

Day 0 - Wednesday November 20

2:30 pm	Arrival and Registration
3:15 pm	Session Z
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Sharing Session – bring some of your favourite shares!
6:00 pm	Dinner and Networking
7:00 pm	Nature songs for kids
8:00 pm	Night Hike, Astronomy (if clear) and Campfire

Day 1 - Thursday November 21

7:30 am	Morning Hike - optional
8:30 am	Breakfast
9:30 - 10:00 am	Arrival & Registration
10:00 am	Welcome and Keynote Speaker
11:30 am	Session A
12:30 pm	Lunch, Networking and Announcements
1:30. - 2:30 pm	Session B
2:30 – 4:00 pm	Session C
4:00 - 5:00 pm	Session D
5:00 pm	Free Time
6:00 pm	Dinner & Watershed Interpreters' Network Awards
8:00 pm	Session E
9:00 pm	Social & Campfire

Day 2 - Friday November 22

7:30 am - 8:30 am	Morning Hike - optional
8:30 am	Breakfast
9:15 am - 10:15 am	Session F
10:15 am - 11:15 am	Session G
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Coffee Break
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Session H
12:30 pm	Lunch & Closing

Schedule

Indoor Session
Outdoor Session
Indoor/Outdoor Session

Wednesday November 20

2:30 pm	Arrival and Registration
3:15 pm	Session Z: EcoHealth Facilitating Health and Wellness through Outdoor Recreation for New Canadians Ashoo Anand (CVC)
4:30 pm	Sharing Session: Bring your favourite indoor/outdoor ACTIVITY or GAME or IDEA to share with other participants! Peer to peer learning is an invaluable part of REKINDLE!
6:00 pm	Dinner & Networking
7:00 am	Music Naturally! Nature songs for kids - concert with Duane Brown
8:00 am	Wonders of the Night Astronomy (if clear) and night hike, campfire

Thursday November 21

Time		
7:30 am	Morning Hike - Optional	
8:30 am	Breakfast	
9:30-10:00 am	Arrival & Registration	
10:00 am	<p>Welcome from Rekindle Committee</p> <p>Challenges and Successes at TDSB Outdoor Centres (20 min)</p> <p>Keynote Address with Cat Criger <i>Visioning Change Through the Lens of Indigenous Philosophies</i></p>	
11:30 am	Session A:	
	Session A1	Session A2
	Connecting to the Land as our Teacher Cat Criger University of Toronto (Mississauga) Indigenous Advisor	<i>Ecohealth</i> Go Fly a Kite! Grant Wilson (NVCA)
12:30 pm	Lunch & Networking	
1:30 pm	Session B: Change Management & Capacity Building	
	Session B1	Session B2
	Ontario Camps Association and Its Role in Outdoor Education Brandon McClounie (YMCA Greater Toronto) and Tracey Ryan (GRCA)	Wildwood Outdoor School Maranda MacKean and Erin Dolmage (UTRCA)
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Session C: Natural Heritage and Biodiversity	
	Session C1	Session C2
	<i>Natural History and Biodiversity</i> Ecology and Geology, Over, Under and In the Niagara Escarpment! Mono Cliffs Staff	<i>Natural Heritage & Biodiversity</i> Wildlife Tracking Tamara Anderson & Ann Schletz (GRCA)

4:00 pm	Session D	
	Session D1	Session D2
	<i>Conservation & Stewardship</i> Frontline: Changes to CVC's Youth Leadership program over the years Adam Wilford & Carly Ellah (CVC)	<i>Capacity Building and Change Management</i> Trade or Consequences Bonnie Anderson (Simcoe County District School Board)
5:00 pm	Free time & Networking	
6:00 pm	Dinner & Watershed Interpreter's Network (WIN) Awards Ceremony	
8:00 pm	Session E: Natural Heritage & Biodiversity	
	Session E1	
	<i>Natural Heritage and Biodiversity</i> Owls, Stars, Coyotes and More Dan Schneider (Halton)	
9:00 pm	Social & Campfire	

