



YMCA Calgary Camp Chief Hector YMCA Summer Camp

PIONEER 14 AND 15Y – MAIN-SITE

PROGRAM OPTIONS:

14Y: Canoe

14Y: Hike

14-15Y: Lake Canoe/Hike *NEW!*

15Y: River Canoe/Hike OR Alpine Hike/Canoe



Pioneer campers have many program options to choose from, but all include a chance to make new friends, work as a team, and learn about wilderness camping. Young people interested in meeting new friends and learning new skills through wilderness travel will find any of these options an enriching 13-day camping experience. They develop teamwork skills and responsibility while expanding their knowledge of backcountry travel.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Campers will be based from tipis at our main-site near the Outtripping Centre. They will find that many of their activities are nearby, and it is only a short walk to Hector Lodge where they eat meals.
- They will participate in a variety of on-site camp activities such as high ropes, archery and waterfront activities.
- Pioneer campers help plan, prepare for, and participate in **two** backcountry adventures. **Every Pioneer group will participate in both a canoe and hike trip**, the length of the trips shifts between the program options. The groups may either canoe or hike first.
- Experienced, qualified, and friendly staff members
 - o 40-Hour Wilderness-oriented First Aid
 - o Satellite Telephone & First Aid Treatment and Evacuation Guidelines
 - o 10 days of staff training including group leadership and risk management
 - o Prior experience in the region AND/OR specific reference to previous trip reports
 - o Paddle Alberta Tandem River Instructor or Paddle Alberta Flatwater Instructor (or other provincial equivalents), and Canoe River Rescue Workshop
- These Pioneer programs build on the Kananaskin programs, specifically the hike or canoe options, but any of the Kananaskin programs feed directly into Pioneer programs at either Main-Site or Gray Jay.
 - o It is not necessary to have participated in previous years' programs, however some skills, knowledge, and comfort level with outdoor learning and living is always welcome!
 - o Previous experience with multi-day backcountry trips is not necessary.
 - o Each year campers can expect to review and learn new skills and leadership strategies. This includes their role in risk management, safe cook site practices, group meal planning, communicating with team mates, self-confidence, and increasing their abilities to lead peers both directly and indirectly.
- Basic fitness and a positive attitude are important to making this a fantastic experience.

Click for the [Pioneer packing list](#).

Building healthy communities



PIONEER 14Y HIKE

Campers in this program will develop their hiking, canoeing and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their six (6) days tripping experience.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals for both their backpacking and canoe experiences. They will have the opportunity to be a leader within their tipi group as they help facilitate games and take turns leading the group during their trip.

6-Day Hiking Trip:

- The group will share practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Some topics of risk management the group will discuss include wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, rock fall, snowfields, weather systems, creek/river crossings and identifying/avoiding exposure to heights.
- The hiking trips depart Camp Chief Hector YMCA by bus, van or truck and travel to hiking trails within Kananaskis Country, Banff National Park, or adjacent lands.
- The hikes average from 5 to 15 kilometers daily, on and off trails, through forests, and beside mountain creeks and lakes. The groups may gain anywhere from 200 to 900 meters in elevation along the way. Camping sites are situated by mountain forests, creeks or lakes. Side trips may include exploration of viewpoints, mountain passes, waterfalls or hike-approached summits.
- Back at camp, the Pioneer campers share stories and successes with their fellow Pioneers

Canoe Development:

- Groups spend time on local Chilver Lake and nearby Seebe Recreation Area (dependent on skill and comfort levels of all group members) practicing, reviewing, and developing river skills. The group's strengths are assessed, they discuss river hazards (such as changes in weather, entrapment in shoreline vegetation or equipment, foot entrapment) and ways to reduce these hazards.
- Campers spend some time in our pool swimming, where comfort in water can be assessed.

PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 14Y FEMALE \$1345 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 14Y MALE \$1345 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 2 - 14	120136	1	Jul 2 - 14	120137
2	Jul 16 - 28	120192	2	Jul 16 - 28	120193
3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120250	3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120251
4	Aug 13 - 25	120288	4	Aug 13 - 25	120289



PIONEER 14Y CANOE

Campers in this program will develop their hiking, canoeing and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their six (6) days tripping experience.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals for both their hiking and canoe experiences. They will have the opportunity to be a leader within their tipi group as they help facilitate games and take turns leading the group during their trip.

