

Updated: Tuesday, June 16th, 2020

Outdoor and virtual activity summer program 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic (gr: 1 completed in June 2020 to HS)

Parent questions and answers registration document 2020



YLC office summer hours: 830am to 5pm (Tel) 514.648.6421 info@dbylc.com

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Please note that information is subject to change due to Covid-19 changing protocols and programming adjustments. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Marysia or Theo.



Facebook (Don Bosco YLC) and Instagram (donboscoylc)

Covid-19 and its effects on our summer camps...

Dear parents,

Sadly, due to the Covid-19 strict government protocols, the YLC will not be able to offer our regular camp program this summer. There are too many restrictions that would have been stressful and too demanding on our staff...in particular for indoor programming and assemblies.

However, we want to offer a service that will get your kids "out of the house" for a few days out of the week, staying active, promoting a healthy lifestyle, and having fun with their friends and new friends!



Groups will be smaller with some Covid-19 protocols in place (8-10 campers per 1-2 animators). This will include adapted social distancing, regular hand sanitizing and other protocols that fit realistically into our outdoor camp services. Registration rates will be at a minimum and the full day service will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays (9:30 to 4pm). Thursday morning is an "in house" special event and Friday nights are teen and family nights!

You can sign up anytime during the 4-week program (providing there is space as we are welcoming only 50 campers per day). **We recommend registering online early!** Payments are done by E-transfer. If you sign up for 3 days during the week, you get a 10\$ rebate (50\$ for 3 days)!

Please read our parents Q+A for more information. Do not hesitate to contact us at info@dbylc.com or 514-648-6421 (leave a message with Marysia). Thank you for your continued support and belief with our non-profit community camp!

- Theo Vecera "the Big Cheese"

SUMMER CAMP

Parent information for outdoor and virtual program

ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE (UPDATED: June 17th, 2020)

This summer's structure:

- Due to Covid-19 strict camp protocols, the YLC cannot offer to youth and families in our community, our regular camp programming this summer.
- We are offering a "Summer outdoor camp" that will help address the needs of youth/families. This is done while respecting as best as possible, Covid-19 camp protocols recommendations by the CAQ government.
- It will be for grades 1 (completed in June 2020) to High school.
- Please keep in mind, like other camps, we cannot guarantee that we will not have Covid cases. If we do, we will have the proper interventions steps. These will be shared later as they are still being finalized. All staff will have their temperature checked every morning with other steps.
- **You can sign up before or later during the summer (unless the group is filled for that week).**
- Parents will need to sign a waiver understanding the extraordinary circumstances this summer.
- No indoor activities are scheduled inside the YLC for this summer. All services are outdoor with meeting points. However, there may be some special events for the older children indoors.
- In case of heavy rain, children who are being dropped off or picked up at the YLC (for an activity) will remain inside or tents will be set up outside in the YLC parking lot.
- For foreseeable rain or intense heat wave, the coordinators or animators will contact you to let you know if the day is cancelled. If it is cancelled, it will be rescheduled for Friday of that week if possible.
- 4-week program is from Monday July 13th until August 7th, 2020.
- We will have online registration available throughout the 4-week program (dbylc.com)
- We will have 20-25 certified animator (16yrs-25yrs).
- Parents can sign up for as many days/weeks before camp starts or during camp. If parents sign up for 3 days for a week, you will receive a 10\$ rebate. Each day is 20\$ and it is from 9:30am to 4pm.
- Camp staff will be identified with various YLC/camp t-shirts. Children registered will not be required to have a camper t-shirt. However, for some activities, they may be asked to wear the same color for easier identification.

Payments will be done through Etransfer.

1. Parents will fill out the registration form online (dbylc.com).
2. Once the YLC staff confirms the information with you, an e-transfer will be done to confirm your child's spot.
3. Only a cumulation of 50\$ or more of fixed activities during the 4-week period will a general camp receipt be given (this is subject to change. More information will be given). This will be given at the end of camp program.
4. Teen registration is free, but their social events are not.



Question 1: How will the Outdoor camp work?

