



Camp Menesetung

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CAMP MENESETUNG ANNUAL REPORT – 2021

2021 was a year of working to adapt and persevere in the face of the significant continuing challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic and its accompanying government restrictions. While our spring schools programs and retreat rental groups were cancelled again this year, our summer camp season was a glowing success. Through the guidance of our Board of Directors, Public Health; significant changes to how we operate and to our facilities; under the leadership of Executive Director Clayton Peters and Camp Director Colleen Lowrie; we were able to run as an in-person, overnight camp, and day camp this summer; and day-use campground this spring.

When our first campers arrived after months of lockdowns they sprinted to their cabins with the excited anticipation of new friends and experiences; their guardians smiled their gratitude for the week without the kids at home; and our staff cheered with the opportunity to bring camp to life once again. Despite our capacity limits, rigorous COVID-19 testing requirements, investment in re-opening infrastructure (cabin ventilation, outdoor dining etc.), and many other changes, we are proud that we were able to make a difference for: 313 Campers, 10 Leaders-In-Training, 12 campers who required full-time 1:1 personal support, and all at subsidized rates, with 1 in 10 campers attending using additional bursary funding, all supported by our donors, grants, and community partners. THANK YOU!

A 2021 highlight was the implementation of a new program at camp: For the first time, Menesetung campers learned how to canoe on Lake Huron under the direction of trained instructors. Lake Huron has always been our beautiful backdrop; a living neighbour to our reflective vespers, campfires on the beach, and sandcastle building competitions. Now our lake can serve as a dynamic medium for growth as our campers master important boating skills, and open up the possibility of having competent groups venture to Goderich for ice-cream, or Point Farms Provincial Park for exploring. As always, what we do is not nearly as important as the people who come here. Without question, the community and support that our staff team creates is the reason Camp Menesetung is a truly special place.

A huge thank you goes out to Dungannon United Church. While we are sincerely saddened by the closure of any United Church, we are truly grateful to be the recipient of a generous donation which helped us recover from our pandemic losses and allows us to look ahead to 2022 with more breathing room as we continue to seek donations to help us revitalize our aging buildings and improve our programs.

2022 marks 75 years of incorporation and 101 years since our very beginnings! To celebrate, we are hosting an Alumni Reunion weekend, August 26-28, 2022. If you were ever a camper, staff, or board member, we hope you can join us for part or all of it! Learn more on our website: www.campmenesetung.ca/75years

We look towards our 2022 season with hope and courage, with several new board members, Clayton and Colleen returning, your support, and 2021 under our belt, this next year might just be the best one yet!

To working hard for the right reasons,

Clayton Peters | Executive Director | Camp Menesetung
www.campmenesetung.ca