

Glykeria Martou

Interviewee: Glykeria Martou, Kingston, November 12th 2017, Duration: 20:41			
Interviewed by: George Katinas; Translation: Athina Peidou			
min:sec	File:	KGHP_17_MARTOU_20171112B_KINGSTON_GKATINAS_AUDIO.MP3	
Interview Time	Chronology	Place	Description
0:32	1994	Waterloo	At first it was not easy to deal with homesickness. However, Glykeria was staying at her uncle's. So she had the same food and traditions – she went to Church, she was surrounded by Greeks...
1:00		Waterloo	She joined the Greek community and served as teacher of the Greek school. She was listening to Greek music, dancing Greek dances
1:29		Waterloo	Glykeria could feel that she was an immigrant from the very beginning. However, her visits to Greece made her feel that she was always a Greek
2:01		Waterloo	Glykeria felt lucky for being in Canada. The Canadian experience allowed her to come in contact with other cultures. Getting in touch with other cultures can only benefit someone. It opens the mind of people. She had non-Greek friends.
2:50		Waterloo	Glykeria couldn't imagine the Greek community here while she was in Greece. She didn't expect it. Coming here was an eye-opening experience.
3:15		Waterloo	It was amazing to see how Greeks keep all their traditions and at the same time they are functional members of the Canadian society.
3:35		Waterloo	There was a game between Canadian and Greek national basketball teams. Greeks carried flags from both Canada and Greece. That shows how Greeks felt Canada was home.
4:00		Toronto	Glykeria got her permanent residence in 2004. She became a Canadian citizen in May 2009.
4:40			Glykeria found that Canadian universities are very fair. Getting into medical school was hard but it is a country where if you try hard, it pays off. She followed advice from other people to achieve her entrance to medical school.
5:44			After her bachelor's degree, Glykeria pursued a Master's degree in the physiology department at University of Toronto. This is the department where insulin was invented.

6:40			The Greek education system is very efficient. The knowledge and the theoretical background provided in a Greek high school is of high quality.
7:54			Education and work ethic was something that Glykeria's father valued very much. He spent a decent amount of money to provide his children with good education.
8:30			Glykeria met her husband Tasos Papalazarou in Greece a year after Glykeria moved to Canada. Tasos comes from a city called Drama.
9:05			They were worried about how to keep their relationship, but they had such a strong relationship and since 1995 they have been together.
9:20			It was challenging to work on this relationship, but they stayed together.
9:30			The distance had a positive impact on their careers as they could invest more time on them and they knew that they had each other as a reference point.
10:05			They got married in 2008 in Canada. George, her son, was born on March 2009.
10:20			Tasos waits for his permanent residence application to be approved to move to Kingston and live with his family.
11:00			Balancing career with family is very difficult. Someone needs help and support. Tasos has a huge understanding.
11:55			Glykeria usually hired a person to help her when she was in Greece.

*Translators note: Glykeria is also called Glyka