



May 1, 2018

What is this season of our missionary life called? Over the past few months a couple people have asked me how my 'sabbatical' is going. Well . . . that's not what we're doing right now. The traditional 'furlough' implies being off-duty . . . and we're not doing that either. The new term for this season is 'home-assignment' (H.A.) – we are doing work, but it is in our home country. This season of H.A. is turning out to be quite busy. I'm actually looking forward to getting back to the field in Asia-Pacific so I can have a break. (Apparently *most* missionaries feel this way!)

I love reconnecting with friends, and sharing the amazing things God is doing reaching new people groups with the Gospel. It's a joy to tell people how God is using me and my family to be an integral part of His work. I don't really mind driving – even on winter roads – and I've seen some of the best scenery Canada has to offer! The killer for me is the schedule – immovable deadlines.

The nature of our life is that we need to be planning always about a year or so in advance. We make a plan with the best information we have and then we fit life into that plan. That means that procrastination is not an option. I can't follow the local idiom I recently heard – "Don't put off 'til tomorrow what you can put off 'til the day after that." If I don't find a way to see a friend or supporter on this trip, my next opportunity is four years later! So far I've had the pleasure of connecting with 115 families and churches and covered 13,000km. It has been a very busy and very blessed season so far! And don't worry, we're not totally insane – we've got 4 straight weeks of family vacation planned in June!

Praise God with us for:

- great trips visiting ministry partners with each of my four kids
- the donations of full funds for a jungle motorbike – and beyond!
- a new interior team being welcomed to move in – including land for an airstrip!

Please pray with us for:

- smooth transition into the RV as the six of us prepare to head to Ontario in May.
- Dawn and the kids wrapping up the school year early so we can hit the road.
- two of our tribal teams cutting wood and preparing to build their houses in the tribe!

Thank you for praying for us and giving to the Lord's work through us!

In His grip,

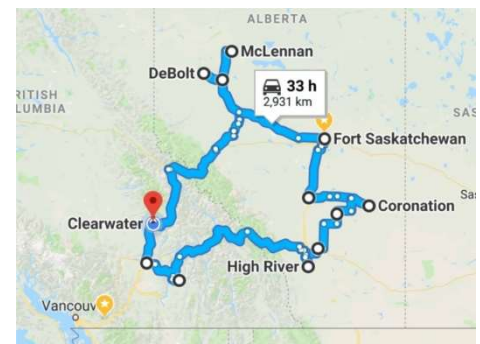
*Duane*



Cassia and I having cinnamon buns at the Santa Maria two weeks ago



Same place in West Edmonton Mall in 2013



The "Alberta leg" of the trip is done!

