

Program Staff

The KOC takes pride in its knowledgeable and experienced staff. Our ASD programs are facilitated by outstanding individuals trained in understanding behaviours and in developing and implementing programming and supports for children and youth with ASD. All care staff possess certification in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention, First Aid and Lifesaving.

About the KOC

The Kinark Outdoor Centre (KOC) operates year-round to provide a rich variety of outdoor education programs and autism support programs tailored to a wide range of needs and interests. From skill development, family enrichment and social recreation to ecologically-focused, adventure-based experiences, the KOC offers high-quality programming and once-in-a-lifetime experiences in a safe, well-supported and beautiful environment. We offer a variety of programs directly to groups and individuals, and also develop programs upon request, which are tailored to meet the specific needs of community groups, school boards, corporate groups, faith communities, and other organizations.

A recognized leader in providing strength-based social growth experiences in an environmentally rich and ecologically responsible setting, the KOC prides itself on the depth and talent of our staff team. Our reputation, program diversity and philosophy have enabled us to attract a group of highly-skilled practitioners, and support our commitment to exceptional programming.

The KOC operates in compliance with regulations of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Children's Services and is an accredited member of the Ontario Camping Association and Children's Mental Health Ontario. The KOC is a part of Kinark Child and Family Services, a not-for-profit agency that provides a full range of children's mental health programs and services in Central East Ontario.

Location

The KOC is a 243-hectare semi-wilderness site located along the sandy shores of a private lake in Haliburton County. Nestled in the heart of cottage country, the KOC is a short drive from the town of Minden, Ontario in the Haliburton Highlands. For a map and directions, please visit our website at www.koc.on.ca.

Accommodations & Amenities

KOC cabins are equipped with heat, hydro and toilets. Adjacent shower facilities as well as nearby activity areas support the comfort and enjoyment of all campers.

Food Service

Snacks and meal service are provided by the KOC. Our onsite, nut-free facility can accommodate most dietary restrictions upon advance request.

Kinark Outdoor Centre

Phone: 705-286-3555 Toll Free:
1-800-805-8252 Fax: 705-286-6184 E-mail:
info@koc.on.ca Mailing address: Box 730,
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0

Connect with us:



[facebook.com/
KinarkOutdoorCentre](https://facebook.com/KinarkOutdoorCentre)



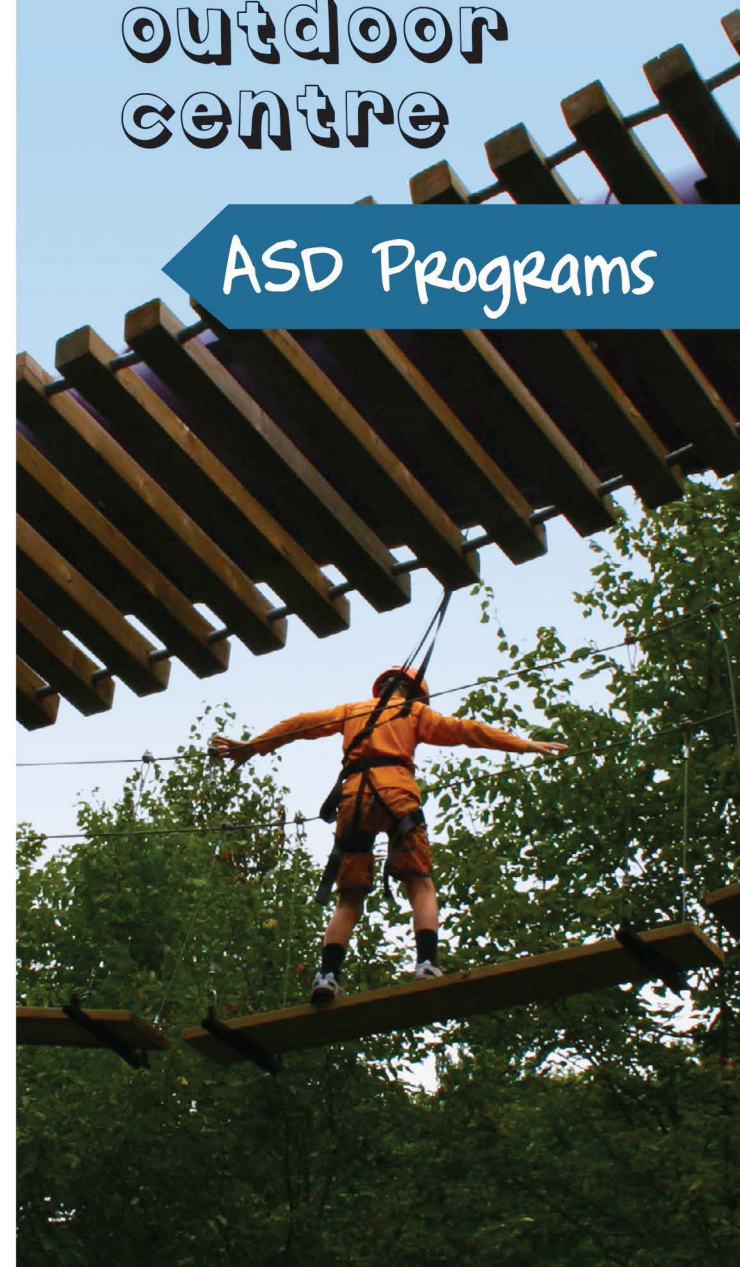
[twitter.com/
KinOutdoor](https://twitter.com/KinOutdoor)

