



Српски

7+

Serbian

Приче о нама **The Stories of Us**



Прича Зорице
A story by Zorica

Добродошли на Одељење за имагинарне послове.

Тражимо, прикупљамо и делимо приче о Канађанима од обале до обале до обале. Свака прича помаже нам да сазнамо више о људима који живе у Канади.

Кроз наше пројекте заједнички пролазимо кроз те приче у нади да ћемо створити нацију емпатичних грађана, јавних служби и грађанских пракси. Приче су кључ да испровоцира интересовања, потхрани и култивише креативност и подстакне глас јавности.

Приче о нама

Овај пројекат жели да вам пружи прилику да научите енглески језик кроз сопствене приче.

Welcome to the Department of Imaginary Affairs.

We seek, collect, and share stories of Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Every story helps us learn more about the people who live in Canada.

Through our projects, we share these stories in the hopes of creating a nation of empathetic citizens, public services, and policies. Stories are the key to challenging assumptions, nurturing and fostering creativity, and giving rise to citizen voices.

The Stories of Us

This project wants to give you a chance to learn English through your own stories.



Moje ime je Zorica Grujin. Udata sam, imam dva sina, stariji ima skoro 13 godina, a mlađi 5 i po.

Ja potičem iz Srbije.

Pored maternjeg srpskog, govorim engleski i razumem ponešto od španskog i nemačkog.

Srbija je zemlja sa bogatom istorijom, kulturnom baštinom i prirodnim lepotama. Nalazi se u jugoistočnoj Evropi na Balkanskom poluostrvu. To je zemlja gde su se u prošlosti susretali Istok i Zapad i ostavili za sobom šarenilo nacija, veroispovesti, kultura i običaja. Nažalost, danas Srbija je zemlja uništena politikom prethodnih i sadašnjih generacija, u kojoj korupcija i pravo jačeg vladaju.

Odlučili smo da odemo iz Srbije kako bih našoj deci omogućili bolju i sigurniju budućnost. Moj suprug i ja smo generacija koja odrastala u Srbiji u vreme inflacija i ekonomskih kriza, bratoubilačkih ratova u Hrvatskoj i Bosni i NATO bombardovanja. Zato smo želeli da naša deca imaju bezbrižniji život u Kanadi sa više mogućnosti izbora. Posle 40 godina života u Srbiji, ostavljajući sve iza sebe (kuću, posao i porodicu), znali smo da će biti teško nama kao prvoj generaciji. Ali znali smo da će našoj deci biti lakše i zato smo odlučili da odemo.

My name is Zorica Grujin. I am married and I have two sons. My older son is almost 13 years old and my younger son is five and a half years old.

My home country is Serbia.

Besides my mother tongue, which is Serbian, I speak English and I can understand a bit of Spanish and German.

Serbia is a country with a rich history, great cultural heritage, and beautiful nature. It is located in South-East Europe, on the Balkan peninsula. It is the country where the East met the West in the past, leaving behind a mosaic of ethnicities, religious beliefs, cultures and habits. Unfortunately, today Serbia is a country damaged by the politics of past and present generations, in which corruption and survival of the fittest rule.

We decided to leave Serbia so our children could have a better and safer future. My husband and I are from a generation who grew up in Serbia during the time of inflation, economic crises, civil wars in Croatia and Bosnia, and NATO bombing of Serbia. That is why we hoped to secure for our children an untroubled life in Canada and with more opportunities. After 40 years of living in Serbia, leaving everything behind (our house, jobs, and family), we knew it was going to be difficult for us as the first generation. But, we knew that it would be easier for our children and that is why we decided to leave.

Kanada je odabrala nas. Mom suprugu koji je programer (Solution Architect) je ponuđen ugovor preko njegove firme za rad na 2 godine u Kanadi. Shvatili smo da je to jako dobra prilika za nas kao porodicu da steknemo novo iskustvo. A možda kasnije se i naselimo u Kanadi ako nam se sviđi.

