



## **PIONEER 14 AND 15Y – MAIN-SITE**

### **PROGRAM OPTIONS:**

**14Y: Canoe**

**14Y: Hike**

**14-15Y: Mountain Arts \*NEW\***

**15Y: Hike**

**15Y: Canoe**



Pioneer campers have many program options from which to choose. All camps 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. Campers will 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. Many of their activities areas 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 which they will decide and schedule as a team.
- Pioneer campers help plan, prepare for, and participate in a series of experiences designed to build campers' confidence, skill set, and comfort in the backcountry and stream.
- Experienced, qualified, and friendly staff members have these skills and supports
  - 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, and campers are free to choose from the Main-site or Gray Jay options.
  - 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 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.



# YMCA Calgary

## Camp Chief Hector YMCA Summer Camp

- Campers will develop their leadership skills by being “leaders of the day” pairs during their program. There will also be many informal opportunities for leadership and working within a team.

Read the [Pioneer packing list](#).

### PIONEER 14Y HIKE

Campers in this program will develop their hiking and leadership skills during their time on-site and during their hiking experience.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals during the camp program, which includes a day hike, an overnight camping trip and a five-day hike. 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 trips.

#### Day Hike

- Before leaving on their camping trips, the group will explore the local area on a day hike, during which campers will learn basic skills, increase their comfort level in the outdoors and continue developing as leaders and teammates.

#### Overnight Trip

- This short trip will ensure that all campers feel prepared and ready for their longer trip in the backcountry. They will practice setting up camp, preparing food in the backcountry, risk management and get “into the groove” of hiking.

#### 5-Day Hiking Trip:

- The group will share practical risk management actions and comfortable hiking tips. Topics of risk management 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.

PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 14Y FEMALE   \$1390 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 14Y MALE   \$1390 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 8 – 20	134161	1	Jul 8 – 20	134169
2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134162	2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134170
3	Aug 5 – 17	134163	3	Aug 5 – 17	134171
4	Aug 19 – 31	134164	4	Aug 19 – 31	134172



**PIONEER 14Y CANOE**

Campers in this program will develop their canoeing, backcountry travel and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their canoe tripping experience.

Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals during their canoe experiences and time at camp. 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.

**Day Trip**

- Before leaving on their camping trips, the group will also explore a local watering hole, during which campers will learn basic skills, increase their comfort level and continue developing as leaders and teammates.
- The group will spend time on local Chilver Lake and nearby Seebe Recreation Area or on the Bow River 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 campers learn ways to reduce these hazards.

**Overnight Trip**

- This short trip will ensure that all campers feel prepared and ready for their longer trip in the backcountry. They will practice setting up camp, preparing food in the backcountry and reviewing risk management and working together. This trip may be on site at camp or the group may travel to a nearby backcountry campsite.

**Canoe Development and Trip:**

- Campers spend some time swimming in our pool so their comfort in water can be assessed.
- The canoe journey takes place on the lower Red Deer River or another age and skill appropriate river.
- Campers typically paddle 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 and then decide how best to proceed.
- Back at camp, campers have the chance to share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 14Y FEMALE   \$1545 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 14Y MALE   \$1545 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1			1	Jul 8 – 20	134166
2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134158	2		
3			3	Aug 5 – 17	134167
4	Aug 19 – 31	134160	4		



### **PIONEER 14-15Y MOUNTAIN ARTS**

Mountain Arts groups have a focus on visual arts - using the natural world and mountain culture as inspiration. Campers will increase their comfort in the backcountry, combining hiking and leadership skills with time to create. During their session at camp, they will work on group and individual creative projects and share some of their work with the camp community. Campers will talk about their personal goals and develop group goals for both their backcountry trip and art experiences. They will have opportunities to be a leader within their tipi group as they help facilitate games and take turns leading the group.



Camera - Campers will need to bring their own camera. Any type and brand will work as long as it is not part of a mobile phone/tablet/ipod/etc. and please not a disposable camera. We will have a secure place for the group to store their cameras.

Participants in all Mountain Art groups will leave one piece of art at camp which will be displayed throughout the summer and will be part of the fall Camp Chief Hector Art Show. This piece, chosen by the camper, will become property of Camp Chief Hector YMCA.