Friday November 22

7:30 am	Morning Hike - Optional	
8:30 am	Breakfast	
9:15 am	Session F	
	Session F1	Session F2
	<i>Ecohealth</i> Building Community through Adventure Shawn Stetson (AdventureWorks Associates, Inc.) 90 min session	<i>Project WET</i> Active lessons to teach the importance of water Naomi Saunders (NVCA)
10:15 am	Session G	
	Session F1 Continued	Session G2
	Sharing Session (10:45 am - 11:15 am) Bring your favourite indoor/outdoor ACTIVITY or GAME or IDEA to share with other participants! Peer to peer learning is an invaluable part of REKINDLE!	<i>Natural Heritage & Biodiversity</i> 1) Bright Spot: Phosphorus 101 – Engaging Youth to Create Change Melissa Levi (SCRCA) <i>Change Management & Capacity Building</i> 2) Bright Spot: From Early Settler to Indigenous - a Reinterpretation of the John R. Park Homestead CA Site Kristin Ives (ERCA)
11:15 am	Coffee Break	
11:30 am	Session H	
	Session H1	Session H2
	<i>Climate Change</i> Focus on Flooding: 'Escape Rooms' and STEM Programs Karlee Flear (UTRCA)	<i>Natural Heritage and Biodiversity</i> Our Invertebrates – Live and Preserved Local Invertebrates of Ontario Shelby Paxton (Inverte-Logic)
12:30 pm	Lunch & Closing	

Session Descriptions

Session Z

Z: How to Facilitate Health and Wellness through Outdoor Recreation for New Canadians

Empirical research indicates that connecting Canadians with nature is becoming challenging with fewer adults and children spending time in nature as compared to their previous generations. This lack of nature connectedness is more apparent in the diverse cultural communities. Immigrants, whether they are living in Canada for a while or have recently arrived, often have no connections with their local natural environment. Most of the times they don't even know the name of the river that flows through their neighborhood or what is a conservation area and what one can do in such natural areas? Their engagement with outdoor nature is very limited due to barriers such as inaccessibility of such areas, language, transportation, financial constraints, and general lack of awareness. However, spending time in nature is critical for their physiological and psychological wellbeing while fostering appreciation and increased awareness about Canadian natural areas. Thus, it is important that we look into new and unique ways of engagement to connect, inspire, and involve multicultural Canadians in outdoor nature activities to promote health and well-being. This presentation will share some insights into engaging multicultural audiences in outdoor nature based programs.

Session A

A1: Connecting to the Land as Our Teacher

Can a turtle be a textbook? Experience Indigenous philosophies outdoors and learn how connecting to Indigenous pedagogies can complement your path as an educator. Please consider bringing a chair or blanket as we will be stationary for a part of this session.

A2: Go Fly a Kite

Harness the power of the wind. Learn how to build and fly a simple kite.

Session B: Change Management

B1: Ontario Camps Association and Its Role in Outdoor Education

This presentation will provide more information on how the Ontario Camps Association (OCA) and the OCA's Outdoor Education Committee is building from the solid overnight and day camp foundation to better include and represent Outdoor Education Centres and programs across the province. Through a series of consultations with key industry stakeholders the committee will better shape the standards, services, and professional development opportunities that intersect with outdoor education.

B2: Wildwood Outdoor School

Wildwood Outdoor School (WOS) is a model designed to foster learning, comfort, and growth in nature's classroom. Classes participate in multi-visit outdoor and environmental education using experiential, integrated, and collaborative methods of implementations. This model is supported by student driven learning, exploration time, sensory immersion and curriculum connected experiences.

WOS is available to Kindergarten - Grade 6. These years are key for learning how to love and relate to the natural world. This appreciation is the basis for the expression of stewardship and sustainable behaviours later in life. Students build knowledge over the course of their visits, connecting classroom learning with a lived experience.

