



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From: Alicia Bagshaw
Position: Recreation and Leisure Coordinator
Title / Subject: Annual Camp Summary Report
Date of Report: October 9, 2024
Date of Meeting: October 21, 2024
Report No: 2024-PRF-025

1.0 Issue / Origin

To provide an annual summary of the success of camp programs for 2024 and make recommendations on continuation of these programs for 2025 (and future years).

2.0 Background

The Township of Brock Summer Day Camp has been a successful program and received well in the community for numerous years. Each year brings new dynamics, and opportunities.

3.0 Analysis

The analysis has been broken down into categories, and provided below:

Inclusion Counsellor:

In 2024, we introduced a new position of a Camp Inclusion Counsellor whose role was to provide 1:1 support for campers with exceptionalities. These are campers who would not succeed in a camp setting without the additional support provided.

Campers who require 1:1 support were required to contact the Camp Coordinator prior to registration to set up an interview. The interview process is to discuss the level of support required and ensure staff are able to meet the needs of the camper. Inclusion support may be required if:

- Extra support is used at school
- Extra help is needed at home for basic care

- A physical, medical, behavioural and/or developmental disability that could affect a child's safety or ability to participate

Inclusion support was limited to up to 2 weeks of camp, with the intention to provide the opportunity to up to 4 campers.

During registration staff received several inquiries about the inclusion support, however many families indicated the limit to 2 weeks of camp was not beneficial to them, as they require care for the entire summer.

Campers requiring a 1:1 inclusion staff were required to submit an application to the Camp Coordinator by June 1, 2024. This summer we had not received any official requests for 1:1 support.

During the first week of camp, the Inclusion Counsellor was utilized to help assist counsellors in addressing behaviours throughout the week and provide additional support to groups that required it.

During the second week of camp staff received the first official request for inclusion support. As there were no other requests for support, the child received 4 weeks of 1:1 support. In August staff received a second request for inclusion support.

Overall, the Inclusion Counsellor provided 1:1 support for 2 different families for up to 6 weeks of camp. They were given a week off due to low registration and no requirements for inclusion support.

Staff feel that this position is a huge benefit to residents and supporting our overall camp program.

Subsidy Opportunities:

This year the Township offered two different subsidy opportunities in conjunction with the Region of Durham. The first Program is available to Ontario Works recipients, and they qualify for up to 2 weeks of camp per child. In 2024 we had 10 individuals receive this subsidy for a total of 17 weeks provided. This program is a 50/50 cost share between the Region of Durham and the Township.

The second program is the Region of Durham Child Care Fee Subsidy Program. We had a total of 4 campers receive funding through this subsidy program. This subsidy program does not cost the Township any money as the funds is split between the parent and the Region.

Camp Trips/Special Guests:

Staff were asked to review the opportunities for offering Camp Trips. In 2024 it was determined the most cost-effective option was to bring Special Guests into camp. This summer we had visits from the Township Fire Department and Public Works Department. In addition, we hosted Scientist in the School, Craft Demos, Zoo to You, Air Bounce Adventures, and Kids in the Kitchen. These visits were well received by our campers, and staff look forward to finding new opportunities in addition to those experienced this year.

Staff will continue to investigate the possibility of offsite trips.

Camp Registrations:

Summer Camp:

In 2024 Summer Camp was held for 8 weeks at the Foster Hewitt Memorial Community Centre, 4 weeks at the Sunderland Memorial Arena and 4 weeks at the Rick MacLeish Memorial Community Centre. Registration this year was higher than in previous years

Summer Camp Registrations:		
	2024 Registrations	2023 Registrations
Week 1 * July 2	46	60
Week 2 – July 8	82	88
Week 3 – July 15	91	70
Week 4 – July 22	84	77
Week 5 – July 29	84	77
Week 6 * August 6	51	49
Week 7 – August 12	78	65
Week 8 – August 19	67	73
Total:	583	559

Summer Camp extended care had a total of 137 registrations between Before and After care.

