



Camps Committed to Inclusion Newsletter

Free AODA Workshop

How to Welcome More Kids to Your Camp

All camps are required to meet accessibility standards under the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005) and to accommodate campers with disabilities.

All Member and non-member camps are invited to attend this half-day workshop in order to provide you with information, tools, resources and best practices about the AODA and inclusion.

This workshop will include:

- Where to get information on the AODA and accessibility resources
- Accessibility tips and best practices for camps
- A discussion of common accessibility challenges and their solutions
- An opportunity to ask accessibility experts your questions
- A chance to network and share information with camps in your region

*A light lunch will be available for networking opportunities from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

The OCA also hosted AODA webinars which you can view the recordings of on our [website](#).

OTTAWA, ON

April 17, 2018
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital Region
1620 Sixth Line Rd., Dunrobin, ON K0A 1T0

[REGISTER HERE](#)

LONDON, ON

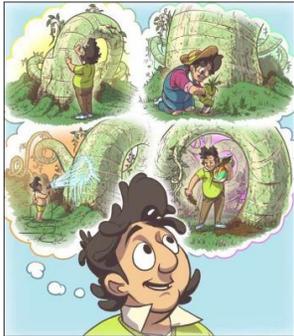
May 8, 2018
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

YMCA of Western Ontario
165 Elmwood Ave. W., London, ON N6C 0A8

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Free Children's Books

A book series that promotes inclusion, diversity and accessibility.



I'm Smart in my Own Way

A delightful story that celebrates potential and the fact that we all have different abilities and something valuable to contribute.

English ISBN: 978-1-896508-43-6
French ISBN: 978-1-896508-45-0



Felicia McCan

A charming story that promotes diversity and acceptance. It teaches children to celebrate differences rather than dwell on them.

English ISBN: 978-1-896508-41-2
French ISBN: 978-1-896508-44-3



Benjamin-Bob Can Do the Job

A story that challenges stereotypes and demonstrates what is possible when we all set aside our preconceived notions.

English ISBN: 978-1-896508-42-9
French ISBN: 978-1-896508-47-4

Accessibility Directorate of Ontario has made these available at no charge.

To order your free copies, visit: www.publications.serviceontario.ca

*Use the ISBN number to search for the book of your choice.

Accessibility Case Study

Camp Kawartha

Camp Kawartha is an award-winning outdoor education centre and summer camp. Our mission is to inspire environmental leaders and stewards of all ages through dynamic, accessible, year-round outdoor programming and powerful partnerships.

We also recognize that camping and outdoor activities should be available to everyone and we've been working hard to reach a broader complement of children who, because of mobility issues, might otherwise not be able to experience the magic of summer camp and outdoor education.

A focus on including those with disabilities/challenges came into sharper focus with the advent of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).
This legislation helped us to re-examine our culture as a camp.

Were we being as inclusive as we could be?

Are there barriers that are preventing all children from accessing all aspects of camp?

First steps included policy development, site reviews, and a staff training assessment.

We acknowledged that we were already doing things that provided for accessibility and inclusivity -- over the years the Camp has welcomed staff members who have had physical and learning disabilities; there have been significant upgrades to cabins and new builds to make them accessible; staff members have been provided with training to help them understand accommodations for those with physical needs, learning behaviours, and mental health challenges.

[Read the full article on how Camp Kawartha works towards inclusion.](#)



Campfire of Inclusion

Thursday, April 19, 2018
1:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Toronto Botanical Garden

[REGISTER HERE](#)

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Director/Senior/Front-line Staff	5:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Director/Senior/Front-line Staff
1:00 - 1:30 p.m. Registration	5:45 - 6:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions Human Rights Code Duty to Accommodate
1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions Human Rights Code Duty to Accommodate	6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Speed Session Rotations Camps on TRACKs, Pre-camp Training Ideas, and more!
2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Expert Panel - Topics including: AODA, Staff Training, Working with Parents	7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Breakout Room Sessions (Hot Topic Discussion)

[More details can be viewed on the registration page.](#)

For more information on the Camps Committed to Inclusion Project visit
<https://www.ontariocampsassociation.ca/camps-committed-to-inclusion-project/>

Constance Exley is the Camps Committed to Inclusion Project Manager.
For all AODA inquiries please contact Constance:

Constance Exley
OCA Project Manager, Camps Committed to Inclusion Project
Accessibility Ontario
Tel: 647-502-7047
director@accessontario.com