

Athabasca Area Seniors' Memory Project

Transcription of Tony Kuster recording 2017.mp3

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<http://digiport.athabasca.ca/aasmp/people/tony-kuster/>

Narrator: Tony Kuster
Interviewer: Eleanor Staszewski
June 12, 2017

[Start of Interview]

Eleanor Today, we are recording Antoon Kuster, better known as Tony. And we're in Athabasca, Alberta on June 12, 2017. I am Eleanor Staszewski of Athabasca. Now, Tony will give you his information.

Tony I am Antoon Kuster. My mother's name was Johanna De Raat. She was born 28 January 1905 in Arnhem, Holland. My father was Antoon Kuster born April 15, 1902 and also in Arnhem, Holland. I was born September the 16th, 1930 in Eindhoven, Holland. I was married to Lynn Hexspoor for 46 years. She passed away on July 14, 2015. I emigrated from Holland on March 30th, 1954 with the boat.

Tony We were seven days on the boat from Rotterdam to Halifax. We arrived in Halifax late in the evening. We couldn't get off the boat until the next morning because we were late. We had to wait for the immigration people until the next morning. And we all went off and we sat on those benches at the famous Pier 21. You had to show all of your immigration papers to the people that were sitting at the table there.

Tony Then we went on the train from Halifax to Edmonton. There was four days and three nights on the train. When I got to Edmonton, I'll never forget, it was seven thirty in the morning. I think it was the 12th of April when we got to Edmonton.

Eleanor Why did you stop and stay in Edmonton?

Tony Well, the Canada Immigration Centre told me that they were sending me to Edmonton. There were 850 of us on the boat and everybody went here and went there. We stopped in Winnipeg for about five or six hours because people had to transfer to other trains. Some had to stay in Winnipeg, and some went to I don't know where they went to. They were shipped somewhere else and we had to stay on the train and wait until it left for Edmonton. And from Edmonton a lot of people went to Vancouver. And in Edmonton, people transferred to another train. Oh wait. No. They transferred in Winnipeg to another train to go to Calgary and things like that. But we had to wait and make sure. They told us not to run away too far because the train is not going to wait for us so that was okay.

Tony Then we went and came here. Like I said, it was seven thirty in the morning when I got to Edmonton and got off at that old CN railway station. There were lots of people there who must have been waiting for family or friends or something. There

were more than a dozen of us standing there to the side. We couldn't speak no English and we were waiting and waiting. We had some tags on and people came by and looked at our tags and then they went away again. Finally, some people came. They must have been from some church organization and they took three or four boys in the car around the corner and brought us to the immigration hall. That's where I landed, in the immigration hall.

Eleanor So you couldn't get yourself settled where you wanted to?

Tony No, oh no.

Eleanor Immigration told you where to go?

Tony Yeah. Back then the Canadian government took a lot of tradespeople. I was a machinist by trade and a millright by trade. From '52 to '56 the Canadian government was accepting all kinds of tradespeople who applied for immigration. Tradespeople had to go to Canada.

Tony If you didn't want to go no place else, if you had no special place to go, you went to Canada because Canada took up all the tradespeople. That's why I ended up in Edmonton. But like I said, I had no family, no friends, no nothing, so I landed up in the immigration hall.

Tony The immigration hall held about 50 of us. They give me a bed on the bottom row. There were two beds in there. I would listen to see who could speak Dutch or German. For the first three days, I was scared to go out the front steps because of all the traffic that I was not used to. It was right on 101 Street ... all that traffic, with the cars, and this and that, and busses. Well, we didn't have that in the old country because nobody had no cars, so I was scared to go.

Eleanor So you didn't have cars but you rode what?

Tony Bicycle. There were busses. It was like here, the busses in town. You could go on busses all over the place.

Eleanor They had good connections?

Tony Oh yeah, good connections all over the place. But we had the bicycle because we had no cars.

Tony Then finally I ran into a guy who was with me from immigration too. When he was in Holland he went to high school and he had to learn always two languages -- English or German or English or French. So he got to be pretty good in English.

Tony One day in the morning he came to see me and I was sitting outside there and I seen him and he said, "Let's go to the Edmonton Journal." I had worked seven years in printing shop maintenance. So he took me over to The Journal to fill in an application for work and everything.

Tony So I got lucky there, but I never heard nothing of that anymore. Yeah, too bad but then I was talking to some more people. There was another Dutch fellow in the immigration hall there and he was a welder and he worked at a machine shop downtown. He told me they needed some more people there. So he told me that I should go over there. But that was on 99th Street at the end of Edmonton. There were no busses that went there. I had to walk an hour because I had nothing.