#### **Mountain Arts - areas of focus for artistic creation**

- Photography – the basics of taking good photos, exploring themes, looking at the work of other outdoor photographers
  - Drawing and Painting – groups will take supplies with them most days to incorporate drawing in their daily routine
  - Art with Nature – using the natural world as physical inspiration
  - Group Project – each group will have a project they collaborate on during the session, for example creating an interpretive trail or adding art to their section building (projects are determined by group and leaders)
- Art encompasses so much! Throughout their time at camp, the groups will have potential opportunities to discover other forms of art, for example, music, literary, sculpting/carving, and performing

#### **4-Day Backcountry Trip:**

- The focus of this trip is to have the opportunity to create while immersed in the natural world. The group will travel to a backcountry base camp and have time each day devoted to art.
- Groups will travel between 2 to 10 kilometers per day and spend usually 4 days at an established backcountry campsite. This is also an opportunity for campers to explore and develop comfort and a sense of belonging in the natural world.
- Before departing, the group will review risk management practices for being in the backcountry. Topics such as wildlife concerns, kitchen practices, identifying and avoiding/managing exposure to heights, rock fall, weather systems, and creek crossings will be discussed.
- The backcountry trips depart Camp Chief Hector YMCA by bus, mini-van or truck and travel to hiking trails within Bow Valley Provincial Park, Kananaskis Country or adjacent lands. Daily, the hikes vary from 2 to 10 kilometers, on-trail and off-trail, through forests, and beside mountain creeks and lakes. The groups may gain anywhere from 200 to 600 meters of 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.



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PIONEER (MAINSITE) MOUNTAIN ARTS 14-15Y FEMALE   \$1545 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) MOUNTAIN ARTS 14-15Y MALE   \$1545 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 8 – 20	134267	1	Jul 8 – 20	134271
2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134268	2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134272
3	Aug 5 – 17	134269	3	Aug 5 – 17	134273
4	Aug 19 – 31	134270	4		

**PIONEER 15Y HIKE**

Campers in this program will develop their hiking and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their nine (9) days of hiking experience. Campers are expected to share their personal goals and develop group goals their hiking development series, which includes a day hike, an overnight camping trip, and a 6-day hike. 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 trips.

**Day Hike**

- Before leaving on their camping trips, the group will also explore the local area on a day hike, during which campers will learn basic skills, increase their comfort level, and continue developing as leaders and teammates.

**Overnight Trip**

- This short trip will ensure that all campers are feeling prepared and ready for their longer trip in the backcountry. They will practice setting up camp, preparing food in the backcountry, risk management, and get into the groove of hiking. This trip will also be close or on our main site at camp.

**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!

PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 15Y FEMALE   \$1390 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) HIKE 15Y MALE   \$1390 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 8 – 20	134173	1	Jul 8 – 20	134177
2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134174	2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134178
3	Aug 5 – 17	134363	3	Aug 5 – 17	134265
4	Aug 19 – 31	134264	4	Aug 19 – 31	134266



**PIONEER 15Y CANOE**

Campers in this program will develop their hiking, canoeing and leadership skills during their time at camp and during their nine days of 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.

**Day Trip**

- Before leaving on their camping trips, the group will also explore a local watering hole, during which campers will learn basic skills, increase their comfort level, and continue developing as leaders and teammates.
- 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.

**Overnight Trip**

- This short trip will ensure that all campers feel prepared for their longer trip in the backcountry. They will practice setting up camp, preparing food in the backcountry, risk management, and work on mastering canoe strokes.

**Canoe Development and Trip:**

- Campers will embark on their journey on the North Saskatchewan River or another age/skill appropriate river.
- 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 share their stories with their fellow Pioneers!

PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 15Y FEMALE   \$1545 + GST			PIONEER (MAINSITE) CANOE 15Y MALE   \$1545 + GST		
Session	Dates	Barcode	Session	Dates	Barcode
1	Jul 8 – 20	134175	1		
2			2	Jul 22 – Aug 3	134179
3	Aug 5 – 17	134176	3		
4			4	Aug 19 – 31	134180

**Looking for Pioneer at Camp Gray Jay?**

**Click [here](#) for our Gray Jay Camps, including Pioneer Hike and Pioneer Horse!**