



# CONNECTIONS

**April 2009 Volume 1, Issue 2**

Quite often host families ask their Local Coordinators if there are any other hosting opportunities throughout the year. The answer is "Absolutely!" Red Leaf constantly sources unique, interesting and educational opportunities for youth.

In this issue, we are providing you with information about 3 such programs, [The Ontario Stewardship Rangers](#), [Total Immersion program](#) and the [High School Experience](#).

These programs are offered in many communities in Ontario including the Greater Toronto Area, Simcoe, Muskoka, Lindsay, Haliburton, Barrie, Orillia, Midland, Penetang, Collingwood, Elmvale, Bradford, Bracebridge, Huntsville and Fenelon Falls. As well as in British Columbia and Alberta including the Greater Vancouver area, Comox area and Edmonton.

Also in this issue, we are profiling the beautiful community of [Cambridge, Ontario](#) and due to several requests, we are featuring a French onion soup recipe!

**Lastly, we are offering a chance to win a special prize for any referrals you provide, anyone who becomes a Fan on our [Facebook Page](#) or who contributes to our blogs <http://redleafvolunteers.com> and <http://redleafhostfamilies.com>! See details below.**

If you know of anyone who might be interested in learning more about hosting opportunities, please forward this issue of Connections to them.



## Total Immersion



One of the most common complaints we hear from host families is "the time goes by so fast" or "they are so busy, we never get to spend enough time with them".

If you and your family would really like to get to know a young person from another country, consider hosting a "Total Immersion" student. These students have chosen not to be in a large group with scheduled classes and activities.

Rather, they simply want to improve their English by being with their host families for the duration of their visit. The students and their families have decided to participate in this

## In This Issue

[Total Immersion](#)  
[Ontario Stewardship Rangers](#)  
[Be Part of the Experience](#)  
[Summer Camps at Sheridan](#)  
[Profile of Cambridge, Ontario](#)  
[Win, Win, Win](#)  
[Recipe](#)

## Total Immersion Communities

**Host Families are needed in the following communities:**

Barrie, Orillia, Midland, Penetang, Collingwood, Elmvale, Bradford, Bracebridge, Huntsville, Lindsay, Haliburton and Fenelon Falls.

### Student Information:

Toronto Area:

- 15 French students for 3 weeks in July
- 15 French students for 3 weeks in

program for a number of reasons. For one, the teen really can connect with the family and will not have the temptations of speaking their native language as there will not be other students with them. This is an opportunity for their English to improve immensely in a short period of time as well as to really connect with a Canadian family and experience life in Canada.

This is also great for families who wish to vacation during the summer months. Camping, boating, seeing the sites, are all great things to include your student in. This is a win-win situation for all. The student has the once in lifetime opportunity to truly experience life in Canada while improving their English and making life-long friends. As well, it allows Canadian host families to see things through another person's eyes. Fantastic experience for the young and young-at-heart!

Since students do not travel with a supervisor or have structured activities there are a few requirements host families must meet in order to host.

- Families must have an adult at home at all times.
- Families must have a child at home within 3 years of age of the visiting student.
- Family must agree to do two half-day activities (such as swimming, bowling, go-carts, movies, shopping) and 1 full-day excursion per week (visiting tourist sites such as theme parks, museums, beaches, etc).

Red Leaf offers excellent remuneration for hosting a Total Immersion student. If you, or a friend, are interested please contact Marlene Lowen via email at [mlowen@red-leaf.com](mailto:mlowen@red-leaf.com)

### Be Part of the Experience

Hollywood has always glamorized high school from the movie "Greece" to the now famous "High School Musical". There is a reason for this. High School is generally the most influential and memorably experiences of our lives.

Red Leaf is excited to offer 50 Spanish students the opportunity of experiencing a Canadian high school! For 4- 8 weeks, these remarkable boys and girls (ages 15-17) will live with a Canadian host family and attend classes at the local high school. Many of these students have had exceptional qualifications that earned them this scholarship opportunity!



### August

#### Vancouver Area:

- 15 French students for 3 weeks in July
- 15 French students for 3 weeks in August

#### Vancouver Island (Comox Area):

- 12 French students for 3 weeks in July
- 12 Spanish students for 4 weeks in July

#### Edmonton:

- 12 Spanish students for 4 weeks in July

### Ontario Stewardship Rangers

This year Red Leaf will receive several students from France between 16-18 years old from July 8th-25th and August 5th-22nd.



These students will spend their summer volunteering for the Ministry of Natural Resources while working on a variety of projects including: creating wildlife habitats, researching forests, building fish spawning beds, removing invasive species, studying species at risk, cleaning up streams and maintaining hiking trails.

**The Red Leaf students will not only gain excellent practical work experience but will also have the valuable opportunity to improve their English by living with a host family during their stay.**

Host families are needed to billet these Rangers in the following communities: Owen Sound, Midhurst, Kingston, Aurora, Guelph, Minden, Haliburton, Bracebridge and Tweed. All that is expected is the family to consist of two people (can be an adult and child or two adults), meals to be provided and for the student to have a place to sleep. Students meet each day at a central location and will need to take public transit to this location or be driven by the family. Lastly, when the students first arrive, it is asked that their host family take them shopping as the students need to purchase steel toe safety boots (CSR certified).

