



# Camp Kintail

May 15, 2020

Dear friends,

It is with great sadness that we are announcing that the 2020 on-site summer programs at Camp Kintail have been cancelled. This decision was not made lightly, but with prayer, research, and consultation by the Kintail staff and Camp Board. The health, safety, and well-being of every camper, staff, volunteer, and guest is our highest priority. Without widespread testing or a vaccine for COVID-19, it is simply not safe to offer on-site programs to children and youth this summer.

One of the greatest joys of camp is to meet new friends. Campers come from across southwestern Ontario and they become cabin-mates and friends within hours. They play in the water, climb the rock tower, sing around the campfire, and join in late night conversations in their bunks. When campers go home, they have memories, dirty laundry, and stories to share. We do not want campers to go home with an illness, detected or not, that could jeopardize their own health or the health of the vulnerable people around them.

We do not intend this to be a summer without Camp Kintail though! In early June we will announce our plans to share the Kintail spirit while home and away from camp. It will not be the same as being at camp, but we hope that there will still be camp moments with your children this summer. We are working on creating opportunities for connection and community throughout the summer. In the meantime, please see this resource on how to talk to your children about camp not happening this summer.

As previously communicated, the Camp Kintail Board has adapted the regular cancellation policy in light of this extraordinary situation. We are providing three options for families.

1. Full Refund – We know that many families are struggling financially during this crisis. If you require a refund, this will be provided via your original method of payment.
2. Credit – We are glad to give a credit to families for the amount that has already been paid to Kintail. This credit would extend over two years and could be used by any member of a family for any Kintail camp session or retreat or for any Camp Kintail clothing. This is helpful to the camp as it allows us to have cashflow at the present time and reduces banking costs.
3. Donation – For those who are able, we hope you will consider donating some, or all, of the amount already paid to Kintail. The coming year will be a difficult one for Camp Kintail, and any donation you could make would help to keep Camp strong for the years to come. Your donation will help with the costs that will happen this year, even with reduced income, such as taxes, electricity, staffing, and maintenance. A tax receipt will be given for every donation made.

Please take some time to consider these options. Please see the attached invoice that indicates the camp sessions chosen and the amount paid. We would ask you to fill out this form by June 1<sup>st</sup> to let us know of your family's choice. This form only needs to be filled out if you submitted a payment.

Take care of each other in these challenging days.

Theresa McDonald-Lee & Johnathon Lee  
Executive Directors



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are Camp Kintail's plans for summer residential and day camps?**

Camp Kintail has cancelled all residential and day camps for the summer of 2020.

### **Will I be able to receive a refund for the amount I have already paid?**

The Camp Kintail Board is providing three options for families if summer camp is not able to happen. Families are invited to consider what makes the most sense for their financial situation.

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**Donation** – For those who are able, we hope you will consider donating some, or all, of the amount already paid to Kintail. The coming year will be a difficult one for Camp Kintail, and any donation you make would help to keep Camp strong for the years to come. Your donation will help with the costs that will happen this year with drastically reduced income, such as taxes, electricity, staffing, and maintenance. A tax receipt will be given for every donation made.

### **What is happening to the Kintail On the Road program?**

Decisions have not been made for this program yet. This decision will be made in conjunction with our church partners. Congregations will let their registrants know of their decision when it has been made, and Camp Kintail will also let campers know through our website.

### **Will we be able to come to Kintail at all this summer?**

We do not know the answer to this question yet. At the moment, Ontario remains in a state of emergency and gatherings are not allowed. When these restrictions are loosened, the Camp Board and Kintail staff will re-evaluate what might be possible. These options may include day use of the site, physically distanced family retreats, or even small day camps. Before any of these decisions are made, we will be carefully considering the health and safety risks for any participants. We would love to be able to open the site to guests this summer but keeping everyone safe is the top priority. We will let everyone know if we are able to offer any programs.



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## **What is camp doing to make sure it is safe when it is able to be open?**

When camp is able to be open, we will be following all the guidance of the Huron Perth Public Health, the Ontario government, and the Ontario Camping Association. We are already updating our policies and procedures relating to health and safety, infection control, cleaning guidelines, programming, and registration. Before camp opens in any capacity, we will have a thorough inspection by the public health inspector.

## **How can I support the camp?**

We are so grateful for the many campers, parents, alumni, and churches who have reached out to let us know that they are praying for the camp. We would appreciate your continued prayers for the directors (Theresa & Johnathon), the year-round staff, the camp board, the summer staff, and all the campers who will not be able to come to camp this summer.

If your family is able to consider supporting the camp financially, it would make a big difference. Camp Kintail has currently cancelled six months of programming, school groups, summer camp sessions, retreats, and rentals. This has drastically impacted our financial situation. While the camp has been working diligently to be good stewards of the camp's finances, and had an operating reserve in place, we were not prepared for a pandemic. Your donation will help us to keep Camp Kintail afloat during this challenging time. A donation can be sent to Camp Kintail: Box 153, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 3Z2 or can be made [online](#).