

## Field Trip Parent Permission

Details of the trip: Sea Kayaking Discovery Islands May 6 -May 12th, 2024

School:

Mount Boucherie Secondary

School phone number:

250-870-5101

Teacher contact:

Mr. Pontalti

Purpose of trip: (Relation to course curriculum)

Provide students with an introduction to sea kayaking, development of kayaking skills.  
Provide students with opportunities to develop their communication, teamwork skills.  
Foster a love and appreciation for the great outdoors!

Description of activities:

- Will depart from MBSS at 6 AM on Monday May 6th, 2024
- Students will be driven to Horseshoe Bay Ferry terminal, catch the 1:00PM ferry to Departure bay. On Vancouver Island we will drive for approximately 1.5 hrs. to the Quadra Island Ferry Terminal, a short Ferry Ride to Quadra and then about 10 min. drive to We Wai Kai campground on Quadra Island. There we will meet our guide along with an additional assistant kayak guide/instructor. A certified Sea Kayak guide will be a tremendous source of local knowledge, certified Paddle Canada sea kayak instructor(s) will also provide supervision and instruction, together the guide(s), and Mr. Pontalti will lead the trip.
  - Note: students will be placed in groups and are responsible for their own meal planning, purchasing food and preparing it. Students are also expected to provide and pack all necessary clothing and equipment.
  - Tuesday morning students will be up early (7AM) - eat breakfast and pack up. Kayaks, and kayak equipment will be supplied for each participant at our campground launch site. (Rebecca Spit boat ramp)
  - Students will pack their gear into the kayaks at the launch site. Sea kayak safety instruction and pre-trip details will be covered prior to launching.
  - Once launched all trip planning and risk management decisions will be made by Mr. Pontalti and the kayak guide(s) and additional instructor. Students will travel in separate smaller groups while on the water to facilitate more efficient travel. Meeting up each day at our camping destinations.
  - The plan is to launch from Rebecca Spit and circumnavigate Read Island in the beautiful Discovery Islands.  
Our route will likely involve camping on or near Fredric Point, Penn Islands, Cortes Island, Rendezvous Island, Freedom Point, Viner Point, and the Breton Islands. The Discovery Islands offer many camping areas and considering factors such as student ability, weather, and campsite availability, appropriate paddling routes and camp sites will be selected.

OVER

Description of activities (continued):

- Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup> - Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> will be spent paddling and exploring the Discovery Islands. Our campsite may be moved every night or less often depending on group's needs, abilities, weather, and campsite availability. We will be paddling for several hours 3-5 hrs. each day, some of the paddling time dedicated to stroke and rescue skill development. During one of the evenings, students will participate in a "paddling at night" skills session (dependent on the weather and group energy level)
  - In addition to kayaking students will develop skills in navigation, seamanship, weather prediction/monitoring. Students will be encouraged to build an appreciation for each other and the natural world through participation in group and individual activities. (group hikes, solo time(s), journal writing, team challenges and nature awareness exercises)
  - We plan to return to our launch site and camp Saturday night at We Wa Kai campground
  - Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, we will pack the bus and get an early ferry off Quadra Island in an effort to catch the 12:45 PM Ferry from Duke Point on Vancouver Island to Tswassen. This ferry will arrive at 2:45PM. Students should plan to eat their Sunday lunch/ dinner on the Ferry or while on route home.
    - From Tswassen Terminal we will drive back to Mount Boucherie
    - Students will need to be picked up at 8:00 PM on Sunday evening May 12<sup>th</sup> at MBSS
- \*\*Other destinations and activities may be selected at the leaders' discretion depending on weather, campsite availability, group dynamics and student ability. The Discovery Islands are beautiful but generally cooler and wetter than the more southerly Gulf Islands. If the forecast is for large amounts of rain and or wind, it is likely we will opt for the drier Gulf Islands South of Nanaimo. Both Mr. Pontalti and our Guide(s) are very familiar with this area and it will make a great poor weather option. Gulf Islands to be visited, include marine access camping on DeCourcy, Valdez, Gabriolla and possibly the N. end of Galiano. Smaller Islands to be visited on day drips may include Round, Pilates, and Ruxton.

