

**Transcripts – KPU Oral – Bill Day**

**Organized College Referenda; Founding Dean of Continuing Education; Second President – Douglas College**

**Interviewer – Roger Elmes, Dean Emeritus**

**Second Interviewer and Camera – Alice Macpherson**

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[Beginning of transcript]

ROGER: Comment on it. Or just give a signal like let's not go there or something like that.

BILL: Sure.

ROGER: And then we will just edit it out. Because it is not intended to be an aggressive interview or anything like that, it is just a chat.

BILL: Fine, sure.

ROGER: Whatever we can capture around recollections are going to help with any history that is eventually written on Kwantlen. That would be great.

BILL: So what is the date today?

ROGER: We are at the 29<sup>th</sup>.

BILL: Twenty-Ninth. Okay.

ROGER: Thank you sir. So you actually, I believe, were instrumental before there was a college in terms of working with Earle Marriot, probably, or working for Earle Marriot, or?

BILL: Actually, I was employed by Surrey School District at the time. I had spent a year in India on loan to the external aid office and when I came back Mr. Marriot asked me if I would do a feasibility study for what was then called a regional college. The legislation at that time provided for District Colleges such as the Vancouver Community College and Regional Colleges. And he asked me to do a feasibility study for Langley, Surrey, Delta, and Richmond. There had been consultation between the school boards, of which I was not aware, and I was asked on behalf of them all. But Earl acted as the conduit. Simultaneously Ken Mutter, who was director of instruction for Coquitlam School District, was asked to do the same thing for the three school districts North of the River. Maple Ridge was invited but chose not to participate. So, Ken was asked to do an analysis for Burnaby, New Westminster, and

Coquitlam. The requests to us were simultaneous and Ken and I very quickly established contact and as it happens really liked each other. And so, we landed up really leaning on each other a lot. So that was the precursor to what eventually became what you refer to as the shot gun marriage. And that's a pretty good description. [Laughs]

ROGER: [Laughs] Yeah. And then there was a referendum in each school district as well.

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BILL: I ran the referendum for North and South of the river. That was by arrangement. And that itself was a major challenge because there was by no means a unanimous public mood. We had to do a lot of community level work. Hard selling stuff. Dozens of community meetings.

ROGER: I can imagine.

BILL: On both sides of the river. And there I found my role because I was an adult ed guy and had my friends in all the other districts. The adult ed people had great contacts in the community and we used them as a communications network.

ROGER: Okay. That is something that a lot of people aren't even aware of, that that had to occur as part of the legislation in order to establish these Regional colleges.

BILL: Exactly right. And that was viewed, in those early stages, as the ultimate challenge. Would we get the 60% vote? And in fact, we did. It was razor thin, but we did it.

ROGER: Yeah, a lot of people aren't aware of that. And it's quite interesting because it gives a whole different sense of how the colleges were rooted in the community from their get go.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: And so that was ongoing before the referendum that occurred. I believe the minister stepped in and said, "there is going to be one college." And so that was kind of the shot gun marriage.

BILL: That is correct. Now from our perspective, Ken and mine, operations, it was great. Because it allowed us to pool everything. And I think it gave us additional small p political force. And again, Ken was just a wonderful man to work with.

ROGER: And so then George [Wootton] was appointed as the Principal by the Ministry appointed college council, the first college council.

BILL: Correct.

ROGER: And then Bill Morfey-

BILL: Then Bill Morfey.

ROGER: As the Bursar.

BILL: That's right. Then Don Porter.

ROGER: And then they must have started hiring you guys. Or?

[0:5:11]

BILL: Don Porter came three, and I came four. Yeah.

ROGER: Okay. And Don was Dean of Curriculum, and your title was it continuing education?

BILL: Continuing Ed, yeah.

ROGER: So that was very early focus.

BILL: Don took care of the, well Don was responsible for the formal curriculum apparatus, and I took care of everything else. [Laughs]

ROGER: [Laughs] That's quite a thin organizational start up.

BILL: Oh yes. It was very thin. And then of course Gerry Della Mattia. He was number five. I was, I think, fairly influential in bringing him on. I had met Gerry previously when he was up at Notre Dame University. And he was all of 20 years old when I met him, we were all kids. And when Gerry applied, I was electrified because I thought that's the man. And so he came on, actually he followed me.

ROGER: He was there for, well his whole career, I guess. He after that spent, at Douglas- he went to the advanced education thing.

BILL: Oh yeah, Gerry had an interesting career, not chequered, it was very positive, but he was at Douglas and then he was hired by the Emirates, spent, if I remember correctly, about three years over there and the Emirate wanted him to stay. Gerry asked permission to stay for another year. And I said Gerry, you have to make up your mind. You're either working here or you have left. And I said, you have my blessing either way, but you've got to decide. So, he came back and then rather quickly became head of the Presidents Council of what were then the community colleges. And he stayed in the provincial level from then on.

ROGER: Oh okay. So, I didn't realize that he had gone that early to-

BILL: Oh yeah.

ROGER: So in the beginning of Douglas-

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: -there was- and there was also one more thing I should check beforehand because in the background I've heard a couple of things. One that there was an initial push to have the south of the river college would be called Kwantlen and the First Nation has actually, the people from the First Nation-

BILL: The Royal Kwantlen, yeah.

ROGER: -have said, you know "the first time they didn't even ask to use our name", was kind of their take on it. And then the next time was when the split and Stan, last name escapes me [McKinnon], of the *Surrey Leader* suggests Kwantlen as their name and then this time they do a formal ask.

BILL: Yes.

ROGER: So that's one piece with it that I am trying to suss out is if there is any truth to that from your knowledge ... was that there was a move to have Kwantlen as the name at that point?

BILL: It was indeed discussed. In fact, I introduced the concept. Of course, I was a [Surrey] resident so I was a south of the river guy and it struck me because the Kwantlen Band was very, very powerful in that area and it struck me that if we were looking for a local name that that might be a good idea. Stuart Graham was very influential at that time, District Superintendent in New Westminster and a very powerful supporter of the regional college. Stuart argued against it because he said that the name is simply unfamiliar at the public level. He pushed hard for a name that would feel comfortable and familiar and therefore supportable to the general population. And that was when of course Sir James Douglas came up. So Kwantlen fell completely into an abyss during the first years of the then Douglas College but then it surfaced very quickly after the split.

ROGER: So at the beginning of Douglas, there were no facilities.

BILL: That's right!

ROGER: There was a commitment by the Provincial government, I think, that they would actually, a budget was there, things were supposed to happen, and it was all planned that it would, and then the budget was sort of yanked at some point.

