



## **Informed Consent Letter for Youth Programs**

Congratulations on considering kayaking for your child. Ecomarine has been running successful ocean kayaking programs since 1980. Kayaking is a water based activity and is subject to the conditions experienced on the ocean. The goal of all our programs is for every participant to enjoy being in an ocean kayak.

Some programs involve tipping over in the kayak and exiting. All our participants must wear Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices. We combine both beach and on water activities with our youth programs. Programs are run in calmer conditions, but conditions may change unexpectedly. Courses will be cancelled by the Instructor due to weather conditions beyond our safety protocol. This decision can be made any time before and during a program. We regret in advance for the inconvenience this may cause.

All our Instructors are Paddle Canada certified. Each Instructor has been specifically trained and has experience with leading groups on the water. Instructors may recall a group or individual off the water if conditions dictate. Some of our criteria are:

1. Unsafe paddling conditions (wind and waves, thunder storms, lightning)
2. Behaviour challenges (participants not following Instructors' directions)
3. Program not appropriate for particular participants

Every effort is made by Ecomarine and its Instructors to provide a wonderful program. Kayaking has its risks. Ecomarine has never had a serious injury in any of its programs. Even though the possibility for serious injury and death is inherent with everyday life, we are obliged to inform you that your child is to be involved in an activity with increased risks. These risks, whether perceived or real, are a necessary ingredient to any outdoor program. Our experience has shown that our programming and training has reduced these risks to where they are manageable. Every Instructor is trained to deal with any situation that may arise. If you see something that concerns you while you are at our facility, then please bring this to the attention of the attending Lead Instructor or myself. We are sure that your child will have an enjoyable experience with Ecomarine so that we may see you and your family for decades to come.

Thanks for enrolling your child in our programs.

Happy Paddling

Chris Ladner

Owner (and Paddle Canada Certified Instructor Trainer)

## **ECOMARINE OCEAN KAYAK CENTRE**

*The Ocean Kayaking Specialists Since 1980*

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