



# Ruskoka Camp 2008

## Parent's Information Package

**Session #1:** Sunday, July 27th, 2008 – Saturday, August 2nd, 2008  
**Session #2:** Sunday, August 3rd, 2008 – Saturday, August 16th, 2008

Dear parents of Ruskoka campers!

Here is the information you will need to get your child ready for the 2008 Ruskoka summer camp session. We have tried to address as many items as possible but if you have further questions please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us before the camp. We look forward to seeing your child in Ruskoka!

### ARRIVAL

While junior counsellors and essential staff are expected to arrive as early as possible on Saturday, **campers should arrive on Sunday, July 27th, 2008 (Session #1) or Sunday, August 3rd, 2008 (Session #2) after 1:30 p.m.** We ask that there be no early arrivals. If this presents a problem for you, however, please contact us in advance.

Upon arrival we will confirm that the registration form and waiver have been completed as well as finalize any outstanding fees. Your child will also have a brief medical examination conducted by the camp medical officer.

Campers should bring tents. If you do not have a tent and are willing to share, please let us know. Also, if you have room in your tent and wish to share, please let us know.

Campers will be directed to the campsites. Parents are encouraged to assist their children in setting up their tents properly to avoid such situations as possible leakage in case of heavy rain. Parents should not, however, expect to camp overnight.

If Ruskoka has agreed that your children may arrive on a later day please reconfirm the date and approximate time of arrival with us.

### TRANSPORTATION

Ruskoka is about a two hour drive from Toronto and most parents drive their own children up to Ruskoka (directions are given below under "Getting there"). If you need transportation for your child, however, please contact us immediately and we will try to arrange it. Similarly, if you can offer a ride to another camper, let us know so arrangements can be made. There may be a fee paid/received for such transportation.

### DEPARTURE

**The camp will close at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 2nd, 2008 (Session #1) or on Saturday, August 16th, 2008 (Session #2).** There will be a closing ceremony including a church service (moleben) and final lowering of the flag at approximately 1:00 pm. Parents are encouraged to arrive in time for this ceremony and then assist their children in taking down their tents and gathering up personal items. Your help in final camp clean-up at that time, where possible, would also be greatly appreciated.

### MEDICAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION

If your child has any prescription medication, please provide this to staff so that it may be kept by the camp medical officer. If there is an **emergency** situation during camp and you need to contact your child, please call **705-645-3783**. Messages will be checked once a day at around 9 a.m.. Campers will not be able to phone out except in an emergency.

### CAMPER EXPECTATIONS

We hope the camper has a fun-filled and safe time. Campers must:

- attend all church services including daily morning and evening prayers, and Vespers and Liturgies as scheduled
- participate in all planned activities
- respect those in authority and other campers. Disrespectful or disobedient campers will be sent home with no refund of the fee
- refrain from entering the campsite of the opposite sex unless with a counsellor

## WHAT TO BRING

### *Camping items*

- small tent for the camper (or arrange to share); let us know if there is extra space in your tent or if space is needed
- pillow, sleeping bag, extra blanket, mattress or cot as needed
- flashlight, extra batteries
- water bottle or canteen, with a strap or belt, for hiking/biking trips

### *Toiletries*

- biodegradable soap, shampoo and toothpaste
- toothbrush, brush or comb
- 2 towels (face/hand and swimming)
- bug repellent, sun screen (SPF 30+)

### *Clothing and footwear*

- sweater, sweatshirt, jeans, jacket, rain jacket, long sleeve shirt(s)
- t-shirts, shorts, bathing suit
- clothes appropriate for church (skirts for girls, long pants for boys, tops with at least sleeves for both sexes)
- hat or kerchief
- 6 pairs socks and underwear (recommend wool/polypro socks, wool socks for hikes)
- 2 pairs comfortable shoes (running shoes and/or hiking boots)
- water sandals or old running shoes for water activities
- laundry bag for dirty laundry

### *Dress code*

While camping is by nature is informal, Christian modesty should be taken into account when packing for camp. Please note:

- in general, tight clothing is not appropriate
- for girls, items such as string bikinis, short shorts or any tops showing midriff should not be worn
- one piece swimsuits or, at the very least, modest two-piece swimsuits are recommended for water activities
- for boys, no tight speedos please
- no belly rings
- shirts with objectionable slogans, language or graphics are not acceptable.

