

Van Es Camp & Conference Centre

Policy: Children With Disabilities

Purpose: This policy is to ensure that children with disabilities have the opportunity to be considered for registration to attend summer camps at Van Es Camp & Conference Centre (VECCC)

Policy: The VECCC board and staff will ensure that children with disabilities have the support and supervision needed to have a safe and positive camping experience

The VECCC Board will arrange for a careful review of registration applications from children with disabilities. In the review, the Board will evaluate the type and extent of the disability, and the ability of Camp Staff and the adequacy of the facilities to provide appropriate support and supervision for a safe and positive camping experience.

Procedure:

- VECCC is open to receive and consider applications from children with disabilities
- Families are encouraged to apply at least 30 days before opening date of the appropriate camp, in order to get supports put into place
- The registrar will notify the appropriate Camp Director when he/she becomes aware that a child with disabilities wishes to register for summer camp
- The Camp Director or Camp staff will have a conversation with the parents/guardians of the child as soon as possible to determine the level of care and needs required to enable a successful camp experience
- All special needs must be clearly identified, such as dietary needs, special care, physical assists, medications, or supervision required
- The Camp Director, alone or in conjunction with other camp staff, will assess the staff and camp facility's adequacy to approve the registration application
- The Camp Director will advise the VECCC Board, the family and the registrar of the decision concerning the applicant
- When a camper is rejected, the registrar will return all registration funds received

- When a camper is accepted, the Camp Director will arrange appropriate and competent staff and supervision for the camper to ensure a safe and positive camping experience
- At the discretion of the Camp Director, or the VECCC Board, a one-on-one (1:1) support and supervision will be assigned and provided by the Camp staff.
- If the camper is accepted, and in the event that the Van Es Camp & Conference Centre Board/Staff are not able to provide support or supervision to the child, a family member or care aide* will be required to support the child during the camping experience (attendance of family/care aide will be free of charge)

*The family member/care aide must be the same gender as the child with special needs.

Approved by VECCC Board February 9, 2009