

September 30, 2014

Hi Samantha

I'm sitting on an airplane for the 5th time in a month - this time on my way from Vancouver to Ottawa. My travels will not be over until the end of October though since I still have to return to Vancouver, then fly to Blanc Sablon in remote Quebec.

You can also see from the date that I am very late with my August letter. Since I have been preparing so many presentations for all my meetings I have not had time to write to you.

Although I complain about all my travel and work there are many things I like about them. I expect that it's something like your trip to Winnipeg - especially when it comes to the people you meet and the friends you make - not to mention the new ideas and challenging concerns that are discussed. In my case I get to meet some old friends who share a lot of interests with me. I also get to meet new people at each event. I particularly like meeting the many students and local community people who turn up. They are usually full of enthusiasm and cool ideas.



When I was in Prince George last week we went on a tour to McBride - with stops at spots along the way. One of them was to check out some ancient trees- some of them more than 2000 years old. That means they were growing at the time of the Romans- and when Jesus was alive!

Another spot was at Mt Robson- the highest Peak in BC.

On some of our tours we get to visit businesses and organizations along the way. I remember visiting huge sawmills, pulp mills, hydro dams, cheese factories, mushroom farms, and manufacturing plants on various trips to some of these rural places. If you ever get a chance to visit places like these, I recommend you take them. It is very interesting to see the many different places that people work and how their work is organized.

In addition you get to wear some cool hats (and in food factories) some masks and headnets or maybe even taste some of the products. I have included a few photos of places that I have visited on my travels with groups.



The opportunity to do these kind of things is one of the best aspects of being a student. I have been very pleased to see how willing you are to join activities like these and to support them along the way. If you go to university you will see that there are hundreds of groups to join and activities to try.

When I was an undergraduate I joined the UBC radio station and got to host my own weekly radio show, for example. It was a music and talk show. I also got to be the radio announcer at a couple of basketball games.



I also joined some sports clubs and the SCM (Student Christian Movement). I became the President of the SCM for a couple of years and went to their national conferences in Ontario. I'll tell you a bit more about those adventures in another letter.

Love,