Transcription of Interview:

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| Questions | Date: October 1, 2022 | Norina Trabucco née Savini |
| What generation are you in? | The Silent Generation (1928-1945) |
| What first brought you to Canada?a) Were you already acquainted with anyone in Canada before you arrived? Family?b)Where did you first arrive and when? c)How? (means of transit)d) Who did you come with? | I hated my family and when my mother caught me with my boyfriend (Nonno), my father was very mad. I decided to leave because I was never treated well by my mother. I left after I was married, but I went alone. My brother, Luciano was already in Canada with his wife, Magdalene. I came on a boat alone. I then sponsored my husband, Franco, to come.  |
| How old were you when you immigrated? From which part of Italy? | 20 years old. Coming from Civitiquanna, Pescara, Abruzzo.  |
| What was the journey to Canada like? | I had family on the boat but they were up top taking sun, no one came to look for me and I was in steerage. I left Italy September 27 and arrived October 11, 1953, Thanksgiving. I arrived in Halifax and took a train to Toronto. It took two days.  |
| What was your first impression of Canada? Did you encounter any obstacles/barriers as a new immigrant? | I loved Canada the moment I got here. I went to the store and I could not speak English and I did not know how much money things cost, so I put my hand out and the cashier took the right amount of money out of my palm. Everyone was honest and nice. I worked at Tip-Top Tailors and everyone who worked there was also Italian. I did not know how to go home on the bus so I would memorize landmarks to take the right route. One lady from work stayed on the bus with me and explained the streets of Torornto and how to get home on the bus. My boss at Tip-Top Tailors would always come and say hi to us in the mornings, I was not used to this because in Italy that would never happen. |
| Did you bring any items of importance with you when you came to Canada? (i.e. photographs,family heirlooms, mementos).a. Would you be willing to share some of them with us? Photographed?b. Would you be willing to allow them to be studied and made available to the widercommunity?c. Did you encounter any obstacles/barriers/difficulties giving birth in Canada? | Yes. Sheets and towels that I weaved in Italy. I learned to embroider on them from my siser in-law. I put them in a wood box that a man from my village made for me with the adress of my brother Luciano on it.a) Yesb) Yes.c) No. |
| Did you exchange letters with relatives in Italy? | No. |
| Where is “home” for you and why? | Canada, more then Italy. I love Canada. I have everything here. There I had nothing. |
| Looking back on this experience, is there anything you would have done differently?a. Did the experience of motherhood/giving birth in Canada give you anincreased sense of Canadian identity? In other words, did this experiencemake you feel more Canadian? | No, when I came here that was it. I have nothing to remember from Italy.a)No... as soon as I landed here I was Canadian. I felt it was my home instantly.  |