



**Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk - LETTER TO PARTICIPANTS/PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

The Canadian Ecology Centre (CEC) is a non-profit outdoor and environmental education facility located in Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park. We are proud to share this beautiful landscape with guests from all over Canada, along with our message of conserving and protecting our natural environment. We are open year-round, offering day and overnight educational programs as well as accommodations/meeting spaces for events.

You or your child will be attending the CEC from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_  
 with the following organization/group: \_\_\_\_\_ (school/organization name)

In order to create a positive and safe experience for all participants, it is important that you and/or your child is aware of the CEC's Site Rules (including zero-tolerance), Code of Conduct, as well as the CEC's Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk policy (page 2). Any participant(s) who do not follow these rules may be sent home at the cost of the participant.

***The CEC has a Zero-Tolerance Policy for:***

- Smoking, alcohol, or recreational drug used by participants under age including use of Cannabis by anyone on CEC property
- Dangerous weapons (ie. guns, hatchets, knives) or any implement that is deemed as dangerous or potentially dangerous. (these items will be confiscated and returned if appropriate)
- Physical, mental or verbal assault or abuse (including bullying and threats of violence)
- Theft or borrowing personal property without consent
- Vandalism of the CEC or Provincial Park property including property and the natural environment

***We also expect students to respect the following CEC Site Rules and Code of Conduct:***

- 1) Participants must wear appropriate closed toed footwear in order to participate in CEC programs.
- 2) Participants must immediately inform Staff (CEC or School/Organization Staff) of any accident, incident, or illness that occurs.
- 3) Participants must follow the Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park rules, including being respectful of fellow visitors and the park environment (e.g. do not disturb, harm, or remove the park's plants or animals).
- 4) Participants must adhere to the site boundaries as directed by the CEC Staff (explained during on-site orientation).
- 5) Participants may not enter other persons' cabins at any time other than their own assigned cabin. Students or Youths are not permitted to leave their cabins after evening program return (lights out) unless to seek emergency support from their teacher/lead staff.
- 6) Participants should not bring any nut products with them to the CEC, as many participants attending our facility have life-threatening allergies to nuts and nut products.

***The CEC values an equitable and inclusive opportunity for all staff and clients. We are strengthened individually and as a community by ongoing personal learning opportunities provided through shared and diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences.***

**I have read, understood, and agree** that I and/or my child will follow the CEC's Zero-Tolerance Policy and CEC Site Rules and Code of Conduct during my/their visit. If I or my child fails to follow these rules, I understand that consequences and removal from the program may be applied.

**I have read, understood and agree** to the CEC's Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk policy (outlined on page 2)

**I have notified the school/organization of any dietary needs/allergies/medical conditions/injuries** that may affect my or my child's ability to participate in activities at the CEC. I understand that the school/group is required to pass on any pertinent information to the CEC in order to ensure the safe participation and to allow CEC staff to respond appropriately in the event of injury or illness. If a school/group is **not** collecting medical, dietary and emergency contact information, I and/or my child is required to complete a CEC Medical Form.

**I have completed** all required school board out-of-classroom forms (if applicable) with current, accurate and pertinent information including emergency contact names and numbers.

**I understand** that the CEC is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged personal items.

**Parent/Guardian name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for being a part of this memorable and educational experience! Please feel free to contact The Canadian Ecology Centre at any time with any questions, concerns or clarifications regarding any of the above or other information required.

**Sincerely,**

Laura Kielpinski (Assistant General Manager) and Bill Steer (General Manager and Founder)



## **Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Policy**

The safety and well-being of each participant in our educational programs is of paramount importance to the staff at the Canadian Ecology Centre. It is also an important reminder to you as a parent, guardian and/or participant of the inherent risks of participation and of the participant's responsibility to follow all CEC policies/procedures, codes of conduct and safety instructions while visiting the Canadian Ecology Centre.

The educational activity programs that are being offered involve certain elements of risk. Being informed of possible risks, providing relevant and applicable medical information to your school and following CEC safety policies and rules will help to reduce or eliminate the chance of injury or illness while participating in CEC programs.

### **I acknowledge and am aware that:**

- I. Accidents may occur while participating in these activities. By choosing to participate in the activity, I am assuming the risk of an accident occurring (including risks due to slips, trips, falls, etc...)
- II. Some aspects of the program may be physically and mentally demanding.
- III. Participation in the program may bring me into contact with known or unknown allergens.
- IV. Participation in the program may bring me into contact with various weather and environmental conditions and hazards.
- V. It is my responsibility to inform myself of the potential risks and injuries that I could encounter as a result of my participation in the program.
- VI. During the duration of the program, I will be traveling on-site and within Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park (via foot travel on trails/roads) as well as possibly swimming and/or canoeing (IF requested and approved as an activity option by the group).
- VII. I may be traveling in areas that are considered to be in a wilderness setting where medical assistance may not be readily available, and I assume the consequences of care given in this environment by qualified CEC staff.
- VIII. It is my responsibility to carry medical insurance and/or a valid Provincial Health Insurance number. I understand that I will be responsible for all costs and expenses in the event of an illness, disease, injury or other mishap or incident, including medical transport.
- IX. I have and will inform my school/group supervisors of any injury, illness, disease or other medical condition and/or symptoms prior to, on arrival to, and during the program (relevant and applicable medical information may/will be shared with CEC staff for the purpose of providing a safe and positive experience for you and/or your child)
- X. Transportation to medical professionals will be provided by the CEC or your school as necessary in the case of injury, illness, mishap or accident throughout the duration of the program.
- XI. The Canadian Ecology Centre will administer any first aid treatment as required, and in the event of a life-threatening allergic reaction, injection of epinephrine and a non-prescription dose of an oral antihistamine.  
\*Participants who have **life threatening allergic reactions** to common allergens (bees/insect stings, food, medication, etc...) **are required to bring 2 Epi-pens and MUST have on them at all times at least 1 Epi-pen.**
- XII. Photographs and videos may be taken of me by the Canadian Ecology Centre and other participants. This material may be used by the Canadian Ecology Centre for purposes to be presented in digital slideshows, presentations, websites and other promotional materials. I understand that no participant names will be identified on promotional materials. I will notify my school and/or the Canadian Ecology Centre in writing (email or letter addressed to the Director of Education) if I do not consent to the above in section XI.

### **I confirm that I am in good physical and mental health and able to safely participate in the CEC programs.**

I acknowledge that if I fail to adhere to or abide by the rules, directives and guidelines of the Canadian Ecology Centre I may be removed from further participation or dismissal from the program and will not be entitled to any reimbursement of monies paid.

For all communication, please contact Laura Kielpinski (Assistant General Manager) at [education@canadianecology.ca](mailto:education@canadianecology.ca) or 1-888-747-7577