

00:00:00:25 - 00:00:01:10

Okay.

00:00:01:10 - 00:00:04:03

My name is Dorothy Kew.

00:00:04:03 - 00:00:06:11

I always have to spell it
because people think it begins

00:00:06:11 - 00:00:10:12

with the letter Q, but it's K-E-W
Just like Kew Gardens.

00:00:12:22 - 00:00:16:02

I was born in Jamaica,

00:00:16:02 - 00:00:20:09

and I've lived here in Burlington
probably for almost 60 years, so maybe,

00:00:20:27 - 00:00:23:27

maybe more.

00:00:24:25 - 00:00:28:21

I first worked as a library technician
at the City of Mississauga.

00:00:29:08 - 00:00:32:01

And then while working there,
I was able to do

00:00:32:01 - 00:00:36:17

part time studies at Erindale,
which was then called Erindale,

00:00:37:00 - 00:00:40:12

which is UTM and got my degree.

00:00:40:12 - 00:00:43:11

My bachelor's degree, my B.A. of arts,

00:00:43:11 - 00:00:47:24

and then I was able to take time off
from work to go to Western

00:00:47:24 - 00:00:51:27

to the School of Library Information
Science, as it was then called.

00:00:52:00 - 00:00:54:02

It's called something
else, they call it FIMS now.

00:00:55:01 - 00:00:56:22

You could do it all in one year,

00:00:56:22 - 00:00:59:16

which is normally a two year course
if you do it at the University of Toronto.

00:00:59:16 - 00:01:03:05

I get my master's in library science

00:01:03:14 - 00:01:06:19

or MLIS--

Master of Library Information Science.

00:01:07:01 - 00:01:10:05

So I came back to work at the Mississauga
Library this time as a librarian

00:01:10:24 - 00:01:14:17

And from then on, my job,
main job was the local history librarian.

00:01:15:02 - 00:01:18:02

Yeah, my family has been in Jamaica
for hundreds of years.

00:01:18:03 - 00:01:18:26

I would imagine.

00:01:18:26 - 00:01:22:10

So I was born and brought up there,

00:01:22:10 - 00:01:26:07

and my reasons for immigration
is probably one of the most common ones.

00:01:26:07 - 00:01:28:15

I married a Canadian

00:01:28:15 - 00:01:31:27

who was temporarily stationed
in Jamaica.

00:01:32:18 - 00:01:35:02

He was then working with IBM

00:01:35:02 - 00:01:37:19

and they had,

00:01:37:19 - 00:01:40:10

new installation,
relatively new installation in Jamaica.

00:01:40:10 - 00:01:44:04

And he was sent down there to work there,
along with the Jamaican staff.

00:01:45:10 - 00:01:47:06

I guess he would say he was there
for the year.

00:01:47:06 - 00:01:50:15

We met, got engaged, got married

00:01:51:24 - 00:01:54:27

and went over to Trinidad,
where we were for two and a half years.

00:01:54:28 - 00:01:58:06

So it's quite interesting
and a lot different

00:01:58:06 - 00:02:00:22

from Jamaica than you expect.

00:02:01:10 - 00:02:04:10

We came in 1960 and

00:02:04:22 - 00:02:07:18

we, we were sent out to Winnipeg,

00:02:07:18 - 00:02:11:23

which was a bit of a culture shock for me,
actually, it's a lot colder there.

00:02:12:10 - 00:02:15:10

I mean, it was the first time
I'd been in Canada.

00:02:15:10 - 00:02:16:09

Okay.

00:02:16:09 - 00:02:20:02

We were there for four and a half years,
and then my husband

00:02:20:02 - 00:02:23:19

was given
another posting in Jamaica for 18 months.

00:02:24:28 - 00:02:26:18

So we went back to Jamaica, which was nice

00:02:26:18 - 00:02:29:18

because I then could see my family
and everything and

00:02:30:28 - 00:02:35:06

then finally we,
came back to Canada in 1966.

00:02:35:24 - 00:02:39:03

And the reason we settled in Burlington
was, quite frankly,

00:02:39:03 - 00:02:42:03

and even then,
we couldn't afford a house in Toronto,

00:02:42:20 - 00:02:45:24

and they were building new houses
in the east end of Burlington,

00:02:46:08 - 00:02:49:08

Wimpey homes

00:02:49:09 - 00:02:52:09

And we bought one in the Pinedale area.

00:02:52:14 - 00:02:54:25

That's where we settled.

00:02:55:06 - 00:02:57:14

When we came

00:02:57:14 - 00:02:59:26

here to Burlington,

00:02:59:26 - 00:03:02:14

and the kids were a little bit older,

00:03:02:14 - 00:03:05:04

I wanted to, get out and do stuff.

00:03:05:04 - 00:03:08:04

So I signed up by volunteering,

00:03:09:17 - 00:03:10:19

for a year

00:03:10:19 - 00:03:14:11

at the, about a year

I volunteered at the at

00:03:15:03 - 00:03:18:19

the hospital, and then I

00:03:19:22 - 00:03:22:07

decided to do something close to home

00:03:22:07 - 00:03:24:22

because we only had the one car,

so it was a bit awkward, you know,

00:03:24:22 - 00:03:28:29

driving my husband to work and GO train

and all that stuff.

00:03:28:29 - 00:03:33:18

I volunteered at my children's

school Frontenac Public School.

00:03:34:08 - 00:03:37:08

And the library is

what got me interested in

00:03:37:26 - 00:03:39:20

the libraries, as you might say.

