on during their time at camp including, canoeing, sailing, archery, high ropes, and more. Campers will meet with their group each afternoon to focus on skill development.

Flagpole

A fun meeting at the flagpole on the main field for an entire camp section. Flagpole meetings may include daily awards, important camp updates, fun skits about evening programs or the weekly theme day.

***Please note this is a sample schedule and subject to change. Times are dependent on age group of campers.*

7:00 a.m.	Optional Morning Activity
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:45 a.m.	Cabin Clean-Up
9:15 a.m.	Cabin Activities
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Rest & Digest
2:00 p.m.	Skill Blocks
5:00 p.m.	Dinner
6:00 p.m.	Cabin Choice
7:00 p.m.	Evening Programming
8:00 p.m.	Flagpole
8:15 p.m.	Evening Snack
8:30 p.m.	Flush & Brush/Wellies
9:15 p.m.	Lights Out



Programs we offer

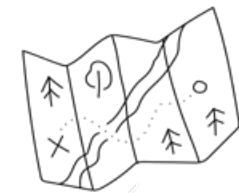


All groups:

- Team Building
- Arts and Crafts
- Outdoor Living Skills
- Waterfront Activities**
- Low Ropes
- Courts and Fields
- Tuck Shop
- Nature Walk
- Section-wide games
- Global Room

Available for Some Groups:

- One-night out-trip (Two-week Chapman and Dakota Cabins)
- High Ropes (age-dependent)
- Climbing Wall (age-dependent)
- Mountain Biking (Dakota Cabins)



***Camp Management is committed to safely using our dock and pier in 2025. We have developed a plan and are waiting on permit approvals to move ahead. Regardless, waterfront activities will proceed with or without use of the dock and pier in 2025. Campers will undergo swim testing; those who complete the test successfully will not be required to wear a PFD/life jacket during swim time. Updates on this important area of camp will be shared on social media and with registered families via email.*

One-Week Camp

McNabb Camp (5-7 years)

A perfect introduction to overnight camp for little ones. McNabb offers younger campers a shorter, three-night camp experience that focuses on creating a comfortable environment for many campers first time away from home. Campers live in lodges with in-house washrooms and showers for easy access. All staff are trained to deliver age-appropriate programming and to ensure proper care for our youngest campers.

Champan (7-11 years) & Dakota (12-15 years)

An exciting week by the ocean offers the perfect opportunity for campers to enjoy classic camp activities while making lifelong memories. With a focus on building friendships and trying new experiences, campers live in cozy cabins with up to 10 peers of similar age, guided by two experienced counsellors.

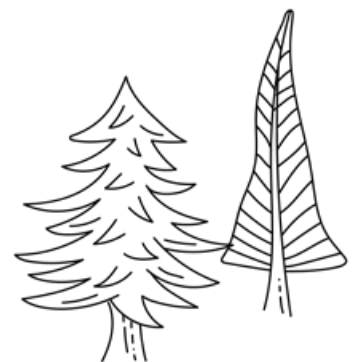


Two-Week Camp



Chapman (7-11 years) & Dakota (12-15 years)

Designed to foster skill development and a love for the outdoors, this two-week program gives campers the chance to fully immerse themselves in their favourite camp activities while exploring everything YMCA Camp Elphinstone has to offer. The program includes a one-night overnight adventure: Chapman cabins enjoy an on-site camping experience, while Dakota cabins head out to a nearby provincial park for their overnight trip.



Out-trips

Four-day Out-trip (12-14 years)

Campers are challenged with a scenic four-day out-trip. Our four-day out-trips have two locations; a section of the Sunshine Coast Trail, or the Powell Lakes Circuit on the traditional territory of the Tla'amin Nation—perfect for campers who are new to out-tripping. Campers form friendships and develop leadership skills in a focused team-building environment. Experienced and well-trained staff will lead the trip and ensure that all campers have the opportunity to take on responsibilities like packing, cooking, navigating, and leader of the day.

Nine-day Out-trip (13-15 years)

This two-week camp features nine-day canoe trip through Murtle Lake on the traditional territory of the Ktunaxa and Secwepemc Nations or the Bowron Lake canoe circuit on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc and Dakelh Nations. Campers develop confidence and teamwork skills in this introduction to backcountry living and paddling. An excellent pre-Leadership Development experience, campers must be prepared to work together on trip planning and execution.



Leadership Development Programs

Leadership Development 1 (15-16 years)

This two-week program teaches campers the technical skills associated with delivering camp activities while focusing on team building. Campers participate in a canoe out-trip experience and are offered the opportunity to build strong, lasting friendships in a positive and constructive setting. Youth gain a solid foundation in delivering all types of camp programming while learning how to support others.

