



A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS

BY TABITHA WAHLSTROM, PRBC Camp Director

“I AM THE LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King. Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. *Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*”
(Isaiah 43:15-19 ESV)

As restrictions are still in place and the future is still very unknown, discouragement and fear have found the upper hand more than once in my mind and heart through this last year. In late November, we were able to attend (online) the national CCI (Christian Camping International) conference. We were reminded from Isaiah 43 that God makes “A Way in the Wilderness.”

As I look back, I am reminded of God’s faithfulness. As I stop and look around I see His power in answered prayer with a new building going up and a team coming ▶

together. And so as I look ahead to this new year, I do not know what it will be like; but I do know that the same God who brought Pine Ridge into existence is the same God who has carried it all these years. He is the same God who has a plan and purpose for Pine Ridge right now – in the middle of all this chaos – and in the future. God is doing a new thing and I have to trust that He will make a way in this wilderness. 🌿

Meet the Team!

One of the new things that God is doing is building a team at PRBC! I am blessed and blown away by the people He has brought to PRBC to work together as a team. So without further ado, I introduce to you the PRBC team!



**Tabitha Wahlstrom
(Camp Director)**

Q How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge?

A) I first got involved at Pine Ridge when I was 12. I came up with my sister

to help in the kitchen. I've been up every summer since except for one summer when I was in Peru.

Q What's one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge? A) The biggest thing that kept drawing me back was the relationships built with campers over the years and seeing some of them even come back as staff. Why did I choose to become more involved as a full-time staff at Pine Ridge? Through challenging circumstances it just kind of happened and God wouldn't let me leave.

Q What's your best piece of advice for having a successful team? A) My supervisor gave me some good advice not long ago when we were looking at putting together a team up here: 1) Keep open lines of communication; 2) Don't make assumptions; 3) Keep short accounts.

Each person will bring a unique dynamic to the team. Learning how to work together with these differences can bring challenges, but it can also bring much beauty if we value what each person brings to the team with the personality and gifts that God has given them.

Q If you could travel with the Pine Ridge team anywhere, where would you want to go? And why? A) I would love to take the team to a CCI (Christian Camping International) Conference because you get to meet so many people from other camps and learn from each other. And road-tripping with the team would be a blast!

Q What's your favorite movie or book? A) MacGyver (the originals) LOL. And I love reading – especially historical fiction or books on leadership. *Courageous Leadership* and *Leading on Empty* are good ones if you're in any leadership position.

Q Favorite thing about summer? A) Camp and sandals.

Q Favorite season? A) Fall is my favorite, although winter is a close second (minus the cold LOL).

Q Introvert or extrovert or a combination? A) I'm an introvert. It's been interesting and helpful as I've recently been learning more of what that means in an area of leadership and the skills and strengths that come with the personality that God has given me.



Bruce (Maintenance Manager) & Rosella (Registrar) McCaskell

Q How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge?

A) Bruce: I first heard about Pine Ridge Bible Camp about 15 years ago.

Manor Gospel Church, the church that my wife and I have attended, sent a group to Pine Ridge to help staff the camp for one week. I was not part of that team, but when they returned home, they showed a video of their time there and it was the start of the seed that was planted. Every year since Manor Gospel Church has been sending a team to help at camp. It would be another five years before I would commit to going for my first week. Not really knowing what to expect or what I would be doing once I got there, I was just excited to be part of the team and being willing to serve. God touched my heart that week and put a desire to return every year since.

A) Rosella: I first got involved with PRBC when our home church started sending a group for one week to help with camp.

Q What is one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge? A) Bruce: I see God's work being done at this camp and through the people involved. God's love is being taught and shown to campers and staff every day. I have seen how that has positively impacted their lives and has brought them to a better understanding of Jesus. God has put a passion in my heart for camp ministry and to see the youth of northern Canada come to know Jesus as their Savior.

A) Rosella: God directed me to be willing to go to PRBC on a different level when Bruce desired to go full-time. And that there are more positions at camp than just cabin leading.

Q What is the best piece of advice for having a successful team? A) Bruce: Good communication among the team goes a long

way. Part of good communication is listening to others in your team, finding out where their needs are, where their strengths are, and come alongside them and support them. In a Christian setting, part of that communication is praying and sharing each other's burdens.

A) Rosella: There is no I in TEAM.

Q What's one of your long-term goals for your life? A) Bruce: Well, when you get to my age long-term goals aren't really that long term – LOL. But honestly, the only goal in my life is to live a life that is pleasing to God and that through it I can be a blessing to others as I serve Him.

Q If you could travel with the Pine Ridge team anywhere, where would you go and why? A) Bruce: Israel, Rome, Greece. To travel the places that are in the Bible, and see the Bible come to life in front of you would be exciting.

Q Would you rather kayak on the ocean or Amazon River? A) Bruce: This is a hard one. I don't like snakes so I would lean towards the ocean, but I have kayaked on the ocean before and never the Amazon River so I would lean towards the river. If I had to pick one ... it would be the Amazon River, just keep the snakes out of sight.

Q What's your favorite food? A) Bruce: Now to pick a favorite is hard. Ice cream would be near the top, if not the top. Maple fudge is a close second. / A) Rosella: My favorite food is chips and Pepsi.

Q What is the most disliked chore around the house? A) Bruce: Washing dishes would be the year-round chore, picking weeds out of the garden is the disliked chore in summer. / A) Rosella: I dislike and despise doing dishes.

Q What's your favorite thing about Pine Ridge Bible Camp? A) Rosella: The sunsets are my favorite thing about PRBC.

Q Favorite season? A) Rosella: Spring or fall the best season.

Q Introvert or extrovert or a combination? A) Rosella: Introvert all the way.



**Marcie Klassen
(Follow-Up
Coordinator &
Food Services
Manager)**

Q) How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge?

A) Through my youth group and my parents forcing me to go. I wasn't interested in going at all but my folks made me and I loved it!

Q) What's one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge?

A) I saw there was a need for more people to serve up there and thought maybe I could help in some way. Also, the people we serve are important to me and I want to see them coming to know the Lord and have the joy of the Lord in their life. Also, I love just the whole camp setting and people that I get to meet during the summers!

Q) What's your best piece of advice for a successful team? A) My best piece of advice for a successful team is to make sure that all the members of the team are allowed to voice and share their opinions and ideas and are heard. And they should know that they're valued and appreciated! So basically what I'm saying is COMMUNICATION!

Q) What's your favorite thing about Pine Ridge Bible Camp? A) Definitely the people!! The staff, campers, and parents!

Q) If you could have any pet what would it be? A) If I could have anything I think I would have a flying unicorn! It would be so handy around the camp ... tired of the hills? No worries, just summon your pet unicorn! But if I'm being realistic, I think a mini dachshund would be cool!! They are like stinkin' adorable! (Google a picture ... it'll make your day!)

Q) Should we have chocolate every Friday at the camp? A) Um yah!

Q) Favorite food? A) Probably my Mom's tacos or fajitas! Mmm! So good!

Q) Introvert, extrovert, or a combination? A) I think I'm a combination but probably lean a little more to the extrovert side ... but I can be super awkward around some people!



**Noah Wahlstrom
(LiTe Leader &
Handyman :)**

Q) How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge?

A) Family.

Q) What's one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge? A) Family.

Q) What's your best piece of advice for having a successful team? A) Family.

I got involved through family involvement. I keep coming back because of the family atmosphere and good fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ. If we work together and respect each other as brothers and sisters in Christ with God as our Father and leader, we can appreciate each other's strengths and weaknesses, feedback, and encouragement.

Q) Should we have chocolate every Friday at camp? A) Yes (dark chocolate).

Q) If you could travel with the Pine Ridge team anywhere, where would you go and why? A) Israel, I'd enjoy that experience with the famjam.

Q) What's your favorite thing about Pine Ridge Bible Camp? A) The people, and stuff.

Q) What's your favorite movie or book? A) *Into the Glory* by Jamie Buckingham.

Q) Favorite season? A) All.



**Janelle Pope
(One-Year
Internship:
follow-up &
social media)**

Q) How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge?

A) My first memories of Pine Ridge were as a small child playing on the rope swing when my parents went up to deliver the crafts. It was much later, when I was 15, that I first worked at Pine Ridge. My parents thought it would be a good idea for me to spend some time away from home since my Mom was ill at the time, and they needed kitchen workers. I spent two weeks there and have been hooked on camp ever since.

Q) What is one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge? A) I am looking into getting involved with full-time ministry, and thought that this would be a good way to gain experience. I have seen the difference Jesus makes in people’s lives, and I know that camp provides a good opportunity to share who He is with young people, not just during camp but throughout the year.

Q) What is your best piece of advice for having a successful team? A) Communication is key. It is so important that everyone is on the same page and knows what they are doing.

Q) What is your favorite thing about Pine Ridge Bible Camp? A) I enjoy the people, especially spending time with the kids. I love the crazy stories we tell, and just being goofy together.

Q) What meal would you like to see on the camp menu? A) Perogies and sausage.

Q) Which is your favorite: sunrises or sunsets? A) I think both are equally delightful, but I can say I’ve enjoyed far more sunsets than sunrises.

