

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

[Summary]

The following is the summary notes and transcript of an interview conducted by TWU students Emily Dickason and Nadean Smith with Trinity Junior College alumnus Mr. David Moore, who describes his experience as a student during the school's inaugural year, 1962. The interview was conducted in the Norma Marion Alloway Library on February 13, 2004 as part of a History 310 course.

In this interview, Mr. David Moore is asked about his upbringing in North Vancouver, his experiences with the Evangelical Free Church in North Vancouver, how he found himself attending what was then Trinity Junior College (TJC), his time at TJC, and his life after his one year at TJC, both at the University of British Columbia and beyond.

The interview begins with approximately five minutes of discussion of Mr. Moore's life as a high school student, and how he felt pressed, because of his church affiliation, to attend TJC. Mr. Moore elaborates on his high school options which, at the time, involved an optional extra year, grade 13, which he opted to take, saving him one year in college.

The next portion of the interview is focused on Mr. Moore's recollections about TJC in 1962, and the township of Langley, including the Drive-in theatre and the Trans Canada highway.

The discussion then moves to the first school year, when there was no formal library, and specific courses taken by Mr. Moore. In particular, he describes a Psychology 101 course taught by Professor Leland Asa, who administered an IQ test in class.

In the final minutes of the interview, Mr. Moore talks about his life after TJC including his career with the Ministry of Highways, his marriage to a woman he met in Colombia, South America, and the adoption of a boy through World Vision in Colombia. He comments on the usefulness of the Spanish class he took at TJC when he later traveled to Colombia and needed to communicate with the people there.

[Side A]

Nadean Smith: *—and we are Trinity Western University students. We are interviewing Mr. David Moore, on the topic of the experience of the very first group of students enrolled at Trinity—what was then Trinity Junior College. This interview is taking place at Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia on the thirteenth of February (??) as part of a History 310 Oral History project.

Nadean Smith: Hi David. How did you first become aware of Trinity Junior College?

David Moore: Before we go into that, let me, can we just do a few um, preliminary things?

Nadean Smith: Sure, yes.

David Moore: Nadean and Emily, you are both students in what, what is the, is it a history course that—

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Nadean Smith: It's a history course, yes, called—

David Moore: ___(??) (unintelligible) (both speaking at once)

Nadean Smith: Public History—

David Moore: Um-hm—

Nadean Smith: —and it's, this is an Oral History assignment.

David Moore: Okay.

Nadean Smith: And we're just, um, trying to capture what the first year experience was for the first students at Trinity Junior College.

David Moore: Have you—have you done any interviews already with other first year students?

Nadean Smith: Uh, no we're—you're the only one we'll be interviewing—

David Moore: —Oh, I'm the only one?

Nadean Smith: Yeah.

David Moore: Okay. (Emily Dickason laughs)

Nadean Smith: Otherwise the other—there are uh—

Emily Dickason: —four or five others that will be interviewed by other students in the class.

David Moore: Okay.

Nadean Smith: Yeah.

David Moore: Well I'll—I'll try to make this interview as—as easy for you, and helpful—

Nadean Smith: Yeah, so you're our first. (laughs)

David Moore: —so uh, have fun.

Nadean Smith: Yes, yes, we're looking forward to it.

Emily Dickason and Nadean Smith

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

David Moore: Anyway, you were starting to ask me a question?

Nadean Smith: So David, how did you first become aware of Trinity Junior College?

David Moore: Uh, I think there are some other questions you're gonna ask that probably would have, um, would have drawn that out, but I was living in North Vancouver back at that time. I'd been attending North Vancouver High School, that's where I was born and raised, in North Vancouver, grew up there. And my family, we were attending a little church, it was a little Evangelical Free church in North Vancouver. Um, so um—following my graduation from high school and Grade 12, I carried on—at that time they used to offer, some of the larger high schools used to offer an extra year, it was called Grade 13, which was really the first year of general arts and science that you could get if you went to university. And so I carried on, and took Grade 13; it was economical, but my um, around about that time, the Evangelical Free Church had been in, um, had been in the planning stages of starting this junior college out here in Langley. And uh, so, it was through attending the Evangelical Free Church that I first became aware of what became Trinity Junior College.

Nadean Smith: Okay. And what was the name of that church?

David Moore: The Evangelical Free Church.

Nadean Smith: Okay, the, ah, the specific church in North Vancouver? (unintelligible)

David Moore: Well, it was an Evangelical Free church, in North Vancouver located on, on uh, on Sutherland and 16th in North Van, with the pastor, um, pastor Johnson.

Nadean Smith: Okay. Um, so, you did, like you said, you covered some of the questions, um, is there anything else you would like to expand on your family background, in North Vancouver, or in general?

