

BULLETIN:

Summaries of the Contents of a Series of Excerpts from the Global Odyssey LogBooks of the Chief Explorer



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Chief Explorer

CHIEF EXPLORER'S KNOWLEDGE BANK

Mentoring Resources for Helping to Develop Modern-Day Renaissance Leaders

(Please also consider joining Don Simpson in his LinkedIn site)

Summary of the Contents in the 15 LogBooks

LOGBOOK ONE: THE MAKING OF THE CHIEF EXPLORER

Summary of the Contents of LogBook One

Simpson, in this LogBook searches for a word or phrase that somehow captures the essence of his life. He expresses comfort with the term, *Explorer*. He indicates that without ever really planning how he wished to be seen by others; upon reflection he realizes that he has been living the life of an Explorer for most of his life.

LogBook One provides some overarching context about the environment, the individuals and the events that helped prepare him for his life as an Explorer. These Excerpts provide brief insights into his evolving life, under six headings:

- The Young Explorer in Sudbury (1934-46)
- High School in Toronto (1947-53)
- The Explorer at University (1953-57)
- Early Adult Explorations (1957-65)
- Mixed Educational and Entrepreneurial Explorations (1965-90)
- Chief Explorer of the Innovation Expedition (1991-ongoing)

Excerpts (Brief Stories) from Log Book One

Excerpt 1: Overview of the Journey (1934 to Ongoing in 2015)

Excerpt 2: Additional Profile Information on the Chief Explorer

Excerpt 3: Understanding the Power of Self-Awareness in Building a Capacity for High Performance

Excerpt 4: I Am My Father's Son

Excerpt 5: Childhood in Sudbury, Hybrid Canadians, Early Role Models, Impact of World War II

Excerpt 6: Teenage Years in Toronto (1947 to 1953)

Excerpt 7: My Big Surprise: Gaining Entry to University (September 1953)

LOGBOOK TWO: A YOUNG TEACHER DREAMS OF AFRICA AND FINDS A PURPOSE

Summary of the Contents

Meeting my Mentor and Creating the African Students Foundation (1957-1967)

Recounts how a challenge from Don's students early in his teaching career leads to him meeting an influential mentor, Dr. James H. Robinson from Harlem, raising money for scholarships for African students, and helping to form the African Students Foundation (ASF) nationally. We chart in detail the start-up of this foundation and touch on the experience of Africans who came to university in Canada in the 1960s supported ASF. An extensive account is provided of a young Kenyan student named Jimmy Kanja. His family's lifelong relationship with the Simpson family serves as an example of the many ongoing, productive connections established among Canadians and Africans through this organization.

Crossroads Africa and the Beginning of a Lifelong Journey (1959-1965)

Explains how an invitation to a weekend layman's church retreat leads to Don's first direct connection with the African continent. Don and others take up a challenge by Jim Robinson to create a Canadian arm of the Crossroads Africa organization Robinson founded to link young Africans and North Americans for mutual learning and action. We look at the creation of Canadian Crossroads Africa in the context of the larger trend in the "developed" world towards voluntary service overseas. This LogBook features Don's experience with Crossroads work camps in Nigeria in 1960 and Ethiopia in 1963, and his emerging ideas/questions about international development.

Excerpt 8: Meeting my First Serious Mentor (Other than my Father)

Excerpt 9: Co-Creating the African Students Foundation)

Excerpt 10: Building National and International Partnerships through the African Students Foundation

Excerpt 11: The ASF Organizes Its Own Version of an African Airlift in 1961 and Ends Its Activities in 1967

Excerpt 12: Life Lessons from Involvement in the ASF and a Lasting Friendship with Jimmy Kanja

Excerpt 13: The Birth of Overseas Volunteering – The Creation of Canadian Crossroads Africa

Excerpt 14: My First Work Camp Experience with Crossroads Africa – Nigeria 1960

Excerpt 15: Growth of Canadian Crossroads and my Second Work Camp in Ethiopia in 1963

Excerpt 16: Crossroads Legacies

LOGBOOK THREE: CONNECTING WITH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN CANADA AND COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE ROOTS OF RACISM

Summary of the Contents

These excerpts relate how Don's experiences in Africa connect him with communities in his own backyard founded by people of African descent. Don works as a volunteer with the people of Buxton, Ontario as they create the first Museum of Negro History in Canada. Having moved from his role as a high school teacher to a mixed role as professor and graduate student, he convinces a sceptical history department at the University of Western Ontario that there is enough material to support a Ph.D. thesis on *"The History of Blacks in Upper Canada"* and eventually produces an 1100 page thesis, shaped by the personal stories of the many fascinating people he meets in the oral history research process.

