

Camp Awesome Camp Director

Proposal – Draft

October 27, 2021

Recommendations

1. The EOORC Youth and Young Adult Leadership Team recommends that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council create a new, part-time position to lead the Camp Awesome program.
2. We recommend that this position be established on a trial basis with a three year contract, to be reviewed in the third year.
3. We recommend that the salary for this position be drawn from several sources within the EOORC as shown in the accompanying financial plan, and that it be guaranteed for the duration of the three year contract.
4. We recommend that, during the three year trial, the Youth and Young Adult Leadership Team, along with the Camp Awesome Director and the Youth and Young Adult Minister, work toward a plan to make the position financially sustainable, should the Regional Council decide to continue with it beyond the initial three year trial period.

Description of the Position

This new position would assume overall responsibility for Camp Awesome, including fundraising, budgeting, staffing, programming, and administration.

This new position would be accountable to the Regional Council through the YAYA Leadership Team and the Regional Executive Minister in the same way that the current YAYA Minister position is accountable.

Rationale for the Position

The creation of this new position will accomplish two important goals:

1. It will provide the stable, dedicated and focussed leadership that Camp Awesome needs to expand and grow to meet the emerging needs of children and youth across the Regional Council.
2. It will free up valuable time and energy on the part of the RC's YAYA Minister to attend to emerging needs and opportunities among youth and young adults that the creation of the Regional Council has brought into focus.

The Hope

Over the past two and three quarters years the Youth and Young Adult Leadership Team has witnessed the emergence of new ministry needs across the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council. Some of these new needs are the result of the coming together of formerly unconnected Communities of Faith, and some of these new needs reflect changing circumstances in our local communities and our society as a whole.

In response to these emerging needs, the YAYA Leadership Team names the following four hopes for the new Camp Awesome Director position:

1. Developing the capacity to offer the Camp Awesome program across the whole of the EOORC, so that every Community of Faith within our Region has access to it, not just those in the vicinity of the City of Ottawa.
2. Developing the capacity to offer the Camp Awesome program in French as well as in English, so that our Francophone communities may be served.
3. Broadening and deepening the inclusiveness of the Camp Awesome program, its staff, and the training materials for its staff, so that a wider community of campers, staff, and families may be served.
4. Exploring partnerships with other programs and organizations, so that its resources may be increased and its programming broadened. (Two examples of possible partners are Faith and the Common Good and Tucker House Renewal Centre.)

In response to these emerging needs, the YAYA Leadership Team names the following four hopes for a reconfigured Youth and Young Adult Minister position:

1. Devoting significant time and energy toward assisting Communities of Faith develop new youth and young adult programs within their local communities. This would include assistance in setting up programs, finding and training leaders, and accessing financial resources, including grants from various sources within and beyond the United Church.
2. Providing support for new Networks and Clusters to enable collaboration across Communities of Faith as they address the needs of youth and young adults.
3. Supporting Mental Health and Faith Formation training and development for leaders of Youth and Young Adult groups and programs across the EOORC. (This is a significant ongoing need that has been given new urgency during the pandemic.)
4. Promoting opportunities to engage in relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth and young adults, including the possibility of organizing and leading cultural exchanges.