BILL: It vanished. It literally vanished. You're right. WAC Bennett was Premier at that time and he, looking back on it, I don't think ever felt personally very comfortable with the idea of colleges. They came about basically despite the provincial government. Frank Beinder, of course, whose name I'm sure you're familiar with, was very powerful in the interior with CMS, Consolidated Mining and Smelting, and actually Frank was an unsung hero because he got CMNS and their enormous economic and political power in the interior to support strongly the idea of regional colleges. In any case though, Frank pushed very hard for the colleges to be brought into existence and CMS, this is again my understanding of it, pushed very hard to have the provincial government

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provide enabling legislation and thus both the local and regional colleges came in and were provided for in the legislation. But the actual support in the ministry was very vague. There never was a pot of money sitting there. What happened was that the government appointed Board leased buildings, you will remember the so-called campuses in New Westminster and in Surrey there, and those were leased without any assurance that there would actually be any money backing the lease. There was a lot of talk at that point which I overheard at the Board level, "Well what happens if the government doesn't come through, we're on the hook!" There was a lot of real tension. The fact is the government did come through. Hank Naylor, of course, was the building development man at that point and Hank did all of the engineering mechanics of leasing these properties. So there were the three, there was Surrey, there was a New Westminster site, Eighth and McBride, and then the Richmond lease of the building which you will remember I'm sure. And one of my first jobs was that I was the administrator for the Richmond campus. We were all scattered over all hell's half acre, you remember that well.

ROGER: Yes. [Laughs]

BILL: [Laughs] So we all spent a lot of time in our cars driving, driving, driving. But as far as the funding was concerned, funding I believe always followed risk taking behavior by our Board. They were the ones that had the nerve to stick their necks out and the government would actually back them up, always. Even the big, big formal commencement ceremony in New Westminster that WAC Bennet attended and spoke at, he was very equivocal, there was no enthusiasm.

ROGER: Right. Was that where his big Cadillac got stuck in the mud at the McBride campus? [Laughs]

BILL: Yes, it was. [Laughs]

ROGER: That was quite an event. And I think there were pickets there from the UFW or somebody because there were some strike in the background, not at the college, but elsewhere. So, before those buildings arrived of course you and other people must have arranged, I remembered going to a high school in Burnaby at four thirty or whatever time-

BILL: Yup, Burnaby Central.

ROGER: - it came available to us.

BILL: There again my, I think I can truly say it, my friends in the school district adult education community were of enormous assistance to us because they already had machinery in play for the use of school buildings. And I did a hard sell which was strongly echoed and supported in the school districts by the adult ed guys, and really, we moved in on their system, Gerry Della Mattia and I

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organized the complete time table on that first year and we simply moved in behind the night schools. So, we literally ran in church basements and in junior highs and senior highs, I can't remember us using any elementary's.

ROGER: I think fine arts somehow took over the old Simon Cunningham [then on King George Hwy. Surrey].

BILL: Yeah, we leased the entire building. That's right yeah.

ROGER: And they still had some other people wandering in and out. I remember Jim Adams telling us a story about, people kind of, "What there's students in here, what's going on?" [Laughs]

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: Taking drawing courses. So my introduction, of course, I sort of arrived, hired and Jacqui Thachuck, not Jacqui Thachuck, Jacquie Gresko-

BILL: Jacquie Gresko.

ROGER: Who I'd been in Canadian Studies doing a Masters with at Carleton sent a thing and said, "oh they are looking for somebody who has your disciplines to be able to teach and you should get your thing in right away." That was kind of August 8<sup>th</sup>.

BILL: Yeah. Jacquie, she stood about that high. [Laughs] Bright, Energetic, yeah.

ROGER: Yeah. Definitely. And she did that and so I got a flight out here and interviewed and hired and went back, bought a big five-ton truck and-

BILL: Moved out.

ROGER: drove out of Ottawa and moved myself out here.

BILL: [Laughs]

ROGER: And eventually sold the truck for the purchase price.

BILL: Sure.

ROGER: That I paid. So that was my introduction I had no inkling of all of the background and how the [Macdonald] Commission had recommended, regional colleges and so on and all of the work that had gone into it. And all of the challenges of getting it started up. Just hit the ground running, you're going to be teaching in this high school at this time and off you go.

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BILL: That was Gerry Della Mattia and Bill Day laying out the time table [Laughs]. Yeah we worked until five o'clock in the morning the first day of classes just getting the time table adjusted. Somehow or another we got away with it.

ROGER: No, it was very interesting. So, then we went into the portables and the warehouses and so on. That phase of things.

BILL: Yup. Warehouse in New Westminster [and Richmond], portables elsewhere.

ROGER: And then we talked about the old penitentiary as the site.

BILL: Yes.

ROGER: And this kind of way in the back of my mind that was looked at for quite a while and fairly seriously.

BILL: It was. And we decided in the long run that it simply wouldn't work. Physically it was an oppressive environment. I spent a lot of time with the warden and a number of other officials in corrections and because I had had experience personally in running classes in the Haney Correctional Center, the jail there. And they worked out very, very well when I was the director of Adult Ed in Maple Ridge. So, I'd had some experience of prison and I wasn't frightened of them, but the physical environment of the pen in New Westminster was just so forbidding that we didn't land up running classes there. In fact, we ran some classes for inmates at the pen, which got a fair amount of coverage at Ottawa as kind of a good community interaction. But we never did land up booking space there.

ROGER: So on the other side of the river there was also discussion at one point of Green Timbers. Remember Alice Moore who had been a student and ran the student newspaper *Pinion* and by then as a Surrey Counsellor was one of the people assigned to it.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: And I forget there were two or three other people from the institution who were looking at it. But my recollection is that Barry Leach was in opposition because it would be sort of ecologically taking an area that was fairly pristine-

BILL: Exactly.

ROGER: And trying to cut down a lot of space out of it to make-

BILL: Barry was very hostile to the notion. And I had a lot of respect for Barry. Barry and I became very good personal friends. And he was you know, Barry was very decided. And he was very, very

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strongly opposed to it. And he had a lot of influence in the college. He said we are supposed to be modelling good environmental behavior and this is the reverse of it. So yeah, it didn't go anywhere, but there was a lot of discussion.

ROGER: Mm-hmm. So that was kind of moving along a bit because still while it was Douglas there was quote "Newton" campus at which were, I think the same guy who owned the warehouses in Richmond-

BILL: That's right.

ROGER: He built the purpose-built warehouses at Newton.