\*Parents please keep page 1/2 and return page 3/4 once completed and signed.

Sea Kayaking May 6th – May 12th, 2024

Transportation: Private Vehicle: Rented Bus, Teacher  
- Driven by: Professional Driver, Teacher

**Inherent Risks Involved with this Trip:**

General Inherent Risks with Outdoor Activities

1. Risks associated with traveling by vehicle to and from activity.
2. Risks associated with camping. Things such as being cold, wet, and possibly hypothermic can always occur regardless of the level of planning that has been involved.
3. Risks associated with vigorous physical activity. There will undoubtedly be some level of discomfort with participating in a new activity. There is always the possibility of blisters, muscle pulls, cuts, and scratches.
4. Risks associated with creating warmth or cooking by fire.
5. Risks associated with cooking on a camp stove.
6. Risks associated with wilderness camping such as conflicts with animals, insect bites, and disruptive weather.
7. Risks involved with getting lost in the wilderness.
8. Risks involved with poor decision making by individuals such as leaving the group.
9. Risks associated with remoteness of area. We may not be able to access emergency medical services for several hours depending on phone service in the area.
10. Risks associated with changes in weather. It must be understood that if the weather breaks down, we may need to alter trip plans. This may mean delaying the return time and being late for pick up. It may also be difficult to communicate that we may be late if there is no phone service in the area.

**Inherent Risks Particular to this Activity:**

Students will be kayaking on the Pacific Ocean.

1. Risks associated with kayaking such as drowning, and hypothermia.
2. Risks associated with a boating collision such as being struck by a power boat.
3. Risks associated with low visibility/night paddling such as being struck by a power boat, getting separated from the group.

\*As legal guardian of (print student's name)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am aware of the risks involved and approve of his/her participation.

(Parent/guardian initials: \_\_\_\_\_)

Group of Students:

Outdoor Ed. grades 10-12

No. of students:

Maximum 15 (numbers are not yet finalized)

No. of teachers/supervisors:

Minimum 2 (1 male, 1 female) will maintain ratio of seven students per chaperone.

\* I understand that efforts will be made to obtain supervisors of both genders. In the event that only male supervision is available, I grant permission for my son/daughter to participate.

Parent/guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_

### Trip fee:

A fee of nine hundred and eighty-five dollars is charged to cover trip costs (guide/instructor fees, kayak and equipment rentals, camp ground fees, transportation, ferry, and TOC costs). \*14 spots fill on a first come first served basis, pay on line using the school cash on line system

Payment 1 (non-refundable deposit \$485.50) Deadline March 8, 2024

Payment 2 (non-refundable final payment \$500.00) Deadline April. 13, 2024

No student will be prevented from participating due to lack of finances. Please contact Mr. Pontalti if the trip fee is a problem. If a student really wants to attend but does not have the money we will work together to find a way. **Note:** This trip is optional, students may complete a kayak trip related research project as an alternative, see Mr. Pontalti for details.

\*Students will be sent home AT PARENT EXPENSE, and will be unable to participate in further field trips if any of the following codes of conduct are violated during an OE trip:

- Being under the influence of, or in possession of alcohol/drugs
- Being in tents other than their own after curfew
- Refusing to follow the instructions of a course leader while in the field

### Parent / Guardian Consent:

I have read the description of activities, I understand that there are inherent risks attached to this activity and accept these risks. I also understand that all of the requirements of the school code of conduct apply while students are on field trips, and I agree to repay the school for costs if it is necessary to send this student home by means other than as stated above.

Consent is given for (name of student) \_\_\_\_\_  
to participate and travel as described.

Parent/guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Student's BC Medical #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_