



SPEVI

South Pacific Educators
in Vision Impairment

Australia

SHINING THE LIGHT ON VISION EDUCATION

2017 CONFERENCE

BRISBANE 8TH - 12TH JANUARY



Developing employment skills through Camp Joe

A collaboration between Vision Australia, Canadian National Institute for the
Blind and New Zealand Blind Foundation

Carlia Rix and Paul Paradigm



What will be covered

- Development of Camp Joe
- About Camp Joe
- Participants
- Program
- Participant outcomes and evaluation
- Future for Vision Australia



What is Camp Joe?

- Employment rates in Blindness and Low vision community.
- Feedback from clients wanting more camps, and need to change the way we deliver services.
- Discussion with CEO Ron Hooton and president John Rafferty, CNIB existing purpose built facility.



Development of Camp Joe

- Project assigned to Leadership Development program.
- Commenced in Nov 2015.
- Camp Dates July/August 2016.
- Focus on Employment, and the indirect employment skills.



Goals of Camp Joe

- The main goals of Camp Joe were:
 1. To provide the opportunity for 12 vision Australia clients whilst on Camp Joe to develop employment skills, self-esteem, make lifelong friends, and have the opportunity live a life of independence however they chose.
 2. To take a group of 12 children aged between 15-18 to Camp Joe employment camp in July/ August 2016.
 3. To develop a model outline to replicate the Camp Joe program that can be delivered by Vision Australia staff in Australia by 2020 that meets the needs of our clients in a flexible and person centered way.
 4. To provide professional development and inform the greater staff at Vision Australia about running a camp, and international standards of our counterparts (CNIB) camps upon return in December 2016 via report provided by LDP team to promote a multi skilled workforce.
 5. To develop and strengthen relationships with international blindness and low vision communities through networking and collaborating on the Camp Joe Project.



Project Team

Carlia Rix- Occupational Therapist

Paul Paradigm- Adaptive technology Specialist

April Wilkinson- Relationships Manager, Fundraising team

Cat Wojciechowski- Executive Assistant To General Manager Client Services VICVSA, Radio & Seeing Eye Dogs Australia

Anthony Rix- Registered Nurse Volunteer.



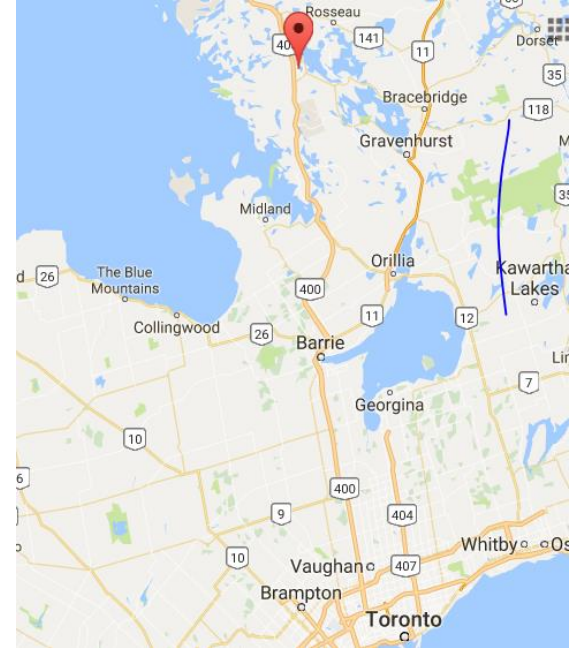
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Location

- Lake Joseph, Ontario
Canada.
- Part of the Muskoka
region.
- 1.5hours from
Toronto



Participant selection

- 12 Vision Australia clients aged between 15-18 years.
- Based on applicants who provided well written applications and demonstrated their capacity to grow through this trip.
- Panel of VA general managers reviewed and nominated their top 12 applications.
- Notification