David Moore: Yeah, I could, uh—I was-- in my early years, before my father died—my father passed away when I was six years old—our family had been attending a different church which was actually a church in Vancouver. I believe it was a Pentecostal Holiness Church, that was the name of the church, 52nd and Main in Vancouver. But when my father became ill and eventually passed away, when I was six years old, for various reasons we stopped making that long trek every Sunday across on the ferry into Vancouver and over on the trolley busses out to church on Main street. And my mother began to attend this little neighborhood church in North Vancouver which was close—much closer to where we lived, and it turned out to be the Evangelical Free Church. So that's the church where, you know, I then carried on and attended for quite a few years, and that's the connection, how I became aware of Trinity Junior College.

Nadean Smith: Okay, so what kind of attracted you to the college, then? Like, you expanded on how you were aware of it—

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

David Moore: Um-hm—

Nadean Smith: —What kind of— **[5 minutes]**

David Moore: Nadean, your question is actually not the correct question, in that your--the question assumes I was attracted to it and uh, some of the answers I'm going to be giving you may not be expecting. But no, I was not attracted to Trinity Junior College. When I look back on it now, I think that the reason why I ended up attending was that I was one of the youth, I was nineteen at the time, one of the young people that was attending a church that was directly linked to those who were starting this college. And there was a certain amount of, of encouragement, or pressure I guess you could say, that I sensed as a young person to do my part and support what, you know, the church had begun. But my reason for, for enrolling was not that I was particularly attracted. I wasn't attracted to coming out to a little college that was just starting out in Langley.

Nadean Smith: Okay. Interesting. Um. So, in comparison to other colleges of the time, how were the tuition fees?

David Moore: Okay, well, let me, let me answer the question a little differently than the way you posed it. At the time, there, as I recall, there were no other junior colleges. The colleges that we're familiar with now, including this one, and then Kwantlen College and Douglas College and innumerable other colleges, those are of more recent history. So back at that time, your, your logical next step after high school or Grade 13 was that if you wanted to go on to higher education, that you'd go on to university. And my ambition and plan back at that time was to go to UBC. And, in fact, my plans, although they were not necessarily all that clear in my mind, of what I was going to do at UBC was that I wanted to pursue medicine. And medicine would have required a minimum of three years in general arts and science before you could qualify to apply and get in. So, the diversion to coming to Langley and taking what was second year arts and science, um, didn't really fit into that plan that I'd had back in high school, of getting on with going to UBC.

Nadean Smith: So, you would call Trinity Junior College kind of a diversion that you were kind of pressured into? Or – (both speaking at once)

David Moore: We'll, I'll put it this way: what I found was that when I enrolled here at Trinity Western, the total number of students that first year was seventeen. Of those seventeen there was only four that were in the second year. Uh, they—can't remember what they called us in second year, it was, they used the terms sophomore and freshman—

Nadean Smith and Emily Dickason: —uh-huh—

David Moore: I guess you're sophomores or something.

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Nadean Smith and Emily Dickason: Um-hm.

David Moore: This is an American term that wasn't that familiar here at the time. So um, so there I was in a very—I'd come from a high school that had roughly a thousand students, to a junior college for second year that had only seventeen students. And then going from that, you know, from Trinity, to UBC, where there were 22,000 students—when I arrived at UBC I realized that I was, I was totally unprepared—

Nadean Smith: —um-hm—

David Moore: —for that kind of environment. You know, simple things, like um, never meeting my friends at UBC unless I made an appointment, you know, to meet them at a specific location at a specific time. But mingling with thousands and thousands of students that I'd never met before and didn't know, sitting in classes that didn't have, you know, like six people that perhaps I was having here at Trinity, but rather 150 students in a big auditorium, uh, that was like, a culture shock to me that set me back. In other words I wasn't—I wasn't adequately prepared by my year at Trinity Western College for, um, what I was going to hit when I got to a big university. So it resulted in me having to reassess my plans as well, once I was at UBC. Was I going to—was this plan of going into medicine realistic for me? [10 mintues] And I concluded after a short while at UBC that my chances of entering medicine after my third year were very slim. At that time, the qualifications for entering medicine were primarily academic; you had to be at the very top of the top, and they would admit something like eighty students per year. And I was fighting just to keep my head above water when it came to the academic side of it. So I uh reassessed completely what it was—what did I really want to do when it came to studying, and I ended up taking civil engineering. But anyway, that's a big diversion to your question, maybe I should let you get back to what you're asking.

Nadean Smith: No, it's good. (both speaking at once) On another note, well sort of along the same lines, but, for the social benefits of Trinity-- I know your brother was here at the same time as you were, with the seventeen students. Were relationships close? Did you feel that was a benefit to being in a small college?