Session C: Natural History and Biodiversity

C1: Ecology and Geology, Over, Under and In the Niagara Escarpment!

Students will explore forest and field ecosystems while hiking in Mono Cliffs Provincial Park, adjacent to our centre. Students hike to the fossil-filled Dolomite cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment in Mono Cliffs Provincial Park. They will learn about mineral and rock formation, the rock cycle, weathering and erosion. In this unique habitat, recognized as a Biosphere Reserve, connections can be made about abiotic and biotic interactions.

C2: Wildlife Tracking

Bring out your wild side! In this session, we will look for tracks and sign of local wildlife. We will discuss and share some best practices for taking students on tracking adventures.

Session D:

D1: Frontline: Changes to CVC's Youth Leadership program over the years

This session will introduce participants to CVC's less-known youth leadership program called Frontline. It will outline the lessons learned, barriers, struggles, and how it has changed over the years. Frontline started in 2011 as a means to continue engaging youth from the popular Conservation Youth Corps program throughout the school year. The program started with very few participants and only a few meetings per year, to a more structured program that engages more than 50 students in monthly meetings focused around a single new theme each year. The program pushes students to take on a leadership role within their communities.

D2: Trade or Consequences

Play a revamp of the Trappers and Traders program from an Indigenous perspective. Learn what happens when ecosystems are out of balance and stress of resource extraction and land appropriation are happening in the area.

Written in consultation with local elders, this program gives you another side of the story. This program can be used in outdoor education centres or school yards – come and see how the balance in the environment comes with challenges.

Session E

E1: Owls, Stars, Coyotes and More: Nature Interpretation in the Dark

During this night-time meander we will explore and share the skills and excitement of night-time interp! We'll gaze at the night sky, hoot and whistle for owls, and howl for coyotes! Please come with ideas that have worked on your night hikes, or just come and learn!

Session F

F1: Building Community through Adventure

Whether on the trail or in a classroom, adventure-based activities are great “tools” that can be used to help groups make positive connections and build healthy communities. In this highly interactive workshop you will learn and play a variety of adventure-based activities that you can integrate into your programming that can help build community with participants.

F2: Project WET

Project WET is a hands-on, inquiry-based, interdisciplinary program full of fun learning activities. This sampler is a taste of the full five-hour program and participants will receive a 30-page booklet with five activities in it. After a brief introduction on how to use the book while inside, please be prepared to be outside for the majority of the program and have some fun playing games designed to introduce participants to the importance of water.

Project WET is sponsored in Canada by the Canadian Water Resources Association. CWRA is a national non-profit, voluntary organization composed of individuals and organizations from the public, private and academic sectors that are committed to raise awareness of the value of water and to promote responsible and effective water resource management in Canada.

Session G

G1:

1) Phosphorus 101 – Engage Youth to Create Change

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority wants to share the challenges & successes experienced when developing this secondary level in-school program. Developed in tandem with the ‘Sydenham Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan’, this program introduces students to the environmental issues created by phosphorus loading in Lake Erie. After receiving an introduction, students are led through an Innovation, Creativity, Entrepreneurship training session, brainstorming solutions to the excess phosphorus problem. This program offers a platform for the youth voice to be heard among their peers, within the watershed & is also reported to our Federal funding partners.

2) From Early Settler to Indigenous - a Reinterpretation of the John R. Park Homestead CA Site

The John R. Park Homestead CA is an authentic early settler homestead, featuring an 1842 house and ten period outbuildings on the shore of Lake Erie. Traditionally, the site has hosted a very popular pioneer maple syrup program in February and March of each year. This past year, we were approached by the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board's Indigenous Education Lead to develop a pilot education program, interpreting the Indigenous pre-contact history of our region, including the origin of maple making, for grade 4/5 students. The Education Team was unsure of how to undertake such a momentous interpretive task respectfully and accurately, while working with a small budget and a short timeline. With the guidance of the Indigenous Education Lead, the hosting of Collaborative Inquiry

sessions for participating teachers, and the support of many community partners, a program was developed and delivered to over 200 students. The pilot program was a major success - challenging and inspiring our education staff, while engaging and educating students in a new way in our 19 acre conservation area. The successes have continued far beyond the parameters of the programs delivered.