www.koc.on.ca



kinark outdoor centre

ASD Programs



ASD Programs

The Kinark Outdoor Centre (KOC) has provided exceptional outdoor recreational experiences for children and youth requiring specialized support since 1985. We offer the following programs for children and youth with autism spectrum disorder (ASD):

- ASD Summer Camp
- Family Respite
- Family Camp
- Social and Life Skills

ASD Summer Camp

This unique recreational program is designed for children, youth and young adults with ASD who are ready to spend several days away from their families. Supported by a professional team of specialized counsellors, it offers individualized care and a range of programming designed to provide a rich social and recreational experience.

As a strength-based recreational program, the ASD Summer Camp builds on the interests and abilities of each participant.

Key features:

- opportunities for campers to have new experiences and feel good about themselves
- clear program expectations
- individualized focus
- specialized social and behavioural support
- secure learning environment
- controlled setting for the development of appropriate and positive peer relationships
- ongoing support facilitating personal growth through task completion

Family Respite

Family Respite is designed for families with one or more children with ASD. Each child receives specialized one-on-one support. Parents have opportunities to share experiences, resources and strategies with others and also to enjoy time on their own. Siblings have the chance to connect and have fun, and to share their similar experiences with peers.

Programming also includes family time and enriched opportunities to bond, problem-solve and enjoy new and unique experiences at the camp.

Family Camp

Family Camp offers families with one or more children with ASD the chance to enjoy a family vacation in an understanding and supportive environment. The program includes a range of recreational activities facilitated by friendly, knowledgeable and supportive outdoor center staff. Families can socialize and enjoy activities such as high ropes, campfires, canoeing, kayaking, and family talent shows. This four day program is a great opportunity to meet, socialize and network with other families while trying new activities as a family!



Social and Life Skills Program

The Social and Life Skills program (SLS) is designed for 13-18 year-olds who are moderate to high functioning and would benefit from enhanced interpersonal skills and abilities to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life. It is particularly suitable for youth from rural areas where services, supports and social opportunities may be limited. In this small group program, youth learn to work together to experience and practice new social and life skills. All participants have opportunities to discover their strengths, make friends and gain confidence through a range of activities facilitated by specialized and supportive professional staff.

The program includes two weekends each month during the school year, and a five-day recreational camp in the summer.

Programming focuses on:

- fitness/movement
- trust, communication, cooperation and teambuilding
- leadership skills
- what it means to have and be a friend
- grocery shopping, preparing and cooking meals
- learning new skills and hobbies (i.e. climbing, canoeing, archery, kayaking, fishing)
- volunteering in the community

