

# 2008 CAMP IAWAH GOVERNING GUIDELINES (created Oct 1, 2003)



## Mission Statement

"To provide a Christ-centered wholesome recreational environment which fosters personal growth by encouraging both campers and staff in right relationships with God and each other."

## **Vision Statement**

To serve the communities of Eastern Ontario by developing a progressive Christian ministry that provides excellent outdoor education and leadership programs, retreat facilities and camp experiences for children, adults and families.

## **Purposes**

1. To provide opportunities for non-Christians to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.
2. To provide opportunities for Christians to mature in their faith.
3. To develop Christian leaders.
4. To be a caring and supportive community for those associated with the ministry.

## Camp IAWAH - Core Beliefs

□ **THE BEGINNING** - We believe that there is one God, the Creator of all, who exists as plurality-in-unity Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is the personification of pure love and complete power and deeply desires a loving relationship with his people. Because God is love and as such is an inherently relational being, this means that relationship itself is at the core of reality.

□ **THE BIBLE** - We believe the Bible is God's message to humanity. Although written through people with the perspective of their own era, culture, and traditions, the Old and New Testaments were inspired by the Holy Spirit and thus the Bible is our timeless and final authority in all that we believe and do.

□ **THE DILEMMA** - We believe that God created all humanity in his image, regardless of gender, colour, or class and thus all people are precious image bearers. Being made in God's image, we were designed for an eternal relationship with him. However due to our own sinful choices and inherent self-centredness we have all fallen short of God's ideal and become separated from him, in need of forgiveness and reconciliation with him.

□ **THE SOLUTION** - We believe that Jesus, the Son, provides the one way for us to become reunited with God. Through Jesus, God fully revealed his extreme love for humanity and unveiled his plan and purpose to reconcile the world to himself. Through Christ's death on the cross he made it possible for us to find forgiveness in a way that doesn't compromise the integrity of God's justice. Because Jesus was miraculously conceived by God as a human being born of Mary, and lived a perfect life, he died as a pure, sinless sacrifice for our sins. And because he rose from the dead he forever lives as our ascended Lord, our advocate and our friend.

□ **THE CHURCH** We believe that anyone who chooses to be reconciled to God by accepting forgiveness through Jesus Christ becomes part of the Church - the living, active body of Jesus carrying on his ministry today. God calls his people to come together, empowers and transforms them by his Holy Spirit, and through them reaches out to hurting humanity.

□ **THE BATTLE** - We believe that there is a battle going on between the spiritual forces of good & evil that affects all people in a very real way. It is the main goal of the rebel angel, Satan, and the forces of darkness, to promote the separation of man from God and seek ultimate control of this world. The good news is that through Christ, God has already won the definitive battle and is in the process of establishing his rule throughout creation.

□ **THE FUTURE** - We believe that Jesus will return to earth to bring his victory to final completion and to establish his kingdom in its fullness, together with his Church. This is the inheritance of those who believe and have chosen to be reconciled to God through Christ.

*(The above "Core Beliefs" is a contemporary expression of our Statement of Faith ).*

## COMMITMENT TO TEAM

As a member of the staff of IAWAH, I understand that I am part of a ministry team that shares a common mission and set of purposes. As a team member, I am committed to the fellow members of the team and to the ministry as a whole. To that end,

*I am willing to commit to the following:*

### In Matters Related to Public Relations

I understand that my interactions with our guests and the public at large can affect the reputation of the entire team and the IAWAH ministry. Therefore, in my interactions with the public, I will endeavor to:

- be professional and helpful
- act with integrity
- be a conduit of God's grace

### In Matters Related to Community Living

I understand that, as a member of the IAWAH staff, I am part of a community. I understand that my actions can affect the overall culture of that community. Therefore, as a member of the IAWAH community, I will endeavor to:

- respect the privacy and personal property of others
- do my part in maintaining shared spaces and equipment
- do my part in maintaining the natural beauty of IAWAH
- do my part in building a caring and supportive community
- guard against behaviors that would cause division

### In Matters Related to Role Responsibilities

I understand that my work performance can influence the overall effectiveness of the team. Therefore, in my work, I will endeavor to:

- maintain a neat and orderly work environment
- be thorough and effective
- be efficient, staying on schedule and using resources wisely
- effectively communicate information that is relevant to the entire team or those members affected
- stay current and competent
- lend a hand, as the need arises, in areas not directly related to my role
- affirm my colleagues and their work
- show interest in the work of my colleagues and provide thoughtful input as is appropriate

### In Matters Related to the Spiritual Disciplines

I understand that my spiritual life can influence the overall life of the ministry. Therefore, in my spiritual life, I will endeavor to:

- grow in my relationship with Jesus Christ by reading His Word,
- praying continually and attending a local church fellowship
- pray for the IAWAH ministry; my colleagues, the Board of Directors, Corporation members, occasional staff and campers.

### Moral Guidelines as taken from IAWAH's Lifestyle Required Policy

The personnel employment policy of Camp IAWAH is based on the conviction that the Christian truths and values it espouses must be communicated *congruently*; not only through teaching, activities, and worship, but also through the modeling of those truths and values on the part of all who are officially appointed or employed, in whatever capacity.

It is therefore imperative that all persons employed by Camp IAWAH or assuming leadership roles in the life of Camp IAWAH adhere to the following minimal statements concerning lifestyle:

1. Obedience to the moral authority of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17), and the Greatest Commandment (Matt. 22:37-39) is essential for a truly committed Christian lifestyle.
2. A heterosexual relationship within life-commitment marriage is the only biblically sanctioned sexual lifestyle (We agree also that such marriage should be legally sanctioned for the well being of society).
3. Persons currently given to substance abuse of any kind (addictive drugs, including alcohol and tobacco) are deemed ineligible for employment or leadership roles.