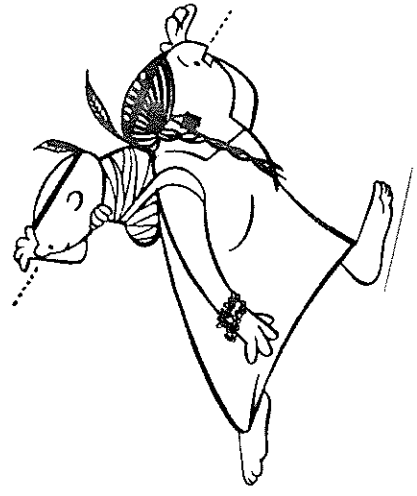


INDIAN



COUNCIL  
, 80

## INDIAN COUNCIL

Acadia University  
Spring Camps

Camp-Wide Program

### Objectives

- 1) to demonstrate a theme program
- 2) to participate in a children's camp-fire program
- 3) to convey a feeling for North American heritage
- 4) to participate in authentic Indian games and lore
- 5) to participate in a camp-wide activity
- 6) to promote small group cohesiveness
- 7) to enjoy the natural surroundings
- 8) to have fun while learning.

### Location

- 1) The Indian Council will take place at camp-fire point
- 2) Gathering of the tribes will take place along the beach or in the playing field.
- 3) Hiawatha shall appear on the beach across from camp-fire point
- 4) Princess of the Night shall sing from the shadows behind the council ring.

### Procedures

- 1) All camp is divided into six tribes, SENECA, MOHAWK, ONEIDA, CAYUGA, BEATHUK, MICMAC.
- 2) Each tribe will be assigned an area for their tribal fire.
- 3) After preparing for Council (paint, blankets, etc.) each tribe will go to their fire circle and light a small fire.
- 4) At this time the tribes should make up a tribal yell or song.
- 5) When the council is ready to begin the chief will begin the drum beat.
- 6) Medicine man will gather the tribes to council lighting tribal torches enroute. As he passes each fire doing his dance to the beat of the drum he sprinkles magic dust on each fire (SALT)
- 7) Each tribe files in single line behind the medicine man.
- 8) As the council fire is approach the medicine man files the tribes around the outside of the council ring (so as not to trigger the magic fire).
- 9) When the chief stops the drum he says  
"BE SEATED BRAVES"
- 10) Medicine man speaks ....

Medicine Man

Magic Fire Opening Speech.

Thy flames will shine bright,  
May they burn bright in our hearts.  
In our hearts may the flames of friendship  
burn bright.  
May this fire shine in beauty,  
In beauty may it burn.  
In our hearts, may this fire shine in beauty.  
In beauty, may this fire shine in our hearts.  
May good medicine come from this fire,  
When the Dawn Star looks over the edge of  
the world,  
When the ashes from this council fire are cold,  
May the friendship in our hearts, still be warm.  
  
Oh Great Spirit, send us fire. Fire for  
life, Fire for light, Fire for friendship,  
Fire for peace.

Medicine man now does a small dance singing in Indian.

Meeka kola mayhoon poonee CHOP  
On chop, the magic fire lights and the medicine  
man throws his arms into the air.

11) Chief

After the Medicine Man calls the Fire, the chief steps forward to the council ring and calls the tribal chiefs to lay their torches in the fire.

As they complete this task the chief gives thanks to the wind as the peace pipe is lighted. He faces each direction and hold up the pipe as he speaks:

To the East Wind:

East: to you this offering is made  
that the sun may return to  
us when darkness is gone  
to make place for light

South: our offering is made that your  
your warm breath may comfort us  
after the cold of night.

West: to you I smoke as the sleeping  
place of the sun and for  
your sky colors.

North: to you this smoke offering  
goes up that your cold winds  
may not harm us when you  
make the painted leaves  
dance, and when the  
snow blanket cover the  
earth.

activities, stories,  
songs, etc.