- They will be mostly in RDP parks that are multi-faceted. Ratios will be for the most part 2 animators for 8-10 campers.
- Depending on the age group, it will be a combination of quiet to active games, planned activities and sports.
- This will also include;
 - Bike rides
 - “Girls Club” for grade 5-6. Specialized activities and workshops geared for girls (yoga, dance, self-esteem, etc...).
 - Ball hockey will now be included in outdoor activities for 3+4+5+6
- Some water activities may be implemented in the park if there is also a water park.
- If the city pools reopen during the summer, we will use them for the older levels. We will advise you always the day before on the plan for the day(s) that your child(ren) are registered.
- The outdoor camp activities will be separated by age groups.
 - Grades 1+2+3 and 4+5+6
 - Or Grades 1+2, 3+4, 5+6
- The pickup and drop off the camper will be at the assigned park.
- Parents must respect the pickup time or an extra charge will be implemented.
- The coordinators will contact you the day before to confirm all details.
- The camper must come prepared with running shoes, baseball cap, snacks, water, be “sunblocked” and bring their own hand sanitizer. Face mask is optional.
 - Make sure that your child brings his/her own sunscreen to reapply during the day.
 - Teach your child to put on sunscreen so that they will be comfortable reapplying it on their own.
- The animators will have with them their activity kit and Covid-19 supplies.
- Please note that there will be no virtual programming for children this summer.
- **Your help as parents to recruit other children/families will be appreciated! It will increase the likelihood of the activity taking place and/or on a regular basis during the 4-week program.**

Question 2: What is the set up for the week?

- 20\$ per day per child. Sign up for all 3 days and get a 10\$ rebate.
- 3 full days. Monday to Wednesday. 9:30am to 4pm.
 - Thursday morning: Special event for the whole family to enjoy (extra cost). Publicity will be online.
 - Friday morning: Mass (opened to all the community)
 - Friday afternoon or evening: Events for Teens and/or community (example: Movie in the park, variety show, etc...).
- In case of rain or intense heat, the day will be rescheduled for the Friday of the same week.



Question 3: How will the “in house” major outings work?

- **The “in house” major outing activity will range in price.**
- We are looking at cool and fun special events that children and their families can enjoy during the day! Example: Reptizoo (exhibition of snakes, lizards, etc...). A parent or guardian will need to stay, if possible, for the “in house” major outing.
- They can range from 1-3 hours and will respect Covid-19 protocols and ratios.
- Check online and our website to see what is coming up the following week...and to register.
- **Your help as parents to recruit other children/families will be appreciated! It will increase the likelihood of the activity taking place and/or on a regular basis during the 4-week program.**

Question 4: How will the Teen activities and events work?

- **Most teen activities are free but social events are not.**
- The mental health of your teenager is important to us. Giving them opportunities to be with their friends provides moments and memories that will benefit their well being during the summer.
- We encourage you to “push” your teen to get involved. Or if you like, we can push for you by contacting them.
- Our experience with teens is that many will say NO before YES! But once they are involved, they continue to do so.
- Our publicity to the teens will be mostly from Instagram.
- Please keep in mind that you have to register for the activities and social events as registrations are limited for each activity. Please fill out a registration form online at dbylc.com.
- They include;
 - Outdoor activities, swimming, and sports (free for the full day).
 - Bike rides
 - Teen social events (range in price). Example: Ice cream store, La Ronde, etc.
 - Virtual special events like coffeehouse.
 - Live show in the YLC parking lot.
 - Dance party with DJ.
 - We are also setting up a mixed recreational game of soccer Sunday nights at Marie Victorin. More info to come!
 - Other activities to be announced!
- **Your help as parents to recruit other teens/families will be appreciated! It will increase the likelihood of the activity taking place and/or on a regular basis during the 4-week program.**



Question 5: How will the Friday night special events work?

- **Most special events are free and/or a donation is welcomed.**
- We are planning various special events for the community to enjoy and participate every Friday night.
- Visit our website or online to see what is coming up for the following Friday.
- Most of them will be in the YLC parking lot and will respect Covid-19 YLC protocols.
- They include;
 - “Movie in the parking lot”
 - “Big Show” variety show
 - Bingo night
 - Dancing night
 - And some other ideas in planning!
- **Your help as parents to recruit other children/families will be appreciated! It will increase the likelihood of the activity taking place and/or on a regular basis during the 4-week program.**

Question 6: Can parents volunteer for the activities?

