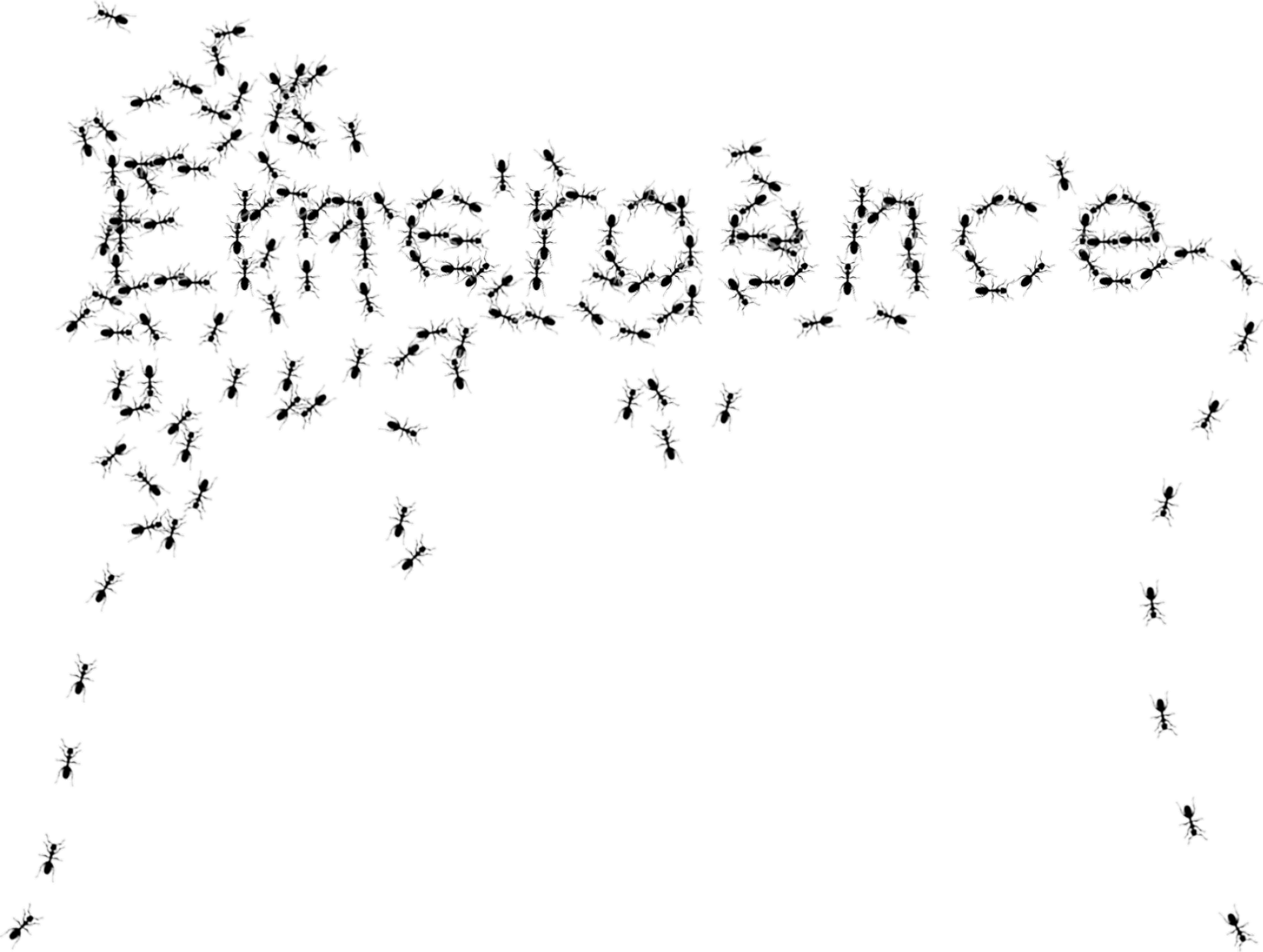


# Mindcamp Canada 2022



22-25 August 2022 • YMCA Cedar Glen • Bolton, ON



# Welcome!

In spring 2003, John Sedgwick and I attended a small creativity retreat in New Lebanon, NY. It was modest, rustic, and fun. Driving home, we decided to ask some friends in the creativity field if they'd be interested in a retreat in Canada. After some research we found Cedar Glen, a modest, rustic campus, which had an unbooked weekend we could rent in September. We sent out emails, and about 30 friends said, "Yes!"

As summer rolled in, so did inquiries from other people who'd heard about what we were doing and wanted to come too.

We thought, "Why not?"

We ended up with about 70 attendees from the US, Europe, and Canada. The retreat was just two days. But we learned lots, shared stories, made friends, and had fun. At our closing lunch, people asked, "When's next year's Mindcamp?"