BILL: That is correct. In fact, those were our first structures that were actually designed for use as a community college. Now Hank Naylor was very involved in that, I was not. I mean I was aware of it, of course, but oh yeah, that was the first purpose built. And in fact, when the structure was up we all went down to admire.

ROGER: [Laughs]

BILL: It felt so good. [Laughs]

ROGER: Yeah. I think those were all tilt ups weren't they? Tilt up cement.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: So that was growing in Newton and in the meantime Richmond had expanded. It had kind of moved across the road and taken quite a bit of space there.

BILL: Yeah, we moved down the road in a two-story building and we also, I'm a little fuzzy about timing on it, we'd also, excuse me I'm going to sneeze. Sorry. We had also started what became, well it was a Farrier training program. Because we wanted to have something in Langley. And so Ken Moore and I put our heads together and decided that perhaps Farrier training would work. Because years before I had run Farrier training at night school in Surrey.

ROGER: Yeah, Ok.

BILL: So, I was fairly familiar with the nature of it, mechanics and so on. And so, it just lent itself nicely to a six-month orientation and a six-month upgrading program. Sort of a nice curriculum package. So, Ken and I designed it and found a space just across the road really from your present Langley campus. It was in a disused barn. And so our first Langley operation was a disused barn. And Ken Moore was the administrator responsible for it.

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ROGER: Wow. Yeah, I didn't know that Ken was involved with that.



BILL: Oh yeah. Very heavily involved.

ROGER: I mean I knew he was building a house down in Langley, Right.

BILL: That's right, he was just down the road. [Laughs] I used to accuse him of being self-interested. But no, it worked out very well. Good program, and it built the present Langley campus, it all started there in an old barn.

ROGER: Yeah. Well in fact his daughter had started as a student here and just retired [from Kwantlen]. And has been all through the O-reg [Office of the Registrar]. Very important player in there.

BILL: I was going to ask whether she was still with you. Nice lady, I remember her as a girl! [Laughs]

ROGER: Yeah, it's crazy when you think of it. But yeah, she just retired at the end of June I think, so it's quite recent.

BILL: I have forgotten her name.

ROGER: Maureen.

BILL: Maureen, right.

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: Ken and I became devoted friends.

ROGER: Very nice.

BILL: We got so well.

ROGER: Similar backgrounds.

BILL: Hard working, there you go. He was a complete straight arrow, I just loved the man.

ROGER: Yeah. No, he was very.. I liked him because you knew where you stood but at the same time he was warm and welcoming.

BILL: He was kind, giving, and well I felt so happy to be a friend of his. I stayed in pretty close touch with him right through to the point when he developed dementia. After that I just simply lost track and our lives diverged so much.

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ROGER: And then he was up on the Sunshine Coast.

BILL: That's right. Joan and I, my then wife, visited him, I've forgotten his wife's name [Kristal – added by Mr. Day], but we visited them a couple of times actually up on the Sunshine coast. In fact, I drove by their place just last week.

ROGER: Okay. He had a trailer home.

BILL: And he started ... Ken started the lifeboat rescue service up there and their primary life boat is called the KM, it is named after him.

ROGER: Oh yeah, that's great. So, Douglas was progressing along, and it was kind of almost seemed to be growing, not willy-nilly, but growing tremendously. And at one point there were 14 sites, something like that?

BILL: Yes, it was a logistic nightmare. Statistically, very impressive. The numbers just kept zooming and I've got to say at that point, now what am I saying at that point, six or seven years after the institution started, we started to get very responsive assistance from the Ministry. I believe it was year three or four we had a huge tidal wave of students that came surging in and George Wootton, Don Porter, myself and Don Wheeler went over to Victoria and said to the Ministry, "look, we need help! What are we going to do?" And by gum within 2 hours we had received assurance from the deputy minister, don't worry. You hire as many people as you need we will cover it. Which was wonderful, we were given a blank cheque. And we did. Don and I travelled back and forth across Canada hiring people as quickly as we could. There was no due process. Don and I simply decided [Laughs].

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: Because there was no structure anyways and the pressures were just terrific.

ROGER: Yeah no it was. There was tremendous growth.

BILL: And at that point as, I say, we could not have asked for a more responsive ministry. They really did support us.

ROGER: And it's '79 and I'm gone to ACCC and I don't come back until '83 so I missed a lot of that churn that happened at that time. But Douglas got an announcement for a permanent campus.

BILL: Yes.

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ROGER: And then shortly after that I think \$50,000 to carry on with the actual planning of it. And then it was going to be in downtown-

BILL: New Westminster.

ROGER: New West. So that was a big move.

BILL: It was. It was huge. You can think of Douglas College as a super saturated solution at that point, it tapped the glass. Wham, suddenly we were in to the systematic development with previously declared government support et cetera. Now at that point I became markedly less involved personally south of the river. Primarily because George Wootton put me in political responsibility for bringing on the New Westminster campus. So, with that plus what was then the Coquitlam campus basically at the mental hospital there, Essondale, New Westminster and Essondale pretty well swallowed me whole. And I worked pretty well steadily for two or three years on that, with staff and engineers and so on. So I became much less familiar with the dynamics south of the river at that point. In fact, politically, I think probably the announcement of the New Westminster campus probably precipitated what became the move to creating a college south of the river. But that is just hypothesis on my part.

ROGER: Yeah, because before that the NDP government had committed to three permanent campuses.

BILL: They had.

ROGER: But then nothing had flowed.

BILL: Nothing had happened. Because of course it was a short-lived government.

ROGER: Yeah, three years. Something before the unions kind of revolted against them and didn't help them in the next election.

BILL: That's right.

ROGER: So the creation of that campus created a whole different dynamic around Douglas College and eventually, and I'm not sure of the timing, but it probably was not until expo '86 that the SkyTrain kind of goes right by the campus as well.

BILL: Actually, if you take a look at the original feasibility study that Ken Mutter and I jointly originally authored, we took deadly seriously the notion of what became SkyTrain. And the location of what became the Coquitlam campus was very carefully designated to be within walking distance of mass transit north of the river. And actually, it all worked out pretty much exactly as we had hypothesized it. Ken and I worked really closely with the planning departments in Coquitlam,

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Burnaby, New Westminster, and in Surrey and Delta. And they were terrific. So, our plans really meshed really nicely with them. I've forgotten their names now but in those days we were

on a first name basis with all of the planning departments. They were very familiar with what we were trying to do and very supportive.

ROGER: Yeah, well it made a lot of good sense and to have that foresight around rapid transit because it was kind of a twinkle in an eye as opposed to something much more expansive than that.

