

PARENTS WORKSHOP PAGE
HELP US COUNSEL THE COUNSELORS
(2009)

Before camp, we train our staff during our pre-camp orientation. Among other things, we counsel them on being “**effective counselors**”. That’s our expression for a counselor who makes a difference, a positive role model who makes a positive impact on the kids’ camp experience.

We pose for them real life scenarios of interaction that arise in the course of supervising children.... in the cabin, out on canoe trips, at activities, at the dining hall table, and a variety of other camp situations. The camp experience is mostly full of good times; there’s no doubt about that. But, as ideal as we like to think camp life is for kids, some not-so-good elements creep into the group dynamics, and we like everyone to be prepared to confront them.... things like *homesickness, bullying, scapegoating, and exclusion*. We help our counselors identify these situations, and then discuss with them the various and most effective ways of dealing with them.

We invite you to be part of this orientation by letting our counselors know specifically what parents expect. We would really appreciate the following kinds of input from you:

- 1) **ACTUAL SCENARIOS** experienced by your child(ren) at camp that are worth reviewing and discussing.

- 2) **GENERAL issues, behaviors, actions, etc.** you believe should be reviewed and discussed involving counseling and cabin group interaction.

Please use the remainder of this sheet as well as the reverse side.

Return this form by May 15th to either office of Camp Tamakwa:

161 Eglinton Ave E Suite 501
Toronto, ON M4P 1J5

1760 S. Telegraph, Suite 300
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-0183

NAME _____
(Optional)

DATE _____

COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTED WORKSHOP TOPICS: