

Welcome to Canada! Welcome to Victoria! Welcome to our home...

We are the Smith Family: John, Susan, Lizzy and Scott. Our dogs names are Roxy and Molly.

Our address is 850 Courtney Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 1C4.  
Our phone numbers are: 250-388-7774 (home); 250-388-7728 (cell)

*"We are a very flexible family that respects all cultures and each other. We are keen to learn about you, where you come from, and what life is like where you live.*

*When you live in our home, you become a member of our family. We like to laugh. Our home is a happy home.*

*If your English skills are "Beginner", or otherwise, please don't be shy or afraid. Practice your English speaking or writing with us anytime. We will do everything we can to help you learn the language, and Canadian customs, while you are with us."*

### **House Reminders:**

- **ALARM:** We set the alarm every night before bed. Please do not open any outside doors at night. The alarm is turned off when we wake up, then re-set again after we all leave the house. We will show you how the house alarm system functions – you will be given the alarm code, and a set of house key. **\*\*Please ensure that if you are the last one to leave the house, you set the alarm each and every time.\*\***
- **LAUNDRY:** Put your dirty clothes in the clothes hamper in the bathroom. They will be washed within 2-3 days and returned to you. You are responsible for ironing your clothes (if needed) and for putting them away. [Another possible rule: The washer and dryer are available for you use any day between 8 am and 9 pm. We will show you how to wash and dry your clothes.]
- **SHEETS & TOWELS:** You have been given two sets of sheets and two sets of towels and face cloths. Once a week, please put your dirty set of sheets and towel in the clothes hamper and start to use the fresh sheets and towel. We will return the second set to you after it has been washed.
- **SHOWERS / BATHS / WASHROOM:** Please finish your shower or bath, and be out of the bathroom no later than 9.30 p.m if you are showering at night, as other family members might need to use the washroom before bedtime.

In the morning, the shower is available after 7.20 a.m. We will be out of the bathroom by then.

Try to limit your time in the shower to **10 minutes** and make sure you open the window after your shower to "air " the bathroom. (Please make sure all windows are closed when you leave the house.)

We provide soap and toilet paper, towels and face cloths for you to use. All other toiletries are your responsibility.

Please take a look at the bathroom before you leave it and make sure the counters are clean and you have taken / put away all your personal things.

Please hang up your towel to dry on the hook in your room.

- **FOOTWEAR**: We do not wear shoes in the house. Please remove your shoes and leave them in the front hallway.
- **KITCHEN**: please clear away any of the dishes that you use, and clean up after yourself in the kitchen. Note that the cupboard to the right of the stove is where we keep snacks and you may help yourself to these at any time.
- **YOUR BEDROOM**: Please let us know if you would like us to vacuum your bedroom or if you would like to do it yourself.
- **TELEPHONE**: You may use the telephone anytime you wish. Local calls ( within Victoria) are free – you may call locally as much as you like. You make long distance (or international) calls by using a calling card. You can buy \$5 and \$10 prepaid phone cards at the school.
- **FRIENDS**: You are welcome to have friends visit with you in our home. Please check each time so that we can let you know if it conflicts with anything else that might be planned.
- **BUS**: If you don't understand the bus schedule or routes, please ask us and we will help you.
- **ALCOHOL**: No alcohol is to be drunk in our house unless you are legal age, which is 19. At no time is our personal alcohol to be used unless it is offered to you by us.
- **SMOKING**: this is a NO SMOKING home. If you must smoke, please do so outside and ask us for a container to dispose of your cigarettes in.
- **EMERGENCY**: If there is an emergency, please use the telephone and dial "911". Tell the operator whether you need POLICE, FIRE or AMBULANCE. Our house address automatically comes up on the computer so you do not need to give the address. PLEASE KEEP SAFE AT ALL TIMES.
- **SAFETY**: Never open the door to strangers. Make sure you know the person. If you do not know them, NEVER open the door, no matter what they say or do. Your personal safety is important to us.
- **PROBLEMS OR CONCERNS?** You can always talk to us, the host family. If there is ever anything that troubles or concerns you, please do speak to us. As well, you may have resources at your school (teacher, counselor) if you are in a learning program.

We hope you enjoy your stay with us! We're looking forward to getting to know you better!