

NEW CAMP MEMBERSHIP

2025 PACKAGE



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THE ASSOCIATION

MANITOBACAMPING.CA

Manitoba Camping Association's organizational culture is built on its values and ability for staff, volunteers, members and board of directors to embrace and embody these values through daily work.

MISSION

Play a leadership role in promoting and supporting the community of organized camps, encouraging the growth and recreational experiences for children, youth and families.

VISION

To be the recognized leader in the Manitoba camps community.

CORE VALUES

- Personal growth & enrichment for children and youth through a camping experience
- Integrity in all aspects of operation
- Accountability and transparency
- Collaboration, sharing of information, knowledge and perspectives
- Safety for all involved
- Financial accessibility
- Environmental outdoor experience



ABOUT

The Manitoba Camping Association, including the Sunshine Fund, is a charitable organization that supports and promotes camp, encourages best practices among the camp industry, manages the standards and accreditation of camps program and strives to foster a culture of community among its membership, safety for all campers, user groups and staff.

Research has proven that camp is an important component in childhood development. As such we want to help all camps reach their maximum capacity throughout the year to play a role in the long-term viability and success of camp.

In addition to supporting member camps and connecting camps to corporate members, the MCA fundraises to provide underprivileged children the opportunity to experience the benefits of summer camp through the Sunshine Fund. On average in recent years, we annually sponsor approximately 600 deserving children from families who need financial assistance to go to a week of summer camp; however we cannot meet the need and demand. We strive to increase our public awareness and financial support in the community through a variety of community, local and provincial initiatives.

ORGANIZED CAMPING

The Manitoba Camping Association defines organized camping as a sustained group experience of no less than 30 hours over a minimum of 4 consecutive days with at least fifty percent of the time consisting of outdoor activities taking place in one of the following formats: overnight, wilderness, family or day camp, based on the following principles:

- Fostering the physical, mental, social, spiritual, emotional and moral welfare of the participants
- Dedicated and committed to an environmental ethic that preserves the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community

MEMBER CATEGORIES

CAMP MEMBER

FEE BASED ON OPERATIONAL REVENUE

For Accredited or Non-Accredited* Day, Overnight and Family Camps. Organizations that direct two or more camps will be required to calculate and pay fees for each camp based on the camps individual budget, not the organizations budget.

- Organizations that represent more than one camp can and should be encouraged to become organizational partners along with their camps becoming Camp Members.
- Each camp member has one weighted vote in the affairs of the MCA at the AGM.

**Non-accredited camps will only be accepted as members if the camp commits to begin the accreditation process after a year as a member in good standing.*

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER

FEE \$150

For non-profit organizations or agencies who have an interest in furthering the interests of the MCA and its members. This included camps that do not meet the definition of “organized camping” but would still like to be part of the MCA.

VENDOR & COMMERCIAL MEMBER

FEE \$200

This membership is intended for commercial businesses that wish to advance the goals and objectives of the MCA and its members.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

FEE \$25

This membership is intended for individuals or students interested in supporting the goals and objectives of the MCA and its members, and who wish to actively participate in the MCA.

HONORARY/LIFE MEMBER

N/A

This membership is for an individual who has been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the camping community in Manitoba and who continues to support the goals and objectives of the MCA and its members. Honorary or Life Membership will be granted without the obligation for the recipient to pay any annual fees.



ACCREDITATION

Camps that seek and maintain accreditation status, communicate to the community and various stakeholders that they are committed to safety by following best practices and implementing risk management practices.

As the recognized leader in the camps community, various agencies support the value of MCA accreditation by only providing funding to camps programs that are a member in good standing and accredited by the MCA.

The MCA is committed to improving the accreditation and standards process. As such, we have hired an Accreditation Coordinator to work closely with camps preparing for accreditation, to work thoroughly with the Standards, to plan training events and to connect with camps who are not yet accredited.

We have a policy to review the standards manual each year to ensure that it is current and relevant. MCA has a Standards and Accreditation Committee to review the manual along with the MCA executive director and it welcomes suggestions from the community.

Commercial Members have access to the list of accredited camps.

MEMBER BENEFITS

The Manitoba Camping Association (MCA) is dedicated to promoting camping and identifying partnership opportunities to enhance the visibility of the camp experience. Members encompassing vendors, commercial entities, and accredited camps are encouraged to partake in these initiatives when available. We strongly recommend that you engage with your provincial camping association, the MCA.

GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY AND OTHER ORGANIZATION LOBBYING

The MCA is the voice of organized camping in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. The MCA advocates for member camps by lobbying the government and other governing bodies pertaining to issues that are important to the association (e.g. COVID, Green Team) and influencing the decisions of governing bodies as needed. At the federal level, we are affiliated with the Canadian Camping Association.

CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Free CCA Membership for member camps. As the MCA is a paid member of the CCA, that means our member camps automatically become a member. CCA benefits include their insurance program discounts, federal advocacy efforts, research projects, awards and business partners benefits such as Sterling-Backcheck and FoodBuy.