David Moore: Well, when you find yourself in a small group of people like that, and you're committed for a whole year, you almost find that you're thrown in amongst, you know, a group of people that are going to become your friends whether you like it or not. And they are not necessarily the people that you would have chosen to become your friends. Now if you're here at the school now, and I suppose there's thousands here, you probably will pick those that you want to be friends with. So the number that you could pick from were not that great in the first year (laughter). My brother, sure he's my brother; I love my brother, but then, you know-- So I can't really say that because the number was small that it resulted in close personal friendships or really enjoyable social times.

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Nadean Smith: Okay. Um. How were the resources on campus at the time? Like, did you feel you had enough books in the library? I hear, wait, there might not have been a library— (Emily Dickason laughs)

David Moore: Well, I didn't think that we really needed a lot of reference texts from the library. We had, you know, our own texts that went along with each course you were taking, and I don't remember that really being a problem. But um, I guess the quick answer, the short answer to your question would be that there weren't a lot of references available. I think our library was virtually nonexistent. Can't even remember just where they kept it, but I don't think I made a lot of use of it.

Nadean Smith: The other question was kind of along the same lines, a bit more academic. Was there an academic attitude on campus? Um, I mean, I'm interested in the faculty as well— (both speaking at once)

David Moore: Yeah, I would have to say that there was, um—the professors that we had were all, you know, very professional. We got personal attention from each one of them because we had such small classes. The, the courses that, the academic courses, as opposed to the theology courses, the academic courses were, uh, structured to be on a parallel with the same courses at UBC. The same course in name and number and the same texts and so on. And I don't have any problem with the academic content; I think it was good.

Nadean Smith: Okay. So did a lot of the faculty, then, interact, probably, with the professors at UBC or did you know, like--of developing syllabi, picking textbooks—?

David Moore: Well, they must have and I don't—I wasn't a party to that, to those discussions. But I do clearly remember that they had set it up so that our courses were identical, as it were. English 200 here was the same as English 200 at UBC. The zoology course, same thing, and all down the line. So, I don't know just what all those discussions were that the professors, or whoever, had with UBC, but they'd accomplished it.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm. Okay. And as a transfer student, how would you compare the academic climate? Would you say they were similar at Trinity Junior College to—I know you weren't taking identical classes, but the kind of feel [**15 minutes**] on campus?

David Moore: To what?

Nadean Smith: To UBC, as you continued, like as a transfer student into your civil engineering, et cetera. Do you feel the standards, the academic standards, were similar?

David Moore: I'm not sure I quite understand your question, but, as I say, those courses that I took when I was here, like English 200, the course I took in Spanish, Spanish 200 I think it was, the zoology course, um, and several others-- when I got to UBC I could see

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

that they were the same courses, they had the same textbooks and so—as what they had at UBC. So I think that if you had taken a course here at Trinity you probably got a better grasp of it even than you would have at UBC because you would have more time to spend personally in, you know, talking to your profs and um—and so academically I’d say, I’d say it was fine.

Nadean Smith: Okay. Um, because there was only seventeen students, did everyone take the same classes?

David Moore: No, there was first year, and second year. And so, ah, there were four people in the second year, so I guess in some of my courses there would have been four people in the class. Um, so—that’s how it was.

Nadean Smith: What was the smallest class you— (both speaking at once)

David Moore: Well it probably would have been the four people. I just don’t remember that, that clearly. I mean it was—even seventeen is small. But I think that there would have been courses when I would have been together with three other students, and a professor, because I was second year.

Nadean Smith: Okay. And was there diversity in the studies between students? Or was everyone kind of on the same—

David Moore: There was some diversity; like, for example, I took Spanish—not everyone took Spanish—

Nadean Smith: Okay. (laughs)

David Moore: (laughs) Can’t remember what they took, but uh, there was there was some choice, yes—

Nadean Smith: Some choice— (both speaking at once)

David Moore: —some courses that I didn’t take and that others did.

Nadean Smith: Okay, so would they just hire a part time faculty to teach, like, one kind of novelty class like Spanish?

David Moore: No, no I don’t remember any part time professors, they um—

Nadean Smith: Just happens one of the faculty knew Spanish? (unintelligible)

David Moor: Yes—

Nadean Smith: Yes—

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

David Moore: Yes, one of the faculty knew Spanish. I was digging around and I found my old annual this morning, just in time, before I came out to this interview (flips through yearbook). And uh, so it's helpful to refresh my memory. But it was, uh, it was Professor Garrison that taught French, Spanish, and math.

