Dear Leadership Camper,

We are glad you are interested in joining us this summer to participate in one of Camp Potlatch's premier wilderness leadership programs. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for you to learn and grow as a leader in a stunning environment. We pour a lot of time and energy into ensuring that these programs are of the highest quality. When campers are fully committed, our programs are incredibly rewarding. It's imperative we ensure that this is program is the right fit for you.

So, what are you signing yourself up for? Depending on your program, at least a week without any of the luxuries of home. All leadership campers are stationed across the creek from Main Camp. A true wilderness camping experience, you'll be sleeping in a tent or cabin shared with other members of your program. All our wilderness sites are power-free (be prepared to live without your devices) and require campers to hike a short ways in. You'll be living communally with a group of other campers in pretty tight quarters. As a group, you'll cook many meals together (either over a camp stove or fire) and keep the campsite tidy. It may not be the lap of luxury, but you'll be surprised at how quickly you'll discover a deeper connection to nature and begin to call this slice of land home.

At Camp Potlatch, our Leadership Camps are built to challenge you socially, emotionally and physically. You'll be asked to push outside your comfort zone to allow you to grow and change in ways you never imagined. As a leadership camper, you'll also take part in at least one (typically two) multi-day out-trip by land or sea (hiking or canoeing). While physically demanding, out-trips are unbelievably rewarding. Many past campers cite these trips as a highlight of their camp career. It is important to have the right equipment for these overnight trips- please see the packing list below. As part of the leadership program, participants are expected to be a role model for Main Camp campers and be a positive influence on your peers.

Please take some time to carefully read and fill out both the Leadership Camper Participation Contract as well as the Leadership Questionnaire within this package. This should take no longer than **5-10 minutes to complete**. *We ask that this package be submitted within two weeks of registering and/or no later than 30 days before the start of session.* The package can be uploaded on the Online registration portal or emailed/mailed to the contact information below. Once we have received your package, you will be contacted by a member of the Camp Potlatch team to **CONFIRM** your place in the Leadership program.

Sincerely,

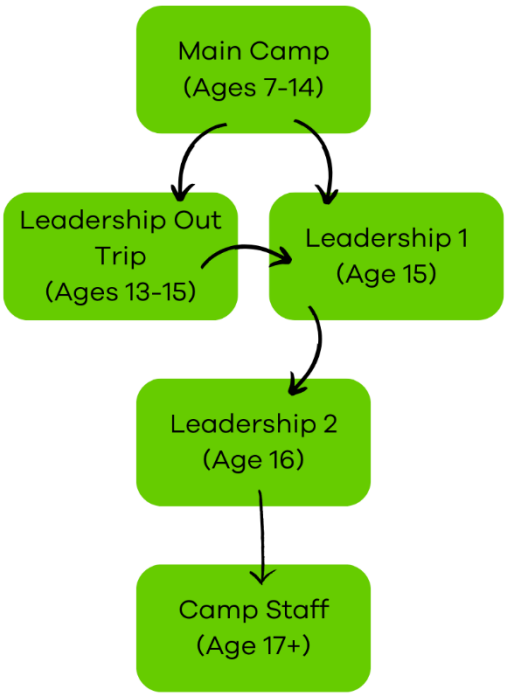
Will Crighton, Summer Camp Coordinator
Juliana Benoit, Assistant Summer Coordinator
BGC South Coast BC
7595 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, BC V5P 3Z6
Tel: 604.324.2267
Email: summer@bgcbc.ca

Choose Your Own Adventure!

Camp Potlatch's leadership programs are designed to nourish the growth of hard and soft skills to better equip you for wherever your leadership journey may take you. As outlined in the graphic below, the path you take from camper to staff member is your adventure to choose!

Leadership Camp 1

A two-week program for campers who are looking to further develop camping skills learned through their time in Main Camp and for campers new to Potlatch just starting their leadership journey. LC1 campers prepare many of their own meals, focus on extended overnight out-trips and learn the importance of teamwork while living in the natural environment.



Leadership Camp 2

This is the final step in Camp Potlatch's leadership program. LC2 is an intensive counsellor-in-training program for teenagers looking to become awesome Camp staff. This program is for mature teens who feel they have the capacity and drive to work toward personal and group achievement.
LC2 Campers participate in two multi-night out-trips, one by land and one by sea. They will also take part in a 3-4 day "cabin placement" in main camp, where they will have the opportunity to shadow qualified staff members and learn first hand what it's like to be a camp leader.
Participants will be given the opportunity to develop effective communication, teamwork, and leadership skills while learning the necessary tips and tricks to care for children compassionately and effectively.

Leadership Out Trip 1

This is a 5 night program for campers looking to to kick start their Leadership Camp Journey, or for Main Camp campers who are looking for a new challenge. Campers will spend some time at camp preparing before heading off on a two-night hiking trip into Garibaldi Provincial Park.

Explore pristine alpine meadows, glacial lakes, and striking mountain scenery. Highlights include Garibaldi Lake, Cheakamus Lake, and Panorama Ridge. You might even see snow in the summer!