Engagement and expectations from participants

- Contribution of \$1000 that each child requested to fund raise
- Assist in extra fundraising for Camp Joe in local area.
- Camp Joe experience commences the day of acceptance notification. Pre-camp activities all part of experience.
- Weekly teleconferences
- Email connection
- Updating blog during time away



Camp Joe Program

VISION AUSTRALIA SCHEDULE 2016

	Sun Jul 24	Mon Jul 25	Tue Jul 26	Wed Jul 27	Thu Jul 28	Fri Jul 29	Sat Jul 30	Sun Jul 31	Mon Aug 1	Tue Aug 2	Wed Aug 3	Thu Aug 4	Fri Aug 5	Sat Aug 6	Sun Aug 7
8:00 AM										Barrie 7:14 AM → Toronto 9:03 AM via GO Train → UoT Campus					
9:00 AM		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
10:00 AM		Porch Meeting	Porch Meeting	Porch Meeting	Porch Meeting	Porch Meeting	Porch Meeting	Final Pack Up	O&M Grocery Store	Walk through UoT		→ Niagara on the Lake	→ Niagara Falls	→ Niagara Falls	
11:00 AM		O&M Orientation to Lake Joe	Post-Secondary Program & Career Exploration	Employment Opportunity Search	Cover Letters & Resumes	Interview Techniques	Networking Techniques	Lake Joe → Barrie			Career Panel		Clifton Hill	Butterfly Conservatory & Botanical Gardens	Final Pack Up
12:00 PM		Skills, Aptitudes, & Passions	Personal Branding & Social Media	Disability Disclosure	Dress for Success			Lunch	ILS Lunch Meal Preparation	Tactile Tour & Lunch at the RDM	Lunch	Niagara on the Lake			Lunch
1:00 PM		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch						Skylon Tower Buffet Lunch		St. Catharines → YYZ
2:00 PM	YYZ Arrivals	Morning Recap	Morning Recap	Morning Recap	Morning Recap	Morning Recap	Morning Recap	O&M Orientation to Georgian College	Lunch		Final Pack Up	Lunch		Lunch	
3:00 PM		ILS Programming	ILS Programming	Sara Westbrook "U Power" Workshop	ILS Programming	Mock Interview for Employment Opportunity*	Pack Up			→ Eaton Centre/CN Tower	Barrie → St. Catherines		Skylon Tower	Whirlpool Aero Car	
4:00 PM	YYZ → Lake Joe	Lake Joe Activity	Lake Joe Activity	Lake Joe Activity	Lake Joe Activity	Lake Joe Activity	Lake Joe Activity	Lectures 101	Guest Lecture		Settle In	Bike Tour	Homblower Niagara Cruise		
5:00 PM										Shopping at the Eaton Centre or CN Tower					
6:00 PM		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner		Dinner				
7:00 PM	Dinner & Settle In	Team Building	Cultural Night Australia	ILS Programming	Cultural Night New Zealand	Cultural Night Canada		Barrie Waterfront		→ Union Station					
8:00 PM		Amazing Race					Terry Kelly Concert	Barrie Waterfront	Career Panel & Toronto Preparation	Toronto 6:45 PM → Barrie 8:23 PM via GO Train		→ Brock U		→ Brock U	
9:00 PM	Personal Time	Campfire	Campfire	Campfire	Campfire Literacy Discussion	Campfire					Personal Time	Personal Time	Niagara Falls (Coca Cola Concert Series & Fireworks at 10:00 PM)	Personal Time	



Outcomes from Camp Joe



Employment skills

Pre-employment workshops.

Use of technology.

Not having a proper classroom setting.