Prvo što me je iznenadilo i oduševilo u Kanadi je toplina sa kojom su nas svi koje smo upoznali prihvatili. Kanada mi se odmah učinila kao zemlja naseljena ljudima sa svih strana sveta koji su svi jednaki u svojoj raznolikosti. Drugo što me je iznenadilo je organizovanost svega. Svi vrlo dobro znaju svoja prava ali i obaveze i to se poštuje.

Prvi put smo stigli u Kanadu 02. juna 2017. godine. Bio je petak, za kanadske uslove prijatno prolećno veče. Iako smo bili umorni od puta i 2 avionska leta bili smo i uzbuđeni zbog novog početka. Posle sletanja u Torontno, nastavili smo put ka našoj konačnoj destinaciji gradu Beriju.

Canada chose us. My husband, who is a computer programmer (Solution Architect), received through his company at that time, a two-year-employment contract for work in Canada. We realized that that would be a great opportunity for us to gain new experience. Also, we thought we might be able to stay in Canada after the two years, and continue to live there if we liked it.

Firstly, I was surprised and delighted by the warmth that everyone welcomed us with, how they met and greeted, and accepted us. Canada seemed to me like a country of people from all over the world who are equal in their diversity. Secondly, I was amazed how everything is well organized and planned. Everyone knows their rights and obligations, and they honour them.

We first arrived in Canada on June 2nd 2017. It was a Friday and in Canadian terms, it was a pleasant spring evening. Even though we were tired from the trip and two connecting flights, we were also excited about the new beginning. After landing in Toronto, we continued to our final destination to the City of Barrie.

Prvih mesec dana smo bili smešteni u apartmanu koji muževa firma iznajmljuje za svoje zaposlene, dok sami nismo našli smeštaj. Odmah smo krenuli u istraživanje grada, jezera Simko, gradskih parkova, a ponekad i Toronta. Brzo smo shvatili da je Beri pravi grad za nas. Oduševilo nas je bogatsvo divljih životinja u gradu, staze za šetanje oko jezera i neki poseban osećaj mira kojim odiše ovaj brzo rastući grad. Tokom prvog meseca dok bi šetali pored plaže, čuli bi barem tri druga jezika osim engleskog. Činilo nam se kao su Ujedinjene nacije ovde u Kanadi.

Kada smo došli u Kanadu najveći izazov za mene bio je preživeti 6 meseci zime. Ja jako volim toplo vreme i da provodim dane što više napolju. Pomisao na hladnoću i duge boravke u zatvorenom prostoru me je odmah bacala u depresiju. A takođe se plašim vožnje u zimskim uslovima, sa smetovima i klizavim putevima, tako da selidba u područje sa dugom hladnom zimom sa puno snega je zaista bila izazov. Ipak, posle nekog vremena sam se navikla i prihvatila vreme kao sastavni deo Kanade i naučila da i u njemu pronađem neko zadovoljstvo. Zima u Kanadi je vreme kad sedim uz kamin u Snow Valley i čitam dok muž i deca skijaju.

During our first month in Canada, we lived in an apartment that my husband's company rented for their employees until we found a place of our own. Almost instantly we started to explore the city, the Lake Simcoe, city parks and occasionally Toronto. We realized very quickly that Barrie was the right city for us. We were delighted by the richness of wildlife throughout the city, trails around the lake, and the special feeling of tranquillity which encompasses this fast-growing town. During the first month, while strolling along the beach, we would hear at least three different languages other than English. It was like the United Nations were here in Canada.

When we came to Canada, the biggest challenge for me was surviving six months of winter. I adore warm weather and love spending time as much as I can outside. Just the thought of the cold, as well as long stays indoors would make me depressed. Also, I am terrified of driving in winter conditions with snow buildup and slippery roads, so moving to an area with long, cold winters and a lot of snow was a challenge. But after some time, I got used to it and accepted the weather as a part of Canada. I learned to find some pleasure in it. Winter in Canada is a time I spend by the fireplace in Snow Valley, reading, while my husband and children are skiing.

