



**YMCA of  
Central East Ontario**

## **YMCA Launches YCamp**

***YMCA offering free virtual summer camp programming this summer!***

**Belleville, ON** – With the closure of many summer camps to slow the spread of COVID-19, the YMCA of Central East Ontario is responding with the launch of a virtual camp program: **YCamp**. “For over 100 years, the YMCA has been a leader in delivering camp programs to children and youth across Canada,” said David Allen from the YMCA of Central East Ontario. “While we share the disappointment felt by children who are not going to be able to physically go to camp this summer, we are pleased to bring YCamp to our community.”

More about YCamp:

- YCamp is a free online program available to all children and youth across Canada
- Virtual camp programs will be released each week over the course of the summer
- The YCamp program will be educational and fun, with weekly challenges so that “campers” can achieve virtual camp certifications over the course of the summer
- Children will be able to get online feedback on their skill development
- The first day of YCamp is July 6 and will run through to August 28
- YCamp will be delivered by YMCA camp staff across the country

The YCamp program will be accessible online at [www.ymcahome.ca/YCamp](http://www.ymcahome.ca/YCamp). YCamp is the latest addition to the YMCA at Home virtual platform, which already includes YThrive (fitness classes), YPlay (family), YWell (personal wellness resources) and YGym (physical activities for children and youth). During these unprecedented times, the YMCA remains committed to building healthy communities, through programs like these. As a charity, the Y needs help, now more than ever, to continue to serve our communities with innovative and necessary initiatives. Visit [ymcaofceo.ca](http://ymcaofceo.ca) to make a donation and help the YMCA continue to meet the needs of our community.

Our YMCA is still reviewing potential options to offer an in-person summer day camp for children in our respective communities” said Allen. “We are working with the guidelines as outlined by the Ontario Government and consulting with our local Medical Officers of Health to potentially develop a safe plan to deliver a service. As stated in our previous communication with regards to Child Care, we view day camp the same way. **We believe our number one priority is the health and safety** of the children in our day camp program, the health and safety of staff team who

care for your children and the health and safety of you, our families, that choose our YMCA as the place for your child to have that experience.

“We will not compromise, we will not put your children, our staff or our families at risk. We want to ensure that all of the necessary policies and guidelines have been implemented and achieved. We want to ensure our staff understand and trained and that you as parents are with the steps we have taken to meet your expectations that your children will receive the kind of care you have come to expect from our organization. Once we are confident that these things have been achieved, then and only then will we consider opening a summer day camp program,” said Allen.

We thank you for your patience and understanding while we review and plan for a potential summer day camp experience for your children.