

Algonquin Fall Camping

PARTICIPANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER

DATE October 2-4, 2026	LOCATION Mew Lake, Algonquin Provincial Park
FORMAT 3 days / 2 nights / tent camping	ORGANIZER UofT Exploration & Travel Club (UTETC)

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. This document affects legal rights. It records informed consent for a student-run outdoor activity. UTETC should obtain review from its University advisor or independent Ontario legal counsel before relying on it as a final legal release.

1. Nature of the activity

I understand that this is a voluntary, student-organized camping activity. UTETC is not a professional guide, licensed travel provider, medical provider, vehicle operator, or insurer. Recognition of a student group by the University of Toronto does not mean that the University assumes legal responsibility for the group's activities.

Transportation is a volunteer carpool. Vehicles are supplied and operated by individual volunteer drivers, not by UTETC, the University of Toronto, or Ontario Parks. Beginner-friendly does not mean risk-free, and continuous professional supervision is not provided.

2. Risks I understand and accept

- Motor-vehicle travel, including collision, roadside breakdown, traffic delays, and injury during loading or unloading.
- Cold, rain, wind, heat, darkness, changing fall weather, hypothermia, dehydration, and limited shelter.
- Uneven or slippery ground, roots, rocks, trails, water edges, falls, strains, cuts, and other outdoor injuries.
- Campfires, grills, stoves, fuel, hot cookware, smoke, burns, fire bans, and food preparation hazards.
- Wildlife, insects, ticks, plants, food attractants, and possible human-wildlife encounters.
- Food allergies, contamination, dietary incompatibility, illness, and reaction to shared meals or equipment.
- Tent, sleeping-bag, clothing, footwear, lighting, or other equipment failure or unsuitability.
- Limited cellular service, delayed emergency response, distance from hospitals, and evacuation difficulties.

3. My responsibilities

- Provide accurate contact, emergency, health, allergy, dietary, experience, and equipment information relevant to safe participation.
- Bring or rent suitable personal equipment and follow the final packing list, weather guidance, park rules, fire restrictions, and organizer instructions.
- Wear a seat belt, avoid impairment, act respectfully, protect wildlife, and disclose if I am unable to participate safely.
- Ask questions before signing. I may decline a specific activity or withdraw before departure, subject to stated payment and cancellation terms.

Participant initials: _____

Safety references: Ontario Parks, Rules and Regulations; Alerts in Parks; and Algonquin Provincial Park camping information (ontarioparks.ca).

Participant agreement and signature

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4. Assumption of risk and limited waiver

I freely choose to participate and knowingly accept the ordinary and inherent risks described in this document, including risks that may arise from my own actions, the natural environment, other participants, volunteer drivers, and shared equipment.

To the fullest extent permitted by Ontario law, I waive claims against UTETC and its student officers, organizers, volunteers, and approved volunteer drivers that arise solely from the ordinary inherent risks identified above. This document does not waive any right or claim that cannot lawfully be waived, does not guarantee safety, and does not state that UTETC or any other party provides accident, travel, medical, property, or automobile insurance for me.

I remain responsible for my personal property, personal insurance, medical costs, and conduct. I understand that a volunteer driver's personal automobile insurance and licence are the driver's responsibility, and that UTETC's approval of a driver is not a guarantee of the driver, vehicle, route, or road conditions.

5. Medical, health, and travel insurance

I am responsible for arranging any medical/health, travel, accident, personal-liability, cancellation, or property insurance I consider necessary. UTETC does not provide or promise such coverage. I am responsible for medical, rescue, evacuation, repatriation, vehicle, or property costs not paid by my own insurer or another legally responsible party.

6. Emergency care

If I cannot reasonably provide consent during an emergency, I authorize organizers or other participants to contact emergency services and provide or arrange reasonable first aid, transportation, or urgent medical assistance. I understand that response may be delayed and that I am responsible for costs not covered by my own insurance.

7. Changes, cancellation, and compliance

I understand that weather, fire bans, park alerts, campsite availability, transportation, safety conditions, or organizer capacity may require itinerary changes or cancellation. I agree to follow Ontario Parks rules and lawful organizer safety decisions. Payment and refund handling remain governed by the registration information communicated by UTETC.

8. Code of conduct

- Treat participants, organizers, volunteers, park staff, and local communities with dignity and respect; harassment, discrimination, bullying, and sexual misconduct are not permitted.
- Follow safety directions, campsite quiet hours, fire restrictions, wildlife and waste rules, and all applicable laws; do not leave the group or agreed route without telling an organizer.
- Do not drive or participate while impaired. Alcohol, cannabis, medications, and other substances must be handled lawfully and must never endanger another person.
- Help with reasonable shared tasks such as meal preparation, dishes, campsite care, and cleanup, and promptly communicate health, access, safety, or interpersonal concerns.
- Photos or recordings may be taken during the trip. I may opt out of identifiable promotional use at any time by telling an organizer in writing, without affecting my participation.
- Serious or repeated non-compliance may result in removal from an activity or the trip. Any removal and related costs will be handled reasonably in light of safety, accessibility, and the circumstances.

Participant initials: _____

Acknowledgement and signatures

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9. Participant acknowledgement

- ☐ I have read this entire document and understand its terms.
- ☐ I understand the risks and have had the opportunity to ask questions.
- ☐ The information I provide is accurate, and I will promptly report relevant changes.
- ☐ I agree to the Code of Conduct and understand the insurance information above.

Participant full legal name

U of T student number

Participant signature

Date signed (YYYY-MM-DD)

Witness full name

Witness signature

If the participant is under 18: Parent/guardian full name and signature

10. Volunteer driver addendum - complete only if applying to drive

A driver application does not make me an approved driver. UTETC must confirm approval and assignments. If approved, I confirm that:

- ☐ I hold a valid licence for the vehicle and trip, and my personal automobile insurance permits this use and carrying the assigned passengers.
- ☐ The vehicle is legally registered, roadworthy, and has a working seat belt for every assigned occupant. I will obey traffic laws and will not drive distracted, impaired, ill, or unfit.
- ☐ I will disclose the vehicle's legal passenger capacity and any relevant licence, insurance, vehicle, fatigue, route, or safety issue before departure, and I may decline or stop driving if conditions are unsafe.
- ☐ I understand this is a volunteer carpool, not employment or a commercial transportation service. The estimated approved-driver event fee is C\$40-50, I pay fuel directly, and final arrangements must be confirmed by UTETC in writing.

Driver signature

Date signed (YYYY-MM-DD)

SUBMISSION

Sign using Preview/Adobe markup or print and scan. Email the completed PDF to uoft.travelclub@gmail.com using the filename LastName_FirstName_StudentNumber_Waiver.pdf.