

“Inherent Risks” of outdoor activities shall mean those dangers or conditions which are an integral part of outdoor activities, including, but not limited to:

1. The effect of inclement weather on outdoor activities, causing hazardous conditions at activity sites, such as lightning, precipitation, temperature, cold weather, and the effects thereof.
2. Environmental risks unique to each activity, such as the presence of water and water hazards, trees and roots, loose rocks or holds, and fire and wild animals such as cougars and bears.
3. Activities are also performed at various heights and water based activities contain some element of risk, regardless of safety measures taken.
4. The potential risk for equipment failure, even when used according to manufacturer’s guidelines.
5. The potential risk a participant acts in a negligent manner in a group or individual activity that may contribute to injury to the participant or others, such as participating in activities in an unauthorized manner or without proper supervision, instruction, or safety measures and equipment.

All YMCA Camp Elphinstone programs are challenge by choice which means participants are able to limit their participation in any way they deem appropriate.

YMCA Camp Elphinstone Risk Management

Here is a short list of points that are part of our larger risk management approach:

- Staff have program-appropriate First Aid certification and training.
- All Staff and volunteers have Criminal Reference checks.
- All YMCA Camp Staff participate in a minimum of 40 hours of staff training.
- YMCA of Greater Vancouver trains staff on Child Protection and performs annual audits of training.
- YMCA Camp Elphinstone is accredited by the BC Camping Association, and has regular accreditation audits.
- YMCA Camp Elphinstone participates in regular accreditation visits, and program inspections including annual high ropes inspections.
- Training for high ropes and climbing is provided to our staff by professionals in the industry.
- Specialized certifications are required by staff in areas such as climbing, waterfront activities, lifeguarding, driving and high ropes.
- All participant surveys are reviewed by YMCA Management.
- YMCA Camp Elphinstone receives support and oversight by the YMCA Manager, Enterprise Risk Management.

Contact Us

We encourage participants/families to share questions or comments concerning risk management at YMCA Camp Elphinstone. Please feel free to speak with a Camp Director/Manager about any aspect of the inherent risks of camping, and about our risk management plan.

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