Tony There was no bus going on 99th. Well, there was a bus that went part way. I think it was a Ritchie bus. He was going halfway down 99th Street and then he goes down the hill by Gainers Packing Plant. That's as far as he went. But that was 76th Avenue and I had to go to 63rd Avenue at the end of Edmonton. So I went over there and lucky for me, with my broken German, there were Germans there to help me out. And the foreman told me, I can't remember the date it was, but he said I could come back on Monday. So I could start over there and was paid \$1.10 an hour there. Yeah, that was pretty good.

Tony And I was there til October and then it started to slacken down. There was an afternoon shift that came back and I was one of the latest ones so I got laid off. But we had a big job there because we were building that Cromdale Hotel in '54. We didn't build it, but we supplied all the steel, steel beams and everything. And then the iron workers came in and they put everything together so we were busy there and I had to drill holes in those plates. I can remember 5/8th holes, I think, in those plates and you weld it on to the I beam so that one connects to the other one. So I was drilling on a big machine there. I was pretty good. I like it there. I really like it there. But then I got laid off in October. And what happened then? Then I run into that outfit, from the moving outfit.

Eleanor Let's just go back a minute to working with the machine shop. You got your first cheque from them.

Tony Yeah, first cheque. Thirty-seven and a half dollars. I was not used to cheques. In the old country it was all cash. There's no cheques and no banks. They have no money and nobody is working. People had no money in the bank because you used all the money. There was no such thing as working men having money in the bank. Everything was always cash. So I had a heck of a time and there was a big bank, what was it now? The Imperial Bank? I can't remember now, right across from the Macdonald Hotel, the big bank there. I would bring my passport and the guys who worked there would help me. Thirty-seven and a half dollars. And then I got lucky when I was in the machine shop. I ran into some other guys who told me about a place where I could get board and room. They said I should come back with them because the people needed some more people. There were six of us in the house for board and room so I got lucky there. Then I had to go back to the immigration hall and tell the people from immigration that I'm not coming anymore. I got a job and I lived in Edmonton right where....the Bonnie Doon was not even built. It was right across from Whyte Avenue. We were on Whyte Avenue. Yeah, I can't remember now. 80th Avenue and 85th Street. It was right across from the Bonnie Doon there, but the Bonnie Doon wasn't even built yet because they built it at a later time. The Bonnie Doon was built in '89. Yeah, in '89.

Tony I walked an hour to get to work and then another hour coming back from work. We worked Saturdays too. Four hours on Saturday there. I really liked it there.

Tony And they did the maintenance for the cement dowel trucks. They did service for the well.... for the how do you call it ... for drilling oil.

Tony Those big trucks came in for maintenance and he put me on the drives sometimes. The foreman put me always in there and I was pretty good, changing the drives or whatever it was, sprockets and everything.

Tony And he put me on those big, big trucks, those dowel cement trucks for the oil fields when they came in there for repairs. In October I got laid off there. And then for two weeks I didn't do nothing. I can't remember what happened.

Tony My English was still not so good after that either yet. But I started to understand a little bit but I couldn't speak nothing yet. I could say yes and no and thank you and that was it. Because when we got freed by the English, they didn't stay much in contact with the people. The English were real funny. There was people from the Air Force that went in schools because we had no school. We had a half year of no school. They came in the schools.

Eleanor That was back in the home country?

Tony Yeah, that was in Holland. Right after the war in '44 when we were free in '44. We didn't have to go to school for, what time was that? They came in September, there was October, November, December, January, February, March, April and May. Seven months we didn't have to go to school. The soldiers were holding school in those days.

Tony So that was kind of an in between time. You know how that goes!

Eleanor So when you were laid off from the machine shop, what did you do?

Tony For two weeks I paddled around because I didn't know my way around too much and then I had to go to the unemployment insurance office.

Eleanor You were talking about the difference in the kind of measurements at the machine shop.

Tony We were not used to inches and I had to work with inches and that was really, really tough.

Tony I remember one time I told the foreman, I had a kick out of it, because they said 3/16" and a little bit. I couldn't know how much. Was it a 32 or something? I couldn't see that on my caliper because we were not trained that way but you learn pretty quick. I didn't have too much trouble because I had 5/8" holes to drill for those plates when they were doing all that iron work for the Cromdale Hotel.

Tony For the rest, I didn't have too much trouble with measurements. There was a lot of repairs in the shop, take things apart and all the sprockets on there and chains and everything. That went pretty good.

