



The Guelph Community Foundation awards over \$32,000 in grants to help send kids to 17 area camps this summer

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It takes a village to send a kid to camp. The Grants Committee at The Guelph Community Foundation has announced the recipients of the *2017 Kids to Camp Grant Program*. Seventeen area camps were selected to receive a total of **\$32,055** in grant dollars this summer. “Not every child can afford to go to day camp,” says Cyndy Moffat Forsyth, Chair of the grants committee at The Guelph Community Foundation. “We have seen time and again that the camp experience during childhood can change the path of a person’s life.” Research tells us that if a child feels like they belong within their community, that connection allows them to learn better, feel healthier and feel that their life has purpose¹. For some kids, the summer camp experience is their only exposure to belonging and connectedness. “We don’t want finances to stand in the way for kids in Guelph and surrounding areas,” explains Forsyth. The camps selected for grants believe in the powerful impact that the camp experience can have on children and youth. They focus on providing a sense of belonging, building confidence, encouraging physical activity, promoting a respect for the outdoors and an exposure to art and music. The Guelph Community Foundation would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the many donations received, and to the following funds for their continued support of the Kids to Camp program: *The Bonnie Ewen Fund, Camp Discover Fund, The Guelph Community Foundation Children & Youth Fund, and The Hugh & Lorna Guthrie Fund.*

The recipients of The Guelph Community Foundation *Kids to Camp* grants for 2017 summer programming are:

- Art Gallery of Guelph
- Big Brothers Big Sisters North Wellington
- Canadian Diabetes Association
- Creative Encounters with Science
- Everdale Farm Camp
- Great Big Theatre Company
- Guelph Dance
- Guelph Humane Society
- Guelph Marlin Aquatic Club
- Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition
- Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis
- Muslim Society of Guelph
- Portage Ontario
- Rainbow Programs for Children
- Shelldale Better Beginnings Better Futures
- Sunrise Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre
- YMCA-YWCA Guelph

Source:

¹ 2016 National Vital Signs Report: Social Participation and Belonging, report by The Community Foundations of Canada

About The Guelph Community Foundation:

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding areas. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. Total funds under administration are \$14 million with over \$9.6 million in permanent endowed assets. Since inception, over \$4.2 million has been distributed to over 950 charitable initiatives.

The Guelph Community Foundation's office is located at 46 Cork Street East in Guelph. For more information about The Foundation, and how they reach and impact our community please visit <http://www.guelphcf.ca>

For more information about the Kids to Camp program at The Guelph Community Foundation, please contact:

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