This LogBook also describes Don's exposure to the Canadian brand of anti-black racism. It offers highlights of an ongoing journey to understand the roots of discrimination against blacks and offers specific examples from the Canadian experience (Africville and the Sir George Williams affair). It describes 1968 as the year of global revolts and their impact on Canada. Don reports on his involvement in 1968 in the infamous, racially-charged Montreal meeting of the American-based profession Association for African Studies. The LogBook ends with a review of the enigma surrounding the concept of *"Race"* and provides an overview of the pervasiveness of anti-black sentiments throughout history.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Three

Excerpt 17: My Introduction to the African Diaspora through the Buxton Community

Excerpt 18: Reflections on the History of Canadians of African Descent

Excerpt 19: Planning my Thesis on Canadian Black History

Excerpt 20: Coming to Grips with Racist Roots—Shaping my Attitudes towards Others

Excerpt 21: Ongoing Journey to Understand the Roots of Discrimination Against Blacks

Excerpt 22: Cross-Cultural Conflict in the Academic Community

Excerpt 23: Race is a Four Letter Word

LOGBOOK FOUR: THE LONG JOURNEY TO MULTICULTURALISM AS PART OF THE NATIONAL SEARCH FOR A CANADIAN IDENTITY (1960S AND 1970S)

Summary of the Contents

This LogBook has fewer personal Don Simpson stories and instead has Don offering some overview insights into Canadian history. He makes the point that individuals should acquire some important context from the country's history in order to better understand the present state and the confusing views on multiculturalism today.

The perspective he offers reflects his own efforts, first as a student and then as a teacher, to place present cultural and political realities in some context of history.

This LogBook takes a look at Canadian geography and its impact on identity. It outlines the steps that led to Canada becoming independent. How did poets and artists define Canadian identity and Canadian culture and Canada as a northern nation? This book deconstructs the sanitized version of Canadian history and outlines steps in the long journey to multiculturalism from early interactions with aboriginals, certain immigrant groups during two world wars and official attempts to discourage immigration by southern Europeans, Asians, and American blacks. He also outlines systematic efforts to stamp out First Nations language and culture; the arrest and imprisonment without trial during the two world wars of thousands of Canadians born in "enemy countries;" regulations keeping Jewish refugees out of Canada after the second world war; blatantly discriminatory immigration laws under Prime Minister Mackenzie King aimed at preserving "the fundamental character of Canadian society." It also outlines of the steps that led to Canada achieving official multiculturalism status.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Four

Excerpt 24: An Outsider's View of Canada

Excerpt 25: My Struggle to Understand Canadian Culture and a Canadian Identity

Excerpt 26: Beginning the Long Journey to Multiculturalism

Excerpt 27: The Ongoing Journey to Multiculturalism – Evolving Attitudes

Excerpt 28: The Ongoing Journey to Multiculturalism – Adding Strength to the Old Empire

LOGBOOK FIVE: CANADA’S COMING OF AGE IN THE THIRD WORLD – THE CUSO STORY IN THE 1960S

Summary of the Contents

Don’s role in the African Students Foundation (ASF) and Crossroads Africa gets him engaged with other young graduate students and young professionals interested in engaging Canadians with the emerging Third World countries. The collective efforts by such people leads in 1961 to the creation of Canadian University Students Overseas (CUSO).

Don continues to support various new international organizations (ASF, Crossroads Africa, Hamilton Goodwill Africa and CUSO) and from his new base at the Althouse College of Education, designs and organizes a more professional orientation for CUSO’s West African program. By the end of the initial orientation he is recruited to serve as CUSO’s first regional director in West Africa. The Simpson family (Don, Marion and four children) move to Accra.