Nadean Smith: Wow, so that's diversity—

David Moore: So it was a combination there—

Nadean Smith: Do you remember other subject areas taught by certain professors, or that you may have—

David Moore: Oh yes—

Nadean Smith: That you really enjoyed, or—

David Moore: I took courses like Psychology 101 from Professor Asa; um, I hated it— (Nadean Smith laughs) —I thought psychology was a waste of time. To this day I don't enjoy psychology (everyone laughs). I can remember how Professor Asa, at one point, decided he was teaching us the concepts of various tests that are used in psychology to measure your intelligence. And, uh, one of those criteria, you know, is called IQ. So he was explaining that there were a number of tests back at that time that would, uh, could be used to determine a person's, approximately, a person's IQ, and he introduced one of them to us that was a simple, short test that you could do on your own, you know in a class setting but on your own. I think it would take you maybe thirty-five minutes or so and we decided, Let's do it, let's try it. Now I can remember this was really interesting because I think everybody, when you're at school, whether you realize it or not, tend to peg you—the other students in the class as to where they stand intellectually, and intelligence-wise, IQ-wise in relation to yourself.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm.

David Moore: Now the two of you interviewing me, I don't know, you may have thought about this too, IQ. But there's this tendency to kind of assume where you stand, when it comes to IQ, in relation to your classmates and friends.

Nadean Smith: Sure.

David Moore: Anyway, we did this test on a clear understanding with Professor Asa that when we marked it afterwards we would keep our results totally confidential and we would not discuss this with anybody else. However, after we'd finished and left the class, I mean, everyone was all over everybody else like, What'd you get, what'd you get, what's yours, let me see what you got, what's your IQ? And that was actually a kind of a shocking experience for a lot of us, because we found that our assumptions about others,

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

in some cases, [20 minutes] were totally wrong. And the person you thought, in your own mind, was clearly not that sharp, you know, They got a higher IQ than me! How did that happen? That's not prob—you know, that's not possible! But anyway, that's one of the things that we did in psychology. Can't remember what led me into that, but you were asking me something about— (Nadean and Emily laugh)

Nadean Smith: About faculty—

David Moore: —about other faculty, and— (both speaking at once)

Nadean Smith: —faculty memories—

David Moore: Good. Yeah, the faculty were, they were good professors, dedicated people, and looking back at it now, I admire them for taking on, you know, the employment with this small little college at that time, and only having seventeen students to teach. I don't know how much they got paid but, um, that was, I suppose, a sacrifice on, on their part. But some of them were very good, you know? I think my English professor, um, he—he motivated me to, you know, to enjoy English literature, which was a bit of an amazing—when I think back on it now. Now I still, once in a while, I look at my old English 200 textbook and I can see where I was reading Milton, and making notes and underlining it and all this stuff and I'm thinking, How could that be? But that was Benno Friesen, who I'm thankful, that he inspired me that way. Other professors, you know, as a Christian, I don't know, as a junior college that was founded by a church, it had a Christian component and one of the courses we took was theology and the professor that we had was very knowledgeable; a little bit dry and not too dynamic, tended to like to read from his notes in class. I can remember I decided on one occasion I was going to see just how um, you know-- I'd been noticing that he tended to keep his head down reading his notes in front of the class, so I decided to see if I could do this, and I began drinking a bottle of pop in the middle of his class. I managed to drink that whole bottle of pop, without him ever even noticing what I was doing. So, some of our courses were a little bit, um, less exciting than others. And that was one of them unfortunately.

Nadean Smith: Okay.

Emily Dickason: It's still like that, some of our courses are (laughing)—

David Moore: Yeah—

Emily Dickason: —you get the professors who read straight from their notes—

David Moore: Yeah it's much more motivating if you have a professor that does a little eye contact and is speaking from personal experience and not just from some, um, theoretical knowledge from notes that they've got.

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Nadean Smith: Um-hm. Okay. On another direction, unless you had something else to comment about faculty—

David Moore: Nope, okay—

Nadean Smith: —I’m curious about dorm life, what it was like—

David Moore: (sigh) The, um, what was dorm like life like—um. You know, we were living in small dorms that had been built out of prefabricated panels that—maybe I’ll just digress for a minute and talk about that.

Nadean Smith: Sure.

David Moore: You know, before I came to Trinity Western College I had spent the previous summer working at a former BC Hydro camp, not up the Cheakamus River but it was actually up the Cheekye River. If you’re familiar with the highway when you drive up to Whistler now, when you come by Daisy Lake there’s a dam, a Hydro dam at Daisy Lake, um. The water from that reservoir’s diverted through penstocks through the Cheekye and is discharged out into a power plant, I believe, on the Cheekye River. But when they had built that they had installed like a temporary camp for the workers, and they built it out of these—of panels, and I guess they were four by eight panels that were kind of pre-fabbed together? The Free Church had somehow made a deal to salvage the camp that was no longer needed. And I got working with them on that for a little while, way up in the middle of nowhere, and that was a lot of fun. And then the panels were all loaded onto flat bed trucks and hauled down here to, to Langley. But I also got to work on building these dorms that you asked me about, and framing them up and using these panels to put them together. So the dorms were fairly small; I can’t remember just how many rooms [25 minutes] were in each dorm, but each room usually accommodated two students. Dorm life? Um, the dorm wasn’t big enough to, to generate a life of its own, I mean you’re talking about, you know maybe half a dozen people living in a dorm. So I can’t—it’s—I don’t think I have a, you know, a better answer for you; it’s not something that stands out in my memory as being something that I recall with great fondness or anything.

