



Deroche Retreat has been established as a place meant for you to relax and contemplate God's blessings. Come here to refresh your body, soul and mind. May your time of retreat renew your energy and revitalize your service to God.

We are thankful that God has, for the fifth year, allowed many to safely enjoy the Deroche property. Safety is nothing to take for granted when you have hundreds of kids, adults and senior citizens enjoying the outdoors and mountainside.



It is very encouraging to see new and/or expanded groups enjoy the property, including the well-attended marriage retreat and the college and university preparation camp.

Thank You!

We are very grateful for all those who have cheerfully donated their time, shared their talents and donated materials or funds to Deroche Retreat.

Peter and Sandy Blom have embraced their new role as caretakers of the property enthusiastically. As you can imagine looking after a 160 acre property from season to season is no small task!

It is risky to start mentioning names but in the following cases it is appropriate. Many thanks to Albert Visscher, Mr.Fix-it, for the countless hours he has spent at the property and especially for making the wheelchair accessible bathroom and shower a reality.

We thank Gerry and Alice Vandeburgt who have continued to be busy with many aspects of the property this past year. We pray that our Heavenly Father will keep Gerry and Alice in His care during Gerry's surgery and recovery.

We also thank Joe and Dieta Vanspronsen for filling in as caretakers for a few weeks. God's faithfulness has been evident in the work of so many volunteers.

Check, check & check

While there are always projects pending, it is good to reflect on projects past. Improvements to note this year include:

1. Wheelchair accessible bathroom complete with roll in shower.
2. The Barn – Soffits finished, new exit doors installed upstairs, a central vacuum system, commercial toaster and dishwasher (Hurray!) and a new barbeque.
3. The Clubhouse – Re-siding and painting of a small barn as the first step in upgrading to a multi-use area.
4. Caretaker's cabin — repainted and a clothes washer/dryer installed



Help To Do List

We have been able to cover our operating costs and even have funds left over to purchase materials and small items. In order to move ahead with projects delayed due to lack of funds we will need to expand our support base. **Please consider how you might share your time, talents, connections, equipment, materials or money to keep this project moving forward.**



Here is a list of the projects we hope to complete as soon as possible:

1. Soccer Field – Area was leveled last summer but needs rocks removed, topsoil, and seeding.
2. RV Sites – We have had many requests for some RV pads with power.
3. The Clubhouse – A small barn we are in the process of converting into a multi-use common area, needs a new roof, concrete floor and finishing inside.
4. Additional showers
5. The Main Barn - Siding and insulation; linoleum for the upstairs. The current carpet makes it difficult to clean up accidents.
6. Sports court
7. Pool
8. Cubbies for kids personal items

Deroche Christian Retreat Society Board: Jack Dewit, Jan Schutte, Aubrey Vandergaag, Conrad Vanderhorst, Tyler Van Vliet



YES! I would like to support the Reformed Conference Society.
Enclosed please find:

_____ \$25 membership fee
_____ Tax deductible donation
_____ TOTAL

If you would like to earmark your donation for a particular project please indicate here.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Postal Code _____
Phone# _____
email _____

Please mail directly to: Deroche Retreat, 10943 Brooks Road, Deroche, B.C. P.O. Box 122, V0M 1G0.

Reformed Conference Society Board: Bert Vane, Gerry Vandenburgt, Ed VanWoudenberg, Will Wildeboer, Janey Van Seters, Fiona Jansen

Caretaker Required

We are currently seeking a second caretaker at the retreat. Successful applicants would play an integral role in the day to day operation and maintenance of the facility in cooperation with the current caretakers.

Position: caretaker job share
Starting Date: negotiable
Remuneration: a modest stipend will be paid.

Website: www.derocheretreat.com
Contact: Bert Vane 604-856-1992; bertvane@shaw.ca



College Retreat

Biblically grounded and beautifully surrounded, the first annual Deroche college student retreat was a benefit to all who came. Post secondary students joined together to learn how to defend, promote and preserve the faith that binds us all together. Using the confessions as a roadmap to Scripture, thought-provoking topics were explored. The theme was Heart, Soul and Mind and included discussions on popular academic thoughts of today, humanity issues and social issues. In addition, personal faith and Christian practices were addressed, while challenging Christian questions were looked at.

In addition to stimulating sessions, the activities, socialization and great food united the group and proved to boost the overall enjoyment of the retreat. No one would have thought that cardboard and duct tape, spaghetti and glue, and GPS navigation would have sparked so much amusement and competition.

Taking place a week before classes began, this retreat helped everyone to be prepared to be a living witness of Christ in this world. Thank you Deroche for the picturesque settings and great memories, this retreat proved to be truly a Heart, Soul and Mind retreat.



Rocks and Boulders

Stepping Stones Bible Camp has now run for six years. Each summer has brought new challenges in finding the balance between fun traditions and new activities to keep campers and volunteers thriving. The focus on learning about God has remained constant, and we are thankful that He again blessed camp with another wonderful season.

We were able to host three Rock weeks (gr. 3-7) and one Boulder week (teens). The days are framed in consistency: each morning begins with leader devotions followed by group exercise drills. Each evening everyone regroups to sing songs, hear stories and pray. What happens between these regular events is a host of activities keeping everyone busy, challenged and educated in God's Word.



Sword Drills in Chapel

scaling walls! There was the classic slip 'n slide, as well as some new boating adventures. There was the traditional "Lake Day", but at times Hicks was chosen over Harrison. The food was again phenomenal with some old favourites and some new delights.

Many old faces were reunited at camp, and many new faces were also welcomed warmly to Stepping Stones. From the beginning of each week to the end, unique camaraderie was encouraged and attained... a true blessing.

We are thankful to the Lord for blessing Stepping Stones Bible Camp again this year. We pray that He continues to bless and provide ongoing direction for its future.