The LogBook describes the interesting challenges faced by the Simpson family and the volunteers, while providing insights on political and economic development in Ghana, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, along with profiles of CUSO’s programs in these countries.

Detailed insights into the experience of CUSO’s leadership team are offered, including the significant challenge of providing leadership for the Nigeria program during a civil war.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Five

Excerpt 29: One of Life’s Markers: The Impact of Becoming a Professor

Excerpt 30: A Model for Putting Idealism into Action

Excerpt 31: My Expanded Involvement with CUSO – The Challenge of Orientation

Excerpt 32: Launching the Simpson Family in Ghana

Excerpt 33: Exploring Ghana and Dealing with a Medical Crisis in our Extended Family

Excerpt 34: Building the CUSO Infrastructure; Profiling the Program in Ghana and Sierra Leone

Excerpt 35: The Nigeria Program – Providing Leadership During a Civil War

Excerpt 36: The CUSO Legacy

LOGBOOK SIX: EDUCATING CANADIANS ABOUT THIRD WORLD CULTURE AND THE CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Summary of the Contents

Before leaving for West Africa, Don had been the catalyst for creating a cross-university team to design and promote the institutions' expanded involvement in international activities. Upon his return, his hopes to play a lead role in launching this effort was trashed as the University had taken no action on the concept.

This LogBook describes the major personal decisions Don took to keep this concept alive, including leaving the University for a year for an intriguing but risky role in Adult Education in the new Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE).

The Office of International Education at Western University was finally created in 1969 with Simpson as its Executive Director. The OIE is a first in Canadian universities and under Don's direction operated in a highly distinctive manner. The scope and focus of the OIE is shaped by Don's extensive travels nationally and internationally.

Building on the initial CUSO orientations, a spin-off activity is created—a computerized, Cross-Cultural Learner Centre which is positioned as a significant breakthrough innovation in learning.

Don learns from all these collaborative, experiential, cross-cultural initiatives how difficult it is to sustain innovations in Canada and particularly in the academic institutions. The Senate Committee on University Development decides to end its support for this unusual experiment in spite of serious challenges from Don regarding their actions.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Six

Excerpt 37: Designing and Launching a Distinctive International Education Office at the University of Western Ontario

Excerpt 38: Reflection on my Evolving Journey to Function as an Effective Cross-Cultural Educator

Excerpt 39: Scope and Focus of the Office of International Education (1969)

Excerpt 40: My Ongoing Action Learning Journey

Excerpt 41: The Evolution of a Breakthrough Innovation in Education: The Cross-Cultural Learner Centre

Excerpt 42: Cross-Cultural Education in Canada

Excerpt 43: Promoting a Pragmatic Communications Approach to Support International Development

LOGBOOK SEVEN: FROM COLONY TO CONTRIBUTOR – CANADA’S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, WITH A SPOTLIGHT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Summary of the Contents

This book continues the exploration of the larger story of Canada’s journey from colony to contributor, as Canadians moved into different types of relationships with countries in Africa and Asia. We witness the birth of the International Development Research Centre in the 1970s as a breakthrough innovation in the development aid sector. Don shares what he learned in his role as leader for their global education program within the Social Sciences Division for Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. We review the state of Canada’s aid programs by 1970 and how Canadians and recipient nations were viewing such programs. This experience and the mentoring provided by David Hopper and Ruth Zagorin (leaders in IDRC), represents an important defining moment for Don. IDRC’s creative use of collaborative networks to unleash innovation and drive high performance is a major influence in Don’s later career as founder and Chief Explorer of the Innovation Expedition.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Seven

Excerpt 44: International Development in the 1970s

Excerpt 45: A Breakthrough Canadian Innovation to Open the Second Development Decade

Excerpt 46: The IDRC Approach – Lessons from a Master Mentor

Excerpt 47: Preparing to Lead a Global Education Program – Interactions with another Master Mentor

