

Questions	Interviewee 1
Date of Interview	November 5, 2022
Name of Interviewee (use initials if the person wants to remain anonymous; only person conducting interview knows the person's identity)	Lisa Geddes
1. What age group/generation are you in?	Generation X
2. Which family member(s) immigrated to Canada? What was their relation to you? When were they born?	My parents, Antonio Luigi Bolzan (referred to as "Luigi" or "Nonno" hereafter) and Graziella Bolzan (occasionally referred to as "Grace" or "Nonna" hereafter). Luigi was born in 1937 and Grace in 1943.
3. What brought them to Canada? a. Did you know anyone else in Canada before they moved? b. Where and when did they first arrive? c. How (means of transit)? d. Who did they come with?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. They knew Luigi's older sister Luigia and her husband Nino. b. They arrived in Canada February of 1964. They were married in 1963, and before that they were both working in Switzerland. They took the train, and were surprised by the height of the snowbanks that they travelled past. c. They travelled by boat. The trip was also their honeymoon, so Luigi got the boat that took an extra trip around the Baltic sea first. Unfortunately, Grace was sea-sick the whole trip! d. It was just the two of them.
4. How old were they when they immigrated to Canada? From	Grace was 20 and Luigi was 26. Both came from small towns in Treviso, Luigi from Gaarine and Grace from Piansano. They met because their siblings Sonia and Rosario were married and let them

which part of Italy?	live with them while they worked in Switzerland, although Grace and Luigi came back to Italy before moving to Canada to get married.
5. What was their journey to Canada like? Do any particular stories stand out to you?	We kind of answered that already.
6. Did you exchange letters over the years? How else did you keep in touch? A. Would you be willing to allow those letters to be transcribed, studied, and made available to the wider community?	<p>They kept in touch with their family in Italy by phone, by mail, and through visits. They would come back to Italy or family would come to Canada to visit. Long distance calling used to be really expensive, but money was always no issue when it came to family. Every holiday, Grace would call various family members to make sure she was updated on everyone's lives.</p> <p>A. Lisa didn't mind general pictures of the letters being taken but preferred that they not be individually scanned and transcribed.</p>
7. How did your relationship change when they moved to Canada?	<p>Grace and Luigi went through some hard times, and those times were definitely made harder because they didn't have their close siblings with them. But while Luigi never talked to anyone, Grace talked to everyone, both in Italy and in Canada. They always got through the tough times and stayed together, though, because of their commitment to their family.</p> <p>Grace and Luigia used to be very close and talk every day, until Luigi and Luigia had a falling out over family matters. The last straw, though, was when Luigi said that he thought Grace's lasagna was better than Luigia's. Grace was caught in the middle and she and Luigia ended up growing apart.</p>
8. What was your impression of life in Canada? Did this impression change over the years?	I think they were really happy here. Grace still liked to go back and visit Italy, but Luigi didn't really have any desire to. Both of them felt like Canada was home, and never talked about going back to Italy.

<p>9. Do you have any items of importance from them? (i.e. photos, 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 wider community?</p>	<p>Yes, I think that the Cucchiaio d'Argento was a wedding gift, since the fifth edition was published in 1963 and that's the year they were married.</p>
<p>10. Is there anything you wish had been done differently?</p> <p>Follow up: Why didn't you learn Italian?</p>	<p>I wish Grace had insisted I learn to speak Italian. Now that she's gone it's hard to stay in touch with the family in Italy</p> <p>Followup: When Remo (oldest brother) was born, they were still learning English and so he learned a lot. But once Sandro (second brother) and I were born they were fluent and we didn't understand the importance of learning it. I tried to learn it and went to an Italian class, but I was too scared to make a mistake and shortly after started learning French in school, so I stopped.</p> <p>They spoke Italian quite a bit around the house, so I always felt like I understood it, and they wanted me to learn it, too. In fact, I was the only one they sent to classes. Remo wasn't interested and Sandro wouldn't have sat through the classes.</p> <p>Remo's lack of interest wasn't one of the reasons I didn't learn Italian, but it probably is a big reason why the grandchildren didn't. He discouraged Grace from speaking it around his children, so she was hesitant to speak it around the other grandchildren as well.</p>
<p>11. Is there anything further you would like to add to this story?</p>	<p>Grace and Luigi came to Italy for opportunity. There weren't any jobs in Italy. But family was so important to them, so they found ways to stay close to everyone. Almost every year someone from Italy came to visit, and they were always welcomed with open arms. When I was born, my Nonna and Nonno came to visit, possibly the only time they ever did. My Nonno and Luigi planted a pear tree in our backyard.</p>

Luigi was the 13th out of 16 children in his family and Grace was the youngest of 9. They met because Grace's sister married Luigi's brother. Two of Grace's sisters moved to Argentina, and two of Luigi's sisters moved to Switzerland.

Grace kept in touch with her sisters-in-law in Switzerland, those are definitely the ones on Luigi's side of the family that we're closest to.

I'm not sure what the age difference is between Grace and Sonia. Probably 5 or 6 years.