Leadership Development 2 (16-17 years)

This three-week program allows campers the chance to apply skills learned in Leadership Development 1 and continue to grow as leaders with a focus on increased responsibility and more intentional skill development. This program emphasizes initiative, communication and the group care skills necessary to be a strong leader in a camp setting or elsewhere. Participants work directly with groups of young campers to practice their teaching and group care skills. Campers receive instruction and examination in Bronze Medallion/Bronze Cross. Some school districts may accept these certifications towards partial credits.

LD Statement

Many Leadership Development (LD) campers choose to apply for future positions at camp following completion of the program. YMCA volunteers must be 17 years old on the first day of summer camp and YMCA staff must be 18 years old by the end of the 2024 calendar year. For these reasons, we mandate that campers be the minimum age listed before they join the program. Please note that participation in the LD program does not guarantee future employment with Camp Elphinstone.



Day Camp

Day Camp (5-12 years)

YMCA Camp Elphinstone offers an action packed day camp program Monday-Friday. Campers take part in all the activities that Camp Elphinstone has to offer (age dependent) before they return home at 4 p.m. Camp Elphinstone provides lunch each day for campers.

Transportation option includes drop-off/pick-up directly at YMCA Camp Elphinstone on the Day Camp bus (\$105/week), which stops in Halfmoon Bay, Sechelt, Davis Bay, Roberts Creek, Upper Gibsons, and Lower Gibsons.

Family Camp



YMCA Camp Elphinstone provides the perfect environment for families to focus on what matters most—spending quality time together. Family Camp offers a convenient getaway from the city without the hassle of pitching a tent or travelling far. Enjoy a variety of engaging camp activities and organized programs designed for children, adults, and the whole family. Choose between cozy lodge rooms or private cabins for your stay, and savour three nutritious, delicious, kid-friendly meals daily in our dining hall. Relax, reconnect, and create unforgettable family memories with us!

Summer Family Camp is a four-day, three-night camp experience packed with all our favourite warm-weather activities! Before arriving, families can choose their preferred activities, and upon check-in, they'll receive a personalized schedule tailored for the weekend. Each evening features a special programmed event, such as a camp-wide game or a classic campfire, followed by an optional adult social to wrap up the day.

Fall Family Camp is a three-day, two-night getaway over Thanksgiving weekend, featuring activities like canoeing, kayaking, archery, and cozy indoor options for those crisp coastal days. Immerse yourself in the beauty of fall, unwind, and savour a traditional Thanksgiving dinner prepared by our Camp Elphinstone chefs. And, of course, don't miss the highlight of the weekend—the beloved annual Pumpkin Drop!

Program Calendar

**Registration opens
Jan. 24!**

See Page 17 for details.

YMCA Camp Elphinstone 2025 Dates & Fees											
	Pricing**	Session A		Session B		Session C		Session D			
Summer	2025 Fees	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	
One-Week Camp (7 - 15 years)	\$1,098.22	June 29 - July 4	July 6 - 11	July 13 - 18	July 20 - 25	July 27 - Aug. 1	Aug. 3 - 8	Aug. 10 - 15	Aug. 17 - 22		
Two-Week Camp (7 - 15 years)	\$1,986.07			July 13 - 25		July 27 - Aug. 8		Aug. 10 - 22			
McNabb (5 - 7 years)	\$711.93			July 15 - 18	July 22 - 25	July 29 - Aug. 1	Aug. 5 - 8	Aug. 12 - 15	Aug. 19 - 22		
Four-Day Out-Trip (12 - 14 years)	\$1,178.93		July 6 - 11 (Powell Lakes)					Aug. 10 - 15 (Powell Lakes)	Aug. 17 - 22 (Sun. Coast Trail)		
Nine-Day Out-Trip (13 - 15 years)	\$2,310.37			July 13 - 25 (Bowron Circuit)		July 27 - Aug. 8 (Bowron Circuit)		Aug. 10 - 22 (Murtle Lake)			
Leadership Development 1 (15 - 16 years)	\$2,133.25	June 29 - July 11		July 13 - 25		July 27 - Aug. 8		Aug. 10 - 22			
Leadership Development 2 (16 - 17 years)	\$2,717.54	June 29 - July 18			July 20 - Aug. 8						
Summer Family Camp (all ages)	\$321.70 (per person)									Aug. 24 - 27	
Day Camp (5 - 12 years)	\$315.56	June 30 - July 4	July 7 - 11	July 14 - 18	July 21 - 25	July 28 - Aug. 1	Aug. 4 - 8	Aug. 11 - 15	Aug. 18 - 22	Aug. 25 - 29	
Fall											
Fall Family Camp	\$241.20 (per person)	Oct. 10 - 12									

**All registration fees subject to applicable taxes.



Transportation



Families have two options to choose from for their arrival to and departure from YMCA Camp Elphinstone:

Option 1 – Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal (\$21 round trip)

Campers and families will meet and sign in with YMCA staff at the Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal. YMCA staff and campers will walk onto the ferry and travel together. The cost of ferry travel is included with this option.