Hiking Development:

- Groups will participate in a day hike as an introduction to practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Some topics of risk management the group will discuss include wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, rock fall, snowfields, weather systems, creek/river crossings and identifying/avoiding exposure to heights

Canoe Development and Trip:

- Campers will embark on their journey on the Red Deer River, North Saskatchewan River or another age/skill appropriate river.
- Before leaving the groups spend time on local Chilver Lake and nearby Seebe Recreation Area practicing, reviewing, and developing river skills. The group's strengths are assessed, river hazards discussed (such as changes in weather, entrapment in shoreline vegetation or equipment, foot entrapment) and ways to reduce these hazards.
- Campers will also spend some time in our pool swimming, where comfort in water can be assessed.
- The canoe trip typically explores between 10 and 35 kilometers of the river each day. These rivers run at a grade 1 to 2+ rate, and groups scout rapids wherever necessary, in order to decide how best to proceed.
- Back at camp, campers have the chance to once again share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 14Y FEMALE \$1345 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 14Y MALE \$1345 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 2 - 14	120190	1	Jul 2 - 14	120134
2	Jul 16 - 28	120286	2	Jul 16 - 28	120248
3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120769	3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120771
4	Aug 13 - 25	120770	4	Aug 13 - 25	120772



PIONEER 14-15Y LAKE CANOE/HIKE

5 DAYS TOTAL TRIPPING EXPERIENCE (2 Canoe / 3 Hike)

Campers in this program will develop their hiking, canoeing and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their five (5) days total tripping experience. This program is great for first time campers or those that are still developing as young leaders/trippers. This should be highly considered for campers who are anxious/nervous for longer or more challenging hiking and canoeing trips.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals for both their backpacking and canoe trip. They will have the opportunity to be a leader within their tipi group as they help facilitate games and take turns leading the group during their two trips.

2-Day Lake Canoe Trip:

- Campers will embark on their canoe journey on Lake Minnewanka, located in Banff National Park
- Before leaving the groups spend time on local Chilver Lake practicing, reviewing, and developing paddle skills. The group's strengths are assessed and they discuss possible hazards (such as changes in weather, entrapment in shoreline vegetation or equipment, foot entrapment) as well as ways to reduce these hazards.
- Campers spend some time in our pool swimming, where comfort in water can be assessed.
- This canoe trip will allow campers time to explore the lake and enjoy a day hike nearby their lakeside campsite.
- Back at camp, campers have the chance to once again share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

3-Day Hiking Trip:

- Groups share practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Some topics of risk management the group will discuss include wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, rock fall, snowfields, weather systems, creek/river crossings and identifying/avoiding exposure to heights.
- The trips depart Camp Chief Hector YMCA by bus, van or truck and travel to hiking trails within Kananaskis Country, Banff National Park, or adjacent lands. The hikes average from 5 to 15 kilometers daily, on trails and off trails, through forests, and beside mountain creeks and lakes. The groups may gain anywhere from 200 to 900 meters in elevation along the way. Camping sites are situated by mountain forests, creeks or lakes. Side trips may include exploration of viewpoints, mountain passes, waterfalls or hike-approached summits.
- Back at camp, the Pioneer campers share stories and successes with their fellow Pioneers!

PIONEER (MAINSITE) LAKE CANOE / HIKE 14-15Y FEMALE \$1345 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) LAKE CANOE / HIKE 14-15Y MALE \$1345 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 2 - 14	120776			
			2	Jul 16 - 28	120778
3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120777			
			4	Aug 13 - 25	120779



PIONEER 15Y RIVER CANOE / HIKE OR ALPINE HIKE / CANOE

9 DAYS TOTAL TRIPPING EXPERIENCE (6 canoe / 3 hike OR 6 hike / 3 canoe)

The campers in these two programs will develop their hiking, canoeing, and leadership skills during their time at Camp. They will participate in two trips, canoe and hike, totaling 9 days in the back country during their 13-day session at camp. Campers will register for their 9 tripping days to be hike or canoe focus. That focus will determine the length of their trips. The learning outcomes remain the same for both options, but campers will have more opportunity for growth within their area of focus, whether that be a longer canoe excursion or hike.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals for both their backpacking trip and canoe experiences. They will have the opportunity to be a leader within their tipi group as they help facilitate games and take turns leading the group during their two trips as well as when they are on main-site.

