



Saskatoon: May 24, 2023 – Story 01 Transcript

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

husband, room, mask, pandemic, share, bath, felt, grandkids, left, bathing, communicate, band, monad, Sauvé, talk, speak, happy, brother, stuck, house

00:00

Interviewer: I have this right here it's okay? So whenever you're ready if you wanted to say a few things about what life was like for at Sherbrooke during the pandemic or anything that seems important to you want to share. You can start with your name.

Lorraine: My name Lorraine Sauvé and I did not see my grandchildren. They put fences up to prevent us from contact with anybody. And we had to book the time to sit out there at the fence and all I could do was see them; I couldn't touch them. And they couldn't come in and see us.

Interviewer: That must have been really hard.

Lorraine: Sad but I hadn't seen them they had been gone for a while and they want me to touch and they want to touch us but they couldn't. I'm like, sorry guys.

Interviewer: How many grandchildren do you have?

Lorraine: Three.

01:30

Interviewer: And how long have you lived at Sherbrooke?

Lorraine: Over 10 years.

Interviewer: Did they come visit you before the pandemic?

Lorraine: They were gone. They moved out to BC before the pandemic, and they came back in about the middle of the pandemic. And I told my daughter I'm glad you're back and I'm sorry we can't touch. So, it was a happy time.

Interviewer: Did you talk to them on the phone or?

Lorraine: No see maybe like I...

Interviewer: It's okay there's no rush

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02:27

Lorraine: Maybe I did but I didn't have a cell phone. And I just had to learn how to use my tablet to speak like messenger on there so. Yeah, I couldn't even see my mom. Mom couldn't come in here. She had to drop things off at that door. And she didn't have a tablet. So, she probably didn't get one because I wouldn't, so I hadn't talked to her for months. Because umm. All she could do is send me text messages and say, how are you? Very lonely? I'm stuck in my room at Sherbrooke. We are not allowed to leave the house because of it and things were blocked off. We were isolated.

03:43

Interviewer: You wanted to share a photo. Can you tell me that photo was about.

Lorraine: First time I saw my grandkid in months, and I was so happy. You know, it kind of felt like prison sitting there looking at my grandkids from the fence. It felt like I was a prisoner, getting my visitation.

Interviewer: [Inaudible]

04:19

Yes. The whole Sherbrooke was fenced off. And we had, depending on where you live, they had fences for that section [Inaudible] my husband lives in House 3 [Inaudible] so we had to use his allotted time. My husband lives here. He lives in a different house than I do. So, it was kinda hard to communicate that way.

05:14

Interviewer: So, during the pandemic were you able to see your husband?

Lorraine: On the computer, you know, and I wasn't allowed to leave the house. We're both to stay in our house locked in. In our room, we couldn't leave our room. Because of that so you're were in a room and its boring. It's not much fun to be in your room and not see anybody. You know, I got to look out the window, and see the snow. And wishing..I had nobody to talk to [inaudible] but very limited conversations. So, I was very happy when we were allowed out of our rooms, that I could see my children and I finally saw my mom.

Interviewer: Tell me a little bit about yourself

06:36

I'm forty-nine. I have multiple sclerosis. And I have looked at Sherbrooke for over 10 years. I met my husband here and my husband's name is Dale Harrison. And he lives in a different house than I do so it's

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kind of when we were stuck in a room, we couldn't see people. [Inaudible] But to keep safe you had to stay there.

Interviewer: Is there something that you wish was done differently?

07:45

Lorraine: Bathing was hard when we couldn't really, we only could get sponge bath. Because there was no bathing with COVID. We [inaudible] so you're basically a prisoner in your room and you have a sponge bath. And I'm old enough to know, like a real bath really felt good when they finally gave me a bath but [inaudible] Yeah, I wish it was more... like a prison because I felt like we're people and we deserve some respect and was not treated with respect, 'cause everybody's locked in it was. I'm grateful it's over and I think the government needs to allow us you know, we're people we need to communicate and have no one to communicate with you know, wasn't fair wasn't fun. But Sherbrooke did its best and keep us all safe, you know, it sucks but they can't do very much [inaudible] can't see my husband. I sent notes to my husband who was locked in his room.

Just not good experience Sherbrooke was the best way to be locked in. You know, they were allowing us some freedom when it came available and allowed us debate when we could, but ya know, I know. I'm young yet [inaudible] like buildings kind of important. Cause then you get showers but here I don't know...

Interviewer: Is there anything you want to share with people about your life or about what it's like to live long term care?

Lorraine: I moved into long term care about late 2010 and I met my husband here. I wasn't looking for a boyfriend and it was way before, we were so happy that we got married before COVID [inaudible] and we had family and but yeah...

10:47

Interviewer: That sounds like really important. You want to tell me a little more?

Lorraine: we had a beautiful wedding here and in [inaudible] Sherbrooke. And after COVID I haven't seen my brother since COVID, because he's in Alberta and we're here and he didn't like to cross the line when that's COVID. And I haven't seen him, for over three years because they, there was travel restrictions from Alberta to Saskatchewan. So, my brother and I haven't seen him, only on the computer. So I haven't seen my brother, he used to come regularly but after this I don't see him. Yeah COVID put a strain on relationships, and like [inaudible] communicating with people because it COVID we were isolated and it's kinda new to me that they see people and talk to people after all that because that was two years, two

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years of no communication, no people to, yeah when they let we were free and I'm, I'm scared of people because of COVID. I got to get used to you again. It's like, yeah.

12:57

Interviewer: Is there's anything else you want to add [inaudible]?

Lorraine: Yeah, I did want people, they like they have to be here. They can hear about it on the news, but they haven't experienced it. Cuz I was so jealous of the staff they would go home and be outside. And I'm still stuck in my room. And I'm be like, oh, very nice. You went out I don't get to go out. So yeah, it's not good thing.

13:52

Interviewer: Thanks for sharing. Just started saying a few things in the hallway. Yeah, yeah. It's really valid and a lot of courage. Yeah, for sure. Yeah.

Lorraine: Yeah. My grandkids wear masks to come in here. And we were to not wear masks and we could choose no air mask. And then I'm confused like, why why? I had to wear masks before. And now I don't have to. Are you sure. But, yeah, the kids don't understand.

Interviewer: They just changed the mask rule. How do you feel about that?

14:44

Lorraine: I was wearing a mask is difficult and hard to breathe and not comfortable and plus. when the mask came off I saw people's faces and like, ah, that's what you look like! And my husband he didn't know anybody. [inaudible]. And now they take them, and I have to tell him. I went into his house. My husband's house 3. And I saw one of the workers was not wearing a mask, I'm like who are you are you, supposed to be here? I was so confused though. And I'm like, what happened? And how am I just making sure everyone's awake. Joe? Yeah.

15:59

Interviewer: Thank you. Thank you so much. I'm going to turn off the recorder now.