BILL: Exactly. And I still feel good every time I take the SkyTrain, I really do. I sit there and I think, well you know, I had a bit of a role here. [Laughs]

ROGER: Yeah. So the south of the river at the same time there was still sort of nothing saying no looking forward to yes you will have permanent campuses on these dates or anything really.

BILL: I'm certainly not aware of it. Now my view, remember I was in senior administration I was not political. But that is indeed my perception, that was still a mileage problem.

ROGER: So, while I'm away people start to talk about, well there's going to now be two colleges. And I'm like what, what are you talking about? Okay, alright let's know what is happening. And then there is a process of separation and then hiring two-

BILL: The split.

ROGER: Two presidents. One for each. And then of course, there were a lot of people-

BILL: Tony Wilkinson south of the river and yup...

ROGER: And there were a lot of people who thought you would be here and somebody else would be that side of the river.

BILL: Yeah. Actually, well this I can talk about because it was me directing who was involved, when the decision was made to split and create two colleges I did not even consider applying as president of either college. I always referred to myself as essentially a damn good number two man. I had no ambitions to be a college president. And that is the truth. I love the operations. I love the mechanics of being involved in developing stuff, but I had no desire of being CEO. And eventually I was approached, and I was told that I was going to apply. [Laughs] It was sort of, Bill either you are going to apply, or you are going to quit. I didn't want to quit; I loved the college! So, I was told to apply north of the river, so I did. And lo, I got the job. So it's the notion of me going south of the river. Indeed, that made all sorts of geopolitical sense with my background. I still lived in Surrey.

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It was my emotional home territory. But, I did go North and it worked out okay. The college survived.

ROGER: Yes, indeed. So then there was this whole sharing of resources if you like.

BILL: Yes, the split.

ROGER: Because there were all these resources, it was the split of an existing college and I remember Reg Pridham he was quoted, I don't know how accurate of an opinion, that this was not a new college that was being founded it was a college that was existing and it was just now going to be in two parts. There were faculty, there were buildings, there were practices, there were collective agreements, GEU unions, and the faculty union. So a lot of the infrastructure was there-

BILL: It was in place.

ROGER: The practices were there.

BILL: It was a matter of picking stuff apart carefully. That's a fair summary statement. I agree with you.

ROGER: It seemed to be, again I was not back until '83, so there were two years of the split having been accomplished before I returned but it seemed to be reasonably amicable.

BILL: My perception was that it was. The people by and large seemed to go where they wanted to go and we wanted to, this I know for sure, we went through a lot of effort to try to accommodate faculty and staff. They had earned the institution's loyalty and so we tried to demonstrate that. And by and large it worked out okay. I felt a bit, [Laughs] personally a bit unhappy at a lot of the people that moved south because I was on the north because they were friends of mine and I loved working with them. But of course, they vanished from my professional life at that point.

ROGER: So it was interesting that part of the wrench, I guess the emotional wrench, was typified by the faculty association remaining one association until '89 or something. It was fairly long.

BILL: That's my memory.

ROGER: And that they wanted to continue to work together which seemed kind of, I guess, a heavy thing. Not a heavy thing but an awkward thing to keep running when you had two separate institutions.

BILL: There was a lot of cognitive dissonance at that point.

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ROGER: Good description.

BILL: There really was. And I was very, well temperamentally I don't view myself as a fighter, I try to make things work. And on that one I had a very decided collision of opinion with the then

faculty association. I said in the long run it can't work. It will just create an endless amount of friction and we don't need that because there is enough natural friction anyway in labour management relations. So, I said if we have two institutions, we need two organizations. Now, I don't think that had any effect, the union did what the union did, but certainly I very publically said no. It should be a separate organization.

ROGER: Yeah. And it took, for me it was about five years and then it was pretty clear that it was going to split and form two separate organizations, but it did last for quite a long time.

BILL: Oh yeah, it did.

ROGER: For me it was, somebody said now you have to choose. So I thought, okay, there's already a permanent campus on that side of the river so the change and growth, the excitement, for me is going to be on this side of the river.

BILL: South, yeah.

ROGER: South of the river.

BILL: I agree with you. I always felt that too. [Laughs]

ROGER: [Laughs] Yeah, so it was very interesting when I returned, of course, in '83 I walked straight into a GEU strike. And it was a very funny experience in that I had been having access to deputy ministers, and ministers, and college presidents across the country for the last three or four years and now I am sort of standing in isolation, not in isolation but standing on a picket line. Which was a very interesting experience having come from a different background but having organized the faculty union it was very interesting to be standing there and observing this. So that was a very challenging time for the new college because it was already wrestling with competing perspectives about what the college should be.

BILL: Exactly, the focus, the keel, if you like, of the college and of course now Tony was I think still president at that point.

ROGER: Yes.

BILL: And of course, he had declared decidedly that you were going to be a technological institution and a lot of people were jolted by that. Frankly, I always liked the clarity that Tony projected right

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from the beginning which I think gave you guys a good start. Regardless of whether people agreed or not at least it was clear.

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: And I think when I look back at it now and look at some of the statements that were made and papers that were presented and speeches that were given and so on, that there was nothing wrong with the vision it was just premature.

BILL: Yeah. It was a big leap.

ROGER: It was a huge leap and it was premature in terms of what the community was able to accept and what the job market was and so on and so forth.

BILL: And also, even the make-up of the faculty.

ROGER: Oh, definitely that. For sure. Because Tony had been hired and he had a view on what they were going to be doing and being for the next 20 years of their lives.

BILL: Sure.

ROGER: And suddenly it was challenging. And suddenly whatever was in Langley was closed in order to support-

BILL: Beef up the support.

ROGER: Beef up the technology side of it.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: So very, very challenging times. But Douglas continued to grow, and it continued on a fairly even keel. And of course, there were some benefit I would say from your being there because you were a known quantity. You had an interaction, people knew you.

BILL: A known quantity with a clear set of values and all that.

ROGER: So people were able to move ahead on an even keel really in that time frame.

BILL: Yeah.

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ROGER: So, Douglas has been much more cognizant of its anniversaries let's say. So at 25 years there was a big celebration and a book, kind of a-

BILL: The Gerry Della Mattia book.

ROGER: Yeah, and then 40 years Gerry did this one.

BILL: That's right.

ROGER: So, they have been much more cognizant of their roots I think it would be easy to say. I think that a challenge for Kwantlen has been its kind of been through four 'foundings' if you like. There's Douglas, there's Kwantlen, there's UC, and then there's the University, a polytechnic University. So it's been-

BILL: Each one a fairly wrenching-

ROGER: Yeah each one causing certain challenges.

