

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City launches new Camp Access program for low-income families

(Barrie, ON) - The City of Barrie is launching Camp Access, a new program that provides eligible youth aged 6-12 an opportunity to participate in an exciting summer camp experience at no cost to families.

Camp Access is intended to remove financial barriers and ensure more Barrie youth have an opportunity to participate in summer camp. Applications are now being accepted for 120 camper spots for this new fee-assistance program.

"We want eligible youth in the City of Barrie to have the opportunity to enjoy a fun, rewarding summer camp experience," said Mayor Alex Nuttall. "This new program is very near and dear to me as it breaks down financial barriers, allowing more of our young people to have the chance to create amazing, positive summer memories to last a lifetime."

Eligible applicants must be permanent, full-time residents of the City of Barrie and have a household income below the maximum qualifying limit (details available at <u>barrie.ca/CampAccess</u>).

Parents/guardians, schools or social service organizations can apply on behalf of a youth for one week of camp which includes:

- Transportation
- A full week of camp activities
- Lunch provided daily

Camps will operate over a six-week period starting July 7, 2025, with locations across the city. Applications will be reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Applicants need to provide documentation confirming they meet the eligibility criteria, which can include letters of support from schools and social service organizations.

The City also offers <u>recACCESS</u>, a separate fee assistance program that provides support to lowincome families and individuals in Barrie by providing qualifying participants with a recPASS membership, and children and youth credits that can be applied to the registration fee for qualifying programs and activities.

For more information about the program, please visit <u>barrie.ca/CampAccess</u>.

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