Q) What’s one thing you’ve learned through this strange year with Covid?

A) I never imagined how much of life could change so quickly. Yet through it all, I am glad we have a God who never changes.

Q) Would you rather have six months of continuous darkness or six months of continuous light? A) I would rather “walk in the light.” Provided I cover my eyes to sleep.



**Tony & Jeanne
Kusch (Local
Electrician &
Pastor in Buffalo
Narrows)**

Tony’s answers below:

Q) How did you first get involved with Pine Ridge? A) My children were invited one summer and they were hooked, and then I was hooked.

Q) What’s one reason you chose to get more involved up at Pine Ridge? A) To go and serve my King!!!

Q) What’s your best piece of advice for having a successful team? A) UNITY. Acts 2:42-44, “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers ... And all who believed were together and had all things in common.”

Q) What’s one of your long term goals for your life? A) To hear, “well done good and faithful servant.”

Q) If you could have any pet what would it be? A) A Tiger.

Q) Waterskiing or tubing? A) Wakeboarding ;)

Q) What’s your best piece of marriage advice? A) It’s all about sacrifice.

Q) What’s your favorite movie or book? A) *True Lies* with Arnold Schwarzenegger. 🍷



WAYS to be INVOLVED

PRAY!

- For continued wisdom and provision in finishing the new Dining Hall / Chapel.
- For the ability to once again have personal interaction with campers and staff and to host in-person events where God's truth and love can be freely shared.
- For wisdom in knowing how to connect with people over social media in the meantime.
- For good communication and connection as we learn to work together as a team.



VOLUNTEER!

There are many projects on the go and we would love to have volunteers! If you would like to come to help out with various projects through the winter/spring we would love to hear from you!



GIVE!

- Towards the New Dining Hall/ Chapel building project.
- Towards our General Fund.
- Towards the purchase of a new skid steer or tractor.
- Towards the purchase of a generator.



CONTACT US!

(info listed on back of Plank)





- I would love to keep up with PRBC news! Please add me to your biweekly email update list.*

(Please print email clearly _____)

or email us at info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca)

- I am giving a one-time gift of \$ _____.*
- I intend to give a monthly donation of \$ _____.*
- I would like to be a part of the New Dining Hall / Chapel Building Project by giving a donation of \$ _____ or a monthly pledge of \$ _____.*

EXCITING NOTE! – *Our anonymous donor is still matching donations that come in for the New Dining Hall / Chapel (up to a total of \$150K).*

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS (including online, electronic funds transfer and email transfer) are available at www.ncem.ca/donate/ways-to-give or call the NCEM office, 1-833-751-1215 (*toll-free*).

Name _____

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- Please indicate if you would prefer a yearly receipt.

Cheques should be made payable to NCEM and mailed with this slip to:
NCEM, PO Box 3030 Prince Albert SK S6V 7V4. Tax-deductible receipts will be issued.

If more funds come in than are needed for designated projects, the extra funds will be used for other PRBC needs.

PINE RIDGE BIBLE CAMP is a ministry of
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SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER early in summer, progress has continued steadily on the new Dining Hall / Chapel building. We are working with phenomenal contractors and tradesmen as they continue to make this dream become a reality! As I write this, the building is closed in with temporary heat. Plumbing, electrical, ductwork, and gas fitting are in progress. The kitchen cabinet layout is finalized. The walls are insulated and interior work continues on the upper level.

your donations towards the new building project! ***We couldn't do it without you!***

PRAYER: Finances are low enough now that we are at a point where we have to decide what we can continue with and what we need to hold off on until further funds come in. ***We appreciate prayer for funds to continue coming in so the building progress can continue without delay.*** With all the restrictions still in place, having the dining hall ready for summer might be the difference between running camp or not.



Dining Hall Update

We are super thankful to all who are praying for this project! There have been bumps along the way, but these guys are great at rolling with it and making the needed changes as we go. Many, many decisions come with a project this size. ***Your prayers are valued!*** Thank you also to all who are helping make this dream a reality through

If you would like to keep up to date on the building progress and other happenings at camp, contact us at info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca to sign up for our bi-weekly email updates. You can also follow the progress on Facebook (PRBCDiningHall.NCEM) or our blog (PineRidgeBibleCamp.ca/blog). 🌲

PINE RIDGE PLANK is the newsletter of Pine Ridge Bible Camp, a ministry of NORTHERN CANADA EVANGELICAL MISSION.

PineRidgeBibleCamp.ca



Please send all correspondence to:

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IN HIS NAME. BY HIS POWER. FOR HIS GLORY.



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