Nadean Smith: Okay.

David Moore: I—my brother and I owned a car; our home was in North Vancouver. But we did stay in the dorms here on campus, I think primarily because the distance from North Vancouver to Langley, um, it’s the same distance as it is now, but I mean, the traveling time was greater at that time, the freeway wasn’t yet finished.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm.

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

David Moore: So we would stay here during the week and then, I think, on weekends we'd sometimes go home, do our laundry at home, and then come back out again first thing the next week.

Nadean Smith: Okay. That's a good question. Regarding chapel, was it required, and how did that take place. Was there like a worship team made up of students? Do you have any details about the chapel?

David Moore: I think chapel probably was required, but I don't remember the rules; I mean, if you didn't show up for chapel your absence would be noted right away, because there'd only be sixteen if you didn't go (laughter). Um, there was a group that formed a quartet; I think even traveled around a little bit, but keeping in mind the small number of students, you couldn't break off a whole team to be praise and worship leaders and things and then still have a, you know, a large enough group left to be the congregation or the--so. Can't remember (sound of papers shuffling) much more about the chapel than that. I was looking through the annual and I saw some pictures of myself in the annual and I did see myself, it looked like I was sleeping in one of these pictures, but so are several others, but chapel was good, was a nice building.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm. Was there—currently on campus we have quite a few outreach opportunities—Was there opportunities at the time to get involved with things—outreach off of campus, that sort of thing?

David Moore: Um, there may have been, but I don't remember that; I don't remember that as being any, um, as being uh, something that was emphasized at the time. As I say on weekends, I think that my brother and I often would have gone home, or if we stayed here on campus we would go exploring from time to time in our little Volkswagen, and check out other churches out in the Fraser Valley. I do remember going to Abbotsford several times; on one particular occasion I remember my brother George and I, we decided we would check out the Mennonite church. We wanted to see what they were like. Clearbrook was like a centre for Mennonites; lots of good Mennonites living in that area, and on this one particular Sunday we went to an older but large Mennonite church right at Clearbrook Road and South Fraser Way—just to the north of South Fraser Way, and I think we were a few minutes late, but we parked and came inside, and the people graciously gave us a seat in the back, and then the service got started and I began to realize, This is totally German! There wasn't a word of English spoken through the whole service. But that was one of the experiences we had in exploring and seeing what other churches were like out in the Valley. So that's the kind of thing sometimes that we would do on weekends.

Nadean Smith: What was Langley like at the time—did you do any exploring in the Langley area?

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

David Moore: Um Langley—it uh, was just a smaller version of the Langley that you see right now. There was no Langley Bypass at the time, so it was a smaller, quieter town at that time, but nothing—I don’t have anything else significant to say about Langley.

Nadean Smith: Was the drive-in theatre open at—I think in the ‘50s, it was open—

David Moore: Um, I was a good Christian kid, I never went to things such as drive-in theatres (laughter) so no, I really, I don’t remember—which drive-in theatre are you referring to?

Nadean Smith: It’s just off of—I believe the Bypass just in—it may be considered Cloverdale—

David Moore: Okay, yeah, there was a drive-in theatre there, I do remember that but I don’t know if I ever went to it.

Nadean Smith: I think I did read that [30 minutes] there were rules against theatre attendance during your years at the college so perhaps it was not even an option or a thought to go—

David Moore: Nadean, I don’t remember the rules as such, you know the—it’s—that’s not something that stands out in my mind as, uh, something that I had to fight with or deal with. There may indeed have been some rules about that, but I guess we lived with it and I don’t remember—I have no negative memories about that.

Nadean: Okay. Were there any controversial issues, um, maybe not about rules but maybe, you know, something in the world taking place that—I noticed there were some American students with you as well that maybe, you know, hot topic on campus and—

David Moore: There were American students here, too, and we were thankful that they were here, because if they hadn’t been we’d have been down to about four students. But no, I don’t remember any distinction; you know once we got, you know, all settled in, we’re students—we’re just all one group of students and it wasn’t Canadians versus Americans, at least not that I recall.