BILL: Organizational environment.

ROGER: Yeah definitely

BILL: I agree.

ROGER: Definitely, organizationally especially. I mean, going to the UC created a different- it was partially under a different act at that point.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: And with the university under another act and having to create a Senate.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: And then the EdCo flowed into the senate. The senate was still a different beast.

BILL: That's right.

ROGER: And it caused some ongoing issues. But it always struck me that you guys had a lot more continuity for at least 15 years, you were at least 10.

BILL: What dates are we looking at?

ROGER: You're from '81-'91? As president.

[0:41:47]

BILL: I was just trying to [Laughs] you know so much time has passed Roger. Just let me think for a second. Yes. I do believe you've got it.



ROGER: Yes. Time has elapsed. We were just talking before about Ken Moore - one of his daughters is now a grandparent. And they were little kids when the college was founded. So a lot of time has passed but it's –

BILL: I think Douglas... my perception is that Douglas grew in a stable and relatively organic fashion. Things changed but gradually and in response to changes in the overall environment. My perception is there were no lurches in Douglas' evolution. And that continues to be the case, although Douglas now is a very different institution than it was when I left. And that's the way things are. That's not been the case with Kwantlen, as I perceive it, because I perceive it to have moved in a series of bounds. And the result is pretty impressive. Don't get the idea there is any implied criticism.

ROGER: No. No. Not at all.

BILL: None at all.

ROGER: No, it's a good analysis. Because I think that there were, sort of a break almost and then you had to point in a new direction and start wrestling with new concepts and ideas.

BILL: Exactly right, yes

ROGER: And even the challenge of a university-college which was theoretically mandated only to offer applied degrees was so, well how do you make applied degrees in areas where that is not typically the-

BILL: The case, exactly, yeah.

ROGER: The bread and butter of it. That created a lot of –

BILL: You had major challenges on this side of the river, yeah.

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: And by and large I think, kind of obviously, met and surmounted them.

ROGER: Yeah, we had some very interesting ones. Alice, do you have any insights you want to throw in?

ALICE: I am a fascinated fly on the wall here.

[0:44:09]

BILL: [Laughs]

ALICE: I really am.

BILL: I think that is flattering Alice. Thank you.

ALICE: It is. It is.

BILL: As you can see Roger and I go back a long, long time.

ALICE: And I get that. And I came along somewhat later into this story, so I don't have anything to add. I am only listening and trying to keep it all together.

ROGER: Anyways, very fascinating to look at some of the directions that we took at the beginning and some that sort of stayed but there was kind of this concept of student at the center as we launched. And I remember that we had a lot of students at our infamous retreat-

BILL: Oh god, there is still somebody that remembers it! [\*Laughs] Yes.

ROGER: Yes. Including John Baker who chased me up to say, "what are you doing?" And, "let's get together!"

BILL: Is John still around?

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: Oh for god's sakes.

ROGER: Yeah. He has been doing personal development, kind of company.

BILL: If you see him again pass on my warm regards.

ROGER: I shall. [Laughs]

BILL: [Laughs] John was a student, who was then was deemed to be a student radical.

ALICE: Excellent.

BILL: When the college started. He was an American if I remember.

ROGER: No he was Canadian but he was a Vietnam vet.

BILL: Oh Vietnam. That was it. I remembered there was some.

[0:45:35]

ALICE: Oh, radical.

ROGER: But yeah. Indeed. Anyways, so he was there, and it was just that kind of, and the focus of counselling. That was so much emphasis put on counselling.

BILL: Yes. Sheila Thompson was very, very major. Sheila was our director of counselling at the college.

ALICE: Mm-hmm.

ROGER: She was very influential I would say.

BILL: She was. She was very powerful in every sense.

ROGER: Yeah. And they were included in the faculty as opposed to some systems were, they not. Like SFU.

BILL: No, Sheila she was- I had tremendous regard for her. She was a wonderful woman, wonderful person.

ROGER: Yeah and they had a very important role teaching some things –

BILL: Oh yeah. The counsellors were all teachers. They ran programs. We ran quite an elaborate sex education program which in those days was seen as a little bit scary stuff. But Sheila saw to it that that ran. We had credit classes in sex education.

ALICE: Wonderful.

BILL: Which in those days was quite adventurous stuff.

ALICE: Yes, it was.

ROGER: And very early Lillian Zimmerman and I forget what you actually called them but it was women's studies.

BILL: Women's Studies. Douglas, the combined north and south of the river, we ran the first credit women's studies programs in British Columbia. And the year after Simon Fraser University developed a program to receive our women's studies students. And Lillian organized all of that. Yeah. I feel very pleased about that.

ROGER: It was very different. Lyle Howarth also kind of was starting the beginnings of not criminology but it was pointing in that direction. Social human studies and social work.

[0:47:40]

BILL: Lyle came on teaching a residential, it was then called Residential Child Care, which really was a training program for people who went into the infamous Residential Schools, in which native children were sequestered. Fairly quickly Don Porter and I started to feel very anxious about that program. I think it is fair to say that both of us felt that it felt wrong, there was something wrong with it. And although we couldn't articulate it at the time it is the very stuff that has since surfaced about residential schools. What it did to families, what it did to the

individuals involved. And a lot of the curriculum, because at that time I became the Dean of Curriculum, and I took a close look at Lyle's course descriptions and structure and I felt that they were clearly ones that were geared to change individual's perceptions of themselves and their families. Sorry am I doing something, oh I apologize.

ALICE: It's okay, just move around the table. Okay.

ROGER: I'm just sneak out while you and catch you on that thought. I've had too much-

ALICE: Okay, I am going to do a quick break.

BILL: You're making me feel better by the moment. [Laughs] Roger, this is so much fun. Thank you for inviting me.

ROGER: Oh, my pleasure.

BILL: And both Don and I agreed it felt wrong. There was something wrong in the basic values that were being propagated from our perspective. And at that point Lyle's wife had started to teach in the program. So, they were working as a team teaching a whole bunch of courses. And eventually Don and I pulled in both of them and told them that we were feeling increasingly uncomfortable about the substance of their program and therefore we wanted to have their ideas as to what the program could evolve into it. We tried to handle it in a, well from my perspective, a humane fashion. And that was the start of the program change. It was actually well engineered in retrospect.

ROGER: So that was one program that was different, and Women's Studies, and also didn't they start psych nursing around then, or was that later?

