CAMP MINI-YO-WE
LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

Leaders in Training

DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S LEADERS THROUGH LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN GOD'S CREATION.

Learn More:

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Our Big Idea

Our mission at Camp Mini-Yo-We is to develop tomorrow's leaders through life-changing adventures in God's creation. Leadership development is at the heart of the Camp Mini-Yo-We experience and is woven through all of our programs, beginning with our youngest campers. Through participation in our programs, a camper gains foundational skills that equip them for continued development as a Christian leader.

The Leaders in Training program is a key step in our **Leadership Pathway**, following participation in our Enterprise program and leading into the Summer Staff experience and our Year-Round Internship. It's designed for young leaders who are turning 16 in the year that they participate in the program.



CAMP MINI-YO-WE LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

- ○ Core Programs (Ages 5-15)
- ○ Enterprise (Age 15)
- ● Leaders in Training (Age 16)
- ○ Summer Staff (Ages 17+)
- ○ Year-Round Internship (Ages 18+)

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How We Lead

OUR APPROACH TO LEADERSHIP

At Camp Mini-Yo-We we prepare tomorrow's leaders to lead in three main ways:

- Leading in life
- Leading at Camp
- Leading through faith

We use experiential learning as our primary teaching model. Through a cycle of instruction, practice, debrief, coaching and more practice, LITs grow in their development by applying what they are learning in an atmosphere where they are encouraged to try, reflect, get feedback, and go out and try again.

LEADING *in Life*

LITs are given opportunities to develop general leadership skills they can take with them outside of Camp, whether at school or years down the road in the workplace. These skills include the following:

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Goal Setting
- Handling Stress & Conflict
- Identity and Calling
- Servant Leadership



LEADING *at Camp*

In addition to building general leadership skills that help LITs to excel in life, there are also Camp-specific skills that LITs will be taught as we develop the next generation of staff at Camp Mini-Yo-We. These skills include the following:

- Cabin Leading
- Activity Leading
- Skills, Tips & Tricks for Working with Campers

LEADING *Through Faith*

Our goal is to help LITs develop a strong foundation for their faith as they transition in life from children to adults. As teens, it is important that they make their faith their own, and part of that is having a solid understanding of the basics of following Jesus. This includes:

- What is a Disciple/Christian
- Spiritual Disciplines
- Spiritual Gifts
- Sharing Your Story & The Gospel
- Godly Character

Overview

KICK-OFF WEEKEND

This experience during the May long weekend lays the foundation for our summer goals, and provides opportunity for relational development between leaders and participants. Our hope is that everyone leaves this weekend knowing a few new friends and that they're excited to return for the full program in June!





SKILLS WEEK

This is an opportunity for our LITs to develop new skills, gain valuable experience, and discover new ways to lead at Camp and beyond. LITs indicate their swimming ability when applying and many go on to receive their Bronze Medallion & Cross certification during this time. Alternative skill streams include rocks & ropes training, land and water activity training and a canoe trip. While not every LIT feels equally confident in the water, these options give each LIT to have the opportunity to grow in a way that fits their interests and abilities. This week also includes fun activities, personal devotions, and evening worship and teaching during Refresh, part of Camp Mini-Yo-We's Staff Training week.





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Overview

CANOE TRIP

This 4-day wilderness adventure has been a tradition of our Leaders in Training program for over 30 years. As you travel through Algonquin Provincial Park you will create memories that last a lifetime. The canoe trip is an incredible leadership development laboratory as you experience lots of stretching experiences such as:

- Learning to prefer others by helping your teammates portage everything you need to survive.
- Developing resilience as you paddle for hours on a hot summer day.
- Deepening your understanding of teamwork as you depend on others.

Never been on a canoe trip before? That's OK! We've had lots of LITs in the same situation who have absolutely loved this experience.



LEADERSHIP INTENSIVE

The Canoe Trip leads into our Leadership Intensive, a period that incorporates leadership sessions and focused discipleship training. LIT small groups are led by experienced summer camp staff, and are an opportunity to build relationships and grow together. Sessions are facilitated by a combination of our Camp Mini-Yo-We leadership team, summer Coordinator and our LIT staff team.







Overview

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WEEK

The Practical Experience Week allows LITs the opportunity to partner with our Summer Staff team in leading our camper programs. LITs will be assigned to shadow various roles within summer programming, such as Cabin Leaders and Activity Leaders. Throughout these practical experiences, the LIT Coordinators and Small Group Leaders provide active feedback 1-on-1 and through mid-day debrief sessions where LITs and leaders can reconnect.

