

CANSPEI Town Hall – February 18th, 2021

Summary of Feedback from Camps

We asked what camps were currently thinking about whether they would move forward towards opening in 2021. Some answered that they were hoping for the best and moving ahead with planning in a way which is similar to a typical year, while preparing some contingency plans. Others are looking at multiple different formats (shorter duration, day camps, virtual, etc.) Another is still assessing as to whether they should move ahead.

We asked camps where they were looking for guidance – what other industries are you looking at policies from?

- Camps who ran successfully in New Brunswick in 2020
- School policies/guidelines (both public and private)
- Day camp guidelines from last year
- Restaurants/Food Service to help with how we deliver food service this year
- Group Home and Adult Residential Facilities

We asked camps what large-scale areas of their operations they're anticipating having to make changes to:

- Medical centre/infirmiry policies, space, and ability to quarantine if symptoms come up
- Check-in/pick up processes
 - o Where does testing fit in?
- All-camp activities
- Accepting campers from other provinces
- Cabin set up – how close can bunks be to one another?
- Supporting campers who require additional supports (personal care, behavioural, etc.)
- Transportation
- Mental Health Support for staff
- Food service/mealtimes

We asked camps what kinds of changes/adaptations to their staffing process they foresee having to make:

- Medical staff – will there be as many to draw from this year?
- Additional support and training for a double cohort of first year staff
- Over hiring – what if someone has symptoms, is exposed, etc.
- How we bubble the staff – with one another, with campers
- Staff are less able to commit to the summer, given the uncertainty of their own plans
- Frontloading with returning staff about what's going to be different this year
- Determining the process of how time off will work, whether they can stay/leave site
- Extra training for identifying COVID symptoms
- Recruiting volunteer staff when they are concerned about the risk to their personal health

We asked what we could do to help, and people agreed that CANSPEI could help by passing along suggestions of policies, updates on guidelines/restrictions as they come out, and by recommending resources from other industries.