BILL: I designed that program. Yeah, we designed it, and we tried to, well we succeeded actually, we created a ladder program. Of one year, two years, and then a split. We had to do a terrific amount of work with the nursing program at UBC because at that point it was the only nursing program, that is the RN program. And we worked with the Psychiatric Nurses Association, Dwight Wenham, and the RN's and managed to win approval to have a common first year. And so that was Douglas' contribution at that point because we were just getting into it. And the Provincial government went along with it, it was a jittery mess, but it worked. And so, we started out with a common first

[0:51:32]

year and then a branch into psych nursing year two and RN year 2. So I was the guy that, because I was then Dean of Curriculum, and so I was certainly a significant figure, maybe key, but certainly significant at that point, and it worked out fine.

ROGER: And the nursing program was at 140<sup>th</sup> street. Which ... it was of those programs that moved campuses and came to New Westminster campus.

BILL: That's right. And we designed the lower floor of the then new campus building to accommodate that nursing program.

ROGER: Oh, okay.

BILL: Yeah, it was set out specifically to handle that kind of curriculum

ROGER: And then probably another 5 years after the split a program reappeared on this side of the river.

BILL: Of course. Because the province at that point got the message. They were pumping money into the nursing programs, which they did not do with medical programs unhappily, but they certainly did with nursing.

ROGER: So the other programs that were North of the river that were unique, what would they have been? There was certainly Barry Leach's role and creating an Institute of Environmental Studies.

BILL: Environmental Studies, yeah.

ROGER: And then International Studies as well.

BILL: International Education.

ROGER: But especially environmental on and I think he produced through the *Vancouver Sun*, I forget what the page was called but it was kind of like not an opinion it's not just letters to the editor but rather more thoroughly done.

BILL: It was an opinion piece, right.

ROGER: And I don't know how many times those were in there but he certainly got a few of those.

BILL: Barry. I can distinctly remember about seven of those pieces. They had quite an effect on municipal politics actually around the lower mainland. Of course, I know that we should be talking about Kwantlen but the Douglas faculty that were involved did a lot of darn good research on drainage systems on the lower mainland. Some of which is still viewed as baseline research. I read a report just six months ago on that topic and the research they did on the whole lower western

[0:54:06]

Fraser Valley drainage systems, most of which are now buried but they are still there. And that was all Douglas college stuff.

ROGER: That's amazing.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: Yes, because what was even more amazing in a way was Barry Leach has a PhD in history on world war 2 and the Russian [Offensive].

BILL: Yeah, he did his dissertation on an element of the German invasion of Russia. He was jailor for one of the German generals as part of the British army.

ROGER: Yes, yes.

BILL: He was a youngster, the general was an older man, but they became quite attached to each other. And so, Barry pumped him for inside information and that was the basis of Barry's PhD. I met Barry initially out at UBC, we were both in Masters programs together and we took a course in European history together.

ROGER: Oh wow. Well one of his sons teaches at UCFV, well the University of the Fraser Valley in history and one of his grandsons is in our International programs division here.

BILL: Oh, for god's sakes.

ROGER: He's not in faculty but as a staff person and he is arranging a lot of things and whatever. So isn't that amazing!

BILL: Well could you pass a warm hello to his son.

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: I'd really appreciate that. And if his son would like to contact – I remember him as a little boy.

ROGER: Yes, indeed.

BILL: And if he felt like contacting me, he could do it through you. And tell his grandson that he had one hell of a grandfather. [Laughs]

ROGER: Yeah. I sent him some stuff, newsletter articles and whatever and showing this as you said, "what did you know about my grandfather because I don't know much about him." Because he grew up in Japan actually, his grandson. So yeah, quite fascinating. So that was quite an interesting program,

[0:56:09]

and then the fact the Barry Leach, Douglas College was working with the Dalai Lama to work with refugees.

BILL: That's right. I helped Barry and Dorothea set up that organization. Dorothea too was very active in that. And I had some contacts from my time in India that I was able to help them a little bit with that.

ROGER: Yeah. It was always amazing to me that all of these things were going on at Douglas that just people were launching initiatives and making things happen.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: As part of the freedom, I think, that was set up with the college from the beginning that people were encouraged to think for [themselves].

BILL: Encouraged to do that, yeah. Come up with good ideas. Yeah. I always took tremendous pleasure out of supporting ideas.

ROGER: So all of this stuff is kind of, I mean this all you say we should say talk about Kwantlen but you are talking about Kwantlen because this was all part of it in that first 11-year period when we were one and then some things moved to one side and other things moved to the other but then that spirit of it was still there and then probably created some challenges for Kwantlen administration thereafter. Because a lot of faculty were like, "Yeah, let's do this! This is really good, let's push this!"

BILL: Let's do it!

ROGER: So we're used to .. you have an idea and you work on it.

BILL: I always felt personally that if somebody was prepared to really invest time and energy that that right away warranted a big leg up on formal support. We put a lot of work in the adult literacy area.

ROGER: Yes, that's right.

BILL: And that is still carrying on. I was hauled into an interview three weeks ago by some faculty that were digging into deep history behind their program and the name Bill Day came up.

ROGER: Very nice. So, you had first graduation for two-year programs, actually two years into the institution. So, we were already graduating people with Diplomas, I guess they were called then, as opposed to AA degrees but certainly diplomas at that point.

[0:58:39]

BILL: That's right, they were Diplomas.

ROGER: And suddenly too, Maple Ridge joined the party.

BILL: That's right.

ROGER: Joining Douglas College as part of it.

BILL: They did.

ROGER: And rolling it in together. I just can't think of one other thing here, oh yes, of course the design programs became very big even as Douglas and we switched, they ended up in Kwantlen.

BILL: You're talking about interior design?

ROGER: Yeah, interior design, Don Cavanaugh, and that group or whatever.

BILL: Yeah right.

ROGER: Taking students all over the place, France, New York City.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: Regularly.

BILL: I still keep in touch with Sooz Klinkhammer who of course headed up your program down here.

ROGER: Yup.

BILL: Sooz and I are good friends.

ROGER: Okay. It's quite the facility they built now with the kick start money from the Lululemon and so it's quite an amazing building. I don't know if you have had a chance to go have a look at it.

BILL: I am completely out of touch, so the answer is no I haven't. Where is it located?

ROGER: It's on the Richmond campus but it is kind of centered beside the earliest buildings but it is basically glass and it is kind of a modern post and beam, not post and beam but post and steel beam et cetera.

BILL: I am going to telephone Sooz today or tomorrow and I am going to get her to take me out to Richmond and we will do a tour of that campus or that building.

ROGER: Good. Because our retiree's association did and people were like, "wow, amazing!"

[0:1:08]



BILL: Yeah.

ALICE: Mm-hmm.

