

City of St. John's Youth Summer Camps



ST. JOHN'S

Program Information

We would like to extend a warm welcome to participants in the City of St. John's Youth Programs. Our programs are based on Canada's HIGH FIVE® quality standard for children's recreation and sport. We strive to provide youth with a relaxed, safe environment which promotes healthy development with an emphasis on physical activity. HIGH FIVE® is used by organizations across Canada. It helps deliver high quality programs that are safe, welcoming, and respectful to the individual needs of each youth.

The City of St. John's promotes the acceptance and inclusion of all individuals regardless of economic status, national or ethnic origin, religion, culture, body size, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or ability.

Hours of Operation

Varies depending on program.

Visit StJohns.ca/REConnect for all program details.

Ages

12 to 16 years old

Programs

Youth Registered Programs: Summer programs, events, outings, workshops, courses, etc.

Special Events

Youth events throughout the year will be advertised on the City's website and on social media platforms. Events such as the Youth Talent Show and Youth Week take place annually.

Volunteer Opportunities

The junior leader program is available for youth interested in volunteering with the afterschool or summer programs.



■ General Participation

Activities in youth programs will focus on physical activity, fundamental movement and creative exploration. Examples of activities are:

- Team Building Activities
- Cooking and Baking
- Outside and Gym Activities
- Arts and Crafts
- Board Games, Puzzles and Cards
- Outdoor Programs (archery, snowshoeing, etc.)
- Mindfulness activities

Only program staff and registered youth participants within the designated age range are permitted to attend youth programs. While parents, guardians, or siblings may wish to engage with participants, the program is designed exclusively for registered youth. For the safety of all participants, individuals outside the program age range are not permitted in the program space. Exceptions may be made for external individuals only if proper documentation has been submitted and approved by the Program Supervisor.

Youth will be supported and supervised by staff members but must be able to engage independently in programming. A staff-to-participant ratio will be maintained based on previous attendance records to ensure adequate coverage. The goal is a 1:10 ratio, with staff present in all areas where activities are taking place.



■ Registration

Registration occurs online using your RECconnect account or in person at the H.G.R Mews Community Centre or the Paul Reynolds Community Centre.

Please ensure that your RECconnect account is up to date and accurate. It is extremely important that you list allergies or underlying medical conditions prior to attending program.

Please note that not all programs require registration, but it is beneficial to have an account with your youth's information and an emergency contact in case of an emergency while attending a program. There may be a cost associated with some of the registered youth programs depending on the season.

■ Payments & Refunds

A refund is available if submitted 14 days prior to the start of the program. A \$50 non-refundable deposit will be deducted for refund requests per participant, per week.

■ What to Bring

Participants should dress appropriately for the weather and planned activities, notice will be given ahead of time for any activities that require additional clothing, such as swimming or snow activities. During poor weather conditions, please bring indoor footwear. Please ensure all personal items are marked with the participant's name.

- Backpack
- Lunch bag - include healthy lunch and snacks (high sugar refreshments, energy drinks and pop are discouraged)
- Sunblock (SPF 30+)
- Water bottle
- Suitable clothing and footwear for weather (i.e., rain gear, hat, sunglasses, etc.)
- Swimming attire, sandals, towel, goggles (when scheduled)

Please note: electronic devices are not permitted to be used during program time.

■ Arrival and Departure

- Staff will sign in/out participants.
- Staff may email required forms to parents/guardians for completion (e.g., medical information, swimming ability, etc.).
- Some registered programs may require additional documentation, such as permission slips or consent forms to leave the program.
- If there are any medical conditions or concerns staff should be aware of, please contact us before the program begins.
- If a youth is asked to be picked up by parent/guardian, for reasons like illness, building closure, or any other reason that may arise, we ask that the pick-up parent/guardian is someone that is able to promptly arrive to the site.



■ Communications

Your RECconnect account is used by staff to generate contact information for guardians, alternate pick-up lists and medical needs. For the safety of the participant, please ensure this account is up to date with current information. Email or newsletters will be the main method of communication and other relevant information will be posted on the white/bulletin board at each site.