- 12) Medicine man calls for all tribal yells at once, with raised arms/yells to stop when arms drop.
- 13) Each tribe is called to do their yell.
- 14) War games begin. Braves called to challenges by the loudest yell.

Challenges.

- 1) Squat Rope Pull - tug-o-war, squatting
- 2) Kick Stick - 2 sticks, 2 people. Kick a stick around the fire faster than opponent. Opposite directions.
- 3) Elbow grand Ball - 2 people, 2 balls held in the elbow. Object, to hit the ball out of other persons arm.
- 4) Back Push - hand hit balance
- 5) Test of strength with pole
- 6) Arm wrestle
- 7) Leg wrestle
- 8) four way Tug of War.

- 15) Songs should be taught every so often between challenges.
- 16) Skits between challenges.

10 little Indians

17) Counting Coup

Test of intellegence. Each tribe puts forward a brave whom they feel represents the tribe. The chief asks a question concerning nature. If the brave answers correctly he/she receives an honoured prize.

- 18) Story. The medicine man will tell a short Indian Story.
- 19) Hiawatha's Farewell.

The chief should tell the story of Hiawatha. As the story draws to a close a magic fire will light across from the council fire. Hiawatha appears.

Hiawatha Sings

Chiefs answer

Hiawatha's departs as the fire fades.  
Council chief bids farewell to Hiawatha.

- 20) Closing prayer. Council chief calls to the goddess of future to bless the earth, crops hunting and the tribe until the next Council of Peace.

Prayer of Peace is sung from the darkness.

COUNCIL IS OVER.

## CAMPFIRE PROGRAMMING

- an outline of the workshop presented to Kings Co. Teachers on March 26, 1986 by Clarence De Schiffart, lecturer, Acadia University.

### Introduction

Group campfires can be an important and special part of any outdoor program. Memories often linger of the special moments which can be created by those involved in designing campfires. The onus lies upon those responsible for such moments to take advantage of that time. Remember, a good campfire does not just happen, it must be well planned for.

### WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

As planners of a campfire program, the following things should be considered initially:

- Purpose:
  - What type of campfire?
  - Who is it for? (age, sex, type of group)
  - Will a theme be connected to it?
  - What are the specific objectives or intentions?
  - Will it be in or outdoors?

Three general guidelines to remember are:

1. The campfire program should remain people centered
2. The program should provide fun and entertainment as well as an unique opportunity for learning
3. Take into account age, ability, and interests of the group

The 5 P's of CAMPFIRE PROGRAMMING: This is a brief summary of ideas which were presented during the workshop. Jack Pearse's - Campfire Programs is an excellent resource.

#### **A. Preparation**

1. Use the resources available to you at the particular camp.
2. Have the fire ready to be lighted
3. Have costumes, props and other accessories close at hand.
4. Allow some time before the fire for staff to prepare last minute details.
5. Have alternatives for bad weather.
6. Be flexible - don't hesitate to ask whether the program should change.
7. Have the staff aware of the program outline before it begins.
8. Put the campfire program on paper - hand out copies to those involved in the campfire.

#### **B. Practice**

Practice is important to have a campfire program go successfully. A successful campfire is well planned and small details on how it's to be done are discussed before hand.

## Components

### Song Leading

- a. Be friendly.
- b. Share enthusiasm through the use of a smile, facial expression, body movement, hand movement and tone of voice.
- c. Make eye contact with as many participants as possible.
- d. Be poised and relaxed.
- e. Know your group.
- f. Practice leading the songs before the campfire program.
- g. Know the type of song and how it should fit into your program.

### \* Leading the Song

- a. Think and act as the song leader.
- b. Be visible
- c. Announce clearly and be brief.
- d. Start with a note that would allow an appropriate range for your participant.
- e. Use your hands to express things and to establish tempo or volume.
- f. Be Enthusiastic.
- g. Teach only one or two new songs/per campfire.
- h. Encourage everyone to participate at the beginning - start with a familiar song.
- i. Taper the singing at the campfire with quiet songs to have a peaceful conclusion.