We hadn't even considered a next year, but thought, "Why not?"

That was the beginning of Mindcamp, which has been running yearly (except for COVID) ever since. Because this will be our first Mindcamp of the new era, we thought we'd celebrate it with the theme of Emergence.

There's another important reason to focus on emergence. Those of you familiar with creative problem solving know that among its foundational principles are divergence — generating lots of different ideas— and convergence — combining and choosing those ideas that seem to have the most promise. There's a third principle, however, that gets less attention, even though it may be the most powerful, emergence. Emergence is that special magic that happens when different ideas collide and tangle and morph in ways that can result in thinking that is truly new, that can lift us into new possibilities and new ways of being.

Mindcamp 2022 will be like no other. We'll use Open Space Technology to let what happens truly emerge. Aside from a few pre-planned programs, this year's Mindcamp will be designed by you. It will emerge from the combination of people, time, and place that's here right now. It will also build on the original do-it-yourself spirit with which we started.

So welcome! We hope you'll learn something, make friends, have fun, participate with your whole self, offer as much as you receive, and receive more than you expected.

Can we do all that in just three days? "Why not?"

Thank you for joining us.

Tim Hurson



# Schedule

Monday August 22		
3:00-5:00pm	<b>Check-in</b>	Free time to unpack and explore
5:00pm	<b>Site Tours</b>	Optional: meet outside Main Lodge
	<b>Kids/Parent Orientation and Tour</b>	Kids and parents meet in The Lobby (area just inside Main Lodge)
6:15pm	<b>Supper</b>	
7:30pm	<b>Adults Opening</b>	Adult Plenary: Introduction to Open Space Process (Summit Room)
	<b>Kids Opening</b>	Meet in the Lobby
9:00pm	<b>Pick up kids</b>	Parents pick up kids in the Lobby
	<b>Campfire &amp; Labyrinth Opening</b>	
Tuesday August 23		
7:15am	<b>Early Risers</b>	Your choice of yoga, freewriting, sleeping in...
8:00am	<b>Breakfast</b>	
8:45am	<b>Creative Jolt!</b>	Meet/stay together in the Dining Room for a fun exercise and announcements
9:30am	<b>Open Space Marketplace</b>	Plenary: Adults present session ideas and sign up for the ones that interest them (Summit Room)
	<b>Sessions for Kids</b>	Meet in The Lobby
11:00am	<b>Break</b>	
11:15am	<b>Sessions</b>	
12:45pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:00pm	<b>Sessions</b>	
3:30pm	<b>Free Time</b>	Discovering, sunning, hiking, homework, or just plain chilling
	<b>Swimming</b>	Pool is open 3:30-4:30
	<b>YMCA Challenge</b>	TBD high ropes, low ropes, or climbing wall
5:00pm	<b>Kaleidoscopes</b>	Gather in small groups to discuss and integrate the day's experiences
6:15pm	<b>Supper</b>	
7:30pm	<b>Adults: Report Out</b>	Adult Plenary: Report to the group as a whole on the day's Open Space sessions (Summit Room)
	<b>Kids: Hang Out</b>	We kids don't need no reports... we just hang!
9:00pm	<b>Night Flights</b>	Optional sessions... or free time
	<b>Campfire</b>	



<b>Wednesday August 24</b>		
7:15am	<b>Early Risers</b>	Your choice of yoga, freewriting, sleeping in...
8:00am	<b>Breakfast</b>	
8:45am	<b>Open Space Adjustments</b>	Stay together in the Dining Room for a facilitated tune-up of the day's schedule
9:30am	<b>Sessions</b>	
11:00am	<b>Break</b>	
11:15am	<b>Sessions</b>	
12:45pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:00pm	<b>Sessions</b>	
3:30pm	<b>Free Time</b>	Discovering, sunning, hiking, homework, or just plain chilling
	<b>Swimming</b>	Pool open 3:30-4:30
	<b>YMCA Challenge</b>	TBD high ropes, low ropes, or climbing wall
5:00pm	<b>Kaleidoscopes</b>	Gather in small groups to discuss and integrate the day's experiences
6:15pm	<b>Supper</b>	
7:30pm	<b>Camino</b>	
9:00pm	<b>Night Flights</b>	Optional additional sessions... or free time
	<b>Campfire</b>	
<b>Thursday August 25</b>		
7:15am	<b>Early Risers</b>	Your choice of yoga, freewriting, sleeping in...
8:00am	<b>Breakfast</b>	
8:45am	<b>Creative Jolt!</b>	Stay together in the Dining Room for a fun exercise and announcements
9:30am	<b>Sessions</b>	
	<b>YMCA Challenge</b>	TBD high ropes, low ropes, or climbing wall
11:00	<b>Break</b>	
11:30	<b>Kaleidoscopes</b>	Final Kaleidoscope meeting
12:45pm	<b>Lunch</b>	



# Programming

## Open Space

Our format will be full (almost) Open Space this year.