Important: If for any reason a participant will be absent from a registered program, please contact the program directly by phone, text, voicemail or email. (see contact Information).

■ Scheduled and Unexpected Closures

Throughout the year there may be holidays or other reasons that city buildings and offices are closed. There will be no program on those days. If facilities are closed unexpectedly during a program (poor weather, power outage, no water, etc.), the program will be cancelled. Refunds will not be issued for unexpected closures.

■ Managing Illness

Please be mindful of sickness before attending programs.

- Participants must stay home if they feel sick (fever, sore throat, cold symptoms, headache, diarrhea, vomiting, etc).
- Guardians must ensure that any underlying health conditions or any current allergy-related symptoms, are clearly listed.

■ Medications/Allergy Information

Nuts or nut products are not permitted in our program. If a participant requires medication, has allergies or any medical condition please contact us. Prescription medication must be in its original container with the physician's instructions on the label. Over the counter medication will not be administered in the program

■ Contact Information

If you have any general inquiries on Youth Programs, please contact the H.G.R. Mews Community Centre at 709-576-8499 or the Paul Reynolds Community Centre at 709-576-8631 or email recreation@stjohns.ca.



■ Code of Conduct

The City of St. John's, Recreation division, is committed to providing quality programs and services where participants may develop socially, cognitively, physically, and emotionally. The code of conduct has been developed to ensure there is a mutual understanding of what is acceptable behavior and unacceptable behavior. The Recreation division maintains appropriate staff levels and makes every reasonable effort to ensure meaningful participation.

■ Acceptable Behavior

The Recreation division expects that staff, patrons, participants, and guardians exhibit the following behavior while visiting facilities and participating in programs and services::

- **Respect**
- **Kindness**
- **Safety**
- **Honesty**
- **Responsibility**
- **Healthy Choices**



■ Unacceptable Behavior

Behavior with potential to harm oneself, others, property or which would otherwise negatively impact program quality is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Behavioural expectations will be displayed in the facility and discussed with participants on a regular basis. Staff will use discretion to take appropriate action if unacceptable behavior occurs and typical outcomes are listed below:

Procedure for Addressing Unacceptable Behaviour

- Unacceptable behaviour will be discussed with patron/participant.
- Adult patrons/participants will be asked to leave the program/facility.
- Guardians of a child/youth patron/participant will be notified of the unacceptable behavior and will be asked to arrange immediate pick up.

First Occurrence

- The procedure above will be followed.
- Patrons/participants and guardians (if applicable) are encouraged to work with staff to identify solutions to assist the patron/participant in displaying expected behaviors in the future.

Second Occurrence

- The procedure above will be followed.
- The patron/participant may be re-introduced to program/facility following a meeting with guardians (if applicable) to establish an individualized plan to prevent further unacceptable behavior.

Third Occurrence

- The procedure above will be followed.
- The patron/participant may be removed from the program/facility on a part-time or full-time basis

If staff are unable to ensure the safety and well-being of patrons or participants, others, the security of property or program quality, we reserve the right to remove the patron/participant displaying unacceptable behaviour from the program or facility.

■ Inclusive Services

Youth must be able to participate in the program independently, and safely without the requirement of additional staff support unless pre-arranged by the family with Inclusive Services or external respite support.

Support may be available for those who require assistance to participate. When barriers prevent successful participation, Inclusive Services staff may be consulted for recommendations to foster successful participation. To contact Inclusive Services: call 709-576-2574 or 709-576-6972, email inclusion@stjohns.ca or visit our [website](#).

If a youth is attending with a support worker, the coordinator must ensure proper documents have been received, and staff working are aware. If a youth attends the drop-in program that has needs exceeding the capacity of the staff, the guardians must be contacted and a meeting had about additional needs, prior to returning to the program. Recreation Division program staff, including Inclusion Counsellors, are **not** able to support the following:

- Personal care (i.e., toileting, hygiene)
- Feeding
- Extreme behavioural issues (i.e., aggressive behaviour which compromises the safety of the participant, other participants, and staff).