00:03:39:20 - 00:03:42:20

And I became very good friends with the,

00:03:43:01 - 00:03:47:28

the librarian, the school librarian--Brooke.

00:03:48:14 - 00:03:51:03

And she was she was very, very good.

00:03:51:03 - 00:03:54:02

She was the who encouraged me to go
and get my library

00:03:54:02 - 00:03:57:02

techniques diploma at Sheridan College.

00:03:58:05 - 00:03:59:16

Not really.

00:03:59:16 - 00:04:02:12

You know, Canada doesn't mind us too much.

00:04:02:12 - 00:04:05:12

I could actually show you
my old passport.

00:04:05:15 - 00:04:09:22

I brought my old and my latest one

so you can see the difference.

00:04:09:22 - 00:04:12:04

I had to,

00:04:13:07 - 00:04:17:19

Well first of all, I had to get married
and apply for a passport, Jamaican.

00:04:18:00 - 00:04:21:00

you know, in those days,
it was a British passport.

00:04:21:06 - 00:04:26:10

Because in 19--like when we left in 1960,

00:04:26:10 - 00:04:29:09

Jamaica was still a colony.

00:04:29:11 - 00:04:31:07

We didn't get,

00:04:31:07 - 00:04:33:12

independence until 1962.

00:04:33:12 - 00:04:36:02

I know they have their own Jamaican
passports.

00:04:37:19 - 00:04:40:16

But mine was a British passport.

00:04:40:16 - 00:04:42:17

I really didn't have any trouble.

00:04:42:17 - 00:04:43:11

I mean, you know,

00:04:45:02 - 00:04:46:05

it's fairly straightforward.

00:04:46:05 - 00:04:48:23

as far as that goes.

00:04:49:08 - 00:04:52:13

And we did go quite a bit
between Canada and Jamaica

00:04:53:09 - 00:04:56:21

on trips to see my family
and never had a problem.

00:04:59:06 - 00:05:03:14

Once we got to Canada
and settled in Winnipeg,

00:05:03:20 - 00:05:05:25

or Winterpeg as they like to call it.

00:05:06:01 - 00:05:07:13

I applied for citizenship.

00:05:07:13 - 00:05:10:27

I have brought my citizenship
certificate there if you want to see it.

00:05:10:27 - 00:05:14:07

I know--Here's another

00:05:14:07 - 00:05:16:24

interesting fact
that people might not know.

00:05:18:03 - 00:05:21:05

Let me check this for a minute
because I can't remember

00:05:21:16 - 00:05:25:25

Okay, so I got my citizenship in 1963

00:05:27:10 - 00:05:30:09

and here's how it worked.

00:05:30:17 - 00:05:35:12

If you were a British subject,
which I was born

00:05:35:13 - 00:05:38:13

and you were married
to a Canadian citizen,

00:05:38:19 - 00:05:42:12

you could get your citizenship
after living one year in Canada.

00:05:44:02 - 00:05:44:25

It's not like that.

00:05:44:25 - 00:05:48:11

No, I don't think for anybody, and
certainly not even for a British subject.

00:05:50:08 - 00:05:53:05

And this is what you think about it is

00:05:53:05 - 00:05:54:20

this is all I got.

00:05:54:20 - 00:06:00:05

There was no ceremony, you know,
no swearing allegiance to the Queen

00:06:00:28 - 00:06:02:17

Interviewer: So you just went to City Hall to get it?

00:06:02:17 - 00:06:05:17

Nope! It just came in the mail.

00:06:05:26 - 00:06:09:00

I know, it's kind of a letdown, isn't it?

00:06:11:01 - 00:06:12:07

But he (husband) was used to winter.

00:06:12:07 - 00:06:14:10

I wasn't--that was a shock to me.

00:06:15:17 - 00:06:17:19

Well, the only thing you gotta do,

I guess, is get them

00:06:17:19 - 00:06:20:23

correct clothes and everything like that

and get used to it.

00:06:20:23 - 00:06:24:02

You know, Winnipeg got an incredible

amount of snow, of course.

00:06:24:02 - 00:06:27:00

And it was a dry sort of cold.

00:06:27:00 - 00:06:29:19

Not like here.

00:06:29:19 - 00:06:32:06

So it was very quite cold, you know,

00:06:32:06 - 00:06:36:13

we talk about Portage and Main,
the main drag in Winnipeg,

00:06:36:13 - 00:06:38:28

It would be the coldest spot on Earth.

00:06:38:28 - 00:06:41:28

And was really pretty cool.

00:06:43:19 - 00:06:46:15

But I made a lot of good friends there

00:06:46:15 - 00:06:49:15

It was very nice weather there, actually.

00:06:50:19 - 00:06:56:19

I guess to a certain extent I had to get used
to Canadians as a family.

00:06:56:19 - 00:07:01:04

They had to get used to me
because they weren't familiar with

00:07:01:08 - 00:07:02:16

Jamaica in any way at all.

00:07:04:05 - 00:07:07:05

People have certain

00:07:07:27 - 00:07:09:06

Ideas about what Jamaicans look like.

00:07:09:06 - 00:07:11:29

They think they're all dark.

00:07:11:29 - 00:07:14:01

So it came as a surprise.

00:07:14:01 - 00:07:15:08

We are a mixed group,

00:07:15:08 - 00:07:18:15

There's a lot of intermarriage and
other mixtures.

00:07:18:15 - 00:07:21:14

So, yeah.

00:07:22:20 - 00:07:24:05

But, you know.

