

Not all summer camps are created equally and it's important for you to ask some questions so that you fully understand the standard of care at camp.

Who will be looking after my child?

Scouts Canada provides one leader who is at least 18 years old for every six youth at our Cub and Scout Camps. There are always two leaders present at each activity. Our staff members are trained in wilderness first aid, child and youth safety and program delivery. This allows youth to explore the world under the best possible care. Staff members are supervised by professional management who have many years of experience managing overnight summer camps. We require that our managers take a camp management course as part of their training.

What is your educational philosophy?

Scouts Canada believes that youth learn best by doing, not by watching. In our programs, youth get the chance to try new things and experiment with them. Our programs are youth led and supported by adults in small groups. We teach a value system based on the scout promise and law that leads youth to success in the world after scouting. We believe that the best camp programs teach young people about the appropriate use of technology in the outdoors. Our programs are designed to give young people a deep love and understanding of nature that will last a lifetime.

How do you measure what my child will learn?

Too many camps say that they do one thing and actually do another. The Bert Sheppard Scout reserve is proud that we measure what your child learns at camp using professionally tested tools based on the best research available.

What is the food like at your camp?

Too many camps depend heavily on their deep fryers. At our camp, you can expect that your child will have a nutritional meal served to them daily. A hot meal option is available at each meal (except for out-trip days, when your child will pack a box lunch) and vegetarian options are always available. We strive to use as many local foods as possible. We will make every effort to accommodate special food needs.

Can youth come to camp with their friends?

Scouting uses a team method where youth work together with their friends in small groups. We encourage youth to come with their friends or their Scouting patrol to enhance their experience at camp.

Can youth who are not members of Scouts Canada participate?

Summer camp is a great time to join Scouting! We offer a special rate for non-members to join Scouting and experience the excitement that is a part of the Scouts Canada camp experience for themselves.

Who are you affiliated with?

Many camps have no external oversight which means that they may not be following the latest industry standards, leaving your child at risk. We believe that your child's safety and education have to be our highest priority and, as a result, our camps are accredited by Scouts Canada, the Alberta Camping Association and the Canadian Camping Association. Our partners include the Robert Bateman Foundation, the Canadian Wildlife Federation and Parks Canada. We are members of the Wilderness Educators Association, the Association for Experiential Education and the Association for Challenge Course Technology.