Eleanor Then the only other really big challenge you had was the language.

Tony The language took more than two years. Way more than two years before I could speak. I could understand it quite a bit.

Eleanor You would have caught on sooner if you didn't have the Dutch and German friends.

Tony Yes, Dutch and German. But that's what usually happens. You stick together. Same with Ukrainians and French who are always together. They didn't want to talk English either. So that's the way it went. What can you do? Slowly you get it.

Eleanor When you moved off of the German machine shop, what's the next job you had?

Tony I was helping some outfit with a van and storage to help people move fridges and stoves. On Saturday morning we always had jobs like that. You went into the old part of Edmonton, 96th Street, 97 Street. The basements had narrow, narrow steps that you went down with a dolly to pick up stoves and fridges. That was a terrible job helping them and everything, but it had to be done. I had to work Saturday mornings and everything.

Tony And like I said, none of us worked for the same outfit. In the meantime in '56, Canada Packers started to build that new office and cafeteria. It was right on the railway so they couldn't move the stuff from the rendering. They couldn't move the cracklins, what they called the cracklins. They couldn't move that to the feed division. So we had a guy with a truck to move it every time.

Tony Then the guy who drove the truck said he couldn't stand the smell of the plant from the rendering and everything. So he said, "You go!" He said he didn't want to work anymore. So I went over there and I said, "You don't have to do nothing. They load the truck and unload the truck. You just have to drive." And then I had to go across the road. There was McCabe, orwhat do you call it again? They do all grain, they bring in grain and everything.

Eleanor An elevator.

Tony Yes, an elevator. The farmers came in with trucks bringing stuff. So I had to go on the scale down there, it had to be weighed and I had to drive back. That was right across from Canada Packers and then back to the feed division. In the feed division they had a special door. You opened it up and I just back up the truck and the guys unload all the cracklins. We saved all the guts and they get all mashed up and then they cook it. They boil it and everything and then they grind it and goes to machine and press all the oil out and then goes to the feed division.

Eleanor So to be a truck driver you had to have a chauffeur's license. Explain that chauffeur license.

Tony Well, if you want to drive a truck over one ton for somebody else or even for yourself, you have to get a chauffeur's license. You couldn't drive a truck if you had just a driver's license --- that didn't work. So I had to go there and make my chauffeur's license too. When I was working for that outfit I had to drive a truck sometimes too, for the guys, to help out with the van and storage that time for half a year or so. I had to go sometimes with the truck, drive the truck to pick up stuff and buy stuff. So I had to get my chauffeur's license.

Eleanor So it's a metal pin that's embossed with your driver's license number?

Tony Yeah, yeah. And I keep that same number. You keep that number all the time.

Eleanor What happened in 1957 when you were working at Canada Packers?

Tony Yeah, I had a big accident.

Tony What happened was I was on dayshift because I was still in the rendering to start out with before I could get a job in the machine shop. We saved all the blood from the cows, and it was put in roasters and got cooked.

Tony They boiled it and it got just like flour and then it got bagged and goes to the feed division because blood is very high in protein. So they mix it in the feed division, you mix it with pork concentrate or beef concentrate.

Tony In the morning, I had to empty that roaster so it would be ready for the next killing. They had to put the blood in another one. There were two roasters, an empty one and the other one was filled up. And I look at the list and it was filled up. It was full, they filled it up and he put the steam on, but he didn't start it up. When I came there it was not running so I thought it was ready. I opened the door a little bit and because of the pressure inside, that safety didn't lock. The door flipped open and I got boiling blood all over me. And of course, now they built a walkway there. But at that time there was no walkway. The hose was over here and it hit you right there. The boiling blood came over and pushed me in a corner. I remember I subconsciously crawled out.

Tony I came to and I feel all the pain. The guy grabbed me and he pulled all the blisters off my back, but it was all swollen up and it was all blistered up. I ended up in the Royal Alex hospital for three months.

Eleanor Well, I'm glad they took care of you.

Tony I was really bad because when I was there, they had trouble breaking my fever. They couldn't break my fever. And that lasted nine days and that's it. Then you just look the other way. But it broke. The fever broke.

Tony I was over three months in the hospital there. That's why I had to watch because I had lost so much skin. But after a while, the girls were plucking all the

dead skin off and then I had trouble everything locked, you know. They put these pins in and what goes in had to come out.

Tony They had a heck of a time. Get me in here and get me going like.

Eleanor They didn't give you enough liquids.