00:07:24:05 - 00:07:25:24

I don't think it matters
that much anymore.

00:07:25:24 - 00:07:29:08

I mean, people recognize me
as being Jamaican for the accent.

00:07:29:22 - 00:07:32:10

You don't really get rid of that. I guess.

00:07:32:10 - 00:07:35:10

Otherwise, you know,
I guess you're Canadian.

00:07:36:06 - 00:07:39:06

I do enjoy swimming in the sea.

00:07:39:16 - 00:07:41:04

That's one thing.

00:07:41:04 - 00:07:43:01

When it gets really cold.

00:07:43:01 - 00:07:44:14

I miss the sun.

00:07:44:14 - 00:07:45:21

The sun.

00:07:47:18 - 00:07:51:04

You know in the winter, when it is dark

and the days are short,

00:07:51:04 - 00:07:52:09

It's cold...

00:07:53:11 - 00:07:55:28

I kind of wish...

00:07:55:28 - 00:07:58:28

I kind of miss it then

00:08:00:00 - 00:08:01:28

Oh, it's hard to say.

00:08:01:28 - 00:08:04:03

One of the things

00:08:06:09 - 00:08:08:13

I had a lot of friends in Jamaica

00:08:08:13 - 00:08:11:13

that I went to school with and

00:08:11:15 - 00:08:14:19

most of them are gone now.

00:08:14:19 - 00:08:17:18

That's something I miss as well,
you know.

00:08:17:18 - 00:08:19:15

Or they're all scattered.

00:08:19:15 - 00:08:21:28

I only got one remaining

00:08:21:28 - 00:08:26:02

relative and she's a distant cousin
still living in Jamaica.

00:08:27:08 - 00:08:30:07

Haven't seen her for quite a while.

00:08:30:07 - 00:08:33:07

So that's part of it I guess.

00:08:34:04 - 00:08:38:02

You settle in, you have to adapt.

00:08:39:24 - 00:08:40:27

But there was another thing,

00:08:40:27 - 00:08:43:01

Jamaica's changed a lot.

00:08:43:01 - 00:08:46:01

You know, there's that old saying,
no, you can't go home again.

00:08:47:07 - 00:08:50:03

If you go back,

00:08:50:03 - 00:08:54:29

after you've been away for years and
your home is not your home anymore.

00:08:55:14 - 00:08:57:05

I'll give you an example.

00:08:57:05 - 00:08:59:25

The house that I grew up in,

00:08:59:25 - 00:09:03:12

which my parents bought
when I was six months old.

00:09:05:02 - 00:09:08:01

Well, it's now a hotel.

00:09:08:01 - 00:09:10:19

It's called the Indies Hotel.

00:09:10:19 - 00:09:11:16

It looks different.

00:09:11:16 - 00:09:12:17

It's changed.

00:09:16:21 - 00:09:19:07

Going home is kind of tough.

00:09:19:15 - 00:09:23:20

To a certain extent, we were pretty well
on our own, especially in Winnipeg,

00:09:23:20 - 00:09:27:16

except for knowing his brother.

00:09:27:21 - 00:09:33:02

I was meeting his brother and
his brother's wife for the first time.

00:09:34:13 - 00:09:36:14

Really there wasn't any...

00:09:36:14 - 00:09:40:20

I did, you know, there were some people
in Toronto that my parents knew.

00:09:40:27 - 00:09:43:26

So they weren't my generation.

00:09:43:27 - 00:09:46:24

And I made contact with them of course.

00:09:46:24 - 00:09:50:06

But knowing that we had to say
we were pretty well on our own.

00:09:50:23 - 00:09:54:09

Once again,
when came here to Burlington.

00:09:54:09 - 00:09:59:14

But Burlington was smaller then.

00:09:59:14 - 00:10:00:02

It wasn't like now.

00:10:00:02 - 00:10:03:19

And people were very friendly.

00:10:06:22 - 00:10:08:11

We all

00:10:08:11 - 00:10:12:23

because a number of us purchased homes
at the same time in that neighborhood.

00:10:12:23 - 00:10:15:05

Back on Pinedale.

We were over there on Joel Avenue.

00:10:15:05 - 00:10:18:11

We got to know each other

and we were friends.

00:10:18:11 - 00:10:21:17

We have street parties,
that sort of thing.

00:10:24:20 - 00:10:26:05

Oh, it wasn't that bad.

00:10:26:05 - 00:10:28:03

I mean

00:10:28:03 - 00:10:30:04

you have to adapt and sort of settle in,

00:10:30:04 - 00:10:33:11

you know, especially when you got
kids, you don't have time to

00:10:34:13 - 00:10:35:14

feel sorry for yourself.

00:10:35:14 - 00:10:39:19

You got to get sorted out
and get them to school and everything,

00:10:39:27 - 00:10:40:23

you know.

00:10:40:23 - 00:10:43:23

And then eventually my marriage ended.

00:10:43:26 - 00:10:46:14

In 84.

00:10:46:14 - 00:10:49:14

I moved away for a while, he moved too.

00:10:49:19 - 00:10:52:19

So I actually came back to Burlington
a second time.

00:10:55:16 - 00:10:58:16

In let's see when was it -

00:10:58:17 - 00:11:00:01

2000.

00:11:00:01 - 00:11:03:01

So I've been here steady ever since.

00:11:03:15 - 00:11:05:10

Living in Burlington Towers, actually,

00:11:05:10 - 00:11:08:10

which was the other end of town.