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Recreation



Cultural nights



Social Skills



Independent living skills



College and University Experience



- Staying in residences, spending 6 days living on the campus.
- Attending lectures and tutorials tailored to participants needs
- Using own technology to complete sessions



Travel- Airports & plane



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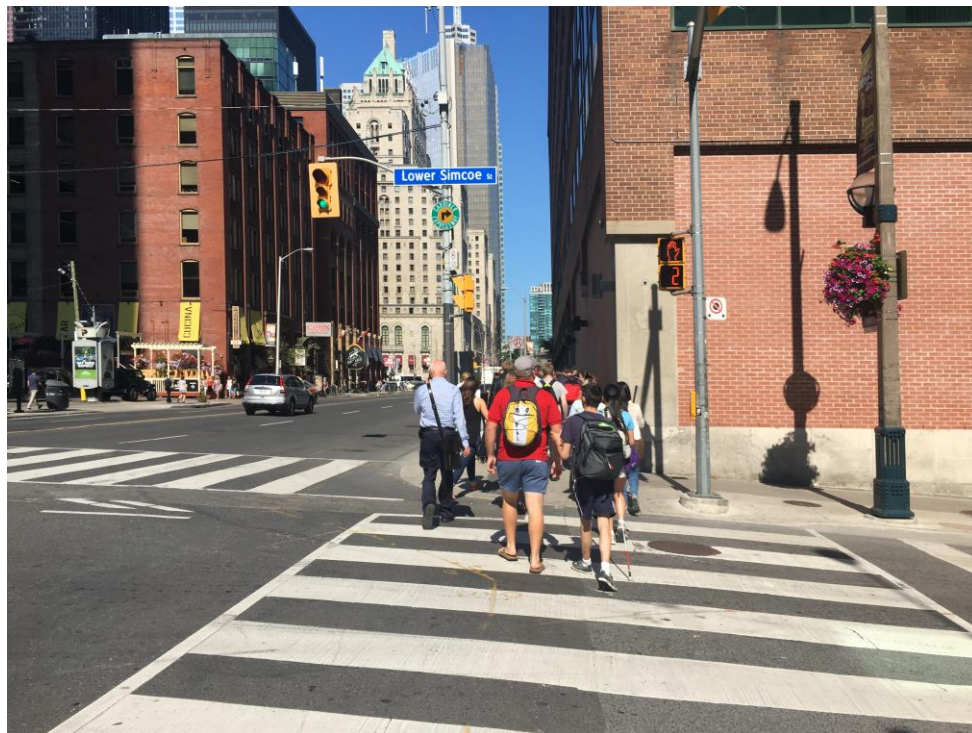
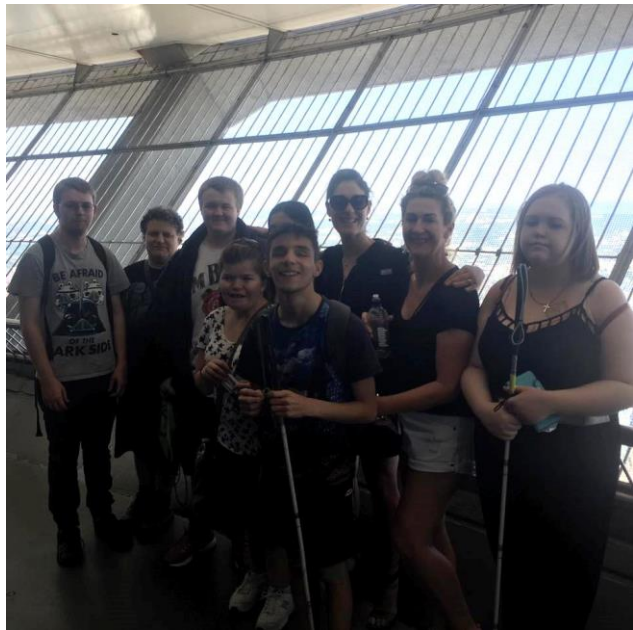
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Travel around Canada



Sightseeing





Sightseeing



Main findings from evaluation

- Strengths
- Challenges



Future for Vision Australia

- Continue with Camp Joe as an annual offering to clients of Vision Australia
- Separate the fundraising and administration tasks involved with Camp Joe for project team
- Investigate the possibility of weekend camps focusing on pre-employment preparation or similar, with the program informed by focus groups of young people
- Participant selection process



Questions & Thank-you



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