



## Welcome to the 2016 Jewish Outdoor Escape Ottawa Odyssey

**Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa, Quyon, Quebec, Canada**

### FIRST INFORMATIONAL EMAIL

Dear Participant,

We are happy that you will join us for this year's Jewish Outdoor Escape! We've got lots of people attending, both people who have attended many previous Labor Day events and people new to Mosaic events, so you will be able to renew old friendships and create new ones. Your planning committee has been hard at work to ensure that you'll have a wonderful experience and we'll continue to do so, but now we also need your attention to give you some very important information as you prepare for your trip.

In the next two weeks, we plan to send you lots of information so you'll be well-informed by the time you arrive. Each email will address different issues, and all should be read to make sure you arrive at camp ready and equipped to have a fantastic time!

In this email, we want to give you an overview of what to expect during this extended weekend. Expect three or four emails over the next two weeks, dealing with food, packing lists, transportation, housing, leadership information and other important details that will help make this weekend a success.

We recommend you read them all start to finish. Some of them -- packing list and driving directions, for instance -- we suggest you print out and put on top of your "going to camp" pile that you will soon be, no doubt, organizing.

For those of you who are citizens the United States, remember to bring your passport or NEXUS trusted traveler's card. If you have questions or concerns about traveling to Canada, the visit the [US Department of State Website](#) or [US Border Protection Website](#) for more information.

First:

Have you finished filling out registration? Are you signed up for all your activities? Did you fill out your transportation plans? Have you signed up for the Mosaic shuttle if you plan to take it? If not, please log back into your registration and make your additions or correction or send us an e-mail at [Registration@MosaicOutdoor.org](mailto:Registration@MosaicOutdoor.org) with the information. This will stop the annoying e-mails you are receiving from us, asking for information (only if you are missing transportation or activity selections).

Remember, we have instituted a change fee for registration changes which occur after August 22nd! Please see the "Change Fee" section below for details.



**Are you looking for more details about your activities?** Get the information we give our leaders. You will find an in-depth plan of every activity listed on our [Dropbox](#) site. Please note that these documents are a work in progress. Exact plans could change as we progress through the planning the event. Final copies will be produced just before the event. Please note you will need a [dropbox](#) or google account to view these documents. Be fair to your *volunteer* organizers and do not ask for a "special request" to send you this information separately. We are extremely busy getting things ready for you.

### **Change Fee**

August 22nd will be the VERY LAST DAY for you to make ANY changes to your registration on your own. After this date, you will need to contact us at [Registration@MosaicOutdoor.org](mailto:Registration@MosaicOutdoor.org) for anything pertaining to your registration. Any change requests on or before August 22 are free. Starting August 23, many changes can no longer be made. Any changes that can be made on or after this date will incur an \$18 change fee per item changed unless waived by the chair people or the event (fees will only be waived for exceptional circumstances). Cancellation policies will override the change fee policy if you cannot attend the event. For more information about the change fee, please see the REGISTRATION page of the event website at:

<http://2016event.mosaicoutdoor.org/Registration.aspx#ChangeFee>

You probably have no idea how much chaos "little requests" such as changing hikes or adding your final transportation information causes. Please make your final activity selections NOW. We also need to know how you are planning on getting to camp. This is to make sure everyone is accounted for and that we have a final count for the Mosaic shuttle. If you are on a waiting list for a housing upgrade or an activity, don't worry, the change fee does not apply if you get a last minute call that we've made additional room on your activity or housing preference has become available.

Mosaic is an all-volunteer group with over 25 years experience putting on events like this. While we don't claim to be Club Med, our volunteers are passionate about delivering an event free from drama, difficulties and, with any luck, Sasquatch abductions. If at any point an activity doesn't go exactly as planned, we ask for your patience. Remember: we're all in this together.

You can expect tasty meals, great daytime activities, and fun evening programs including speakers and musical guests. Breakfast will include a make-your-own-lunch station, so attendees will have food for their day trips. Remember that no outside food is allowed in the dining hall since the camp does keep Kosher. In addition, the camp is **nut-free/peanut-free** so please leave your nut-based snacks at home.

As always, feel free to ask us questions (but check the [website](#) and [FAQ](#) first) and consider stepping up to volunteer. We can always use additional committee members. Remember, volunteering is a great way to meet new people and make new friends!

Thanks, and we'll be in touch!

The 2016 Jewish Outdoor Escape Committee