00:11:08:18 - 00:11:11:28

And so I got to know a whole new area

00:11:12:23 - 00:11:14:28

and really, really like it.

00:11:14:28 - 00:11:15:14

Love it actually.

00:11:15:14 - 00:11:17:24

I'm a member of St. Luke's Church.

00:11:17:24 - 00:11:20:24

Made a lot of close friends there as well.

00:11:21:06 - 00:11:24:06

Plus, I'm also involved in genealogy

00:11:24:23 - 00:11:27:11

and I'm a member of the Halton-Peel

00:11:27:11 - 00:11:30:10

Branch of the of Ontario Ancestors.

00:11:31:07 - 00:11:33:23

That is the Ontario Genealogical Society.

00:11:33:23 - 00:11:37:24

Well, I was member of the council

and the cemetery coordinator.

00:11:39:07 - 00:11:44:15

So we try to--

it also means being responsible

00:11:45:12 - 00:11:49:17

for how the cemeteries are kept in a way.

00:11:49:17 - 00:11:55:19

And I mean, not personally, but you know,
keep an eye on things, you know.

00:11:55:19 - 00:12:00:03

That's the, how do they put it,
the Ontario Genealogical Society

00:12:00:03 - 00:12:04:23

is to find, research, preserve

00:12:05:27 - 00:12:08:03

and cemeteries

00:12:08:03 - 00:12:12:25

because there are numbers of tiny little
cemeteries, family cemeteries,

00:12:13:10 - 00:12:16:10

pioneer cemeteries

that are falling into disrepair.

00:12:16:18 - 00:12:20:29

I'm very happy to see that the Burlington
Historical Society has been working

00:12:20:29 - 00:12:27:04

to restore the Union Burial Ground,
which was, you know, where it is, right?

00:12:27:04 - 00:12:27:24

By Ikea.

00:12:27:24 - 00:12:31:12

There's a lot of work
that needs to be done there as well.

00:12:31:24 - 00:12:34:26

But I mean, I would
have loved to take part in it,

00:12:34:26 - 00:12:38:04

but it's difficult getting around
with the walker.

00:12:39:25 - 00:12:42:21

I'm also a member of the Burlington
Historical Society.

00:12:44:08 - 00:12:46:04

The interest is like knowing

00:12:46:04 - 00:12:49:00

and finding out where you
yourself come from,

00:12:49:00 - 00:12:52:00

who's your family.

00:12:52:11 - 00:12:55:11

You know, that's,

00:12:55:22 - 00:12:59:12

I think I'm surprised that people don't
have that interest.

00:13:00:00 - 00:13:03:00

You know, if you really care
about your family,

00:13:03:11 - 00:13:06:07

don't you want to know more about them?

00:13:06:07 - 00:13:07:19

So I've been interested.

00:13:07:19 - 00:13:11:00

I think I've been a member of the society

00:13:11:00 - 00:13:14:00

since about 1985, I should say.

00:13:15:10 - 00:13:18:10

Working, you know,

00:13:18:27 - 00:13:21:12

on things like that.

00:13:21:12 - 00:13:22:04

Workshops.

00:13:22:04 - 00:13:25:08

I've done a number of
presentations, actually.

00:13:26:23 - 00:13:29:23

In fact, I did one for,

00:13:30:05 - 00:13:32:19

up at Ireland House.

00:13:32:19 - 00:13:35:20

I can't remember what
it was... a couple of years ago?

00:13:36:26 - 00:13:41:10

Well you know what they say
about travelling broadening one's perspective.

00:13:42:06 - 00:13:45:06

I think that's part of it
to a certain extent.

00:13:46:12 - 00:13:48:00

Because you

00:13:48:00 - 00:13:51:19

If you have any interest,
if you have any curiosity,

00:13:51:29 - 00:13:54:29

you want to know more about
the country you're in

00:13:55:05 - 00:13:58:05

and its history.

00:13:59:07 - 00:14:02:06

you know, I'm really very interested
in history as well.

00:14:02:06 - 00:14:05:21

It goes along with your
genealogical research.

00:14:07:23 - 00:14:09:09

The background of everything you do,

00:14:09:09 - 00:14:13:15

you just don't want to learn
who was born, who was buried when he died.

00:14:13:19 - 00:14:14:05

That's it.

00:14:14:05 - 00:14:17:27

I mean, you want to know
what went on in between all those dates?

00:14:20:07 - 00:14:23:07

Well...

00:14:25:14 - 00:14:26:24

I make a couple of dishes.

00:14:26:24 - 00:14:29:24

Jamaican dishes for every now and then,
I guess,

00:14:30:12 - 00:14:33:06

rice and peas is probably my best one.

00:14:33:21 - 00:14:37:04

And then we have something like an
imitation of Carnival in Jamaica now.

00:14:37:16 - 00:14:39:28

But that's recent as far as I'm concerned.

00:14:39:28 - 00:14:41:22

And we never had that.

00:14:41:22 - 00:14:45:18

Carnival... that was really new to me.

00:14:46:19 - 00:14:47:12

We were fortunate.

00:14:47:12 - 00:14:50:08

We lived right on the, in an apartment

00:14:50:08 - 00:14:54:22

on one of the main streets,
where they did the Carnival parade.

00:14:54:29 - 00:14:55:19

It's incredible.

00:14:56:19 - 00:14:58:13

So yeah,

00:14:58:13 - 00:15:02:18

that was that would have been different
for a Trinidadian to come up here.