- \* The Nova Scotia Camping Association has an excellent camp song book - **Come On, Let's Sing.**

## C. **Participation**

A campfire is for everyone at your camp. Get everyone involved in some aspect. Children enjoy doing presentations or just singing. They also like to see staff involved in leading a song or being involved in a skit or play. A word of caution, try not to dominate the program by having all the entertainment come from the staff. The campfire program should remain camper oriented.

## D. **Punctuality**

The pace and timing of a successful campfire program requires intensive planning. Allowing the program to drag pass the allotted time frame can reduce the effectiveness of your programming. Flexibility and judgement (and judgement) will be necessary as the program progresses. Is it dragging on? Are the campers getting bored and restless? Are the campers too excited and full of energy to begin the quiet songs or the story? These questions can only be answered as one watches the campers as the campfire program evolves.

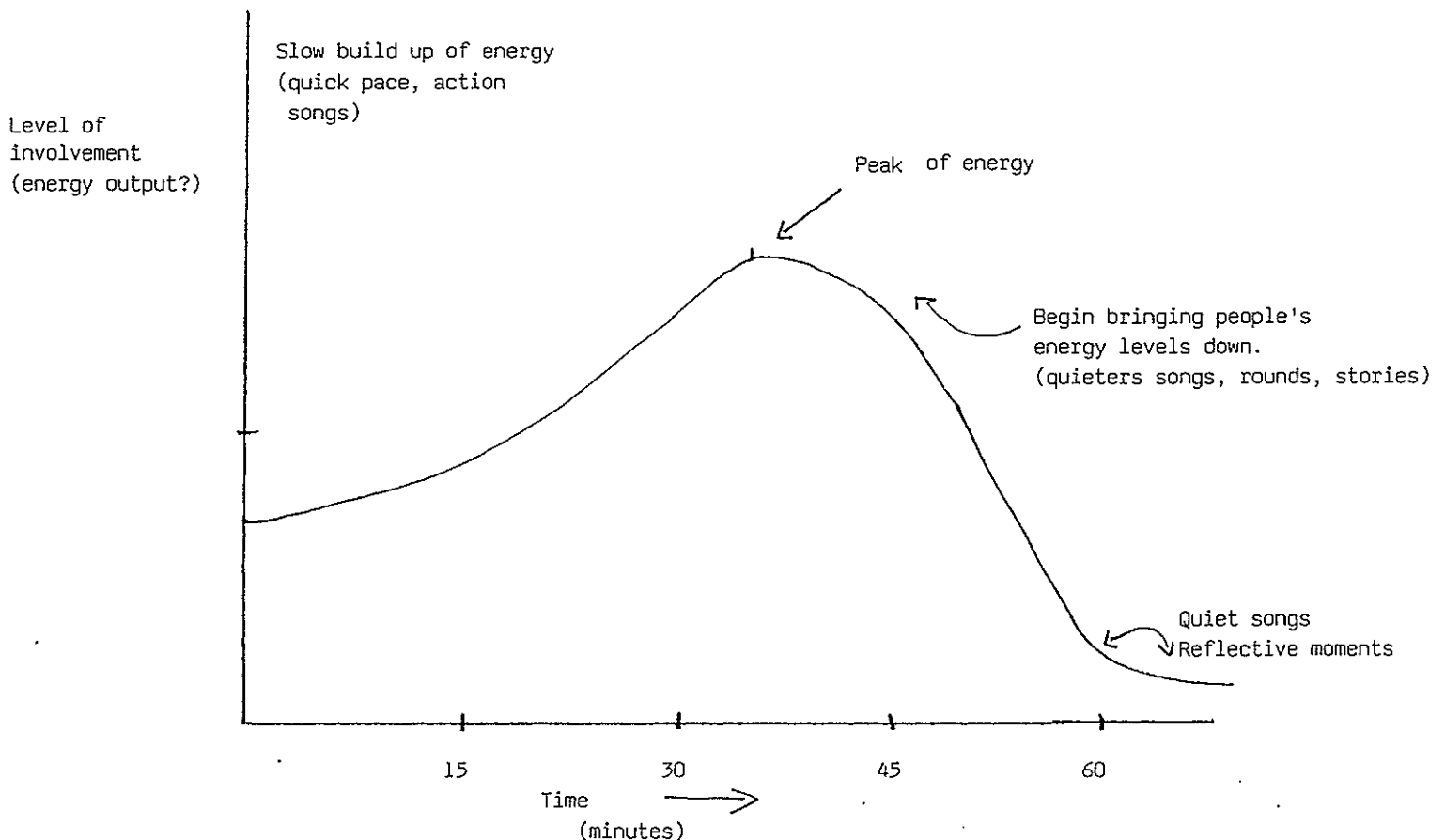
Some suggested guidelines:

