

[Transcription of interview with Piara Singh Dhillon]

Piara Singh Dhillon – Transcription

Interview Date: January 14th, 2025

MR: Okay, what is your name?

PD: My name is Piara Singh Dhillon.

MR: And when were you born?

PD: 15th of July, 1948. India, Punjab, Village Buttar.

MR: And when did you immigrate to Canada?

PD: I came as an immigrant in 1969.

MR: So how old were you then?

PD: I was under 21 then.

MR: And on what basis did you come? Was it the parent system or family class?

PD: Then I had a Bhuva (father's sister) here and it was a quota system then. However long you studied in India, whether it was 2 or 5 years, it was based on that. If it came through in a letter then the person would definitely come here. It was a quota system then.

IS: Did your Bhuva (Aunt) sponsor you then? Family sponsor.

PD: Yes, yes. I was her nephew.

MR: Okay, and what village did you live in before coming to Canada?

PD: The district is now Moga but it used to be Ferozpur. And the village Buttar.

MR: And did you do any work before coming here in Buttar?

PD: In Buttar, I did 4 years of farming.

MR: Then?

PD: Then I came here on May 25, 1969.

MR: And on what terms did you have plans to come here?

IS: Like what did you decide when you said you wanted to come to Canada?

PD: I just had a desire to go and get sponsored. I wanted to see things about how it is there. That I'd work and make good money. That's all I really thought about then. That's all we thought about back then, maybe the thinking has changed now. Back then we thought we'd go to a nice country and work and make money so we could come back. That's all that was running through our mind then.

IS: So you had a plan to come back then?

IDENTIFIER

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