

[Caroline Duncan interviewing Ken Bisson on April 19, 2010]

00:00 Caroline Duncan: Okay, so tell me your name.

Ken Bisson: My name is Ken Bisson. B-I-S-S-O-N.

CD: Oh, okay.

KB: I was a member of the Queen's Own Rifles from ... '64 [1964] until '68 [1968] then I went into Food Services and then, and even though I worked with a lot of the, a lot of these people over here. But what reminds, my thoughts of the Queen's Own were that ... when we were out, when we were on parade there and we did this march pass and then we did a double pass we were the only regiment ... in, in Canada that, that does that and

CD: And, and what is it? Can you describe it?

KB: Well, what you do is you, you ... you, you actually [double?], you actually have your rifle ... like this and then you actually double your ... and then

CD: Okay, so your rifle is held down and you're walking, your [inaudible] quite quickly

KB: Yeah, yeah, oh yeah, you're actually, you're actually doubling you know like, you know

CD: Okay

KB: And then they, and then they bring you to a, to a marching position. Very hard to do, it, it's very, and, and really you only, the only regiment as far as I know in Canada that does it. And I think that really stands out in my mind.

CD: Right.

KB: Very, very, very professional, very ... just, you know, makes you proud to be a member of the Queen's Own.

CD: [Yes?].

KB: So I, even though I ... like I said before, I was only with them for about four years, so. Then I moved on, and then I moved on into, into Food Services so I used to feed a lot of these, these, these guys.

CD: Right.

KB: But ... so that, that really stands out in my mind. It makes you so very proud, I am.

CD: Yeah.

KB: I, I remember we were ... at Centennial Stadium in Victoria in '67 [1967] for a some kind of ...

CD: It was the, the opening of the ... stadium?

KB: I, I'm not

CD: Yeah.

KB: And we, and we, and we did that ... the double pass and everything ... it was very [impressive], ... like my friends, my younger friends who were there, they thought it was very [impressive], very impressive.

CD: Right.

KB: Yup.

CD: And have you stayed in touch with ... with friends ... over the years?

KB: Oh yes, yup, like Joe Webb. I knew Joe, gosh, probably forty years now and ... A few of them I ... I keep in touch with. I don't know a lot of them because I'm probably one of the younger guys that [inaudible] [they've been?], but then they, they all worked together and they all moved together, as I, I, I went into, into a different direction. But yeah, but no, so.

CD: So what are you looking forward to over the three days here?

KB: Ah, just seeing guys I haven't seen for awhile and I saw some guys tonight I haven't seen, I'm very impressed. I, there's guys here from Calgary, Toronto, you know. I, I'm very impressed and I'm very impressed on the organization committee. They've done, they've done a very, very, very good job.

CD: [Yes?] they had, they had a few, a few difficulties to contend with as well.

KB: Oh, yeah, that's right, yeah. But you know, that's, we just soldier on.

CD: Right.

KB: She's not going to be here but that's okay but, not, not okay, but you know, we'll make the best of it.

CD: Yes.

KB: We just [soldier?], you know, you, you move on.

CD: Right.

KB: Yeah.

CD: Yeah. Well thank you for speaking to me.

KB: Thanks, thanks for your time.

CD: And I wonder if you, you'd be willing to sign the consent form and ...

KB: Oh sure.

CD: If I can take your picture as well.

KB: Sure, oh my gosh.