

## Esperanza 2024 information

1. **Dates:** Saturday 10, August – Saturday 17, August
2. **Purposes.**
  - To provide practical help and encouragement to Esperanza staff by working on its building and grounds. Esperanza is a Christian ministry to First Nation families & individuals living in the villages along the West Coast.
  - It also runs children and youth camps and an outreach and hospitality ministry.
  - To help grow New Life's partnership with Esperanza – encouragement of staff, building relationships with staff, gaining understanding of the ministry & the culture of the area's first nations, prayer
  - To enjoy some recreation time (fishing, boating etc) in a beautiful part of God's creation
  - To grow together as a team – travelling, working, eating, playing, sharing and praying together. (In the past summers we led an informal worship service for staff, other guests and our team)
3. **Location.** Esperanza is on a remote part of the west coast of Vancouver Island (between Tahsis and Zeballos.) It cannot be reached by car; we take a 20 minute boat-ride from Tahsis, a village at the end of a logging road 62 km from Gold River.
4. **Cost:** (includes travel costs – gas and ferry - plus our food, utilities and boat costs etc). We want to pay all of our costs so that our work is truly a donation to Esperanza (and New Life is able to provide charitable receipts). This year the cost is approximately **\$250** per adult, \$200 for students and children. The final cost will be determined once all receipts for gas, ferries, food etc. have been handed in.
5. **Jobs:** A variety of jobs for all kinds of skills (and not so skilled):
  - there are renovation jobs on some of the older houses
  - finishing carpentry is very often needed
  - painting
  - landscaping and greenhouse work
  - "inside jobs:" cleaning, sewing, organizing
  - splitting firewood
  - kitchen
  - tractor and mechanical repairs
  - plumbing and electrical (need qualified people)
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6. **Accommodation:** We will stay in a variety of locations.
  - McClean Centre – rooms which sleep about 6-8 people in bunks and also double beds. Shared washrooms.
  - some houses which can accommodate 4-6 people.
  - Cabins – usually used by the youth. – Separate washroom blocks.

7. What to bring: Pack light – casual and work clothes, swim wear, rain gear, bug spray and sunscreen. Bring your own towels, bedding (sheets and pillowcases). There are blankets and quilts on the beds, toiletries, Bible, and optional - games.
8. Meals – we serve three meals a day plus snacks – You can also buy pop and candy at the fuel dock. If you have any food concerns please let Janet know as soon as possible. All food has to be taken in with us and we cannot pop to the corner store to get special orders once we are there. Please do not bring nuts this year,
9. Transportation: We carpool so that expenses can be kept to a minimum. The committee will make ferry reservations for both the outgoing and return trips. We usually leave Abbotsford about 6:30 am but this will be confirmed. We aim to get a ferry midafternoon Saturday. We will book and pay for the ferries early as this will save the group about \$840 based on 6 cars.
10. Fishing: There may be some opportunity to go fishing while we are there.
11. Health and Safety. Closer to departure you will be given a medical form that you complete and return in a sealed envelope. This will only be opened if needed in a medical emergency situation.
12. Please sign up using this link: <https://new-life.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/233/responses/new> as soon as possible. Deadline for booking is the end of May.

Questions can be directed to: Janet Hitchcock ([jhitchco@telus.net](mailto:jhitchco@telus.net)) or Jim Parussini ([jimparussini@gmail.com](mailto:jimparussini@gmail.com)), John Luymes ([jluyes@gmail.com](mailto:jluyes@gmail.com)) or George Boer ([gfboer1@telus.net](mailto:gfboer1@telus.net)).