Excerpt 48: Identifying Specific Education Projects to Support

Excerpt 49: Testing my Ability to be a Connector and Mentor Globally

Excerpt 50: Untitled as yet

Excerpt 51: Additional Key Learning from the IDRC Experience

LOGBOOK EIGHT: DISCOVERING THE FOURTH WORLD IN CANADA

Summary of the Contents

Tells the story of how students from the “developing” countries of the “Third World” introduced Don to what some were beginning to call the “Fourth World” – the communities of Canada’s original inhabitants, or First Nations. Don discovers parallels between the challenges facing low-income countries in Africa and Asia, and the determination of First Nations in Canada to chart a course toward culturally appropriate economic and social development. Don meets many of the First Nations individuals who are pioneering new approaches to development. He becomes part of a southern support group for the Dene Nation in the Northwest Territories, and testifies in front of the Berger Commission reviewing a proposed gas pipeline through the Mackenzie Valley. He and his team are the targets of dirty tactics by the RCMP.

The book describes a wide variety of mentoring assignments Don undertakes with aboriginal groups across the country, including successful efforts to transform education and local economic practices in the Northwest Territories and a number of creative initiatives in broadcasting by CBC North.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Eight

Excerpt 52: My Initial Engagements with Aboriginal Nations (The Fourth World in Canada)

Excerpt 53: Insights on Aboriginals Obtained from the Disciplines of Teacher Education, Psychology and Computer Science

Excerpt 54: The Native Resource Centre Within the Cross-Cultural Learner Centre

Excerpt 55: Comparisons Between the Canadian North and the Third World

Excerpt 56: The Evolving Self-Awareness of the Dene Nation

Excerpt 57: Building a National Coalition against Northern Pipelines

Excerpt 58: Work with Aboriginals on Communications

Excerpt 59: Northwest Territories Education Task Force and a Breakthrough Innovation in Social Change

LOGBOOK NINE: FROM EDUCATOR TO ENTREPRENEUR (1976 TO 1990)

Summary of the Contents

A major health problem ends Don's involvement with IDRC and he returns to his old role at the Althouse College of Education. Once recovered, he begins to apply what he has learned over the years in helping various organizations to improve their performance in cross-cultural settings. This work is tested in a program Don organizes with Harry Lane of the Business School at the University of Western Ontario which operated as the Canada-Africa Business Advisory Group. This eventually led to a major move out of the university for Don to set up two consulting businesses: Kanchar and Salasan. In these two businesses, Don, the educator, tested his ability to succeed as an entrepreneurial businessman. Success as an entrepreneur leads him back to two specialized roles which required him to practice the combined the skills of educator/entrepreneur—first as Director of the Centre for International Business at the Ivey Business School and then as Vice-President of the world famous Banff Centre in the Canadian Rockies.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Nine

Excerpt 60: My Return to the Althouse College of Education

Excerpt 61: On the Journey to Entrepreneurship

Excerpt 62: Creating an Entrepreneurial Role Within the Ivey Business School

Excerpt 63: A Full-time Role as an Entrepreneur: Creation of KANCHAR International

Excerpt 64: Utilizing KANCHAR as a Base for Undertaking Diverse Projects

Excerpt 65: KANCHAR's Link with the Ivey Business School - The Canada-Kenya Executive Management Program

Excerpt 66: Eden Media – Supporting the Strength of a Kenyan Film Industry

Excerpt 67: Exploring the Canadian Capacity to Respond to Human Resource Challenges in Both Aboriginal and Third World Countries

Excerpt 68: Searching for the Simple Life

LOGBOOK TEN: MY JOURNEY TO THE COLLEGE IN THE MOUNTAINS: THE BANFF CENTRE AND THE CREATION OF THE INNOVATION EXPEDITION

Summary of the Contents

Don ends his effort at the Ivey Business School, closes down his company and takes on a new role at the world-famous Banff Centre in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. His role as Vice President is to help globalize the Centre's Management Centre.

This book provides an account of Don's effort at the Banff Centre to create the International Institute for Innovation (Triple i), later to evolve into the Innovation Expedition. The Triple i functioned as a global network that identified, connected, and provided support for influential (and potential) innovators striving to build high-performing organizations in business, education, research, not-for-profit social action and government agencies. The test lab of the Alberta Roundtables is described, as well as the manner in which Don moved the Innovation Expedition into the marketplace, eventually incorporating it as a business. A description is given of how Don used this vehicle to integrate and apply what he had learned over the years about accelerated learning across cultures, building collaborative teams and the unleashing of innovations to solve complex tasks. Through the Innovation Expedition, Don continues his efforts to help these innovators create sustainable prosperity in their communities and others throughout the world (i.e., more jobs, increased wealth creation, enhanced quality of life).