March Break Camp:

In 2024 March Break Camp was held at the Foster Hewitt Memorial Community Centre in Beaverton. Registration was open to 35 campers per day, with some camps reaching capacity and people registering on the waitlist. Extended Care was also offered for March Break Camp.

Included below is a table representing the registrations for March Break Camp:

March Break Camp Registrations					
Camp:	March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14	March 15
Mites Camp	19	18	19	19	17
Variety Camp	15	15	13	15	15
Before Care	1	0	0	3	7
After Care	3	2	2	0	2
Total: (does not include extended care)	34	33	32	34	32

Winter Camp January 2024:

In 2024 Winter Camp was held January 2-5 at the Foster Hewitt Memorial Community Centre in Beaverton. Registration was open for up to 35 campers per day, however due to low registration the capacity was cut to 25 campers per day.

Included below is a table representing the registrations for Winter Camp:

Winter Camp Registrations				
Camp:	January 2	January 3	January 4	January 5
Mites Camp	9	9	10	9
Variety Camp	10	9	10	8
Total:	19	18	20	17

Winter camp December 2024/January 2025:

Due to how the holidays fall this year, camp would only be able to be offered on the following dates:

- Monday, December 23
- Friday, December 27
- Monday, December 30
- Thursday, January 2
- Friday, January 3

Due to the breaks in the programming, staff would recommend not hosting a Winter Camp in 2025. Staff anticipate many parents taking holidays during the break and as a result the demand for childcare is not as strong as other times of the year including summer and March Break.

Interruptions due to Sunderland Arena Project:

Due to the scheduled renovation at the Sunderland Memorial Arena, camp will not be able to be held at that location in the summer of 2025. Staff recommend offering all 8 weeks of camp in Cannington to supplement the loss of Sunderland location.

Proposed 2025 Camp Schedule:

Staff prepared a draft schedule for Summer Camp 2025 with all camps being offered in Beaverton and Cannington:

Week 1* Short Week	June 30-July 4	No Camp July 1st
Week 2	July 7-11	
Week 3	July 14-18	
Week 4	July 21-25	
Week 5	July 28-August 1	
Week 6 * Short Week	August 5-8	No Camp August 4th
Week 7	August 11-15	
Week 8* Short Week	August 18-21	No Camp August 22nd

Staff recommend turning the last week of camp into a short week with no camp on the Friday. Over the last couple of years Brock High School students have been required to return to school on the Friday of the second last week of August leaving camp short staffed.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

None.

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

The Registration fees for Winter Camp were approximately \$2,400 and March Break approximately \$5,300. The total registration fees collect for Summer Camp was approximately \$97,000 with an additional revenue of \$5,900 collected in the form of sponsorships.

As of September 30th, the total revenue for camps in 2024 was \$110,618.20 with a total expenditure of \$109,187.12 for a total net revenue of \$1,431.08.

Financial considerations for camp offerings for 2025 will be included within the Budget Report.

5.1 Asset Management

N/A

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

N/A

7.0 Communications

N/A

8.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, 2024 was a very successful year of camp programs. Staff are excited to begin preparations for camp offerings in 2025.

Consideration needs to be given to the camp offerings for 2025. Staff recommend providing March Break Camp and Summer Camp in 2025. Staff recommend not offering a Winter Camp in December 2024/January 2025 due to the program disruption but will re-visit Winter Camp for December 2025/January 2026..

9.0 Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Committee receive report 2024-PRF-025, and

That Staff do not plan for a December 2024/January 2025 Winter Day Camp Program, and

That Staff plan for a 2025 March Break Camp Program, and

That Staff plan for a 2025 Summer Day Camp Program for 8 weeks in Beaverton and 8 weeks in Sunderland, with no weeks being scheduled at Sunderland Arena due to the scheduled renovation, and

That staff plan for Summer Camp with 3 short weeks – June 30th, August 5th, August 18th; and

The Township continue providing the Ontario Works Subsidy Program and the Child Care Fee Subsidy Program, and

That staff continue to engage and secure special guests for our summer camp offerings, and

That staff continue to investigate the opportunity of off-site trips and provide proposed costs as part of budget discussions