Drop off at Horseshoe Bay: Sunday afternoon

Pick Up from Horseshoe Bay: Friday Morning

Option 2 – Drop Off and Pick Up at YMCA Camp Elphinstone

Families drop off and pick up their campers at Camp Elphinstone directly. YMCA staff will be present to welcome everyone to camp and help with sign in and sign out.

Drop Off: Sunday late morning, early afternoon

Pick Up: Friday Morning

Families will be asked to specify their transportation option at the time of registration. Exact times for drop off and pick up will be finalized and shared with families in a pre-arrival email.

Registration

YMCA Camp Elphinstone will use CampBrain for program registration in 2025. Families can begin registering for the programs of their choice starting Friday, Jan. 24. A registration link can be accessed via the [Overnight Camp](#) or [Day Camp](#) pages of our website as of that date.

All registration fees for summer camp include our Summer 2025 t-shirt! For any questions please contact camp.elphinstone@bc.ymca.ca.

Cancellation Policy

Overnight Camp

- In order to receive a full refund, less the non-refundable deposit, cancellations must be submitted in writing to camp.elphinstone@bc.ymca.ca before June 1, 2025.
- Cancellations received after June 1 but at least 14 days before the start of the camp session will be charged a \$250 cancellation fee and the non-refundable deposit.
- Cancellations less than 14 days before the program start date will be charged the full camp fee.
- Medical cancellations will receive a refund less the non-refundable deposit. In some cases, a medical note may be required, at the discretion of Camp Management.
- Any changes to registration may be subject to a \$25 non-negotiable administrative fee per session (examples include but are not limited to: changing sessions).
- Refunds will not be issued when a camper is removed from a camp program once in session at the request of the camper or their family, or if they are dismissed from camp for not following behaviour expectations or camp rules.
- The non-refundable deposit for overnight camp is \$150.

Day Camp

- All cancellations must be submitted in writing to camp.elphinstone@bc.ymca.ca at least 14 days prior to the session start date to receive a full refund, less the non-refundable deposit.
- Any changes to registration may be subject to a \$25 non-negotiable administrative fee per session (examples include but are not limited to: changing sessions).
- Medical cancellations will receive a full refund less the non-refundable deposit. In some cases, a medical note may be required, at the discretion of Camp Management.
- Refunds will not be issued when a camper is removed from a camp program once in session at the request of the camper or their family, or if they are dismissed from camp for not following behaviour expectations or camp rules.
- The non-refundable deposit for day camp registration is \$50.

Payment & Financial Assistance



Payment and Deposit Information

A \$150 deposit for overnight camp programs or a \$50 deposit for day camp is required at time of registration. You can choose to pay in full at time of registration, or to select payment installments. All deposits are non-refundable and will be applied to the overall cost of camp.

Financial Assistance

We firmly believe that every child deserves the opportunity to attend camp. That's why the YMCA offers financial assistance to those whose circumstances would otherwise prevent them from attending camp.

If Financial Assistance may be appropriate for your family to access Camp Elphinstone programming, [please complete an application form](#). Completed forms and questions about the Financial Assistance application process can be sent to camp.elphinstone@bc.ymca.ca. Please contact us for more information or to find out how you can help support a child in need.

Financial assistance applications can be submitted at any time and will be accepted until two weeks prior to the requested session date.



Private Rentals

Host your next private function or event at our award-winning venue. YMCA Elphinstone Event and Retreat Centre offers an ideal place to connect with your colleagues, family or friends. From weddings and conferences to team-building getaways and wellness retreats, let our 144 acres of oceanfront and lush rainforest make your next event a memorable one! Full catering options available, along with a range of activities that everyone can enjoy.

To learn more about dates, packages and amenities, contact 604-886-2025, email us at camp.elphinstone@bc.ymca.ca or visit us online using the link below.

ymcaelphinstone.ca



Photo: Jennifer Picard — Wedding Photography