Tony No, no. And that was a little trouble too. I didn't go a lot of times, too. And I remember the girls were standing watching by the side of the bed.

Tony They lifted me up too high. They pulled on me. Now you see them laughing, the god damn girls, done on purpose or something. And I tried to lift myself up but I could hardly lift myself up. Every day I had to get clean sheets for this, for infection or something, for an infection or something because everything was burned, my hands and my legs.

Tony It was a mess in the room after the accident. Canada Packers had a nurse, she was a steady nurse, who put oil all over me. And my rubber boots were full with blood. There was a mess in the room and right away they rushed me to the Royal Alex hospital. And then the ambulance came and they were waiting for me. They were ready for me at the Royal Alex, they knew that I was coming there and I needed help right away.

Eleanor So how many years did you work for Canada Packers?

Tony Twenty-two years. I think it was twenty-two years.

Eleanor And you mentioned something about them having strikes.

Tony Oh yeah. We had five strikes, five strikes when I was there. The biggest strike we had was in 1966.

Tony We had a three-month strike in '66. We had so much trouble with the union there that it wasn't even funny.

Tony The Edmonton Journal had an ad in the paper for bus drivers. They needed bus drivers because they were expanding quite a bit on the south side and they needed bus drivers. So I went over there and then I found out I was too old ... they didn't take me. That was in August of 1966. In September I was 36. They didn't take anybody over 35.

Tony I was a Canadian citizen already and I had a chauffeur's license but they didn't take me. But on Friday he didn't mention anything about my age or anything. So on Friday he said to come back tomorrow for a medical. And then he said that he couldn't take me because you'll be over 35.

Tony So I got so mad because I thought I got a nice job lined up and then I didn't get the job.

Eleanor And Canada Packers closed, what year?

Tony 1982. They closed the plant down, but I left during the last strike in '78.

Tony I don't know how long it lasted because I got in contact with people and I found out they were hiring people at Sundance at the power plant from TransAlta.

Eleanor So your next job?

Tony Sundance. TransAlta. Well, Calgary Power at that time. I ended up in Sundance, right across the river from the government.

Tony Right across from the government, across the river.....No! across the lake, not across the river, across the lake - Wabamun Lake. Sundance powerplant.

Eleanor What did you do?

Tony Maintenance. Yeah, maintenance, but I was in the coal mills for four years. Oh man. Dirty and hot. But, it was a job. The pay was good and there were benefits, hospitalization and everything. Pension was good and everything. That turned out pretty good. When I got there in '78, they had only four units going. After being there a month, number five came online and it took two more years to build number six. So we had six units going. That came on in 1980.

Eleanor So is that the last job you had?

Tony Yeah, yeah, then I retired in '91 or maybe '92, I think. They started changing things around so much over there. I worked for 13 years.

Tony I wanted to stay longer, but then there was so much hocus-pocus they all did, so many changes and everything. You know, when you got a 27- or 28-year-old supervisor newcomer telling guys who have worked for 60 years what we are supposed to do. And this and that. And telling us to cut things down here. And we never had trouble like that before.

Tony You know, all those years I worked there, it didn't matter how much it cost. It was get the job done. You know, get the job done. With maintenance, you know, you got to take things apart because we know we're going to shut down six weeks straight and shut down ten hours a day. Saturday, Sundays. The longest I worked was nine weeks. That's the longest I worked, nine weeks straight, ten hours a day, on Saturdays, Sundays.

Eleanor And why did you have to work that long?

Tony Well, for maintenance. Shutdown, shutdown. Take things apart.

Tony Coal mills have a generator to make electricity. We had to take that all apart. Everybody had a certain job for certain things like, you know.

Tony One year I took the 'gopher job'. Every time they needed something ... there was a lot of how do you call it contractors. There were quite a few contractors

that did the piping. It was a dirty job with all the coal. They had contractors in there and so the contractors for the turbine and everything like, you know, and then I said, I'll take the gopher job. Every time they need something, come to me and I'll bring stuff. It was a good job I had. I did a lot of running but I didn't have to do any dirty jobs like, you know, every day. And I got to look after the ... how you call it ... the shutdown papers. You know, when they shut things off, like when the power is off, like when you are working on something.

Eleanor Safety.

Tony Yeah, for safety, I had to look after that. That was my job.