- Unfortunately, not. Because of the Covid-19 protocols in place, we ask that no parents be involved or engaged during our activities. Take a well-deserved break and come back in time for the pickup 😊
- Parents have the option of getting involved **only** in our “in house” outings with their children (separate charge) and Friday community events (free or minimal charge).

Question 7: What is SAFEFUN?

- This is the philosophy of our camp. Our objective is to make sure that the safety of the children in our care will never be compromised for the sake of fun.
- We take constructive and loving steps to curtail certain behavioural or social problems with our campers. However, we are not obliged to keep any child, for that activity or future activities, we feel we are not equipped to handle.
- **If your child has a special need or social difficulties, please let us know. We will attempt to put a shadow with them. You can also provide your own. The more we know, the more we can ensure a great experience!**
- Therefore, we stress an open and honest communication between parents and staff. Let us make the camp enjoyable for all. There are possibilities of “shadows” if need be (in relation to government grant that we should receive).
- All our animators will go through a 1 week 35-hour city certified training and participate in our “Safe Environment” protocols.
- All are first aid certified and the majority are known to us through our programming and go through a police check (18 years and over).
- We are also accredited from the Quebec Camp Association and have an exceedingly high city and parent rating!



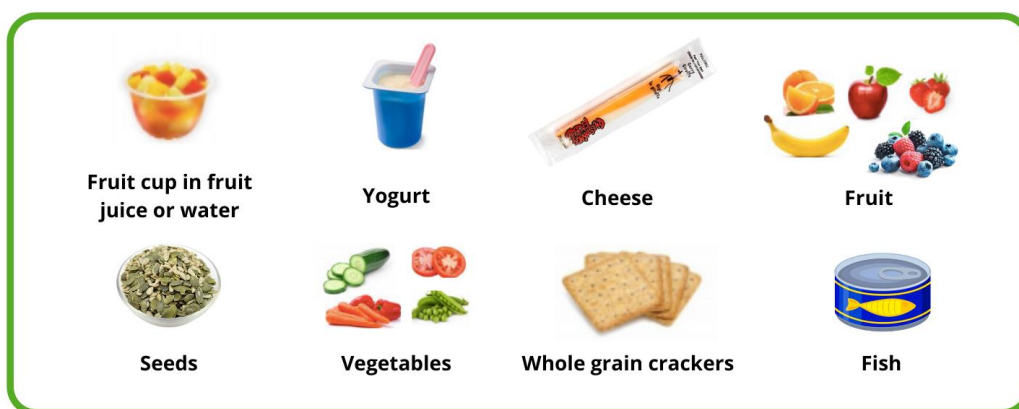


How to **MAXIMIZE** your child's energy at camp!



Snacks to **energize** you:

These snacks contain many nutrients.



Snacks to choose **less** often:

These snacks are high in sugar, fat and/or salt & don't keep you energized for long.



About *Theo Vecera* Celebrating 30 years of summer camp!

Theo has been actively involved in the community since 1990 and is the co-founder and Program Director of the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre (YLC). Theo has been working every summer at camp since 1990 and has been responsible for the coordination since 1994.



Theo is a resident of RDP since 1980. He is happily married for the last 16 years and has four beautiful children (ages 10 to 15). All his children/teens will be at camp this year.

Theo's passion is with youth; offering them different types of activities, developing their leadership skills, and helping them to express their skills and talents. His personal philosophy is that "No young person is invisible. Everyone is someone."

He also enjoys providing opportunities for adults to give back to the community. Theo accomplishes this objective by addressing their social and recreational needs and in turn, challenging them to have a social responsibility and accountability to their community.

He is an active promoter of the community and works with city and government officials to construct new facilities for youth and the community and to make sure they remain accountable to its citizens. His goal remains to highlight the east-end district of Montreal as a valuable and healthy environment to raise a family and for its business investment potential.

His dreams continue to evolve as Theo is constantly looking at how we as a community, can reach out to more youth, adults, and families. Not only in program planning but in creating awareness that all of us can make a positive impact by sharing our resources, skills, and talents. Please join our Facebook groups "Sanimax SOS", "RDP Neighborhood watch and community information exchange", "Don Bosco YLC".

