

A New Brunswick Legacy Returns

Kings Landing's Visiting Cousins summer camps to resume in upcoming 50th anniversary season

PRINCE WILLIAM, N.B. - After nearly five years on hiatus, Kings Landing is ready to welcome children back to its beloved Visiting Cousins and Family Kin summer camps. These multi-day programs offer children ages 9-15 the chance to experience life in the 19th century first-hand. Pandemic restrictions and renovations of the Slipp House previously paused the program, which last ran in August 2019.

"The Visiting Cousins and Family Kin programs are an immersive way to teach kids about history while making friendships and memories that will last a lifetime," says Travis Weber, CEO of Kings Landing. "We are excited to welcome a new generation of Cousins and Kin to enjoy this unique summer camp experience."

A week at these camps allows children to don 19th-century costumes and become part of the village. After an early start, children attend the one-room schoolhouse, help with household chores, complete crafts, tend to the farm animals, and learn from shop owners. After-hours, the children return to the Slipp House for supper, games, songs, and theatre before turning in for a well-earned rest.

The Slipp House renovation project is funded by investments from the Government of New Brunswick and generous donations from the Kings Landing Foundation and the Slipp family. Originally built in the 1850s, the house was transported in 2020 from Kings Landing's service area to the public village. Kings Landing's maintenance team and local contractors have worked tirelessly to renovate the house, which will be complete in time for the first Visiting Cousins camp starting on July 8.

Despite the program's pause, children have still had opportunities to immerse themselves in the past. Kings Landing offered day camps in July and August from 2020-2023 during which participants dressed up and had a taste of life on a 19th-century farm. Kings Landing will continue to offer day camps this summer for children ages 5-12 as an immersive option for younger children. Registration is now available online.

The return of the beloved Visiting Cousins and Family Kin programs, which has welcomed over 4,000 participants since it started over 45 years ago, is a bonus to the celebrations of Kings Landing's 50th season. The living history museum will mark this occasion with an anniversary exhibit telling Kings Landing's own history, as well as a celebration event on July 20 - the commemoration date of its official opening 50 years ago.





Applications for the Visiting Cousins and Family Kin camps are now available online. Visiting Cousins for children ages 9 - 12 run July 8 - 12, July 22 - 26, and August 5 - 9. Family Kin for youth ages 13 -15 run July 15 – 19, July 29 – August 2, and August 12 – 16. The fee for both programs is \$650 plus tax. For more information about the programs and to reserve a child's spot, please visit https://kingslanding.nb.ca/camp/.



Children attending a day camp in August 2023 learn about gardening. Photo: Kaleigh Betty Photography.

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