00:15:03:28 - 00:15:06:06

But they still have the Caribana

00:15:06:06 - 00:15:08:14

which is the closest thing,
the Caribana parade.

00:15:08:14 - 00:15:11:14

from this weekend.

00:15:14:03 - 00:15:15:11

I can't think of anything else.

00:15:15:11 - 00:15:17:10

As I said, you know,

00:15:17:10 - 00:15:19:21

It's been missing the people.

00:15:19:21 - 00:15:22:21

Missing the climate,

00:15:23:01 - 00:15:24:22

places.

00:15:24:22 - 00:15:27:16

But also knowing that it's
totally changed.

00:15:27:16 - 00:15:29:29

It's not. It's not the way it was.

00:15:29:29 - 00:15:32:24

So I like to keep my memories

00:15:32:24 - 00:15:34:17

where it was.

00:15:35:07 - 00:15:36:07

I kind of wish they would.

00:15:36:07 - 00:15:39:00

To certain extent.

I think my eldest daughter does.

00:15:39:00 - 00:15:39:25

To a certain extent.

00:15:39:25 - 00:15:42:25

I'm not sure about the others.

00:15:47:00 - 00:15:49:10

I done all that work,
and I don't think they're that interested.

00:15:50:29 - 00:15:54:07

Well, I did, you know,
I wrote a blog for a number of times

00:15:54:07 - 00:15:57:07

that I know that was online.

00:15:57:17 - 00:16:00:27

It was one of those Google blogs.

00:16:01:26 - 00:16:04:03

It was called, 'My Jamaican Family.'

00:16:04:03 - 00:16:06:07

You can look it up sometime.

00:16:06:07 - 00:16:08:13

Just Google, 'My Jamaican Family.'

00:16:08:13 - 00:16:10:03

And you'll find it.

00:16:10:03 - 00:16:13:25

Unfortunately, I haven't done
anything with it since 2016.

00:16:13:26 - 00:16:15:16

I kind of

00:16:15:16 - 00:16:18:16

I think I just ran out of things
to write about.

00:16:19:17 - 00:16:22:14

But, in a way,

00:16:22:14 - 00:16:26:04

it was an opportunity for me to

00:16:27:07 - 00:16:29:04

capture some of my memories.

00:16:29:04 - 00:16:32:11

And so the history, for instance,

00:16:32:27 - 00:16:35:24

and also what my family as well as,

00:16:35:24 - 00:16:38:24

you know, Jamaicans in general.

00:16:39:15 - 00:16:42:01

Well, I guess

00:16:42:01 - 00:16:43:16

Canada Day would be one.

00:16:43:16 - 00:16:48:02

I mean, you know, that's great.

00:16:48:18 - 00:16:53:03

As I said, living in colonial Jamaica,
I mean, well, it wasn't entirely a colony

00:16:53:03 - 00:16:56:25

because that sort of self rule,
but it was still,

00:16:57:11 - 00:17:00:02

you know, British.

00:17:00:02 - 00:17:02:17

Yeah, we had to make it customs
to a certain extent.

00:17:02:17 - 00:17:07:11

But Canada isn't a lot different really,
because it also has a British background.

00:17:07:11 - 00:17:09:00

And I know there's
also the French as well.

00:17:09:00 - 00:17:11:14

But if I'd settled in Quebec
it would have been

00:17:11:14 - 00:17:12:21

it would have been a lot different.

00:17:12:21 - 00:17:17:16

That's a whole new culture
that we would have had to get used to.

00:17:18:08 - 00:17:21:16

I think coming to Ontario, it's
not a heck of a lot different in a way,

00:17:22:05 - 00:17:24:21

because there's
that British background as well.

00:17:24:21 - 00:17:29:29

I know that there's been a lot
more immigration since then in Canada.

00:17:30:19 - 00:17:35:25

It's more like when you see a melting pot--
I don't know if that's a good expression

00:17:37:09 - 00:17:39:12

certainly very multicultural.

00:17:39:12 - 00:17:41:20

But you know,

00:17:41:20 - 00:17:45:07

when I got here in 66, it wasn't as much.

00:17:45:27 - 00:17:47:09

So it's changed a lot.

00:17:47:09 - 00:17:50:09

Probably for the better.

00:17:52:03 - 00:17:55:03

One of the things that strikes me about
this country

00:17:55:18 - 00:17:58:04

is it's so darn big.

00:17:58:04 - 00:18:01:14

I remember when we first went west,

00:18:03:09 - 00:18:05:27

I guess it would have been 66.

00:18:05:27 - 00:18:08:03

We were driving,

00:18:08:03 - 00:18:10:02

and it literally

00:18:10:02 - 00:18:13:06

took us three days to get out of Ontario.

00:18:14:10 - 00:18:17:10

We did it all the way around
Lake Superior.

00:18:19:11 - 00:18:21:13

It's,

00:18:21:13 - 00:18:24:16

the funny thing was,
when we first came in 60

00:18:25:21 - 00:18:27:19

and decided to go west to meet up

00:18:27:19 - 00:18:30:19

with my husband's family, we took
what was known as the shorter trip.

00:18:30:23 - 00:18:31:23

We went through the States.

00:18:31:23 - 00:18:33:08

Well that was kind of interesting.

00:18:33:08 - 00:18:37:21

You know, and we would go all the way
across to North Dakota,

00:18:38:05 - 00:18:41:05

then go through to Winnipeg.

00:18:41:18 - 00:18:45:29

But when we came back at 66,
we wanted to do it through Canada.