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Ten

Excerpt 69: Launching a New Phase of my Journey at the Banff Centre (1990)

Excerpt 70: Understanding and Responding to my New Challenge

Excerpt 71: A New Focus on Leadership for Building Collaborative Teams

Excerpt 72: Creating the Zany Group: A Personal Leadership Development Network

Excerpt 73: Creating the Triple i: (International Institute for Innovation)

Excerpt 74: Initial Laboratory for Triple i: The Alberta Roundtables (1991-92)

Excerpt 75: Major Design Session on Vision, Values and Strategic Intentions of Triple i (July 1993)

LOGBOOKS ELEVEN TO FIFTEEN, PLUS EPILOGUE

Note: The Excerpts from these LogBooks are well underway but no overviews of the contents have yet been written. The Excerpts have been roughly created and some of their themes can be listed here. More will still be added.

LOGBOOK ELEVEN: THE TRIPLE i CONTINUES TO GROW; MOVES OUTSIDE THE BANFF CENTRE AND EVOLVES INTO THE INNOVATION EXPEDITION

Summary of the Contents

Has yet to be written.

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Eleven

Excerpt 76: Moving Triple i Outside the Banff Centre

Excerpt 77: Learning How to Build Cross-Cultural Relationships Globally

Excerpt 78: Responding to Infrastructure Challenges Presented by Our Success

Excerpt 79: Defining and Addressing the Challenges of Knowledge Management

Excerpt 80: Initial Connection with Peter Drucker, the “Father of Modern Management”

LOGBOOK TWELVE: DEVELOPING OUR DISTINCTIVE OPERATING MODELS BY UNDERTAKING COMPLEX CHANGE PROJECTS

Summary of the Contents

Introduction and Excerpts still being written

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Twelve

Excerpt 81: Applying our Approach in Addressing Two Different Challenges

Excerpt 82: Applying our Approach in Addressing Performance Challenges in a Large Global Firm

**Excerpt 83: Applying our Approach in Addressing Performance Challenges in Bayer
Pharmaceutical**

Excerpt 84: Drawing on these Transformational Expeditions with Clients to Create Toolkits

Excerpt 85: Making Measures that Matter: The Balanced Scorecard

Excerpt 86: National Dialogue on Innovation and the Creation of our *Innovation Manifesto*

LOGBOOK THIRTEEN: BUILDING FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT MENTORING

Summary of the Contents

Introduction and Excerpts still being written

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Thirteen

Excerpt 87: The Inspiration for Codifying our Challenge Dialogue Approach

Excerpt 88: Codification of the Challenge Dialogue System (2001)

**Excerpt 89: Setting the Context of Our Values and Operating Principles for any Trainee in the CDS
Process**

LOGBOOK FOURTEEN: THE CONCEPT OF A MODERN DAY RENAISSANCE LEADER

Summary of the Contents

Introduction and Excerpts still being written

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Fourteen

Excerpt 90: Developing the Concept of a Modern Day Renaissance Leader

Excerpt 91: Not written yet

Excerpt 92: Not written yet

Excerpt 93: Launching a New Expedition in Search of Modern Day Renaissance Leaders on my 80th Birthday (July 13, 2014)

Excerpt 94: Scouting Reports on Renaissance Pathfinders

Excerpt 95: Launching the Renaissance Artistic Instigators Program

Excerpt 96: In Search of Modern Day Renaissance Cities

LOGBOOK FIFTEEN: RETHINKING THE FUTURE AND REFLECTING ON A 50 YEAR GLOBAL ODYSSEY

Summary of the Contents

Introduction and Excerpts still being written

Excerpts/Stories from LogBook Fifteen

Excerpt 97: Reflections of a Cross-Cultural Explorer

Excerpt 98: Not written yet

Excerpt 99: Not written yet

EPILOGUE

Summary of the Contents

Introduction and Excerpt still being written

Excerpts/Stories from Epilogue

Excerpt 100: Not Written Yet