Nadean Smith: Okay, and were people interested in the Cuban Missile Crisis and that sort of thing—

David Moore: I don’t remember at all—

Nadean Smith: You don’t remember the world events? (both speaking at once)

David Moore: We were too busy studying the things we had to do to be caught up in, in those kinds of issues. Now, maybe it was me personally, that I wasn’t involved, but I

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

don't recall that—

[End Side A]

[Side B]

[End of Side A: tape cuts off and then resumes]

Nadean Smith: **—Canada highway and not being completed to North Van, was it completed out in the Fraser Valley? Like, it was officially opened in '62, but I don't think it finished construction until '65? Did you recall it?

David Moore: As I remember there was construction ongoing adjacent to the campus and further to the East. It wasn't open at the time we were here and I used to find that fascinating, you know, watching the construction when I could—

Nadean Smith: Um-hm ___(??).

David Moore: —and I remember seeing the types of soils that they were contending with as they excavated just north of the campus here, the marine clays and very poor quality soil. So the—no, the freeway I think opened up, sections of it opened up progressively, and I don't remember just what it was that was opened at that time that we were going here and—but certainly not, not adjacent to the campus.

Nadean Smith: Okay. Um, as you um think back to your year at Trinity Junior College, what would be, like, your fondest memory, or some of the biggest memories that stand out for you?

David Moore: When I think back to my time here I don't—the term 'fond memories' don't quickly pop into my mind. Um, you know, as I mentioned earlier, in my own case, I think that I may have resented the fact that I attended here. Now looking back at it, you know, from thirty years later, thirty-five years later, I think that it was an honour that I was a part of something in history that was just starting. You know, if we hadn't attended, if the seventeen of us hadn't attended and the school had faltered, perhaps there wouldn't have been the school you see here right now, that you are part of.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm.

David Moore: But in my own particular case, I think that I wish that I could have gone on to UBC right after Grade 13 and remained with the friends that I had known in high school that were doing the same thing, and become immersed in that university environment as soon as possible, such that I would then have had to adjust and learn how to study, how to function properly in that environment. Now, I believe that some of the reasons why this school exists was that, back at that time, there were those in the Evangelical Free church who thought that young people, young Christian people going

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

straight out to a secular university would become swallowed up in that environment, and would run the risk of losing their faith, and that what [35 minutes] was needed really was to have a place where they could study, at least for part of that university, in a Christian environment, and that that would strengthen them, or make them prepared better for years at university later. I've never—I don't think I've ever in my own mind accepted that argument. When I think of my years—my year here and I'm thinking, Did it prepare me to deal with university and particularly the kind of secular, non-Christian environment at UBC? I don't think so, not really. I think that the thing that is more important is for every young person to know, if they are a Christian, to know who they are in Christ and to realize that they are the salt of the earth. They're a light in a dark world. And that if they approach whatever they're doing from that standpoint, they're not going to be swallowed up by that darkness, but they're going to change it. So I'm rambling on a little bit, but those are the thoughts that come to my mind when I think back to, you know, why I attended here. I think as well, any young person, you know, who's now about the same age as I was at that time, eighteen or nineteen, and they're wanting to go on with further education, before they make that decision as to where they're going to go to school, whether it be Trinity or whatever other institution of higher learning, that they know inside why they're doing what they're doing, why they're making that choice. Why do you want to come to this particular school, and if you've got that sorted out then you're going to excel. You're going to understand why you're there. In my case, back thirty-five years ago, I didn't totally understand the vision of Trinity Western College, I was just a kid that grew up in the Evangelical Free Church and I didn't know what it was that the founders of the school were trying to accomplish—that wasn't really conveyed to me, or maybe I wasn't that interested, I don't know. And I think that I attended more out of a sense of it's 'the thing that I should do' to support the church that I go to. But would I do it all over again? Probably not.

Nadean Smith: Um-hm. So you're s—

Emily Dickason: Um, do you believe Trinity is too much of a protected environment, then, for Christian students, and it doesn't really prepare them for the world?

David Moore: Well I don't—I don't know that much about the university now, and I haven't kept—uh, you may ask me some questions about that before we're done, but uh, to answer your question, Do I think that it's a protected environment now? I don't know because I don't know what it's like here. I can see that there's lots of students here, and it's a very different place than where I attended. Back when I was attending here, I guess you could call it a protected environment because there were only seventeen of us and we were somewhat isolated; we were, um, we weren't really mingling with that many others outside of the uh, you know, outside of the college. So, yes it was somewhat protected in that sense.