00:18:46:15 - 00:18:49:08

And it took so much longer.

00:18:49:08 - 00:18:51:05

And you're driving across the Prairies

00:18:51:05 - 00:18:54:27

and you literally start to see

00:18:55:05 - 00:18:57:28

you know, mirages.

00:18:57:28 - 00:19:00:02

You're sure you could see

00:19:00:02 - 00:19:03:02

Regina right up there in front of you,
but it's not there.

00:19:03:21 - 00:19:06:11

It just looks like it is.

00:19:06:11 - 00:19:09:15

I just couldn't get over

how incredibly vast this country was.

00:19:10:04 - 00:19:10:25

I still can't.

00:19:10:25 - 00:19:14:07

To a certain extent, I mean.

You know, we have right here in Burlington.

00:19:14:07 - 00:19:16:06

But I'm thinking if I had to take a trip

00:19:17:16 - 00:19:18:20

nowadays, you just fly.

00:19:18:20 - 00:19:21:19

And it still takes you four and a half
to five hours to go British Columbia.

00:19:22:15 - 00:19:25:15

Took us days to do that.

00:19:25:23 - 00:19:27:05

You just.

00:19:27:05 - 00:19:29:13

Whereas in Jamaica,

00:19:29:13 - 00:19:31:05

you know, I would swim in Kingston

00:19:31:05 - 00:19:34:06

and I would go to particularly
for a day, it's no big deal.

00:19:35:00 - 00:19:38:29

You just drive and there you are.
Couple of hours.

00:19:38:29 - 00:19:39:07

Yeah.

00:19:39:07 - 00:19:42:06

It's the size of it.

00:19:42:27 - 00:19:45:27

And also the beauty of it too.

00:19:47:12 - 00:19:50:15

You know comparing the mountains
and the Prairies.

00:19:50:15 - 00:19:53:01

I think it's great for me.

00:19:53:09 - 00:19:58:15

Now, this is...

This is my old, my first passport.

00:19:59:18 - 00:20:02:18

So it's a British passport, right?

00:20:06:00 - 00:20:07:01

It does say Jamaica,

00:20:07:01 - 00:20:10:01

but it's still a British passport.

00:20:10:21 - 00:20:15:15

And there's my most recent passport,
which looks like any passport.

00:20:17:08 - 00:20:19:21

I just brought those along.

00:20:22:09 - 00:20:24:04

The only other thing
I thought I would mention

00:20:24:04 - 00:20:28:02

because it's something I'm a bit proud of,
I got an award

00:20:28:07 - 00:20:31:06

back in 2011 and

00:20:32:08 - 00:20:34:04

it was

00:20:34:04 - 00:20:38:02

it's a senior's award,
the Ontario Senior's Achievement Award.

00:20:38:20 - 00:20:41:20

So my volunteering with various,

00:20:42:18 - 00:20:46:01

things, so that it shows up in this,

00:20:46:01 - 00:20:49:01

this is the award,

00:20:49:15 - 00:20:51:19

this is the award program

00:20:51:19 - 00:20:55:07

that we went to Queen's Park,

00:20:55:12 - 00:20:58:12

through the legislature.

00:20:59:11 - 00:21:01:27

This is the Legislative Assembly

00:21:01:27 - 00:21:04:27

official report of debates.

00:21:04:27 - 00:21:08:07

And there's a little caption there.

00:21:09:04 - 00:21:11:12

Right here

00:21:11:12 - 00:21:15:05

about Jane McKenna, who is then the

00:21:16:13 - 00:21:19:13

representative MPP for Burlington,

00:21:20:20 - 00:21:24:09

thought of this and spoke about this,
because she was there too.

00:21:24:09 - 00:21:27:00

And there's also a picture

00:21:27:00 - 00:21:30:00

which in her
message from Jane.

00:21:30:28 - 00:21:34:25

So there's this tiny little picture
here of her with me.

00:21:35:17 - 00:21:38:20

I didn't know if you wanted to see pictures
because most of my pictures are digital anyway

00:21:38:20 - 00:21:40:07

which makes a little bit difficult.

00:21:40:26 - 00:21:43:04

Gosh, we weren't in
Winnipeg long enough for me

00:21:43:04 - 00:21:47:14

to really get involved in any groups
that you might see.

00:21:49:10 - 00:21:52:10

Just the neighbourhood stuff sort of thing.

00:21:53:18 - 00:21:55:10

But since then,

00:21:55:10 - 00:21:58:14

since I've been here in Burlington,
I've been much more involved.

00:21:59:10 - 00:22:01:06

As I told you, I'm a member of the

00:22:01:06 - 00:22:04:19

Ontario Genealogical Society.

00:22:04:29 - 00:22:08:21

We are different branches
depending all over Ontario.

00:22:08:24 - 00:22:11:24

I'm with the Halton-Peel branch,

00:22:11:28 - 00:22:14:13

and on the council,

00:22:14:13 - 00:22:17:28

which is like the executive.

I've been for years, actually.

00:22:18:12 - 00:22:20:24

And, as I told you

I'm the Cemetery Coordinator.

00:22:23:07 - 00:22:24:16

I'm also a member of the

00:22:24:16 - 00:22:27:15

Burlington Historical Society.

00:22:28:10 - 00:22:31:24

I haven't been to recently
to any of the meetings,

00:22:31:24 - 00:22:34:11

but it's already been put in some way.

00:22:34:11 - 00:22:35:25

Getting around is a bit tricky for me.

