

This interview is with Will Gravedos who is the head bartender on the *M.V. Native*, the paddlewheeler used by Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours in New Westminster. The major themes discussed in the interview are the Fraser River and the family atmosphere of the company. The interview was conducted while the boat was underway.

Interview Date: 21 September 2013

Interviewer: Andrea Walisser

Date Range: 2000s – 2013

Sound Recording Length: 00:09:22

Will Gravedos is the head bartender on the *M.V. Native* and has worked for Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours for 13 years. He is an immigrant from Brazil; he came to British Columbia from Toronto because he received a 1-year scholarship in engineering from Simon Fraser University (SFU). He enjoyed his stay and the weather in British Columbia, and decided to not return to Toronto. He was introduced to Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours by a friend who had a connection to the Leaneys, the owners of the business. He fell in love with the family atmosphere, and liked how he was treated so that he continued working part time, even after graduating from SFU. Throughout the interview Gravedos speaks enthusiastically about his job and coworkers.

Section 0:00 – 2:12

- In this section of the interview Gravedos discusses his job as the head bartender on the *M.V. Native* and how he got started working for the company. He was working for the company while studying at SFU. He loved the work environment and the Leaneys, thought the work was fun, and decided to stay. He has been with the company for 13 years and mostly works summers or whenever he is needed.

Section 2:13 – 6:10

- In this section Gravedos notes that all of the workers have part time jobs, as business is slower during the winter. When Gravedos is not working on the *Native*, he works as a contractor for telecommunication companies. He talks about the company's role in educating its passengers about the Fraser River, stating they "bring the past to people." Along with English, Gravedos speaks Spanish, Portuguese, and French so he particularly enjoys working on the *Native* when they have tourists who come from different countries because he can better explain the Fraser River's history to some of those tourists.

Section 6:11 – 9:22

- In this section Gravedos describes his background and how he came to work for Paddlewheeler Tours. working on the Fraser River for 13 years, he feels as if he is a part of the boat, the river and its work history. Gravedos also mentions how, when he is not too busy bartending, he enjoys watching the wildlife.