We will have a few surprise programs, and some of our regular ongoing programs such as yoga and morning free writes, but otherwise no predetermined programming!

What is Open Space? Well, most conferences are programmed well in advance. With Open Space, however, aside from those few scheduled sessions, the content of Mindcamp will be yours to decide.

Here's how it will work:

- **Monday evening** at our first Plenary we will learn more about the Open Space process
- **Tuesday morning** all adults will come to an open "marketplace" where anyone can volunteer to offer a session on a topic of their choosing over the next 2.5 days. If enough people are interested in participating in that topic, we'll assign a room and time and away we go.
- **Tuesday evening** we all meet together to report out on the day's Open Space sessions.
- **Wednesday morning** after breakfast, we fine-tune that day's schedule.

Apart from these changes, Mindcamp will be as weird and wonderful as ever, with mind-changing sessions, a youth program, a labyrinth, the camino, campfires, kaleidoscopes, night flights, and a bunch of surprises we hope you'll flip for.

## Scheduled Sessions

There are a few scheduled sessions as well, including:

- **Early Risers:** early morning yoga and freewriting sessions are optional
- **Camino:** a Wednesday evening stroll with a series of creativity buskers and enjoy various surprise activities
- **Kaleidoscopes:** Daily check-ins with your own small group

## Youth Program

During programming hours, Mindcamp kids will be doing their own away from their parents. Although we will have some programs prepared in advance, in the end it will be up to the kids to decide what they would like to do. (It's always been like this at Mindcamp for the kids: in a way the adult program this year has finally caught up!)



# Participants

Alessia Berti (Italy)  
Allie Middleton (USA)  
Amaro Panizza (Chile)  
Annie Xiong (Canada)  
Aurora Grace Grover-Loeppky (Canada)  
Beto Santos Pyne (Canada)  
Bill Brooks (Canada)  
Branko Broekman (Netherlands)  
Branwen Hurson (Canada)  
Carlea Taylor (Canada)  
Christine Charnock (Canada)  
Declan O'Leary (Canada)  
Deepika Grover (Canada)  
Denise Pinto (Canada)  
Denise Skuce (Canada)  
Dorte Nielsen (Denmark)  
Doug Carter (Canada)  
Edouard Le Maréchal (France)  
Elisa Muñoz (Chile)  
Fatima Kamenge (Canada)  
Franca Leeson (Canada)  
Gina Paigen (USA)  
Ginny Santos (Canada)  
Grover Neville (USA)  
Ismet Mamnoon (USA)  
Jen Smith (Canada)  
Jenna Struck (Canada)  
Jennifer Battan (USA)  
Jennifer O'Leary (Canada)  
Jesse Davis (USA)  
Jill McCubbin (Canada)  
Jocelyn Tejada (USA)

Joe Gammal (USA)  
John Sedgwick (Canada)  
Kaz Ogino (Canada)  
Keon Azari-Vala (Canada)  
Laura Switalski (USA)  
Leonardo Muñoz (Chile)  
Liam O'Leary (Canada)  
Lindsay Lowe (Canada)  
Malachi Greaves (USA)  
Mary Harvey (Canada)  
Marysia Czarski (Canada)  
Max Hurson (Canada)  
Michelle Joo (Canada)  
Nancy Lautner (Canada)  
Newell Eaton (USA)  
Nick Drayton (US Virgin Islands)  
Nooshin Mohtashami (Canada)  
Paula Amarales (Chile)  
Quincy Wakulat (Canada)  
Robert McFadden (Canada)  
Robert Wakulat (Canada)  
Ryan Hammer (USA)  
Sandi Trillo (Canada)  
Sara Ramadoro (Italy)  
Sébastien Giroux (Canada)  
Sophie Harvey (Canada)  
Sydnie Hammer (USA)  
Tim Hurson (Canada)  
Tim Switalski (USA)  
Tom McMillian (USA)  
Vareia Boxill (Canada)  
Zach Stapleton-Jones (USA)



# COVID Guidelines

**The Overarching Principle: We ask you all to use your best judgement to keep yourselves and others safe.**

Based on this principle, here are the guidelines.

- We encourage and support masking, especially indoors, but it is not mandatory. Disposable masks are available in the supply room (east end of The Lounge).
- We have rapid antigen tests here for you if you feel you may have been exposed to COVID.
- Take advantage of the outdoors! There are many comfortable spaces outside to enjoy a chat, explore the trails, and you can even hold sessions outdoors.
- If you feel symptoms, the YMCA has a room where you can temporarily isolate. If your symptoms persist (or you test positive), you will need to go off-site to recover. We will help you with all of this.

