



TDSB/OISE

Climate Camp

for K-12 Educators 2026



Overview

Climate Camp is one part of the TDSB/OISE professional learning opportunities in Climate Education (CE); it was delivered for the first time in August 2024, and has been so popular that it is back for a third summer! Note that this is the final offering of Climate Camp until 2028.

Organized by the TDSB's *Sustainability Office* and *Urban Indigenous Education Centre (UIEC)* in collaboration with members of OISE's *Sustainability and Climate Action Network*, this Camp offers K-12 teachers and OISE graduate students three days of rich collaborative inquiry focused on CE at the TDSB's *Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre* in Caledon. A variety of keynotes, workshops, indoor and outdoor activities provide opportunities for experiential and holistic learning to help educators prepare for teaching that centres equity, inclusion, justice and reconciliation as key tenets of CE. The Camp is designed to develop and strengthen resilience and relationships amongst educators in the school board and OISE graduate students who are dedicated to CE, and who want to develop their expertise in it through an immersive, intensive summer learning experience. In this, the board aims to develop teacher capacity and leadership in CE to impact students' learning and extend their influence in school communities in positive ways.

Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre provides a generative setting of natural and purpose-built spaces that encourages educators at Climate Camp to deepen their knowledge about CE, embrace justice-centred climate action, and nurture their resilience for leading this work. Diverse perspectives, innovative approaches and compelling ideas are introduced as inservice and preservice educators interact with experts, Indigenous knowledge-keepers, leaders from TDSB EcoSchools, the UIEC team, and OISE's teacher education program, and most importantly,

with each other. Meals, breaks and evening social activities provide time for nourishment, self-care, reflection and nurturing relationships to energize and empower them for leading CE in the subsequent year. Educators are invited to share their expertise and work collaboratively to reflect on and refine their practice in CE for the coming school year.

Climate Camp Location



Climate Camp 2026 takes place at the TDSB's Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre, situated on the Niagara Escarpment (approximately 10 km north of Orangeville, ON). The beautiful rural property features forests, meadows and open fields that border the picturesque Mono Cliffs Provincial Park with its 30 metre cliffs, bedrock outliers, a glacial spillway, hiking/biking trails, ponds and a kettle lake. Teachers will stay overnight at the Centre for three nights, with all meals and snacks provided. Accommodation is provided in shared dorm rooms (two people per room) with shared bathroom facilities. Detailed info about the Centre and its facilities is [found here](#).

Key Themes

- developing comfort in accessing, discussing, processing and working creatively with complex climate emotions
- meaningfully integrating distinct Indigenous worldviews, knowledge systems, and approaches in this work
- nurturing resilience for conflict, complexity and controversy while being grounded in powerful visions and values
- the importance of Land-based, nature-based and place-based learning
- the necessity of holistic and critical orientations to CE, fostering holistic growth across disciplines to develop collective capacities to shape new systems (nurturing habits of mind)
- the benefits of intergenerational approaches to learning
- the advantages of building bridges with community, collaboratively managing and responding to authentic problems
- centring healing, justice and regeneration
- embracing action and activism as ways of living in the face of climate change



Program Overview

Day 1:

Welcome; Introductions; Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address; Ice-breaking Activities
Lunch
Indigenous Keynote Speaker: TBA
Learning on the Land
Dinner
Climate Trivia, Games & Movie Night (optional)

Day 2:

Starting the Day on the Land (optional)
Interactive Talk: *Principles & Practices of Climate Education*
Workshops: *Growing towards Reconciliation through CE*
Lunch
Interactive Talk: *Addressing Climate Emotions*
Workshop: *Re-imagining the Future*
Creating CE Stories (in cohorts)
Choose your own learning Adventure (optional - hikes, art journalling and rest time)
Dinner
Music Night around the Campfire (optional)

Day 3:

Starting the Day on the Land (optional)
Workshops (5 to choose from)
Lunch
Workshops (5 to choose from)
Creating CE Stories (in cohort)
Choose your own learning Adventure (optional - hikes, art journalling and rest time)
Dinner
Climate Karaoke & Place-based Poetry (optional)

Day 4:

Starting the Day on the Land (optional)
Re-Storying Education - Sharing Cohort CE Stories*
Wrap-Up Activities

***CE Stories** - The culminating group projects are co-created by each cohort group and centred on sharing the groups' vision for CE in their classrooms through creative forms of storytelling and transformative pedagogies.

The Details

The application system for Climate Camp opens on April 1, 2025. Teachers and OISE graduate students are invited to apply to signal their interest in participating. A confirmation email will be sent once your application has been accepted; you will then be asked to fully register by paying the registration fee and completing the Camp Information Form. The cost for TDSB teachers for the full Camp (learning, accommodations, meals & entertainment) is only \$100 as it is subsidized by the TDSB's **Environmental Legacy Fund**. (Please note that teachers pay a registration deposit of \$200, with \$100 being refunded upon completion of the Camp.)

Check out the [TDSB's webpage on Climate Camp](#) for the link to apply. Spaces are limited, so please apply asap!



Questions?

Please reach out to Climate Camp Administrator Linda Naccarato
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