BRAINSTORM 2016 FAQ

1. CampBrain has a Web and Desktop version. What will be the focus of this conference?

The primary focus will be on the Web version of CampBrain.

2. We are using the Desktop version and thinking about the Web version. Should we come?

Yes, please do. This would be an ideal opportunity to learn more, get into the details, talk to those who have made the jump, etc. If we have enough interest, we will also run a couple specific sessions on the conversion and implementation process.

3. We ONLY use the Outdoor & Conference Center module. Should we come?

Yes. There will be a good focus on the move of this module to the Web version.

4. Who should come to this conference? Administrators, directors, accountants?

Camp Administrators (aka registrars, office managers, registration specialists) should absolutely come! It should be mandatory for them. ☺ This whole conference is about helping them use the tool they depend on every day in the best way possible. Almost without question, they will walk away with many meaningful items that will improve their productivity and effectiveness. Directors would also benefit, particularly if they get their hands dirty in CampBrain occasionally. Also, knowing what CampBrain is capable of is very handy – you don't necessarily need to memorize the exact steps but realizing it can do certain things is very powerful knowledge. Depending on the camp, program managers, accountants and other staff may also benefit, again depending on how much they use CampBrain.

5. Is there a discount if we bring more people from our camp?

Sorry, no discount for volume. We are really trying to keep the cost down and most of the fee is going to cover the variable costs like meals.

6. Is there an early bird price?

Yes, the cost is $230 up to Sept 15 and then it goes to $275. You are camps, you know what it is like! If we know our numbers by mid Sept, then there are a number of things we can be smarter about re planning.

7. The conference is in Toronto. I live in the US. Tell me what things I may not be considering?

Toronto is a fantastic city! It is pretty big (3 million people in the city with about 5-6 million in the greater metro area). Flying here is a breeze – lots of options in terms of airlines and direct flights from most larger US cities (and many small ones). Buffalo is 90 min drive away if you find it cheaper to fly there.

If you can, try to fly into the Billy Bishop Island Airport (Porter airlines). It is extremely convenient because it is right downtown on Lake Ontario, and you would only be a 5 min cab ride from the hotel.

Crossing the border is easy as a US citizen – you just need a passport.

We use the dollar as well – it just happens to be more colourful and is worth less than the USD! Right now, the Canadian dollar is about 30% less than the US dollar (so, basically everything is on sale for you). For example, the hotels are priced in Canadian dollars.

Most stores will accept US dollars. They will definitely take any major credit card. And, should you need to

convert money to CDN funds, you can do so at any bank.

8. What is the deal with the Wednesday night event? Do I have to attend?

We just wanted to do something light and fun to kick off the event. You do not need to be there. If you are flying in and can plan your flight so that you can see the office and meet our team, then great! If you are close by, then come on in. But, if you miss it, that's ok – the true content starts bright and early on Thursday morning.

9. Should I bring my laptop or tablet?

Yes, please do. We will encourage active participation and trying things in many of the sessions. You may also want to apply something you learned right away.

10. I see there will be one on one sessions. What are those?

Over the course of the conference we will have support staff available to chat with you about your specific questions and your specific circumstances (picture sitting around a laptop together). As we get closer to the conference, we will provide an opportunity to book a time.

11. Will there be wifi and charging stations?

Yes, there will be wifi (improved from last year!). We are working with the venue to make re-charging your devices convenient but it's definitely best to come fully charged on the first day.

12. What is the weather like in Toronto at the end of October?

The average daily temp is 10C (50F) and nightly low is 7C (45F). It can fluctuate so it's best to watch the weather report close to the date.

13. Does the venue have parking?

There are no parking spots at The Cathedral Centre. However, there are a number of paid parking lots in the vicinity, and there are 3 TTC (Toronto Transit) subway stops within walking distance.

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