



Trangeleds in Canada

October/November 2000

We have been living in Calgary for almost three months now, but it seems much longer. Everything has happened so fast and we have done the opposite of almost everything we planned, but it has turned out well so far.

By the end of our first week, we had bought a house, the second week a Jeep and I was working by mid October! (We had planned to rent accommodation, lease a car and I would not look for work immediately). The only thing done according to our original plan is that I have joined the Calgary Gardening Club.



Our bungalow

The house market here is so transient that it is very easy to find a suitable house in whichever area one chooses, so it is only a question of which house and what price. We finally decided to buy a one-year-old vacant bungalow in a relatively new area called Signal Hill, which is situated on a large hill, directly west of the city. We have a wonderful view of the Rocky Mountains of which we never tire. We can drive to the mountains in half an hour and into downtown in about ten minutes. In addition to the main floor of the bungalow, we have a complete basement which, when developed, will be a walkout with bedrooms for our guests. ½

Steffen, has now settled into his Junior High School and has made some friends, the only

thing of any importance to a 13 year old! The school system is certainly much stricter than in Denmark. Steffen gets homework every night and has tests almost every day. If an assignment is late or missing, they get a detention and have to stay after school. Steffen has been working extremely hard and obtaining very good grades so far, of which we are very pleased, particularly considering he has not been educated in English before.

I applied for a job that sounded 'just like me' and am now the Executive Assistant to Hugh A. Palmer Inc., a company providing security services for the oil and gas industry, as well as private investigations. I am supposed to reorganise the office and the owner. At the moment I am working there 2-3 days a week and I am also working 1 day for a friend helping out with her bookkeeping business.

Jesper has now secured an IT job in a large company with very good benefits and starts there early November. Until now he has still been working for his company in Denmark and has just been back there working for the last time.



View of the Rockies from our garden

The weather has been wonderful this summer with temperatures in the high 20's most of the time. However, we also had two snowfalls already in October, then back to warm weather again.

Only last week it was 22 degrees and then a snowstorm hit us suddenly and we have had minus temperatures since. Still, it changes so quickly and anyway, with blue sky and sunshine almost every day, even the cold weather is fine. I don't remember the last time we had rain or a grey day.

The best thing about the snow is that the ski season starts and we have already had our first day of ski-ing at Canada Olympic Park, 10 minutes west of here.

We love our life here so far and we think it is a magnificent country. Each time we go out for the day, we find ourselves more and more overwhelmed with the sights that greet us. We have even had the privilege to see a black bear and a huge moose on our travels already.



One of many lakes in the Rockies

I sincerely hope this newsletter finds all our family and friends in different countries, well and happy. **If you wish to receive future news, please send us a note.**

Regards, Julia, Jesper and Steffen

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