Students choosing to participate in the Ranger program are some of the most gifted, compassionate and friendly people you would ever meet. Hosting a Student Ranger not only gives your family the opportunity to make a friend from France but you are also helping your community and providing a young person with tools to succeed in their life. A very rewarding experience for all!

**For more information, please contact Karen Boucher at [kboucher@red-leaf.com](mailto:kboucher@red-leaf.com).**

Ideally, the host family will have a child at home similar in age and attending the same school.

**If you would like your son or daughter to share part of their semester with a Spanish teen, please contact Tanya Ivanova at [tatiana@red-leaf.com](mailto:tatiana@red-leaf.com).**

### City of Cambridge, Ontario

One of the fastest growing areas in Canada is Cambridge, Ontario. Located on the Grand River and Speed River in the region of Waterloo, Cambridge has a population of over 120,371 residents (2006 census report) and is a 60-90 minute drive west of Toronto.



Cambridge received deserved praise and accolades for its innovative City Hall design. **Cambridge was the first city in Canada to receive the gold Leed award for its sustainable 'green' design.** The atrium's focal point is a 4 storey high 'living wall' of tropical plants. Its natural beauty is second to the health benefits the wall offers with its natural air purification. A portion of the roof is made up of native plants, shrubs and grass rather than asphalt. This 'green' roof will retain heat in the winter and cool things off in the summer.



Residents and visitors can take part in the many annual festivals Cambridge offers. The Mill Race is a free Festival of traditional folk music. The Cambridge Riverfest features Dragon boat races, family activities and live bands all celebrating community spirit. Another festival is the Cambridge Highland Games held in Churchill Park each July. It's a celebration of Scottish and Celtic culture and includes events such as a Sheaf Toss, Hammer Throw, Putting the Stone, Pipe Bands and Scottish dance competitions.

***"The City of Cambridge is a great place to live, work and visit. We take a great deal of pride in our City and we are equally proud of the diverse cultural opportunities available to***

### International Summer Camps At Sheridan College, Oakville

**OPEN HOUSE AT SHERIDAN COLLEGE 1430  
Trafalgar Road, Oakville, ON**

**Saturday, May 9th, 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m. AND  
Monday, May 11th, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**To pre-register, email [summercamps@red-leaf.com](mailto:summercamps@red-leaf.com)  
or call 1 866 376 067**

**Ages 13-17  
Duration: 8 days, Program dates:  
July 8 - 17  
July 22 - 31  
August 5 - 14**



### International Languages and Leadership Camp

Learn French or Spanish and Leadership skills in an international environment!

Improve your conversational French or Spanish skills, meet international campers the same age, and discover important global leadership qualities. This unique and stimulating summer camp is perfect if you want to practice your French or Spanish skills and learn what it takes to be a leader in today's interconnected world.

### Film and Television Production Camp



Discover the secrets of producing television programs and films in this one-of-a-kind summer camp. There is an enormous amount of work that goes into creating a successful TV program or film. From creating an engaging story line to using effective lighting and sharp editing techniques, this camp will give you a solid grounding in the basics of this exciting field..

[Visit our website](#) to fill out an application or to find out more.

*our residents,"* said Cambridge Mayor Craig.

### Win, Win, Win!

Red Leaf would like to recognize host families who have generously shared our programs with their friends and family. Many of our host families are referred by others who have had wonderful experiences over the years. We really appreciate your efforts in sharing this with your friends and family.

This month, we encourage you to pass along this newsletter to friends and family in the communities we have students visiting this summer and Fall. Please have your friends/family mention your name in an email to [Marlene](#) or [Tanya](#) and you will be entered in a draw to win!

As well, for every household who contributes to our [website blog](#) or becomes a [Fan on Facebook](#) your name will also be entered in a draw to win a digital photo frame! Join in the stories! We would love to hear from you.

### French Onion Soup Recipe (soupe à l'oignon à la lyonnaise)

**Ingredients** - 24 servings:  
4 oz. unsalted butter  
5 lb onion  
6 qt. beef stock  
Salt  
Black Pepper  
6 oz. dry sherry  
24 slices French Bread  
1 lb. gruyere cheese



#### Directions:

Heat the butter in a stockpot over a moderate flame, add the onions and cook until golden or brown as desired.  
Add the stock, bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer at least 20 minutes.  
Season to taste with salt and pepper and sherry if used.  
Ladle soup into individual bowls or gratin dishes. Top each with a slice of bread. Cover with grated cheese. Brown under the broiler. Serve very hot.  
Variation: toast the bread under the broiler, top with cheese, pass under the broiler to melt the cheese, and place on top of serving of soup.

#### History:

Few French dishes have travelled as well as the classic French Onion Soup. However, the name is misleading. The soup is not 'French' rather it is Lyonnais.

Labourers in Lyons' famous silk industry often worked long hard hours and had limited resources to sustain them during these long shifts. French Onion Soup was the inexpensive dish with common ingredients that offered the nourishment the workers so needed.

[Forward email](#)

✉ [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to homefor3@yahoo.com by [charvey@red-leaf.com](mailto:charvey@red-leaf.com).  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Red Leaf | 300 John Street - Suite 503 | Thornhill | Ontario | L3T 5W4 | Canada