Leadership Camper Participation Contract

The Leadership Camp programs offered at Camp Potlatch are designed to challenge campers physically, emotionally, and socially to create an ideal environment for personal and group development. Participants are held accountable to high expectations and take on significantly more responsibility in comparison to Main Camp programs. Campers must be mature, willing to work as a team member, and be fully committed to the program for it to be successful.

The purpose of this contract is to clarify the type of experience and atmosphere the camper should expect. Please read carefully and initial beside each point.

_____ I am ready to commit to the physical, emotional, and social demands of this program.

_____ I will try to keep a positive outlook and put my best foot forward.

_____ I am prepared to challenge myself by stepping outside of my comfort zone.

_____ I will accept responsibility for my actions.

_____ I will allow my voice to be heard and be an active participant in all facets of the program.

_____ I will respect the decisions of my leaders. If I do disagree, I know I will be able to find a time to discuss these decisions with my leaders appropriately.

_____ I will try to be inclusive with all members of the group and make every attempt to work as a team

_____ I agree to share the load of daily responsibilities with the other campers in my program.

_____ I will respect camp equipment and facilities.

_____ I will respect the feelings and privacy of others.

_____ I will allow myself to have fun and participate in this incredible experience that has been made possible for me.

_____ I understand that I cannot use my cell phone or other electronics at Camp Potlatch. If I cannot leave my electronics at home, I understand that I will need to turn them in to my leaders to be stored until departure.

_____ I understand that I cannot smoke or vape while at Camp Potlatch. Any devices will be confiscated, and parents/guardians will be notified.

I have read and understand these expectations and agree to abide by them during my Leadership Camp stay.

_____ _____

Camper Signature *Date*

For Parents/Guardians:

I have read and discussed the expectations on page 3 with my camper.

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian Signature *Date*

Leadership Questionnaire

Please take some time to carefully read and answer the following questions. Your answers will help us decide if this program is a good fit for you.

1. Why do you want to participate in the leadership program this year at Camp Potlatch?

2. What do you hope to get out of this experience?

3. Describe a person/activity that has a positive influence on your life.

4. What are some personal qualities or talents you can share with the Potlatch community?

5. Have you ever had any previous leadership training? Please specify.

6. Describe your previous Potlatch leadership experience. Who were your leaders?

7. Describe your wilderness camping experience. How many nights have you spent in a tent?

Leadership Camp Packing List

Please label everything prior to arriving to camp, including your child's luggage. We recommend iron-on or sewn-in labels for clothing and magic marker for everything else. Include your child's first and last name. All leadership camps are located an approximate 10-15 minute hike from Main Camp and campers are required carry their luggage to and from these locations on arrival and departure days. All Potlatch Leadership Camps include a significant out-trip component. It's for these reasons we recommend campers pack items in a hiking pack.
Camp clothes often get super dirty – we encourage campers to bring old clothes and recommend checking out second-hand stores to limit new purchases. Laundry will not be available for LOT1 or LC1 campers.*

Recommended Gear While at Camp:

*Leadership 2 Campers will have access to Laundry mid-way through their stay to wash essential items. A laundry bag is suggested to keep clean & dirty clothes separate while at camp.

Equipment:

- □ Sleeping bag & pillow
- □ Water bottle
- □ Flashlight & extra batteries
- □ Sunglasses & sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- □ Laundry bag
- □ Backpack
- □ Camping sleeping pad

Clothing:

- □ Sun Hat *(Mandatory at the waterfront and on out trip)*
- □ Rain gear: raincoat, pants & rubber boots
- □ 8-10 T-shirts
- □ 2-3 pairs of pants
- □ 4-6 pairs of shorts
- □ 2-3 long-sleeved shirts
- □ 2-3 warm sweaters
- □ 2-3 pairs of pajamas
- □ Socks & underwear
- □ 2 swimsuits
- □ 1 pair of sturdy hiking boots with ankle support
- □ 1 pair of sneakers
- □ 1 pair of sandals and/or water shoes

Toiletries:

- □ Toothbrush & toothpaste
- □ Soap

- 2-3 large towels
- Shampoo
- Comb/brush
- Feminine hygiene products
- Deodorant
- Lip balm with SPF

Optional Items:
- Camera
- Journal
- Fishing gear

Please Leave at Home:
- Food*
- Cell phones
- Knives or weapons
- Money
- Alcohol/drugs/cigarettes/vapes
- Electronic devices
- Fireworks
- Matches/lighters
- Perfumes or aerosol deodorants
- Items of personal or material value

*Please do not pack food or snacks of any kind. We are a nut-aware facility and any food sent to camp poses a risk to campers with allergies and will attract unwanted pests into cabins/tents.

Recommended Gear While on Out-Trip:
- 45-60 litre pack
- 20-30 litre watertight dry bag big enough to hold sleeping bag (for paddling trips)
- Lightweight sleeping bag
- Moisture-wicking T-shirt that covers shoulders
- Quick-dry shorts
- Fleece/wool sweater & pants
- Crocs/sandals for night-time lounging
- Wool socks
- Long-johns