- forty-five to sixty minutes maximum
- start and stop on time
- avoid having a snack during the campfire. It disrupts the flow of participation or the atmosphere which is being created.
- the Master of Ceremonies should keep announcements brief. It is not necessary to have the MC directly announcing all the people or groups who are going to perform next. If the staff knows ahead of time, they can go up unannounced.

### E. Peaceful Ending

The campfire program can reach it's full potential if the ending is quiet and peaceful. This is where the special mood can be created and a personal time of reflection allowed. Have little talking take place between songs or stories and focus the camper s attention upon the fire. This part tends to be the most meaningful for the campers.

### Graphic Representation of Programming for a Campfire.

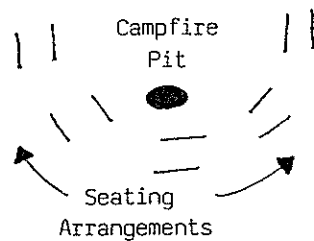


## Programming Details of Actual Campfire

### Call to the Fire

- Have the fire ready to be lighted before calling the campers to the campfire circle.
- Arrange the seating to take into account the visibility of the song leaders, wind direction and comfortability

Suggested format:



To gather your camper's attention creative openings are suggested. It can tie into the theme of your camp or reflect a particular aspect of trends in our society. Use of your imagination can create any number of openings to suit your particular camp and its campers.

Suggestions include:

- use of magic fires
- a fire lighting ceremony
- use of themes e.g. "Where's the Magic?"

Word symbolism - **F** Friendship  
**I** Imagination  
**R** Responsibility  
**E** Enthusiasm

Be sure to have the opening of your campfire well rehearsed and clearly written on paper.

### Components of a Campfire Program

Songs - Quick pace  
Action (See the Nova Scotia  
Rounds Camping Association's  
Quiet Come On, Let's Sing)

Cheers- Water Melon  
Wave  
Gr.....eat!

Skits - 2-5 mins in length  
use of themes or ideas

Stunts- Rain Maker



- Games & Challenges - Indian challenges
  - Inuit games
  - Picture charades
- Story Telling - Old readers
  - Poems
  - Legends
  - Scary stories (recommend caution with these)
  - Humourous
- Closing - quiet
  - peaceful
  - reflective
  - draw campfire to a conclusion

Suggested Program Format (modify to suit your own needs).

Opening

Familiar	{	Song
Quick Pace		Song
Action		
Quick		

Skit  
Cheer

New Song	{	Song
Fast Pace		

Skit  
Game/Challenge

Fast Pace	{	Song
Peak Reached		Skit
		Skit

Quieter Song	{	Song
Rounds		Story

May have to put two quieter songs here to bring down energy level of campers. You'll have to read the group.

Familiar Quiet	{	Song
Song		

Closing remarks

Closing: { Song  
-either familiar  
or very easy to  
teach

In closing, one has to realize the amount of time one would need in developing a particular expertise in this area. Do not be discouraged by your first attempt - it takes time and practice. It would be benefical to critique one another if the campfire program is to be developed in the King's County School Camps.

Best wishes for enjoyable and memorable campfires.

Clarence