ROGER: In fact, my grandson brings a girl to thanksgiving dinner who is a student in fashion marketing.

BILL: Oh my [Laughs] great. Clothing Design and Fashion Technology. That was the original name of the program. No, Fashion Design and Clothing Technology. That was it.

ROGER: Yes. And some of those people just left recently.

BILL: Sure.

ROGER: In fact, some of them are still involved in the industry which is amazing because they are approaching our age or close to our age and still involved in the industry. So, I always thought of the forming the union was kind of a very odd step, in a way, for Douglas of that era. Because it had kind of developed out of everybody getting together and we all met in I guess the Canada Games pool curling rink the thing –

BILL: Yup, how well do I remember that.

ROGER: All of the faculty, all of the administration, some of the staff too.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: And everybody got together and things just- people figured things out and got things happening. So, it was a real collegial atmosphere. And then as the institution developed it kind of, I mean it somewhat diminished because people had to make decisions, things had to happen.

BILL: Sheer size.

ROGER: Size contributed to it. It just became larger so by '77 there was the movement, and of course I was there pushing it, for the faculty association being created.

BILL: Yes.

ROGER: And part of it was that I think that faculty just started to think that they weren't as intimately involved and connected and asked about and so on and that was what –

BILL: They weren't as centrally consulted and involved. And I think that's probably a fair description looking back on it.

[1:02:16]

ROGER: And so, some people it was for other purposed but for a lot of us that was sort of, well we want to continue to have our role in this and have our say in it.

BILL: Yes.

ROGER: And some of the things that maybe contributed to it were the Board had started to change. It was kind of NDP came in and they put in some people who maybe pushed things in a different direction for a while. It became more directive, I think. I won't mention names but there was certainly a chairman who was much more directive in how things were happening as opposed to some of the people who had been there before and understood coming from the background, like Stew Graham for example.

BILL: Yup, understood education.

ROGER: Yeah, so it was very different.

BILL: Stewart was a wonderful support for Douglas, North and South of the river. He was terrific. I had enormous respect for him.

ROGER: Yeah. And Fred Gingell, who didn't come from education *per se* but I thought was a real gem on the Douglas board and then on the Kwantlen board. And then was the first chair of the Kwantlen board.

BILL: That's right. You know, I'd forgotten that. That he was the first chair of the new Kwantlen.

ROGER: Yeah. And he gave a lot of effort to it. Real smart guy. Very proper.

BILL: Very, very, very bright. Very humane.

ROGER: Listened to people. Listened well. I liked that guy. He was very good. Anyway, that kind of started the movement towards the faculty association becoming a union, or certified. The GEU had done it probably three years in.

BILL: I believe. Yeah, they did it relatively early in the college's evolution.

ROGER: Yeah. So that created kind of different set of things that were happening. But I've always viewed colleges and politics in general as the art of the allocation of scarce resources and sometimes the battles are internal because the external battle had been lost or not won. Right, so the money has been less, so the scarce resources-

BILL: The battlefield is just there, right! That's right.

[1:04:45]

ROGER: Yeah. So then it caused some more challenges.

BILL: In that era, we were involved in a lot of very fierce financial battles.

ROGER: Yes.

BILL: In Victoria. And I know in terms of my own career pattern when I became president of the north college, I walked right into a firestorm financially. And here I think is where individual backgrounds do make an unacknowledged but critical difference. I am a child of the depression, literally. I remember the depression really well. I'm just enough older than you are to do it. I can still remember men coming to our house and my mother making up sandwiches in the morning for the unemployed people that were just travelling through the neighborhood. And for me, having a job was terribly important. Terribly important. And an awful lot of my activity, looking back on it, as president was securing employment. And I had numbers of arguments with the then faculty association over policies where I was in flat out disagreement with how they wanted to spend money. And I said I'm saving jobs. Now what I was doing was reflecting my own personal values. Frankly I was frightened at the idea of laying off people whom I knew and respected. Knowing of course if I did, I would be beaten up like mad for it. And so, Douglas, almost uniquely at that point, we managed with superb work done by Peter Greenwood to ease ourselves through and I said at one point to the faculty association, "we have not laid off one permanent faculty member." And when you look around the province it was like a battlefield. And I said, "does that not count for anything? That's all bullshit!" [Laughs] you know. You know Barry. And so I did create a real gulf at a significant part in Douglas' life where we were, I was, battling to save [permanent] jobs, the faculty association was battling to make life better for their members. And that includes part time faculty which was a big issue at that point.

ALICE: It still is.

BILL: And I was the bad guy, you know, I said our prime task, we've got to look after our regular faculty and therefore I will not yield. And that did create a lot of tension at a difficult time. Sorry I am chattering on.

ROGER: Oh no no, that's okay because, in fact I remember it from a different perspective because by that period I was in Toronto and-

BILL: Yes, you were, you were with ACCC.

ROGER: Got quite a big percentage increase around that period and ACCC was like, "What? We have to pay how much now?" Because the agreement was, I would still be in the pension and I would be carried, just transferred across. You'll pay Douglas and Douglas will continue to make sure that I

[1:08:19]

get my- And they were like, "we have to pay you how much now?" Because it had jumped quite significantly. I mean suddenly it was from \$10,000 in '70, 10 years later it was \$27-28,000.

BILL: Huge percentage increases. So that was the environment in which I was working as CEO at Douglas and it was odd when you look back at it the vaulting salary levels and desperate problems in terms of base funding. I chose to fight the salary levels and to, from my perspective, preserve jobs. That was not popular with a lot of people. Well, life is life. I don't know that I would have done it any differently anyway [Laughs] in retrospect.

ROGER: Well it was a period of cut-backs, the province was actually cutting budgets. I remember Langara killed its summer school in order to try to balance its budget.

BILL: It was also a time of a lot of job loss among CEOs. During that period of time the average length of service for CEOs in colleges in BC was four years. I was on the job for 12 [years of that time] and I was an old man.

ROGER: Yeah.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: No, it's true. It's a challenging position always.

BILL: Oh yeah. It was, yeah.

ROGER: It's another kind of sandwich because you think as the Dean I am the meat in this sandwich and as the president I'm in another sandwich.

BILL: Exactly, I agree.

ROGER: So it is always very, very interesting.

BILL: Yeah.

ROGER: Well Bill that is fascinating. It is some very good information which I hadn't heard before. And so it is very helpful to us because Kwantlen is Douglas in its roots for sure and a lot of that was carried forward, a lot of it was carried forward.

BILL: We have a shared root system.