00:22:35:25 - 00:22:38:25

You know, mainly because sciatica

00:22:43:02 - 00:22:45:28

Let's see what else.

00:22:45:28 - 00:22:48:28

As I mentioned,

I am a member of St. Luke's Church,

00:22:49:02 - 00:22:51:18

and I have been very involved with them.

00:22:51:18 - 00:22:54:18

I've been a Warden.

00:22:56:03 - 00:22:58:05

Taking part in,

00:22:58:05 - 00:23:00:26

activities in the church as well.

00:23:00:26 - 00:23:03:17

Just yesterday, in fact,

00:23:03:17 - 00:23:06:10

St. Luke's

Church is celebrating

00:23:06:10 - 00:23:09:10

its 190th anniversary this year.

00:23:09:18 - 00:23:12:18

The church is founded in 1834

00:23:13:04 - 00:23:16:18

and I am on the 190th Committee.

00:23:17:28 - 00:23:20:06

So I'm involved with that as well.

00:23:20:06 - 00:23:24:08

Just yesterday we had an artist display

00:23:25:24 - 00:23:29:11

I guess because it was the holiday,

00:23:29:11 - 00:23:32:14

it wasn't as well-attended

as I would like,

00:23:32:14 - 00:23:35:21

but I took a lot of pictures
and I'm kind of like

00:23:35:21 - 00:23:38:23

the unofficial photographer
for the church, because who else?

00:23:41:06 - 00:23:43:29

Some beautiful artwork there,
I'm telling you it's really great,

00:23:43:29 - 00:23:47:12

and they are just sketching on the grounds
and so on.

00:23:49:26 - 00:23:52:10

Well, we had a number
of them this year

00:23:52:10 - 00:23:55:20

for the 190th anniversary.

00:23:56:01 - 00:23:58:08

Started off with

00:23:58:08 - 00:24:01:06

a concert and

00:24:01:06 - 00:24:04:05

I guess that would have been in June.

00:24:04:05 - 00:24:07:28

With the quartet from the
Burlington Symphony Orchestra.

00:24:08:19 - 00:24:11:19

And they did a

00:24:11:24 - 00:24:14:29

presentation at the church, which was
a beautiful project for the church.

00:24:15:20 - 00:24:17:02

We had a strawberry social.

00:24:18:03 - 00:24:20:07

And, unfortunately,

00:24:20:07 - 00:24:25:17

the day we had it was not good weather,
so we had to bring it inside.

00:24:25:24 - 00:24:27:18

And we did the parish hall,

00:24:27:18 - 00:24:31:12

which is still a lot of fun
because the rain came down in buckets.

00:24:31:12 - 00:24:34:19

And we even had hail
that day, that weekend.

00:24:35:02 - 00:24:36:03

I remember that one.

00:24:36:03 - 00:24:36:22

Yeah.

00:24:36:22 - 00:24:39:22

Insane, I'll tell you.

00:24:39:27 - 00:24:42:12

So we've had,

00:24:42:12 - 00:24:45:11

this artist thing as well is going to be,

00:24:47:18 - 00:24:48:26

what else are we having?

00:24:48:26 - 00:24:52:24

There's a presentation in the church of,

00:24:54:13 - 00:24:56:23

a gentleman who does C.S. Lewis.

00:24:56:23 - 00:24:59:23

He's presenting, 'Screwtape Letters.'

00:25:00:12 - 00:25:01:20

I think.

00:25:01:20 - 00:25:03:14

I don't have the exact dates of that.

00:25:03:14 - 00:25:07:09

I'm sorry, I should have
brought some other things.

00:25:08:15 - 00:25:10:05

You asked me what else I was involved in.

00:25:10:05 - 00:25:12:17

I'm on the committee.

00:25:12:17 - 00:25:15:14

I'm on the library committee.

00:25:15:14 - 00:25:16:06

But I'm also.

00:25:16:06 - 00:25:18:20

I'm on the committee
for the parish dinner.

00:25:18:20 - 00:25:20:11

We have parish dinner every year.

00:25:20:11 - 00:25:24:05

This was going to be very
special because 190th and,

00:25:25:16 - 00:25:28:19

our bishop
has indicated she's coming and visit.

00:25:29:01 - 00:25:32:00

I'm sure we'll be inviting
you know, or maybe

00:25:32:28 - 00:25:34:25

an MP or MPP or

00:25:34:25 - 00:25:37:25

Ward Councillor, Mayor, and so on.

00:25:39:03 - 00:25:42:19

Oh. The Mayor
also came to the concert

00:25:42:19 - 00:25:47:02

to give us a certificate recognizing

00:25:47:17 - 00:25:50:15

St. Luke's 190th anniversary.

00:25:50:15 - 00:25:54:01

And, yeah, there's all sorts of things going on.

00:25:55:05 - 00:25:57:13

Interviewer: Busy.

Dorothy: Yeah, you can say that again.

00:25:57:13 - 00:26:00:15

And of course, the end is probably going
to be the Christmas market

00:26:01:13 - 00:26:04:23

all those things we do
fundraisers for as well.

00:26:06:29 - 00:26:09:29

I can't say there were any,
just you know,

00:26:11:15 - 00:26:16:08

Not when I first came here,
I wasn't aware of any, quite frankly.

00:26:16:08 - 00:26:18:25

I believe by

00:26:18:25 - 00:26:21:16

staying in touch with people I knew or

00:26:22:17 - 00:26:24:07

connections from Jamaica,

00:26:24:07 - 00:26:28:18

we visited because there was
there were a number of people from Jamaica

00:26:29:04 - 00:26:31:26

that had settled there in Canada as well,

00:26:31:26 - 00:26:34:26

touch base with them, sort of thing.