Each LIT will receive active feedback from our team on their performance during the Practical Experience Week that is aimed to help the LIT grow and develop as leaders.







LIT GRADUATION

Each session will experience its own Graduation Ceremony, where the learning and development that has taken place will be celebrated at the individual and group levels. Families are encouraged to attend.

SUMMER'S END

LITs are invited back to attend an action-packed end to the summer! Enjoy time with other team members, be challenged by great teaching and be inspired with extended worship times. This is a highlight for our LITs every summer.

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What is a Leader?

When we talk about "leaders", we aren't referring to an abstract concept but to a set of distinct characteristics and behaviours that we aspire to instill in every young leader we connect with. We focus on six critical areas of development that provide the foundation for our summer camp experience. These pillars guide our activities, workshops, and interactions, forming the backbone of our leadership development philosophy.

Learn
ABOUT JESUS

We believe that truly impactful leaders need to learn about the greatest leader ever known: Jesus. We encourage LITs to delve into Scripture, fostering an active and engaging understanding of His life, His teachings, and His impact on our lives. Through Bible studies, discussion groups, and personal reflection, we make the life of Jesus an accessible and relatable model for our young leaders.

Live
LIKE JESUS

Leadership isn't just about understanding; it's about action. We believe that living like Jesus, and embracing His values of love, compassion, and humility, is beneficial not just for individuals but for the communities they lead. In LIT we provide practical lessons on how to align our life with Jesus's teachings, creating a solid foundation for ethical, servant-hearted leadership.

Talk
WITH JESUS

We believe in nurturing an active relationship with Jesus through prayer. Influential leaders recognize their dependence on a power greater than themselves. We teach leaders to turn to prayer as a first response, fostering a deep, intimate connection with God that guides their decision-making and actions as a leader.

Initiative
TAKE ACTION TO HELP OTHERS

Leadership is about action, specifically action that benefits others. We encourage LITs to take the initiative, to step into the gap, and to use their abilities to improve the lives of those around them. Through team-building activities and service projects, we teach that at its core, leadership is others-centred and servant-hearted.

Stewardship
LEAVE IT BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT

At Camp Mini-Yo-We, we instill the value of stewardship, emphasizing the importance of caring for and improving whatever LITs are responsible for. From personal belongings to shared spaces and the environment, we promote a mentality of continuous improvement and responsible management.

Mission
DEVELOP TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Leaders aren't just concerned with their own progress; they're passionate about developing the next generation of leaders. They create more leaders, not more followers. We foster this ethos at Camp, encouraging LITs to look out for each other, mentor younger campers, and pass on the skills and values they've learned.

2027 Key Dates

WELCOME EMAIL
October 30, 2026

INTERVIEW PERIOD
November 1 - December 15, 2026

INITIAL ACCEPTANCES & SESSION PLACEMENTS
January 15, 2027

IN-THE-CITY GATHERINGS (PICK ONE)
Barrie • February 27, 2027
Toronto • March 6, 2027
Burlington • March 13, 2027

KICK-OFF WEEKEND
May 21-23, 2027

SKILLS WEEK
July 2-10, 2027

LEADERSHIP INTENSIVE, CANOE TRIP & PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WEEK
Session 1 • July 11-31, 2027
Session 2 • August 1-21, 2027

GRADUATION CEREMONY
Session 1 • 10AM, July 31, 2027
Session 2 • 10AM, August 21, 2027

SUMMER'S END
August 29 - September 1, 2027

LIT REUNION
November 19-21, 2027

REQUIRED PERIODS

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Attending these periods of the LIT program ensures LITs have the best possible experience throughout the program.

- If an LIT anticipates being unable to attend a required periods, they must let the LIT Coordinator know during their interview.
- If an LIT finds out after the interview they won't be able to attend a required session, they must email the LIT Coordinator as soon as possible and discuss it with them.



CAMP MINI-YO-WE
LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

Step 1
APPLY ONLINE

The application includes questions for both applicants and their parents. This program fills quickly and we encourage applicants to apply as early as possible to secure their spot. **Apply online at campmyw.com/lit.**

Step 2
INTERVIEW & SESSION PLACEMENT

After applying to LIT you will receive a welcome email with details on how to set up an interview. Once all LITs have interviewed we will send out confirmation of your acceptance and session placement.

Step 3
REFERENCES & PAPERWORK

We require each LIT to submit three references in order to attend the LIT program. The LIT Director will help you collect the necessary paperwork along the way.

Apply Today:
campmyw.com/lit