

# Youth Leadership Paddle Program

## July 1-13, 2019

Dear Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw Community,

Sea to Cedar is excited to offer a third season of the **Youth Leadership Paddle Program** this summer from July 1 - 13, 2019! We have expanded our team and are thrilled to announce that Alana Coon has joined us as Community Liaison for our Paddle Program. Her role will especially focus on communication with youth and caregivers about the application process and in-community program support. We are also very lucky to have Juliana Speier join us as our summer Intern.

More good news! We received funding to deliver increased language and culture programming, as well as a health and wellness component. We have partnered with Akala Society, an outdoor education non-profit operated by a group of Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw women (Julia McIntyre-Smith, Lindsey Willie, Jessica Key, Alana Coon, and Sherry Moon), who will be bringing a cultural component to the program. We will also be adding a counsellor role to support the health and wellness programming.

This year, the Youth Leadership Paddling Program is a 13-day intermediate program, including a 10-day canoe expedition, for Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw (MD) youth, aged 13-18. As always, it is offered at no cost to families.

Centred out of Gwayasdums, youth spend two days developing their canoe skills, then depart for ten days on a canoe camping expedition in their territory. Our route this summer will be paddling from Gilford Village to Bond Sound (with a boat ride back to the village). The trip culminates in a graduation celebration supported by the community.

The program is aimed to provide Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw youth with certifiable

canoeing skills and leadership training. No previous paddling experience is required and all comfort levels are welcomed! If you participated last year, please apply again! We are happy to have any previous participants join the group.

There is **no fee** for participants; however, some gear will be required. If needed, the program will help participants find the necessary gear. No one will be turned away because they do not own gear!

To be eligible for the program, there is an application process (see Application Form, pages 4-5). If you prefer to answer the questions over the phone, we can make that possible. Phone calls are to be scheduled before the application deadline and **all applications are due June 5th.**

If you have any questions about the program or with the application process, please feel free to contact **Alana Coon**, our Paddle Program Community Liaison at 250-974-4481 or by email: [alanacoon@hotmail.com](mailto:alanacoon@hotmail.com)

For more information about the program, you can go to Sea to Cedar's website at <http://www.seatocedar.org/youth-leadership-paddle-program>

Many thanks!

- *The Paddle Team*

**Instructor:** Shawn Kangro, Paddle Canada

**Assistant Instructor:** Julia McIntyre-Smith

**Community Liaison:** Alana Coon

**Program Intern:** Juliana Speier

**Program Coordinator:** Jenni Schine

## Program Details

**Dates:** July 1 - 13, 2019

**Ages:** 13 -18

**Objectives:** Learn how to safely and responsibly use the ocean environment and outdoors in general for recreational, educational, or leadership use. Learn about the ocean environment with respect to canoe travel: navigation, wind/waves, rescue, weather, tides, chart/compass, tarps/knots. Leadership, safety, and risk management.

Participants can expect the course to be both fun and challenging. This program will start early in the morning, and continue late into the evening. It will require patience, teamwork, and a strong work ethic. Everyone is welcomed and no previous paddling experience is required.

### **Paddle Canada Skills Certifications:**

- **Intermediate Tandem Lake Canoe** – 1.5 days  
Technical canoe paddling skills – (strokes and maneuvers), forward paddling, tight pivot turns, side slipping with limited bow or stern turning, stopping skills, tighter turning, reverse paddling, and bracing.
- **Intermediate Coastal Canoe** – 10 days, 9 nights paddling on the ocean. Expedition style (e.g. camping at a different site each night).

### **Itinerary (food & gear is included on trip):**

- Mon 1 July → Boat to Gwa'yasdám's from Port McNeill (exact time TBA).  
Introduction to program and each other. Gear check & preparation.
- Tues 2 July → All day flat water paddling skills (8am-5pm).
- Wed 3 July → Paddle skills in the morning, depart on expedition at noon.
- Thurs 4 - Tues 9 July → On expedition.
- Wed 10 July → Expedition and arrive in Bond Sound
- Thurs 11 July → Day in Bond Sound
- Fri 12 July → Water taxi from Bond Sound to Gwa'yasdám's, Graduation Celebration & lunch. Clean gear
- Sat 13 July → Finish clean up and depart for Port McNeill (exact

time TBA).

## Youth Leadership Paddle Program

### Application Form

Dear Applicants,

We would like to know more about you, your interests in the Youth Leadership Paddle Program, and your comfort levels on the water!

Please fill out the following questions and submit them to Alana Coon at [alanacoon@hotmail.com](mailto:alanacoon@hotmail.com). If you prefer to answer the questions over the phone, please email Alana to schedule a **phone meeting anytime before the application deadline** (Alana is available most days before 5pm). **Applications are due June 5th.**

With warm wishes,

- *The Paddle Team*

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#### YOUTH CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nation: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nation: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. Why are you interested in this program?

2. What inspires you about being out on the land in your territory?



3. What skills do you hope to gain?

4. Previous paddling experience isn't necessary for this program. If you have paddled before, what is your experience? How comfortable are you out on the water? Any concerns?

5. Please describe any camping/bush experience that you have.