Tony And then I would be talking to the foreman from the shutdown crew from the construction, and they know there were two or three different people and they know me because they got introduced when they started. And if you need anything, you need anything at all, like, you know, I can't remember all that I had to bring them. Sometimes I had to bring in taps or this or that, or everything. You know, I need more grease or certain kind of oil. I'll bring it to you because I was the gopher, you know. It was a good job. Yeah, it was a good job. It wasn't so bad. I liked that.

Tony It was usually for six weeks, but later on after I finished, TransAlta hired a lot of their own workers and didn't hire too many contractors anymore.

Eleanor So it was already TransAlta then?

Tony Yeah. It was TransAlta then. I don't know what time that changed. It is all different now. Now they are strictly in making power. Before, they owned everything, the lines and everything. Their own people used to come and check the meters and everything like, you know. It's not there anymore. Now they do nothing else. Just straight making power. That's it. They're not in the business of anything else anymore. But once in a while I get some notes from them, but I don't get nothing from them anymore, from the pension fund. They used to send me these newsletters that I could check.....Oh I know him. But it's 25 years already and he passed away and he passed away. For the last couple of years I got nothing from them anymore from Calgary. Like you know, the only time I get anything from Calgary is when the Stampede is on. Or sometimes there are certain things I can get tickets for. But I don't want to go there for the Stampede in Calgary. Then he sent me a note like, you know, that he could get tickets for me. But, I don't go there, you know.

Tony But before, I used to get something once a month from the Terra, from pensions. And then I can see that I know a lot of guys. He was 25 years in the company, you know. I know him. He passed away.

Eleanor So you still get a pension from them?

Tony Yeah. There's still a pension. Over a thousand bucks I still get from them.

Eleanor That's great. When did you begin bowling?

Tony 1957. That was in the early years. They just opened up the Rosslyn. I was on a team from Canada Packers. There was a whole club from Canada Packers. We used to bowl seven o'clock on Tuesday night. I started there in 1957.

Tony In 1959 the Bonnie Doon opened up and I started bowling at the Bonnie Doon. But before that, I was bowling at some other bowling lanes already.

Tony I found out when I was bowling on Tuesday nights with Canada Packers that the Credit Union had big league bowling on Wednesdays at seven o'clock downtown. So I started bowling for the Credit Union who had a big league with all the credit unions in Edmonton. At that time we had a credit union through Canada Packers. They were associated with the other credit unions and they had a big league. I went over there.

Eleanor/Tony Was that just on the weekends? / No, it was evenings. At seven o'clock in the evening.

Tony That's the way I got started. I bowled for over 63 years.

Tony But I missed a few when I had my knee operated on. In 2010 I had trouble with my knee, and then I couldn't bowl for two years. I would start up slowly again and then it would start acting up again.

Tony I should have done that operation sooner, but it took me a year and seven months. So I told them to shove it. I don't want it anymore. During the first three months I had lots of pain. But after that, it didn't bother me that much anymore. Then they phoned me. As a matter of fact, I got a lady on the phone, and it took me more than five minutes to realize what the heck she was talking about. She mentioned that she was from the Westlock hospital. So I thought, what the heck, I got to go to the Westlock hospital. She mentioned that I was marked down for knee operation. So, I said you are a year and seven months too late. No, I'm not going to go. But now it is starting to act up again a little bit.

Tony And then, I got married on the 18th of July, 1969.

Tony I will never forget. It was on a Friday and we came out of that building, out in the cold. This guy from the registry came out and it was Klondike Days. The band just came by on Jasper Avenue there and we both came out to see. I remember that. We just came out and the band was playing to beat 60. I remember that. It was Klondike Days, 1969. The 18th of July.

Eleanor You were talking about the fact that you've got a farm someplace.

Tony Yeah, south of Stony Plain. 10 miles south and seven miles west of Stony Plain. Yeah, 300 acres. I had two quarters of land.

Tony Yeah, I had two quarters but in the beginning, I had the first quarter. There was an old guy running the farm. He had horses. That old guy bought the land from the CN for three hundred dollars in 1928 or maybe it was 1926. The CN sold quite a bit of land there and he bought it for three hundred dollars.

Eleanor/Tony So what year did you buy the farm? It was 1959 or something like that. 'Fifty-nine. And you stayed there how long? Until 1978.

Tony Well, there was a problem. The purpose was that I wanted to stay for good farming, steady farming and everything, but that didn't work out. The land was not good for farming.

Eleanor/Tony And you raised animals? / Yeah, first pigs.

Tony I had an old one-ton truck. Leduc always had hog sales on Saturday mornings. Lynn and I would go and buy the little ones. I castrated them myself and raised them. Some were bigger ones, sometimes smaller ones, like, you know, and that was our thing. Saturday mornings we'd go to Leduc in the truck and pick up pigs.