Session H

H1: Our Invertebrates – Live and Preserved Local Invertebrates of Ontario

Inverte-logic is dedicated to spreading awareness on local invertebrates and sustainable solutions involving them. We will discuss facts about different groups of invertebrates such as beetles, arachnids, worms and more as well as how you can support invertebrates in your own backyard. See local invertebrates up close with our collection of over 50 different species of preserved invertebrates! If you've ever wondered about the bugs found here in Ontario, then this show is for you.

H2: Focus on Flooding: Escape Rooms and STEM programs

Flooding is the most common and costliest natural disaster in Canada and with climate change upon us the threat and impacts of flooding are only expected to worsen. With funding from the National Disaster Mitigation Program, the UTRCA education team created a suite of programs and tools designed to teach students and the public all about flooding - causes, impacts, structures, mapping and mitigation. During this presentation we will highlight the tools that were created and how they are used in the Flooding "Escape Room" and our Flooding STEM programs.

Presenter Bios

1. Ashoo Anand, Credit Valley Conservation

In her role as the Senior Coordinator, Multicultural Outreach, for Credit Valley Conservation, Ashoo has been involved in connecting and building partnerships with the community-based organizations in the Peel region. Being an immigrant, she understands the challenges newcomers face in Canada and their lack of connectivity with their local natural environment. Through her programs she is engaging linguistically and culturally diverse communities in environmental education and awareness

2. Cat Criger, University of Toronto (Mississauga)

Cat Criger is an Indigenous Elder, Traditional Teacher and Knowledge Keeper. He is from the Cayuga Nation, Turtle Clan, as well as having some German and English ancestry. Cat was taught through traditional methods to use Indigenous pedagogies, perspectives and philosophies when working with people. Cat has been working as an Indigenous Teacher and Knowledge Keeper for almost 30 years. He is a healer, spiritual dreamer and pipe carrier. Under the guidance of an Indigenous Elder from the Anishinaabe Nation, Cat learned traditional ceremonies, teachings, circles, counselling, healing with plant medicines and uses these gifts to help all people to 'walk in a good way' through life. Cat has worked as an Elder and advisor in many Indigenous Agencies across the GTA, Government Ministries including Health, Education and Transportation and the public and corporate sectors in Ontario and Canada. He is active in the inter-faith and inter-cultural communities. He was a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal for his work, speaking to diversity, equity, respect for women, anti-racism and anti-oppression. Presently Cat holds the position of Indigenous Advisor and is steward of the Indigenous Centre at the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus. He is also a Sessional Instructor and lectures in multiple faculties at the University of Toronto. Cat's focus and vision for life is to help build a world based on inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogues. This will require trusting relationships and strong bridges between all cultures. Most importantly we will need to listen to one another with our hearts. *"I believe we have a lot of work ahead of us."*

3. Grant Wilson, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Grant Wilson - Outdoor Educator, builder, and enthusiast for opportunities to understand the world through invention.

4. Tamara Anderson and Ann Schletz, Grand River Conservation Authority

Tamara Anderson and Ann Schletz are outdoor educators with the Grand Conservation Authority.

5. Brandon McClounie and Tracey Ryan

Brandon McClounie is the current Chair of the OCA Outdoor Education Committee. Tracey Ryan, with the Grand River Conservation Authority, is a member of the OCA Outdoor Education Committee.

6. Maranda MacKean, Community Education Specialist, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Erin Dolmage, Community Education Technician, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Erin and Maranda have both been teaching outdoor and environmental education for over 20 years and thoroughly love their jobs!