ROGER: Yes! Indeed. Across the river, underneath the river there's these roots growing out there still. And we still try to do some things together with the retiree's association at Douglas too.

[1:10:42]

BILL: Actually, you've given me some stimulus here. I'm going to contact Des and Pat Thomasson with whom - Pat and I are good friends. I've stayed good friends with a lot of those people. And I am going to contact them about the retiree's association and try to speed things

up. I will not directly hit Douglas but I think we can probably put a bit more steam behind talking.

ROGER: That would be helpful to them. Even if they can use Douglas in their title, which they've had some pushback from.

BILL: I agree totally.

ROGER: I'm sure they would appreciate it.

BILL: We couldn't always agree.

ROGER: [Laughs] We didn't disagree that often.

BILL: [Laughs] We always got along. We always got along just fine. I can still remember a short lecture that Roger gave to me about Email. Whose existence I'd heard of; I didn't even know who it was! And he gave me a short, snappy two-minute lecture on the meaning and future of email, and he was dead right. And I understood it! [Laughs]

ROGER: Well that was very weird because that was at ACCC a guy named Jim, what was his last name anyways it doesn't matter, from Algonquin said, "next time you're up in Ottawa bugging the Federal government I want to grab breakfast with you." And he came and started talking about all of this stuff. He was in IT or AV actually at Algonquin and he was working with the Federal government, liaising with the Department of Communications around the Telidon systems which was an early internet thingy.

BILL: Yup.

ROGER: So, he said, "you're doing Canadian studies, you better get aware of all of this because it is going to have an impact on Canadian studies, Canadian content, Canadian ways of thinking et cetera." So that was the genesis of turning the Canadian studies directorate into including new  
—

BILL: New technologies, yes.

ROGER: New technologies, information technology.

BILL: Yes. Information technologies, info tech.

[1:13:04]

ROGER: So that was kind of taking that and starting to tell people well this is what is coming, and this is what is happening now. This is what is going to be in your face pretty soon. What

was amazing was to hear because one of the things, technologies, then was video discs and then to learn –

BILL: I still got a couple somewhere.

ROGER: You do! That the automotive program was already using them.

BILL: Yup, sure. As retrieval, as storage devices. Yeah.

ROGER: In that period. So, they are already using it for teaching purposes. So they were ahead of where I was.

ALICE: So many academics are surprised when the trades is a way ahead in a whole bunch of stuff.

BILL: Oh yeah, sure. Roger, while we are talking today just let me grab you by the arm, but we are talking about the trades now, you still run an automotive program here. Am I correct?

ROGER: Yes.

BILL: I am a very active member of the Lions Gate Model A club. I own a 1930 model A truck, the apple of my eye. And we are an organization of around 60 people all of whom own model A Fords and our organization is interested in the long term future of bringing on people who like model As. By definition, we are an ageing group. Our cars are ageing, so are we. And we were talking a couple of week ago at an executive meeting, I am responsible for the tours and events, we were talking about the possibility of liaising with an automotive program to which we can make a contribution financially and in terms of machinery. If there is any interest, because model A's were the first Ford that uses a relatively modern configuration, you know proper gear shift et cetera, et cetera. They are still very primitive by modern standards, you know, mechanical brakes and L head four head cylinder engines and so on. But if there is any way in which I could be put in touch with those responsible for your automotive program what I'd like to do is to talk with them and to make an offer, now it might not be of any interest but at least we can offer to be of assistance by donation of automobiles, parts, information, and information on rebuilding. Because our members are experts at rebuilding of vehicles. Is there anyone to whom you could refer me?

ALICE: We have two people, and I'm just doing a double check. There's Larry Rhodenizer who is an automotive instructor and I know he has an interest in older cars, and there's also, this is where my memory is starting to fail me, our auto parts coordinator. And she has a, and I don't know the model, could be a T, could be an A, I don't know on, display in the Cloverdale [Campus] atrium, that belongs to her. So, I know that is two out of the various faculty that are there.

[1:16:49]

BILL: Could you give me those names again?

I2: Larry Rhodenizer okay. So I am just making sure.

BILL: That's R-O

ALICE: R-H. And I'm just making sure I have it right. Yes, R-H-O-D-E-N-I-Z-E-R, yup. It came up. That's why I was trying to get it right.

BILL: E-R. Rhodenizer. Got it. And?

ALICE: And I have lost the name.

ROGER: Is it Sandra?

ALICE: No, no. Not Sandra.

ROGER: Because I know that she has vehicles too.

ALICE: Oh yeah. It could be but auto parts. Mary Wilton. Mary, and that's pretty straight up, and Wilton is W-I-L-T-O-N.

BILL: Mary W-

I2: I-T-O-N.

BILL: I-L-T-O-N.

ALICE: And in both cases first name dot last name at KPU.ca will reach them.

BILL: Okay. Just hold on now. Mary. Can you spell that again?

I2: W-I-L-T-O-N.

BILL:O-N. Thank you.

ALICE: You're welcome. And I think that our interview is over. I'm going to turn the equipment off. Is that okay? We're in to much more fun stuff. I will cloak this when the time comes.

[End of transcription]

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**Addendum by email Tue 2018-10-30 12:16 PM**

My time at Douglas:

-President, Douglas College, 1981-1995

-Principal, New Westminster Campus, Douglas College, 1978-/81

-Dean of Curriculum, Douglas College, 1975-/78 - Administrator Coquitlam Campus (Essondale)

-Dean of Continuing Education, Douglas College, 1970-/75 - Administrator Richmond Campus

Roles:

I referred to myself as being responsible for the Plebiscite campaign. That was an overstatement. I was responsible for the direct contact/sales/organization for community and public presentations and meetings on both sides of the river. The formal publicity campaign - advertising, etc. - was carried out by Ray Torreson Associates - an excellent, imaginative outfit . Torreson was hired and appointed by the Steering Committee. Among other things, Ray had hundreds of bumper stickers produced that we distributed in shopping mall kiosks and at community meetings. "Yeah! College!" I was a bit put off, showing my fundamental conservatism, but people of all ages loved them. They even went out through public libraries! They were everywhere.

Again, my colleagues and friends in the school district adult education operations were of great assistance in every way. We had a standing committee of these people, chaired by me. It was formally endorsed and recognized by the College Steering Committee - Board Members from each school district staffed by Stewart Graham, District Superintendent for New Westminster School District. Maple Ridge was not included at this point - opted out and then came in when it appeared that the College would be a success.

So, I was a very very busy senior part of a big political machine. Hope this clarifies things a bit. We had terrific help everywhere. People came out of the woodwork. A wonderful example of timely community development.

Best regards to you both.