Sledeći veliki izazov je bio pronaći načine da vežbam pričanje engleskog. U Srbiji nisam imala prilike da vežbam pričanje engleskog. Čitala sam na engleskom, slušala i gledala TV serije ali je drugačije kad treba da pričaš. Završila sam za lekara opšte šrakse u Srbiji, i u Kanadi nisam mogla da radim posao u mojoj struci. Znala sam da moram prvo da učim i ostajem kod kuće gde nisam imala mnogo prilika da vežbam engleski. Moj mlađi sin je imao poteškoće u prilagođavanju na život u Kanadi i odbijao je da priča engleski prvih 6 meseci. Tako da nisam imala mnogo prilike da vežbam dok nisam počela da odlazim u Krug za konverzaciju na engleskom u Gradskoj biblioteci Berija. Sada idem na sastanke ponedeljkom i subotom i to je moje vežbanje engleskog.

Ne mogu da izdvojim neki poseban momenat pošto ih je bilo zaista puno, mada bi spomenula jedan skorašnji kao veoma važan za našu porodicu, a to je dobijanje potvrde o sticanju statusa stalnog stanovnika Kanade. Za nas, dobijanje statusa stalnog stanovnika je bilo teško pošto oboje, moj muž i ja imamo preko 35 godina i kriterijumi su sve strožiji. Iako oboje imamo završene dobre fakultete i dobro poznavanje engleskog jezika, naše godište je radilo protiv nas. Taj papir i nalepnica u pasošu potvrdili su da naša budućnost je ovde u Kanadi.

The other big challenge was finding ways to practice speaking English. Back home I had no opportunities to practice speaking English. I read in English, listened and watched TV shows in English, but it is different when you need to speak it. I trained as a medical doctor in Serbia, and I couldn't get a job in my profession in Canada. I knew I needed to study first so I had to stay at home where there was almost no opportunity for me to practice English. My youngest son had difficulty adjusting to our transition to Canada, so he refused to speak English for the first six months. Therefore, I had little chance to practice English until the time I started attending the English Conversation Circle at the Barrie Public Library. At present, I attend the Circle on Mondays and Saturdays and that is my English language practice.

There have been many great moments indeed during our time here, and I can not point at any specific one. However, one of the recent events, which was very important for our family, was obtaining our Permanent Residence (PR). For us, getting PR status was difficult because my husband and I are both over the age of 35, while criteria for PR is becoming more strict. Even though we have academic degrees from reputable universities and demonstrate solid knowledge of English language, our ages were a factor that worked against us. Obtaining that piece of paper and PR sticker in our passports proved to us that our future is here, in Canada.

Želim da uspem i steknem licencu za porodičnog lekara, pošto je to moje pravo zanimanje i ono u čemu sebe pronalazim. Takođe, planiram da pokušam da se upišem na Univerzitet u Torontu smer za pomoćnika lekara, kako bi imala druge opcije u slučaju da proces do licence bude trajao dugo ili ne uspem da istrajem na tom putu. Želela bih da ostanemo da živimo u Beriju, ali ako već budemo morali da se selimo u neko drugo mesto neću se plašiti promene od nekoliko desetina kilometara kada smo već preživeli onu sa jednog kontinenta na drugi.

I want to successfully pursue a license as a family doctor here, in Canada. I trained as a medical doctor in Serbia and feel that this is my true calling. It is where I see myself. Also, I plan to apply to the University of Toronto's Physician Assistant Program and open other options in case the process of licensing takes too long, or I am unable to stay on that pathway. I am hoping that we will stay and live here, in Barrie; however, if we have to relocate to another city, I will not be afraid of a couple of dozen kilometers of change since we have already survived the change of moving from one continent to another.



Питања Questions

1. О коме је прича?
2. Из које је он/она земље?
3. Из кога је града?
4. Шта он / она воли о свом граду / држави?
5. Када је он/она дошао у Канаду?
6. Да ли је он/она сретан? Зашто?
7. Да ли је он/она тужан? Зашто?
8. Шта он / она каже о Канади?
9. Шта он / она жели да ради у будућности?

1. **Who is the story about?**
2. **What country is he/she from?**
3. **What city is he/she from?**
4. **What does he/she like about her city/ country?**
5. **When did he/she come to Canada?**
6. **Is he/she happy? Why?**
7. **Is he/she sad? Why?**
8. **What does he/she say about Canada?**
9. **What does he/she want to do in the future?**



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