7. Adam Willford, Credit Valley Conservation

Adam Willford is the Acting Senior Coordinator, Community Outreach at Credit Valley Conservation, where he leads the Frontline, Conservation Youth Corps, and Branch Out programs. Adam started at CVC in 2010, and has held a variety of roles within the Community Outreach team since then.

8. Carly Ellah, Credit Valley Conservation

Carly Ellah is a Coordinator of the Branch Out program at Credit Valley Conservation. Carly started at CVC in 2015 and has had many roles including Aquatic Restoration Technician, Watershed Monitoring Technician and CYC Crew Leader. Carly is a passionate about connecting children and youth to nature.

9. Bonnie Anderson, Simcoe County District School Board

Bonnie is the Outdoor Environmental Education and Healthy Active Living Coordinator for the Simcoe County District School Board. She facilitates outdoor and experiential programs to help others create experiences in their communities and beyond their schoolyards.

10. Dan Schneider, Halton Conservation

Dan Schneider (aka Dan the Nature Man) is a sometimes nocturnal nature interpreter with Conservation Halton.

11. Shawn Stetson, Adventureworks Associates, Inc.

Shawn is the Vice President, Programs at Adventureworks. He has been facilitating experiential and adventure-based programs for well over two decades. He has worked with a wide range of clientele including educators, students, corporate and professional teams, adjudicated and vulnerable youth, and recreation-based programs. His experience direction and managing programs at Camp Maple Leaf, Camp Trillium, YMCA Cedar Glen, Trails Youth Initiatives, and Camp Quality, has involved training, developing, and supervising various staff teams.

Shawn is a graduate of Seneca College's Outdoor Recreation Technician and Algonquin College's Recreation Leadership programs, and he holds a Bachelor of Independent Studies from the University of Waterloo. Shawn has also been a contributing member of the Mohawk College Program Advisory Committee and the Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario's board of directors. He has presented internationally at both the Association for Experiential Education, and Association for Challenge Course Technology conferences.

12. Naomi Saunders, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Naomi Saunders is the Manager of Environmental Education for the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) working out the Tiffin Centre for Conservation. Naomi started at the NVCA in 2009,

and works within a variety of programs. She believes that getting people outside and connecting with nature is the most important work we do as Environmental Educators.

13. Melissa Levi, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

Melissa Levi has been with St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for over 7 years, but has been actively involved with outdoor education since 2005. Melissa is passionate about innovation; enjoys building partnerships & dreaming up new ways to engage her students.

14. Kristin Ives, Essex Region Conservation Authority

Kristin Ives is the Curator/Education Coordinator for the Essex Region Conservation Authority. Kristin has worked for the Conservation Authority since 2000 in a variety of roles including: Assistant Curator, Event Coordinator, Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Remedial Action Plan Assistant, and as the Curator/Education Coordinator since 2014. Kristin serves as the Chair of the Southwestern Ontario Heritage Council, as a Board Member of the Ontario Historical Society, and as the Chair of the Society's Museums Committee. Kristin grew up in the Hillman Marsh Conservation Area and spends most of her time interpreting the human and natural history of the Essex Region both at work, and outside of work.

15. Karlee Flear, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Karlee Flear is the Community Education Supervisor at the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority. Before working for the Upper Thames, she studied Environmental Education at Simon Fraser University, Aquatic Ecology and Climate Change at Queen's University and Environmental Science at Western University. In her spare time she enjoys travelling and making pottery.

16. Shelby Paxton – Inverte-Logic

Hi, my name is Shelby Paxton and I'm the founder of Inverte-Logic, an invertebrate-based outreach program! This business is rooted in a childhood love for bugs when as a kid, I would wander into fields to catch butterflies and tiger beetles with my sister. This passion for invertebrates has pushed me to become a biology student at the University of Waterloo. It has even landed me positions with the entomology department of Agriculture Agri-food Canada and working with ladybugs and aphids for a professor at my university. I am so excited to get the chance to speak to people about invertebrates through Inverte-Logic as I hope to inspire other people to be passionate about them as well!