Theo Vecera also received from the Parliament of Quebec, a medal of recognition and merit for his 25 years of community service and was also featured in the Panoram Italia magazine and various new media segments.

About - Marysia Kasprzak

Marysia's journey at the YLC began about 2 years ago when on their second date, Joe Macchiagodena (who is now her fiancé) took her to see the place that plays such an important role in his life. Seeing all the color, quotes, and pictures and just the life and memories that emanated from this place, made her wish that she could have been a part of something like this growing up - it felt like home! Well, although she couldn't go back in time, in a way her dream was granted when this January, she officially joined the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre's family as the new Assistant Program Director.



Although currently a resident of RDP, Marysia is not a native "RDPer". She was born in Poland, but as a baby moved with her family to a small town in British Columbia, just east of Vancouver called "Chilliwack". The youngest of 6 girls, Marysia was blessed to have grown up with 5 role models, whose morals, and hard work ethic continue to inspire her today. With a love for baking (having even made her sister's wedding cake!) and desiring a career in healthcare where she could help others, she decided that becoming a dietitian was the career for her. Therefore, in part by her sisters urging to be adventurous, she decided to move to Montreal to attend McGill University. In 2018, she graduated on the Dean's Honor List with a Bachelor of Science and a Major in Dietetics.

However, things don't always go as planned and she soon discovered that this was not where her real passion lies. Growing up, she always had a desire to do something great with her life. This desire, although present in each one of us, is especially alive in the hearts of young people. However, as they go through life and experience failures and hurts, they can start to doubt their value and that they have something to offer. This is so sad because each one of us has been placed in this world for a purpose and we each have gifts and talents that are unique to us and that are meant to be shared for the good of our community and the world!

This is Marysia's greatest passion: to help young people recognize that they have an irreplaceable role in this world and that the happiness they are searching for can only be found when they give their lives in the service of others. Her dream is to be able to do the following for the young people around her: **"In every young person, a point of goodness is accessible and it is the primary duty of the educator to discover that sensitive cord of the heart so as to draw out the best in the young person."** - St. Don Bosco



Only 5\$ (or more) a month goes a long way!

1 less Starbucks coffee per month may make you sad...but you'll be happy knowing that your 5\$ (or more) monthly contribution has made an immediate impact at the YLC!

GOAL: 100 PEOPLE X 60\$ (MIN) YEARLY = 6000\$

To cover all our expenses for our teen Friday and Saturday night sports and recreation programming next school year!

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE 5\$ (MIN) PER MONTH AND HELP MAKE A BIG IMPACT!

1. Go to "canadahelps.org"
2. Type in "Don Bosco Youth Leadership centre"
3. And then click on white box on the left to donate!
4. Income tax receipt will be issued online!

Want to make a 1-time donation to this year's camp program?
To help with Covid-19 purchases? Sports and A+C purchases?
Any amount will help! Please e-transfer your donation to
info@dbylc.com. Please mention your name and where you would like
your donation to go to! We thank you for your generosity!

What is the YLC?

Since 1997! Non-profit!

The Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre was founded in 1997.

It is a non-profit youth community centre located in RDP that reaches out annually to over 1000 children, youth and families in the East end of Montreal. Named after Saint John Bosco, a universally recognized educator and evangelizer of the young, the DBYLC strives to follow in his footsteps. The mission of the DBYLC is to foster the development of honest citizens with good morals that can become positive and impactful leaders for our community and choice of work. This mission is carried out through a variety of youth activities that have as their finality education, prevention, and leadership training.

Don Bosco used to say: "Give the most to those who have the least." The DBYLC is particularly attentive to needier youth: those from poorer families, in dysfunctional family settings, or influenced by negative and harmful peer influences. We welcome all languages and cultures in our programming.



The DBYLC receives some financial support from the Municipal, Provincial & Federal Governments and benefits from free rent in its locale. But the DBYLC is not sufficiently financed to cover its annual operating costs. In the name of the young we thank you for any financial help you can offer us.

Please speak to Theo Vecera at ylctheo@hotmail.com for how you can help and information on charity tax receipts (100\$ and more).