



## Saskatoon: May 25, 2023 – Story 8 Transcript

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00:00

INTERVIEWER: And I'll just myself first. Hi, how you doing? So your name is ...

ELLIS: My name is Ellis Miller and I'm in the iGEN program.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, Ellis?

ELLIS: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: So, my name is Patrick and I'm with the COVID in the House of Old Project. And, we just wanted to hear a little bit about your story about COVID, how it affected you, and how it affected your, maybe something with your grandparents, or what you learned in the iGEN program?

ELLIS: Uhm... So, uhm, like, my parents, my... One of my grandparents passed away during COVID. And hmm ...

INTERVIEWER: I'm sorry about that.

ELLIS: And I couldn't see my... I could only see my brother, and my mum and dad. So, I couldn't see... Like my grandma and grandpa. And yeah. Uhm... And, so, uhm... But my great grandpa, he fought in the war, and he had to go to a care home for two years. And like, that he was kind of stuck in a fence, like, like in a little house. So he couldn't, like, we could, we had to stand six feet back from the fence. And, uhm, like, we would just go out there, bring some blankets, uhm... And some chairs, and just chat with him, and show him some pictures and tell him what we've done that summer. Yeah.

01:45

INTERVIEWER: How does that make you feel?

ELLIS: Uhm... It made me... Like, it, I kind of felt like... Like, during COVID, I kind of felt like unsocialized kind of? Like with my family, because I didn't get to see my family. Lots. Yeah, I think I saw my grandma and grandpa, uhm ... Maybe like, four times during 2020? And yeah. And I lived with my grandpa. Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Hmm. Your grandpa was living in the house with you?

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ELLIS: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. How was that?

ELLIS: Good. Uhm, he was a really fun man. But he got cancer during COVID. Uhm, he, he fought the cancer and he won. Like his body fought the cancer and he won. He had stomach cancer. And yeah. My great grandpa has stomach cancer, too. My great grandpa is 98 and fought in World War Two. Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: That's pretty old. Have you learned any interesting stories from him?

ELLIS: Uhm, no. I haven't really asked him about it because I thought he didn't like to talk about it. But, but not too long ago, maybe like two weeks ago. My mom said he could talk for like hours about what happened. Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Sounds like he's got lots to share, I bet he'd like to share it with you.

03:24

ELLIS: Yep. Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: You're in the IGen program now.

ELLIS: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: What kind of stuff are you learning about long term care or elder care?

ELLIS: Um... I'm learning that, like, it's okay to be friends with an elder. It's not weird. And, uhm, [sighs]. Yeah. And like, I feel, like my parents, and my, my family has said my maturity has went from like, 5 to 10. This year.

04:03

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. And do you have an elder partner?

ELLIS: Uhm, like a special elder?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah. A special elder.

ELLIS: Uhm... No, I don't. But, uhm, I, this elder... Her name is Angela. She came in to Sherbrooke not too long ago, maybe like a week ago. What, it was on Tuesday that she came in. And I think me and her are already really good friends. So, like, we do graduation at the end of the year. I think it's on the 14th this

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year. So she's, and we're gonna pick an elder, so she's probably gonna be my special elder for graduation.

INTERVIEWER: That's great.

ELLIS: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Is there anything else you want to talk about? What it was like turning COVID for you?

ELLIS: Uhm... I got... I got... Uhm... Lots of stuff... Like, uhm, I saved up my money and I got a Nintendo Switch in the middle of COVID. So, that was like, basically all I did. And I went on online school for half of the year, for a full year. And yeah, and I got homeschool a little, yeah.

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INTERVIEWER: What did your grand-parents think of that?

ELLIS: Uhm... I don't know. I don't, I don't think, like, we saw them a couple of times, but... I don't really know.

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, cool.

ELLIS: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: Well, it was Ellis right?

ELLIS: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Well, thanks for chatting with me Ellis. Do you want to say anything else before we go?

ELLIS: Hmm no.

INTERVIEWER: You're sure?

ELLIS: Yep.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, cool. If you think of anything else, let me know. And we can chat again. Yep. Awesome. So I'm gonna turn the recorder off.