Please note that these are suggestions, not rules. We are trusting you all to use your best judgement, and to be considerate of others.

## Some Background Information

- Current Ontario government guidelines do not require masking or vaccination, nor is it YMCA policy to require either of those.
- 90% of Greater Toronto residents over 12 are fully vaccinated.
- YMCA Cedar Glen has been open for some time and there have been no outbreaks.
- Indoor environments here (dining room and program rooms) are well-ventilated.
- About half of you responded to the survey we sent out, and here are some key results:
  - Virtually all indicated they were fully vaccinated and, in most cases, boosted.
  - Most indicated a willingness to mask indoors; but are not willing require others to mask indoors.
  - Many have already had COVID in 2022.

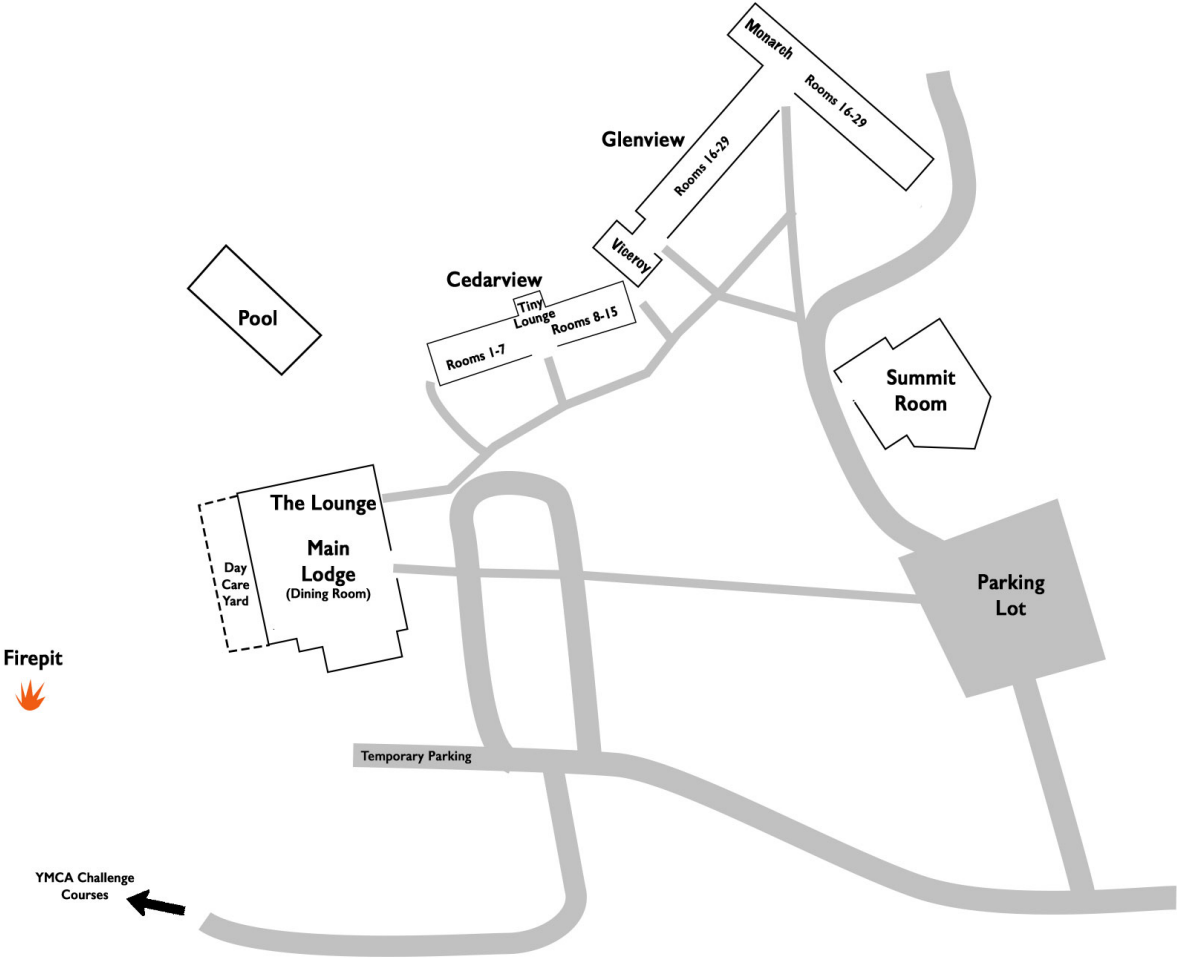
**Please be mindful of the investment you and others have made to come to this retreat!**







# Map of Cedar Glen



This is just a small portion of the many hectares of trails you can explore 😊