A) RIVER CANOE / HIKE

6-Day Canoe Experience:

- Before leaving the groups spend time on local Chilver Lake and nearby Seebe Recreation Area practicing, reviewing, and developing river skills. The group's strengths are assessed, river hazards discussed (such as changes in weather, entrapment in shoreline vegetation or equipment, foot entrapment) and ways to reduce these hazards.
- Campers will also spend some time in our pool swimming, where comfort in water can be assessed.
- Campers will embark on their second journey on the Red Deer River, North Saskatchewan River or another age/skill appropriate river, this trip will span for 4 days.
- The canoe trip typically explores between 10 and 35 kilometers of the river each day. These rivers run at a grade 1 to 2+ rate, and groups scout rapids wherever necessary, in order to decide how best to proceed.
- Back at camp, campers have the chance to once again share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

3-Day Hiking Trip:

- After arriving at camp and meeting one another, groups share their mountain backpacking trip goals. They share practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Some topics of risk management the group will discuss include wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, rock fall, weather systems, creek crossings and identifying/avoiding exposure to heights.
- The mountain trips depart Camp Chief Hector YMCA by bus, van or truck and travel to hiking trails within Kananaskis Country, Bow Valley Provincial Park, or adjacent lands. The hikes average from 5 to 15 kilometers daily, on trails and off trails, through forests, and beside mountain creeks and lakes. The groups may gain anywhere from 200 to 900 meters in elevation along the way. Side trips may include exploration of viewpoints, mountain passes, waterfalls or hike-approached summits.
- Back at camp, campers have the chance to share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

B) ALPINE HIKE / CANOE FOCUS

6-Day Hiking Trip:

- The group will share practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Some topics of risk management the group will discuss include wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, identifying and avoiding exposure to heights, rock fall, snowfields, weather systems and creek/river crossings.



YMCA Calgary

Camp Chief Hector YMCA Summer Camp

- The mountain trips depart Camp Chief Hector YMCA by bus or van and travel to hiking trails within Kananaskis Country, Banff National Park or adjacent lands. The hikes average from 5 to 15 kilometers daily, on trails and off trails, through forests, and beside mountain creeks and lakes. The groups may gain anywhere from 200 to 900 meters in elevation along the way. Camping sites are situated by mountain forests, creeks or lakes. Side trips may include exploration of viewpoints, mountain passes, waterfalls or hike-approached summits.
- Back at camp, the Pioneer hikers share stories and successes with their fellow Pioneers and enjoy other camp activities.

3-Day Canoe Development:

- There will be opportunities for these campers to participate in day trips, and experiences on local waterways to expose them to new technical skills to help prepare these campers for future canoe trips, such as the Leadership program. Groups spend time on local Chilver Lake and nearby Seebe Recreation Area practicing, reviewing, and developing river skills. The group's strengths are assessed, they discuss river hazards (such as changes in weather, entrapment in shoreline vegetation or equipment, foot entrapment) and ways to reduce these hazards.
- Campers also spend some time in our pool swimming, where comfort in water can be assessed.

PIONEER (MAINSITE) RIVER CANOE / HIKE 15Y FEMALE \$1495 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) RIVER CANOE / HIKE 15Y MALE \$1495 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 2 - 14	120135			
			2	Jul 16 - 28	120191
3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120249			
			4	Aug 13 - 25	120287

PIONEER (MAINSITE) ALPINE HIKE / CANOE 15Y FEMALE \$1495 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) ALPINE HIKE / CANOE 15Y MALE \$1495 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
			1	Jul 2 - 14	120138
2	Jul 16 - 28	120194			
			3	Jul 30 - Aug 11	120252
4	Aug 13 - 25	120290			