# Ida’s Story--Transcript

Interviewer: So today I need to talk to you about your life story and what you have experienced as you've gotten to the young age of 30. Okay. So, how old are you?

Ida: 78.

Interviewer: 78. What year were you born?

Ida: '44.

Interviewer: 1944. And where were you born?

Ida: Italy.

Interviewer: What year did you come to Canada?

Ida: 1962.

Interviewer: How did it feel when you first came to Canada? What was that like?

Ida: Well, it was not so easy. It was not my country. Not my city, nothing. I didn't know nothing.

Interviewer: When you came here, were people friendly to you?

Ida: Well, some. Some not.

Interviewer: Do you think that's changed?

Ida: Hmm, a little bit.

Interviewer: How do you feel about Canada now that you've lived here for so long?

Ida: For me, it feels good. I have everything. You can give it to me, but I work it. So I say, "Thanks, Canada."

Interviewer: Thanks to Canada for giving you what you had?

Ida: My life better.

Interviewer: Your life is better? You don't think your life in Italy...

Ida: Well, I don't know. I was small, so I don't know exactly what happened to me. And when I was 20 or 19.

Interviewer: You came when you were 19?

Ida: No.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Ida: 17 and a half.

Interviewer: 17 and a half.

Ida: What can I say? Just the words, "Be happy because it's a good country." Canada, it's good.

Interviewer: Okay.

Ida: The people, it's not so bad.

I think that the young people, they know more than us. Okay. Okay, I agree. Because they know computers, they know how to read, write, everything. But not with their head because us, we don't have so much English, but if we have a mentality to do, write, read, everything. Most the head know with the computer or with the...

Interviewer: The phone.

Ida: The phone. That's it.

Interviewer: So you think they don't really think for themselves, maybe?

Ida: That's it. That's it. And it's more, we work hard with the head.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Ida: They work hard with the computer, the radio, the TV, the whatever they do it. Then us, everything we know, we know about the head and the heart.

Well, I tried to say, go to school or finish your school. Get a good job and be a nice guy. Don't be any trouble.

Because so many things when I do young, now I can't do anymore.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Ida: That's a different life.

Interviewer: Like what, though? What can't you do now?

Ida: Well, I can go any same place anywhere, but still sometimes I stop for myself. I say, "But I have a family." Just in case something happens to me, I worry more about the family, not the corner trip and the corner someplace else.

Interviewer: So you think you put your family before yourself?

Ida: That's it.

I do my work on the garden. I have the dog at the cart. Cook. I do all the mother, all the, "Grandmother can do it."

The fun. Because with a friend there, we are small, we play, we say jokes. It wasn't like the kids.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Ida: That was nice. We respect each other. All of the kids were together but friendly. Really friendly.

Well, if I was at least at 10 years, I like better work, not home.

Interviewer: You don't think you're retired?

Ida: Yeah, I'm retired now.

Interviewer: Okay.

Ida: I have no choice.

I try to give good advice.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Ida: When they ask me something, I try to tell the truth because they change. Life changes day by day and you don't know what happens in a year and in 10 years. That's it.