



Retrouvaille is a French word meaning...

To find each other again,

To find oneself again,

To find one's way again

Retrouvaille Vancouver Program Information for 2025

Retrouvaille is a program designed to help couples revive their marriages. If you are feeling disappointment, disinterest, a lack of fulfillment -- if your marriage has become unloving, uncaring, cold, or distant -- if there is little or no meaningful communication -- even if you have “given up” in misery and despair -- Retrouvaille *can* help you! This program has helped many thousands of couples recover from *all kinds* of marital crises; heal deep hurt; restore trust and respect; even rediscover romance!

If you have registered or requested this information letter, you may have heard from someone about the success of the program or seen some of the testimonials online at our website: www.helpmy marriage.ca. This letter will give you the information you need to confirm or decide whether the Vancouver program is right for you. Please set aside the time you will need to read it fully, with your spouse if possible.

About the Program

Retrouvaille is premised on the concept of marriage as a solemn commitment. While it arose in affiliation with the Catholic Church, it is open to married couples of all faiths, or no faith at all. Although there will be a priest in attendance on the weekend portion of the program, this is a course in relationship rebuilding, not religion. Retrouvaille works on enabling couples to rebuild the commitment, forgiveness, trust, and love that may have eroded in their relationships.

The full Vancouver program consists of a weekend at a retreat centre or hotel from about 5 p.m. Friday afternoon to about 4 p.m. Sunday afternoon, followed by 12 weekly 2-hour “post-weekend” sessions, usually on the following Sunday afternoons. The post sessions are offered by Zoom and in some cases, also in person. We are in the process of confirming the venue for our May 16 – 18, 2025 program. We expect it to be in a hotel in or near Tsawwassen, BC.

The presenters on the weekend are the priest and three couples that have been through the program. The presenting couples will all share deeply how they experienced pain and misery in their marriages and rebuilt their relationships through the Retrouvaille program. These couples volunteer their time because they know firsthand of the effectiveness of Retrouvaille.

On the weekend the team presents techniques that help bring love and emotional intimacy to your marital communication. Attending couples *are not* required to share in a group setting with other couples. After each presentation, you will have a chance to reflect by yourself, and then use these techniques to discuss your reflection with your spouse, in complete privacy. The identity of couples attending the weekend is kept in strict confidence.

The weekly post sessions are a crucial part of the program. You are going to be working on making long-term changes to address issues that may have taken many years to develop. Couples who register for the weekend are therefore asked to commit to all the post sessions. Be assured however that if you *must* miss a session, your spouse may attend without you, and there are options for making up missed sessions online or after a later weekend.

Registration

When it comes time to register, you may do so by return email to this address. When you send your request to register, you will be asked for a registration deposit of \$500.00 and given payment options. If you prefer, you may pay the deposit by email transfer to Vancouverbc@helpourmarriage.org when you send your request to register, to save your spot. Please read on for further financial information. Your registration will be acknowledged by email, and we will instruct you as to the further steps necessary to confirm your attendance.

Financial Information

No couple is ever denied the chance to heal and renew their marriage because of lack of funds. Although the total cost to us of the program varies depending on attendance and current costs, our current estimate is about \$1500 per couple. This is all-inclusive, and covers accommodation, meals, the conference room, costs of the presenting team members, materials, and all 12 of the post sessions.

You will be asked on the weekend to fill a donation envelope with the cost of your stay plus the cost of putting on the program, approximately \$1000 (in addition to your deposit), *plus* whatever additional voluntary donation you feel you can afford.

We fully understand that some couples may not be able to afford the whole \$1500 cost of their participation in the program. What you put in the envelope stays between you and your spouse. Thankfully, others are often able to donate more than the cost of their own attendance, to help less fortunate couples attend.

Couples who donate more than the program cost will receive a tax receipt for their donation. Canadian tax laws require that donations exceed the cost of the benefit (program) by more than 25% [e.g., an additional \$375 or more for a \$1500 program] to be eligible for a tax receipt. Tax receipts for qualified donations are issued electronically early in the new year following the weekend.

Next Steps

After you have registered and paid your registration fee, a couple from the Retrouvaille Vancouver community will be in touch with you before the weekend to go over some details of the program. After we have spoken with you, we will send the final information package with directions and what to bring. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further information in the meantime.

We pray that you can make the important decision to attend the program and start your marriage recovery!

Love and blessings,

Tim and Carol Ellan

Community Coordinators
Retrouvaille Vancouver

