

June 10, 2015  
(April Letter)

Hi Samantha

I'm hoping we can get out to BC before Christmas to see your surprise. By that time we will be wanting to hear how you have settled in to the suite!

Between now and then, however, there will be plenty of adventures for us. On June 21st I fly to Ireland for my annual summer school. it's about 2 weeks with about 30 graduate students and about 20 faculty people like me. The topic is about rural policy so we have seminars about how governments make policy and what the effects of the different policies might be. For example, do they make it hard or easy to find a job, protect the environment, or solve local problems?

I love the summer schools because they give me a chance to visit so many different places in the world, learn about them in detail, and meet with local people to discuss the situation and perspectives. We always include local tours and visits so it means I have toured wineries in Italy, farmers markets in Mexico, fish hatcheries in Norway, and windmills in Quebec.

On June 25th Fran will join us in Galway, Ireland, then on the 30th we will both fly to Italy to participate in a conference on sex work policy. The conference is in Milan. Fran will be presenting results from her Canadian research.

After the conference we will go to Florence and then Venice for a few days. Fran has been to both of these places before, but I haven't, so Fran will get to be a tour guide during this period. We fly back to Montréal from Venice on July 12th.

We are hoping that Zachary will be able to come and see us on Ile Bigras after we return. It will be a nice way to finish off the summer.

In September I have a conference in PEI which will be immediately followed by another in Edmonton. I will see if I can head out to Vancouver for a few days after my Edmonton meeting so maybe we will have a chance to hang out together. By that time you will have started your program at Langara so it will be exciting to hear what you think of it.

Fran will be teaching in September so I don't know if she will be able to get out before December. She has been suffering grandchild withdrawal so she might figure out a way to get a "fix" sometime in the fall. I expect she would love to see for herself how you have transformed the suite into your own space.

Love,  
Bill