

What is Camp Wendake?

Camp Wendake (Huron for: A place set apart) is a camp for people living with HIV/AIDS and their care-givers, loved ones, and traditional/non-traditional families. It is the only camp of its kind in Canada. The camp, with its rustic cabins, is situated on the beautiful shores of Lake Huron near Bayfield, ON.

Camp Wendake is a non-profit camp, sponsored by the AIDS Committee of the Diocese of Huron. We are staffed almost exclusively by volunteers and we rely on generous donations from the community to operate our program.

Camp Wendake is an amazing contradiction! People gather because of a common affliction, and find freedom from focusing on the disease. Camp Wendake presents an opportunity to celebrate life. The camping experience occurs in a community where HIV/AIDS is the “norm”. It may include open discussions where people choose to share personal information regarding lifestyle, HIV/AIDS status, or other private details. Campers may attend in order to learn and share more about coping with their overall health and social issues – or they may come for the rest and refreshment of a caring and understanding community.



Mission Statement

It is the mission of Camp Wendake to provide a safe, welcoming residential camping experience for persons living with HIV and those who support them. We strive to honor diversity in age, gender, race, sexual orientation, ability, culture, spirituality, and economic state.



Camp Wendake values:

- *the uniqueness of each individual*
- *choice in program participation*
- *good nutrition in a communal setting*
- *appreciation and protection of the environment*
- *self directed health management, while adhering to the OCA health policy*
- *the fostering of personal spiritual growth*
- *volunteerism of staff and campers*
- *the support of generous donations of time, talent and financial resources*
- *the legacy of Huron Church Camp and the Anglican Diocese of Huron*

Camp Wendake is a one-week retreat camp located just outside of Bayfield, for adults and children living with HIV/AIDS and their primary caregivers. It gives people infected or affected by this disease a chance to be in a supportive environment with peers facing similar challenges in their daily lives.

Camp Wendake promotes spiritual healing, physical well being and a chance for social interactions, which many people living with HIV/AIDS do not otherwise have in their lives. Operational costs are estimated to be approximately \$35,000 for one week of camping. We rely solely on donations to cover these costs.

The site of the camp is Huron Church Camp, owned by the Anglican Church. We are grateful that they support us by dedicating the camp site for our use on the week preceding Labour Day. The AIDS Committee of the (Anglican) Diocese of Huron supports the camp financially each year.

Donations in kind have been generously granted by Huron Church Camp, Culligan, Greyhound Bus Lines, Rick Kish, The Grand Theatre and Aboutown Transportation. We have indeed been fortunate to receive the continued support of these organizations.

Finally, members of the Wendake Camp Operations Committee give generously of their time throughout the year to organize and administrate the camp. Additionally the camp staff donate their time and expertise during the week of camp.

Join Us As A Camper

Wendake is a non-profit camp for persons living with HIV/AIDS--whether they are adult or child, single or coupled--and their traditional/non-traditional families including their immediate care givers.

Wendake's program includes a great menu; opportunities for massage, meditation, and spiritual exploration; and activities such as swimming, canoeing, campfire, arts and crafts, nature walks, sports, and some unusual activities as well! The camp provides an opportunity for fun and fellowship in a beautiful setting, with staff and campers from diverse communities.

While Wendake is sponsored by the AIDS Committee of the Diocese of Huron, it is not a religious-based camp. Accommodations are in cabins (no camper tents allowed).

Camp Wendake's policy is: pet-free, alcohol-free. Campers are required to remain on the site.

Volunteer at Wendake

We are looking for the kind of people who are team players and who are willing to take initiative and get personally involved in our camp life and building of the Wendake community. Our needs are diverse, so we are seeking volunteers for Cabin Leaders, Kitchen, Medical/Nursing, Waterfront (must be NSL-WF certified), Counselling, Children's Programs, and Program staff. Many of our volunteers will fill a specific role and provide programming support for crafts, sports, music, or special workshop.

Our camp program is built upon the many interests and skills of our volunteers and campers and we often have additional programs provided by complementary service providers (massage, reiki, trager, reflexology, and more), storytellers and musicians, artists and craftspeople, anyone who has something which they would like to offer to our camps and the program.

If you wish to volunteer for the week or just wish to provide a program or service during camp, please contact the Staff Coordinator or Program Director.

Contact Us:

190 Queens Ave, London Ontario N6A 6H7

Camp Director: director@campwendake.org
519-272-1050

Staff Volunteer Coordinator:
volunteer@campwendake.org

Registrar: registrar@campwendake.org
519-434-1601

Fundraising Coordinator:
donations@campwendake.org

Program Director: program@campwendake.org

Spiritual Director: spirit@campwendake.org

Webmaster: webmaster@campwendake.org



A place set apart!

Since 1996

www.campwendake.org