Nadean Smith: And as a Christian, um, looking back, you would have done things differently because we can be the salt of the earth in a secular world, or that's how—

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

that’s life, right? Whereas at Trinity it was kind of sheltered, like it wasn’t exposing you right away to—

David Moore: Well I kind of got that impression that it was to shield, somewhat, to shield you from what you might encounter if you were thrown into a huge university like UBC. Um, I don’t know if that was really—

Nadean Smith: Okay, nope, that’s— (both speaking at once)

David Moore: —what they were conc—what they were so concerned about or not, I mean sometimes, you know, secular universities [40 minutes] were difficult places for, for young Christian people to be, because their faith would often be challenged by those who took great delight in trying to do exactly that. But that’s why I was saying that I think that the more important things is that, for young people who are born again, who uh know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, that they come to know, really, who they are in Christ, that they can do all things through Christ, that they’re more than conquerors through him. That they don’t need to be afraid of the darkness, they don’t need to be afraid of what it’s like at a regular public high school or university.

Nadean Smith: Okay. At the time—this is on another note but thank you for sharing—um, did you or the other students kind of ever envision that Trinity would become what it has today—was that ever spoken to you as like a vision, or is it just kind of amazing how, how it’s developed?

David Moore: No, I don’t think that we had ever thought, um—well, I, maybe I should answer this way. I don’t think that I gave a lot of thought to what Trinity would become. Probably because I didn’t—I wasn’t part of the original vision that started it, therefore I also wasn’t contemplating where that vision would take it. But it’s good to see that, you know, it’s still here and that it has grown, and it’s a good healthy institution.

Nadean Smith: Okay. Do you still keep in contact—I mean probably your brother, with anyone else from that year?

David Moore: No, I do keep in touch with my brother, but none of the other students. I’ve, uh, I haven’t contacted any of them for a long time, nor have they contacted me. (sound of an airplane in the distance)

Nadean Smith: And how much of an impact would you say Trinity Junior College had on you and, you know, developing who you are today, if any?

David Moore: I don’t know. I don’t know how to answer that. Um, I don’t view Trinity as having had a major part to play in who I am, but I’m sure it has in some way, I mean I know God has had his hand on my life since before I was born, you know, and everything that’s happened to me, God has used it in some way for good. Um, but I don’t know how to answer your question any better than that.

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Nadean Smith: Okay. No, that's good. Um. Would you have any other comments regarding Trinity Western, or your feelings, that you would like to share with us that maybe I haven't covered? That you think is important? Maybe that-- check your notes? (sound of shuffling of papers)

David Moore: No, I don't think I do, um. I was hoping that you would ask me whether there were any significant, interesting events that occurred while I was here. There was one, and that was Typhoon Freda, during that year, I think it was in October of the year. We had a typhoon that passed through Vancouver. A typhoon is a—really I guess it's the term for hurricane but in, it comes off of the Pacific Ocean. And I recall that evening when Typhoon Freda was starting to move through our area, I had never ever experienced anything like that and I never have since. But we came out of our dorms, and we were standing outside here, listening to the roar in the sky, and you know when it gets windy, the wind really makes lots of noise blowing through the trees and everything, but this particular typhoon created, like, a roar up in the sky that I have, as I say, never heard before. And as we stood there with the wind blowing around us, trees starting dropping on the campus, snapping off and falling down. So it was really quite an awesome experience. The following day when we got up early in the morning and went out, all down Glover Road heading towards Langley the power poles that parallel each side of the railroad track, they were all pushed over, not quite at forty-five degrees, but they were all leaning over, they were, you know, the wind had done a lot of damage. So that was one interesting thing that occurred during that year.

Nadean Smith: Yeah, very interesting. Thank you very much. Do you have anything else you'd like to add, or a question?

David Moore: How much time do we have left? Or are we done?

Nadean Smith: We have a few minutes left.

David Moore: Were there any questions on your list that **[45 minutes]** you haven't asked me yet?

Nadean Smith: Um, many of them you, you kind of covered with, you know, the previous one; um, I'm pretty sure I've gone through them all.

[tape paused and resumed]

Nadean Smith: So on an end note, David, if you could kind of just comment on where your life has gone since you've left Trinity Junior College: career, education, family, um, whatever you'd like to comment on?

