

# Opportunities for Indigenous Youth Summer 2023

This guide supports schools, families, and students as they plan for the upcoming 2023 summer school break in Calgary. It provides information about camps specifically designed for Indigenous students, organizations that ease financial barriers to accessing camps, and summer programs that offer subsidized fees and employment for Indigenous youth. These opportunities promote fair access to programming that fosters personal growth, cultural connection, and skill development, as well as a sense of pride, identity, and empowerment.

## Summer Camps for Indigenous Youth

### Power to Choose Aboriginal Youth STEM Program

Science/STEM camp for Indigenous youth, on reserve transportation may be available

- Planning underway for camp from August 14-July 18, 2023
- No cost
- Indigenous youth, ages 9-17

For full camp details and to apply click [here](#)

### YMCA-Indigenous day camps

A fun place to make new friends and engage in cultural activities and visit with Elders and Knowledge Keepers for Indigenous youth.

- For ages 6-13
- July 3-14, July 17-28, July 31-Aug 11, Aug 14-24
- Busing from nearest YMCA to Camp Riveredge is available
- First come, first serve basis

For more information contact Sarena Provost, Indigenous Manager at [sarena.provost@calgary.ymca.ca](mailto:sarena.provost@calgary.ymca.ca) or 587-391-0425

## Programs that reduce financial barriers

Organizations that help fair access to activities for youth.

### Kidsport

- Accepts application for assistance up to \$500 per child annually
- Opportunities for youths to access non-cost equipment
- Complete application online to qualify first, then register for activity

For full details on financial criteria to qualify for click [here](#)

### Jumpstart

- Funding is up to \$300 per activity, subject to Chapter discretion and/or local demands
- Children can be funded for successive seasons in an activity, up to a maximum of \$300 per activity
- The annual maximum amount a child is eligible to receive is up to \$600, subject to Chapter discretion and/or local demands
- Proof of financial need required
- Complete application online to qualify first, then register for activity

For full details on assistance program and to apply click [here](#)

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## City of Calgary Fair Entry

The city of Calgary offers fee assistance for programs including day camps and access to recreational facilities.

For further details and eligibility requirements click [here](#).

## Jordan's Principle

- Funding can help with a wide range of health, social and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations Two-Spirit and LGBTQQIA children and youth and those with disabilities may have. Specialized summer camps have been funded
- Needs are accessed case by case

For more information about application click [here](#).

## Summer Camps that offer subsidized fees

### City of Calgary Day Camps

For youth 4- 12, from June

Use Fair Entry Pass to receive up to \$100 per child, per camp

July 3-August 25

For full details on assistance program and to apply click [here](#)

### Mount Royal College (MRUKids Camps)

- Ages 5-14, large variety of programs to choose (arts, science, music, sports, leadership)
- Bursary Program available, apply online

For full details and to apply click [here](#). Bursary information and application is located in the parent information tab.

### SAIT Summer Camp Sessions

Offers a limited number of camp bursaries to children and youth to attend a variety [summer camps](#) such as developing AI, exploring trades such as automotive and welding for girls.

For bursary information click [here](#).

### YMCA Day Camps and Camp Chief Hector

Multi-activity, sport-specific day camps, outdoor or overnight camps and family camps available

- Ages 4-17
- Click here to see the [2023 Session Program Guide](#)

If you require subsidy, please contact us [at CCHY@calgary.ymca.ca](mailto:atCCHY@calgary.ymca.ca). To register click [here](#).

## Employment Opportunities

### The City of Calgary Youth Employment Centre (YEC)

- There are a variety of training and education programs that Indigenous youth can access in Calgary
- Services for Indigenous youth are provided year-round
- Must be at least 15 years of age
- This site highlights most of these programs and provides free career and employment support to youth ages 15-24, employers, schools and youth programs

For additional information click [here](#).

### Bold Eagle

Bold Eagle is unique summer training program combines Indigenous culture and teachings with military training. Develops valuable skills such as self-confidence, self-discipline, teamwork, time management, respect and fitness.

- Possibility of receiving high school credits. Student must arrange this through their school's guidance counselor before starting the program
- Six weeks: early July to late August each year. During this time, you are enrolled as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). Upon completion of the program, you can choose to remain in the CAF (as a Regular Force member, a Reserve Force member or a Canadian Ranger) or to be released from service
- Meals and accommodation provided
- Military clothing and equipment to use during the training
- Transportation from home to the training location and back home
- Approximately \$4,200 in salary
- Must be First Nation, Métis or Inuit (status not required);
- Must be 16 years of age or older, have completed Grade 10, be a Canadian citizen; and reside in western Canada or north-western Ontario
- Must be enrolled in school full-time at the time of application

For full details and to apply click [here](#).

### This Way Onward

- Organization which helps youth get their first job. 2-3 sessions of skills and information-based customer service training opportunities (unpaid)
- Resume writing, Cover Letters, Job search, Interview Preparation, Store tours, Applying Online, Mock Interviews, Financial Literacy, Awesome Employee, and Career Exploration
- During program youth apply for open positions at Old Navy
- There will be multiple employment opportunities at various Old Navy locations in Calgary
- Strong potential for youth to be hired permanent part-time or seasonally
- Youth receive ongoing support from This Way Onward Job Coach counsellors

Apply by May 24th, 2023. Click [here](#) for additional information about the process.