*Notes: We recommend you mark all clothing with the camper's name. Should campers dress inappropriately, staff has the right to require a change in clothing. Do not bring too many clothes; there will be one laundry day during the camp!*

### *Other*

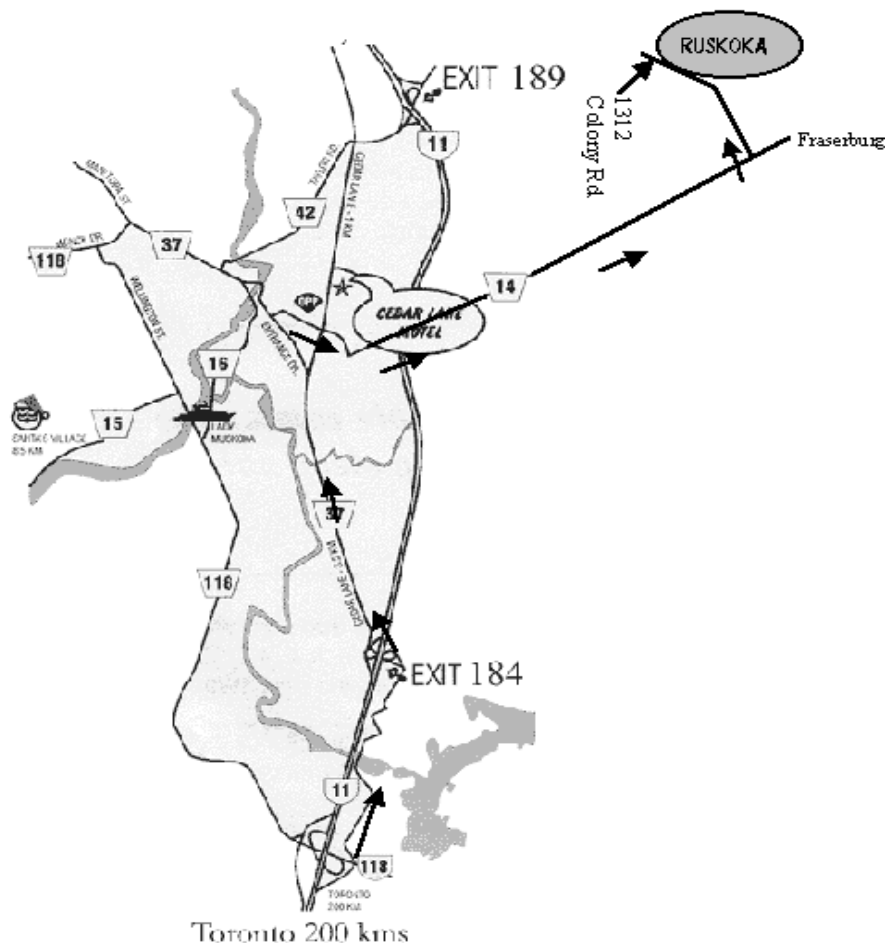
- the camp provides mountain bikes, helmets and lifejackets but **if campers have their own bikes, helmets and lifejackets they are strongly encouraged to bring them**
- each camper will have a small, secure storage bin for personal items; please bring combination locks
- there will be a talent night during the camp; campers should be prepared to perform skits, plays, songs, read poetry – everything creative is encouraged! Bring ideas for rainy day activities, costumes for night games, etc.
- for the campfires, bring your voices and portable musical instruments (such as guitars)
- if you bring a camera, we recommend a disposable one
- fishing rod and tackle for those who want to fish
- enthusiasm and a smile

## Do NOT bring!

- valuables, jewelry or money
- electronic devices such as a radio, walkman, gameboy or cell-phone (there is no mobile service in the camp area)
- alcohol, tobacco (strictly prohibited!)
- dangerous items such as knives, hand axes, fireworks (strictly prohibited!)
- makeup, hairdryers
- sweets, drinks or other snacks - except to share with all campers. **There must not be any food in the tents at any time!** If you bring food you **must** give it to staff for locking up in the Pavilion as it may attract animals such as raccoons, skunks and bears.

## GETTING THERE (from Toronto)

- From Hwy.401, take Hwy.400 North to Barrie (~90 km)
- 10 km past Barrie, where Hwy.400 splits into 400 and 11, exit onto Hwy.11 and continue north to Bracebridge (~80 km)
- Take Exit 184/Cedar Lane; at end of exit ramp, go right/west; follow [37] Cedar Lane until [14] Fraserburg Rd.
- Turn right onto Fraserburg Rd. (ignore No Exit sign) and go about 13.5 km, turn left at Colony Rd. (shortly after the Fraserburg sign)
- Follow Colony Rd. about 2.5 km. The Ruskoka entrance road is at #1312. Turn right and follow the road to the garage on your left where a Ruskoka volunteer will meet you.



**Questions?** Contact Alex Sakuta at 416-232-0829 or by e-mail: [alex@ruskoka.com](mailto:alex@ruskoka.com) [www.ruskoka.com](http://www.ruskoka.com)