From: VFSS Announcements VFSS@shaw.ca Subject: Retreat Sessions Schedule is ready! Date: August 30, 2025 at 12:13 PM To: VFSS Announcements vfss@shaw.ca



The Vancouver Folk Song Society's 2025 Retreat is being held from Friday, September 26th, 4:30 pm, to Sunday, September 28th, 2:30 pm, at Camp Alexandra in Crescent Beach, BC. There will be how-to workshops, presentations, song circles, singalongs, the ever popular Hat Bands, the Saturday evening concert, and the usual late-night jams and singing sessions.

The **Retreat Sessions Schedule** is now complete and attached below, so check it out! A huge THANK YOU goes to our many session leaders who are the backbone of the Retreat!

We are very near the August 31st deadline for early bird registration, and **the final cut-off date for registration this year is September 15th**. You can find the registration form attached below or pick up the form at the next Wednesday Night Folk evening on September 3rd. The registration form and the sessions schedule can also be downloaded from our website, vfss.ca.

Here's a special message for our American friends: We understand that this is not an easy time, but please know that you are guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome at Camp Alexandra. We do hope that you will join us this year.

The Retreat Committee sends a big thank you to those who have made donations to the retreat bursary fund. Application for bursaries is encouraged and simply consists of filling in that portion of the registration form. Email our registrar, Steve Deering, at registrar@vfss.ca if you need help in how to get the most economically friendly deal for families, or if you have any other questions.

IMPORTANT REMINDER for those who have registered: If for any reason you are not able to attend, please let us know as soon as possible by email to registrar@vfss.ca.

Come join us for a great weekend of sharing songs, socializing, fine food, laughter, workshops, song circles, jamming, a concert, and impromptu unplugged, acoustic music everywhere!

Heated cabins, rooms, and dorms and hot showers. Large fenced play areas for children. Please note that it is VERY IMPORTANT that you indicate on the Registration Form YES or NO for the Friday supper. If you do not indicate YES, we cannot guarantee you a meal when you arrive. All daytime meals are catered by camp staff, but the Friday and Saturday evening snacks are provided by the Vancouver Folk Song Society, for your enjoyment.

Upon your arrival, you will be assigned accommodation. We do our best to try and provide non-snoring cabins but, alas, there are attendees who swear they do not snore — but they do!! We would ask you to please bite the bullet on Friday night and remain in your assigned accommodation. It is both disturbing and unsafe for other campers to have Retreat attendees wandering around the camp at night because they are dissatisfied with their billet. If you have a problem with your accommodation, see our Housing Officer on Saturday morning and we shall do our best to meet your needs. We will have a supply of earplugs available and strongly advise all camp attendees to read up on measures they can take to try and deal with this situation themselves (in a calm and respectful way, hahaha!).

BRING sleeping bag, pillow, sheet (to cover plastic mattress), towel, water bottle or mug, instruments and music, and earplugs for shared accommodations (if you prefer your own). **LEAVE BEHIND** pets (unless it is a support animal and you have been given the OK to bring it), drugs, and unregistered guests/visitors. No Smoking on site.

For singers, musicians, and people who like to sing with others. All ages welcome. Hope to see you there!

- The VFSS 2025 Retreat Committee

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