

April 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Campers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and finding new ways to enjoy spring. I am happy to see many Keewaydin folks are connecting with each other. In these difficult times, we need to feel connected more than ever! I am heartened by the Keewaydin spirit and tenacity of our community. Here at Keewaydin, we have been focused on providing a chance for kids to connect with the water, land, and each other.

It is with a saddened heart that I inform you Keewaydin is canceling the first 3-week session and our long trips this summer. This decision became clear due to decisions made by the Canadian government in the last few weeks.

I wish I had different news to share, but currently here is what we know:

- 1. Currently, all non-essential businesses in Ontario are closed, this includes summer camps.
- 2. The Canadian/US border is closed and only essential workers may cross.
- 3. Staff and campers will not be able to enter Canada before June 30.

This prevents Keewaydin from being able to welcome campers to the 1st session of camp and in addition, we will suspend plans for full summer trips. We are, however, cautiously optimistic that we will open for the 2nd session July 20-August 11 for our 127th summer on Lake Temagami.

With this new timeline, we can, at this time, offer the following from July 20 to August 11.

- 1. If you have a child enrolled in the 2nd session, your plans for the summer can remain the same.
- 2. 1st session Songadeewin and Manitou campers can switch to the 2nd session of camp, though there is limited space for this.



Keewaydin Temagami
Emily Schoelzel, Camp Director emily@keewaydin.org
Tel 802-352-4709 Fax 802-352-4772 www.keewaydin.org
Winter: 500 Rustic Lane, Salisbury VT 05769
Summer: General Delivery, Temagami ON P0H 2H0, Canada



3. Winisk and Waubeno campers can attend for 3 weeks-July 20-August 11. Tuition would be the 3-week rate.

4. For Outpost campers, which includes Section 3 and Section D campers, we can offer a 19-day canoe trip in the Temagami region. Tuition would be the 3-week rate.

Regarding your tuition paid for 2020, please let us know what option you would like to choose:

1. Switch your camper from the 1^{st} session to 2^{nd} session of camp. Those interested in this option should contact us soon as there are limited spots available.

2. Receive a refund for your tuition payment, less the \$500 deposit. The timing of your refund will depend on receipt of the loans we have applied for. As soon as we know when we will be able to send you a refund, we will let you know.

3. Donate a portion of your tuition (minus the \$500 deposit) to Keewaydin as a tax-deductible gift.

4. Hold your tuition as a credit for 2021.

5. Or choose a combination of the above~ refund, donation, and credit.

I am thankful for the support we are receiving from our leadership staff, the Keewaydin Foundation Board, alumni, and parents as we respond to this crisis and make difficult decisions. We have an extraordinary team working hard to further Keewaydin's mission. We are grateful for all of the understanding and goodwill in this community, as we all ride out this challenging time together.

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