David Moore: Sure. I mentioned earlier that, uh, I did go to UBC after Trinity and that although I didn't pursue, um, medicine as I had thought that I would, I switched and immediately went into civil engineering. But I did find that my—they gave me credit for

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

those courses that I had taken here at Trinity, once they double checked. First they didn't know what I was talking about when I said that I was coming from Trinity but, uh, they checked and sure enough, there was an agreement in place to accept the work that we studied here. Anyway, I went on and graduated from UBC in civil engineering and was recruited by the Ministry of Highways, and I began to work for them in 1969. And I spent my entire career working for Highways, the uh, the first, I guess, the first twenty-five years or so I would have been involved in highway construction. (sound of people talking in background) And so I was saying that I began working for the Ministry of Transportation here in British Columbia, and for the first twenty-five years or so I was in highway construction. So I managed highway construction throughout the province of BC; I lived up in Terrace for eight years and looked after all the highway construction on Highway 16 out to Prince Rupert and Highway 37 running up to the Yukon border. (clears throat) Later came back to Vancouver and was in charge of constructing Highway 91, all the connections to the Alex Fraser Bridge, and Richmond East-West Freeway. A tremendous amount of work. For the last ten years or so I've been involved in highway design, managing the Highway Design Department of the Ministry of Highways. And a year and a half ago I took early retirement. So I don't know where all the years have gone, so fast; it seems like it was such a short while ago that I was here and that first year as one of seventeen. Partway along the way I became married to a lady that I had met when I was in Colombia, South America. So some of the Spanish that I had studied while I was here, I think I took Spanish 200, that came in—very helpful, when I met a beautiful lady who didn't speak any English. And I had to somehow—

Emily Dickason: She's from Colombia?

David Moore: Yeah, she's from Colombia, South America. As well, I adopted a boy that I'd been sponsoring through World Vision down in Colombia. And again, the Spanish, was essential that I have that. So that kind of brings me to today. Here I am, um, retired, looking back over the years, when I was here, and I'm glad to see that Trinity is prospering and growing and it's full of lots of students and I'm happy to have had this chance to, to do this interview for you.

Nadean Smith: Thank you very much. We've enjoyed it as well. **[49:04 minutes]**

[End Side B]

[Index]

*The recording begins at this point, in the middle of the interviewer Nadean Smith's introduction.

**The other side of the recording begins at this point in the middle of the interviewer Nadean Smith's question.

Cheakamus *see TWU: Dorms: building of*

Christian students

in a secular environment, 34:48-35:54, 40:15-40:43

Aud. 230

Side A Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

Side B Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”

- as salt of the world, 35:54-36:24
- Colombia, 47:55-48:36
- courses
 - David Moore’s experience with, 17:53-22:35
 - diversity in, 16:50-17:45
 - number of students in, 16:08-16:44
- Douglas College, 6:48
- Evangelical Free Church, 34:35-35:22
 - background of David Moore, 1:59-2:58, 3:06-3:18, 4:20-4:47, 37:30
 - role in starting TJC, 2:40-2:58, 24:26
- Friesen, Benno (faculty), 21:26
- Garrison, Leslie (faculty) 17:40
- highways
 - Highway 16, 47:10
 - Highway 37, 47:13
 - Highway 91, 47:22
 - Langley Bypass, 29:15, 29:51
 - Richmond East-West Freeway, 47:28
 - Trans Canada Highway, 25:48-25:55, 31:41-32:49
- Kwantlen College, 6:47
- Langley, 29:02-29:58
 - drive-in theatre, 29:30-29:58
- Leland, Asa (faculty, administrator), 17:53-20:18
- Mennonite church (Clearbrook), 28:00-28:44
- Moore, David
 - ambitions, 6:55-7:50
 - attractions to TJC, 5:00-6:16
 - educational background before TJC, 1:52-2:58
 - family background, 1:48-2:58, 3:30-4:47
 - impact of TJC, 41:53
 - life after TJC, 45:35
 - memories of TJC, 33:06-33:55
 - vision for TWU, 41:03-42:42
 - weekends, 25:55-26:05, 27:36-28:55
- Trinity Western University (TWU)
 - academics, 13:30-14:03,
 - compared with UBC, 9:35-10:45, 13:30-14:48, 15:14-16:03 *see also* UBC
 - courses *see courses*
 - as a protected environment, 38:22-40:43
 - chapel, 26:26-27:10
 - dorms
 - building of, 23:09-25:06
 - life in, 25:06-25:35
 - outreach opportunities, 27:26-27:36
 - professors

Aud. 230

Side A *Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”*

Side B *Emily Dickason, Nadean Smith and David Moore – “Oral History Interview”*

abilities, 13:14-13:30

courses, 17:21-22:25

resources, 12:21-12:59

rules, 30:13-30:37

social aspects, 11:13-12:08 *see also* students

 compared with UBC, 8:42-12:08 *see also* UBC

students

 Americans on campus, 30:53-31:17

 relationships between, 11:13-12:08, 41:43-41:53

Typhoon Freda, 43:05-44:46

University of British Columbia (UBC), 7:15-7:50, 34:03-34:35, 39:45, 45:35-4:16

 academics, compared with TWU, 9:35-10:48, 13:30-14:48, 15:14-16:03 *see also*

TWU: academics: compared with UBC

 Social aspects, compared with TWU, 8:42-9:47 *see also TWU: social aspects:
 compared with UBC*