00:26:36:10 - 00:26:39:22

I find Burlington people

00:26:39:29 - 00:26:42:24

to be really very friendly and welcoming

00:26:42:24 - 00:26:45:18

in many ways.

00:26:45:18 - 00:26:47:29

In any setting

00:26:47:29 - 00:26:51:26

I've been in a group

have been very accepting, very welcoming.

00:26:52:27 - 00:26:55:06

But I think a lot of it has to do
with yourselves as well. Right?

00:26:55:06 - 00:26:57:23

I mean, if you're outgoing

00:26:57:23 - 00:27:01:02

and you get that same thing back...
if you hang back

00:27:01:16 - 00:27:06:07

it's more difficult for people
to sort of make contact with you.

00:27:06:18 - 00:27:09:18

So it's a two way street, really.

00:27:11:21 - 00:27:12:09

Well, first of

00:27:12:09 - 00:27:14:26

I think I'd say do your homework.

00:27:15:21 - 00:27:19:00

Find out what you can about
where you're going.

00:27:19:00 - 00:27:23:17

It helps to know what community
you're settling in.

00:27:23:25 - 00:27:26:19

Burlington may not work for
someone going to

00:27:26:19 - 00:27:29:14

you know, say Quebec,

00:27:30:25 - 00:27:33:25

you really need to know
your community as well.

00:27:34:08 - 00:27:37:19

I think it really helps
if you have a contact there already,

00:27:37:19 - 00:27:40:19

but you can't always have that

00:27:43:22 - 00:27:45:04

Find out what you can about it.

00:27:45:04 - 00:27:48:26

If I were younger and I were
coming to Burlington for

00:27:48:28 - 00:27:53:05

the first time... Online,
I would try and find everything

00:27:53:05 - 00:27:56:05

that I could about Burlington

00:27:58:00 - 00:28:01:00

What's it like, where is it located?

00:28:01:21 - 00:28:03:02

What are the people like?

00:28:03:23 - 00:28:05:05

Oh heck yes.

00:28:05:05 - 00:28:08:05

I mean

00:28:08:11 - 00:28:11:11

I know they have some sort of,

00:28:11:24 - 00:28:15:10

society or association

00:28:15:26 - 00:28:18:25

that tells you all about volunteer
opportunities.

00:28:19:04 - 00:28:19:16

Sure.

00:28:19:16 - 00:28:22:16

I mean,

there are lots of options to get involved.

00:28:23:12 - 00:28:26:13

I think you just have to look out for them.

00:28:30:06 - 00:28:31:07

I don't know of any place

00:28:31:07 - 00:28:34:07

that would shut their door
and say they don't want you,

00:28:34:29 - 00:28:38:28

People are always looking for volunteers

00:28:40:07 - 00:28:42:08

Well, I presume there maybe
some people out there who

00:28:42:08 - 00:28:45:08

get married to Canadians
and come to or go to Canada.

00:28:46:02 - 00:28:48:11

But I think it's more difficult, now actually.

00:28:48:11 - 00:28:52:19

Quite frankly,

I mean, I think there are many more,

00:28:53:23 - 00:28:55:03

hoops that have to be jumped through.

00:28:55:03 - 00:28:58:03

I don't know, as I said,

I don't know how difficult it was.

00:28:58:18 - 00:29:02:14

It takes you five years now to get
accepted for Canadian citizenship.

00:29:02:14 - 00:29:04:27

You have to live here for five years, right?

00:29:04:27 - 00:29:06:23

It doesn't matter

if you're married to a Canadian.

00:29:06:23 - 00:29:08:13

I don't think.

00:29:08:13 - 00:29:11:13

I think it's still the same
from what I understand.

00:29:11:21 - 00:29:15:01

It wasn't like that
then when I came, you know.

00:29:17:02 - 00:29:19:28

So they have made it a bit tougher.

00:29:19:28 - 00:29:21:20

I think.

00:29:21:20 - 00:29:25:08

Saw something interesting in the headlines.

00:29:25:21 - 00:29:28:11

Today's Star actually. Front page.

00:29:28:11 - 00:29:31:17

Visa scams.

00:29:32:16 - 00:29:34:09

Have you heard about that?

00:29:34:09 - 00:29:39:03

Apparently people who want to go
to the United States and they need a visa.

00:29:39:22 - 00:29:40:21

But these are just

00:29:40:21 - 00:29:45:04

people who aren't citizens,
because when Canadians don't need a visa

00:29:45:04 - 00:29:48:04

to go to the United States,
let's say they're,

00:29:49:05 - 00:29:51:06

you know, residents

00:29:51:06 - 00:29:53:27

living here, but not like residents.

00:29:53:27 - 00:29:56:12

I mean, they're living here
but they're not residents.

00:29:56:12 - 00:29:59:26

They have other,
I guess, other nationalities.

00:30:00:16 - 00:30:03:10

And apparently, it's a long waiting list

00:30:03:10 - 00:30:06:10

to get a visa

because they're all backlogged.

00:30:06:12 - 00:30:09:17

So what's happening is that these scammers

00:30:09:22 - 00:30:13:07

get you go online and offer

you a quick visa or something like that.

00:30:13:07 - 00:30:15:18

You could give them the money

and then they block you.

00:30:15:18 - 00:30:17:26

They disappear.