Tony I had to make something to hold the pigs and I fenced the whole pens off there. I had to feed the little ones and I raised them up to the fall. And then I sold them in the fall. I sold them and I didn't keep them over the winter for feed. And I had my own feed.

Tony I had my own barley and everything. And I was in there on the [*inaudible*] of a truck, a truck built on a mill. You give me all the [*inaudible*] and suck it out of the granaries and milled it for me and I used it to feed for my hogs.

Tony Yeah. You know, that was pretty good.

Eleanor So the 300 acres, were they all being broke?

Tony No, not all of it. No. Later on, I broke it quite a bit. The one quarter I bought had about 100 acres open. But the other one I had was only eighty acres open on it. When I bought the first quarter there was only eighty acres open on the other quarter. And the rest had quite a bit open on it.

Tony Yeah, I did lots. I rented out to a guy who had a cat and then with the money I got, he knocked down some more, another 20 acres down with a cat in the fall. That is the way it worked.

Tony And that's what I did. And then I picked the roots. I had an old disc and an old tractor, the old Case with steel wheels I bought. With the old tractor I didn't have to worry about rocks or stumps, or this or that, because of the steel wheels. I was able to go up and down and knock things down just by myself. I was happy there. I was really happy there. I spent a lot of hours there, weekend hours and everything.

Eleanor But the wife had to be happy too, so you didn't stay there.

Tony That was still before I got married. It was in the early sixties.

Eleanor/Tony Your dad and mom came out to stay with you when you were on the farm. / Yeah. / Can you tell us how that went. / That went OK. No problems.

Tony I took them here and there. Yeah it was okay. That was pretty good. You had all the freedom there. And then like I said, she started making cages for the rabbits. We picked up some rabbits there and everything. It was pretty good. Mom was easy to get along with. Mom was very easy.

Eleanor And then you were into bowling, so you started out on a team with Canada Packers.

Tony Yeah, I started in '57. We had a whole team, a whole group there from Canada Packers.

Tony That was the Rosslyn Bowling. It was just built. It was on 97th Street and 137th Avenue. It was just new. Then it was just a bowling alley. Now, they built a hotel there and stores and everything. The same as Bonnie Doon that was built in '59. At that time there was nothing, just the whole open field. Just Bonnie Doon bowling. The same thing. And then they built Groat Road. Later on they built a Woodwards store there in the west end. There was nothing in there, just Woodwards at that time. But after they built Groat Road in 1958 and 1959, look at what is there now!

Tony I remember when I worked at Canada Packers that we used to make a lot of luncheon meat for Woodwards stores. They had their own formula, and we just made it according to how they wanted us to mix the meat.

Eleanor So you were bowling and you bowled for quite a number of years because I used you as my mentor to see how you did things to help improve my bowling.

Tony Yeah, and then later on, I was getting pretty good at it and I joined the master leagues. But at that time there wasn't a lot of leagues. You had to get a 205 average, otherwise you couldn't get in for a while.

Eleanor That wouldn't have been hard for you.

Tony Yeah, well, at that time I had a 210 average. That was in the late 60s. I started really catching up on the game. I really got the hang of it. And then I started bowling for the Masters. Then after bowling for the masters, I went to MacEwan College on the weekends to get my coaching certificate. Yeah, I have a coaching certificate. I got all my papers.

Tony OK. Then I was living in Wabamun. Then I bought a lot at Baptiste Lake on the north part. Right behind that Grosmont Hall where they have all the sport fields. We bought the lot at the lake in 1995. No, we bought it in 1989. Lynn stayed there and I just drove up and back on the weekends. I had a fifth wheel parked over there on the lot. And then I just came over on the weekends because I still had to drive up and down in the summer.

Eleanor Why do you need to drive up and down?

Tony Because I was still living in Wabamun. I was not retired yet. I was not retired until 1992. But we bought it in 1989 already and Lynn wanted to stay there for some summers. So I dropped off my fifth wheel and parked the fifth wheel there, and on

weekends I drove up and down for a while anyway. Then I retired and we stayed there for good.

Eleanor And then you moved to the town of Athabasca.

Tony Yeah, in 1995, I think. Yeah, 1995.

Eleanor/Tony Well, I guess that's the end of this. / Good! / I did lots of talking again! / Well, you were supposed to be doing the talking. / Yeah, I did most of it! / So thank you very much, Tony.

[End of Interview]

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