

This interview is of Judy Brennaw is a galley (kitchen) worker on the *M.V. Native*, the paddlewheeler used by Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours in New Westminster. The major themes discussed are changes in New Westminster waterfront, the City of New Westminster, and Brennaw's experience working in New Westminster. The interview was conducted while the boat was underway.

Interviewers: Andrea Walisser, Leigha Smith, and Oana Capota

Interview Date: 21 September 2013

Date Range: 1980s – 2013

Sound Recording Length: 00:11:37

Judy Brennaw is a semi-retired galley worker on the *M.V. Native* and her duties consist of food preparation and cooking. Her title on her business card reads as 'chef'. She has been with Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours since March 2008. When Brennaw was 16 she moved to New Westminster from the Cariboo region of BC and has lived in New Westminster ever since. Her first job during high school was at the Fraser Café located in the Windsor Hotel, which is how she got her start in the food industry. She owned a restaurant called JCs which was first located on Begbie and Columbia St., was moved to the Elks Building on 6th St. and Carnarvon, and finally located on 4th St. and Columbia. Her restaurant opened around the same time as the Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours did. She is proud to be a resident of New Westminster and is a member of the Lions Club. In the interview Brennaw describes some of the changes she has witnessed on the New Westminster waterfront as well as her frustrations with the City of New Westminster.

Section 0:00 – 2:58

- In this section of the interview Brennaw discusses her duties as a galley worker, and talks about the restaurant she owned, JCs, which she operated in New Westminster. Brennaw has been with the Paddlewheeler Tours for 5 years. Her job requires a lot of improvisation as she works in a small space with Helga Leaney, one of the owners of the Paddlewheeler Tours. One of the reasons why Brennaw works for Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours is because she believes that the company does not receive local support, which she finds frustrating.

Section 2:59 – 6:02

- In this section of the interview Brennaw discusses her feelings about her work and her background. She says it is hectic when the boat has to serve 80-100 people in the small kitchen, but overall she feels that working on the *Native* is like having a mini-holiday, as it is relaxing and she enjoys the work. She feels well equipped to work on the *Native* because she did the catering for the *Beta Star*, which is the smaller boat that Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours operates, when her restaurant was located in the Elks Building. She describes how she got involved with Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours.

Someone in her restaurant was celebrating their birthday and wanted to have their cake on the *Native*.

Section 6:03 – 7:51

- In this section of the interview Brennaw discusses how she first started working in New Westminister at Fraser Café in the Windsor Hotel. She saw the longshoremen cash their cheques and “play.” She states that it is interesting how the waterfront has changed, and recalls the first job she ever applied for was at a cannery on the waterfront, but she did not get the job because, she believes, she was too young. She states that although she has travelled a lot she would not want to live anywhere else but New Westminister, and has always lived in close proximity to her work.

Section 7:52 – 11:37

- In this section of the interview Brennaw expresses her frustration with the City of New Westminister. She emphasizes how the *Native* attracts a lot of overseas tourists, and that the company also supports a lot of charities. She believes that the City should recognize the Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours as a tourist attraction because it is a big asset to the community.