CAMP PING

Camp Ping serves as our bi-weekly email newsletter tailored for the camps located in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. The information disseminated typically pertains to grants, training events, special events, significant notices, government updates, resources, and ongoing developments within the association and the Sunshine Fund. This newsletter represents the Manitoba Camping Association's primary communication tool with your camp.

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS CAMP STORIES

Each year, the Winnipeg Free Press collaborates with the MCA to share stories about Sunshine Fund campers. The MCA administration selects the interviewed children based on the willingness indicated in their subsidy application. MCA aims to provide diverse perspectives that illuminate the experiences of various member camps through the eyes of the campers.

ONLINE RESOURCES

The MCA is committed to providing excellent customer service to membership and seeks feedback from the membership to help ensure that relevant resources are developed, maintained and accessible. Resources include:

- **Member Resources on our Website** - developed to provide valuable information on human resources, granting opportunities, workplace health and safety, service providers and more.
- **CCA Website** - The Canadian Camping Association is the hub for research information related to camp and a variety of information and training resources. Members have access to this information.

SHARE YOUR CAMP JOBS ON OUR WEBSITE

The MCA hosts a dedicated job opportunities page on its website, which is available for all member camps to post current job listings. To have a listing included, please contact communications@manitobacamping.ca.

ACCREDITED CAMP DIRECTORY ON WEBSITE

Potential campers, staff, volunteers and donors can find you while searching our website.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The MCA offers training events for camps to participate in. Webinar and in person training offered as possibilities.

NETWORKING EVENTS

Being part of the MCA means a closer connection with others in the camping world. Social and networking events are created on an as needed basis or when requested. If you have a social event suggestion or want to host an event, connect with the MCA staff.

MCA HOSTED COFFEE BREAKS

The MCA hosts virtual coffee breaks for camps to connect and share ideas, support, ask questions and build relationships with each other.



ANNUAL LINKED CONFERENCE | MCA & CCI

Our 3-day MCA/CCI conference is a place where camping leaders come together from all areas of Manitoba & NW Ontario. Camps attend for training, community, and networking opportunities at a member camp location. Participants learn together with each other, hearing dynamic keynote speakers, opportunities for educational break-out sessions and a time to rejuvenate before the busy summer camp season begins. Vendors and corporate members set up displays and connect with member camps midway through our conference.

JOIN THE TEAM

If you are interested in serving on a committee or the board, or if you wish to expand your professional network, we invite you to collaborate with fellow members within our association to strengthen our collective efforts. This is an opportunity for you to make a meaningful contribution to the MCA.

CODE OF ETHICS

EXEMPLARY ETHICAL PRACTICES FOR **ALL MEMBER OF THE MCA**

A Code of Ethics identifies those behaviors and attitudes the MCA believes to be minimum acceptable commitments to the well-being of others. A code is built on a commitment to integrity, truthfulness, and fairness to all persons. The members of the Manitoba Camping Association agree, by their membership, to uphold the following:

1. Will behave in a way that reflects the values of the MCA to serve organized camps, affiliated programs, and the public by promoting better camping for all.
2. Will recognize the responsibility for the welfare of others in their care.
3. Will abide by and comply with the laws of the community.
4. Will be a member in the proper MCA classification as currently defined by the MCA Board of Directors. Will disclose affiliation with MCA only in a manner specifically permitted by the association.
5. Will speak for the association only when specifically authorized to do so and will otherwise make clear that statements and actions are those of an individual.
6. Will respect the privacy of MCA members, camps, and other constituents within the camp community; however, will hold other members accountable to the code of ethics by bringing information to the appropriate MCA official.

EXEMPLARY ETHICAL PRACTICES FOR CAMP OWNERS, DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVES

The association recognizes the camp owner, director, board, and executive as primary professional persons assuming the greatest responsibility for actual camp practices. Therefore, in addition to the Code of Ethics for all members, any member operating a camp accredited by or affiliated with the Manitoba Camping Association agrees to subscribe to the following:

1. Will endeavor to provide an environment conducive to promoting and protecting the physical and emotional well-being of the campers and staff.
2. Shall seek to instill in staff and campers respect of the environment and camp site.
3. Shall follow equal opportunity practices for employment application and camper registration.
4. Shall endeavor to employ persons based upon factors necessary to the performance of the job and the operation of the camp.
5. Shall be truthful and fair in securing and dealing with campers, parents/guardians and staff.
6. Shall provide for each a written enrollment policy for all camper/family applicants including fees, payment schedules, discounts, dates of arrival and departure, together with a clearly stated refund policy.
7. Shall provide for each staff member a written job description and employment agreement including period of employment, compensation, benefits and exceptions.
8. Shall promptly consult with parents or guardians of any camper as to the advisability of removing them from camp should it be clear that they are not benefiting from the camp experience or the campers' actions have created this need.
9. Will assist with transportation offsite with dismissal and notify guardian if required for minor-aged staff member(s).
10. Shall pay the fees established by the MCA Board of Directors, which in turn pays the established fees by the CCA National Board of Directors.
11. Will respond to complaints received and make a good faith effort to resolve them in accordance with generally accepted good business practices.

