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Yeah, so I put myself in a community. I hope in getting into some sort of situation with a community, I can get a degree before anything that was specifically like that. So I remember my six year goal after high school was to get a degree in that under my belt, and then hopefully, I could be a dietitian. I was specifically And that was kind of what I was looking for. You know, through through PCAT studies, I was looking for the dietitian. I was like all the different dietit

course, you know, fast forward to today iiiiii

a little bit. And so I remember I was taking nighttime classes at SFU, I was taking weekend classes, so I was at work as often as I could be. And so it was, yeah, it was it was overwhelming a little bit, just to try to juggle the school and juggle work, I'm really glad I did it. Would I recommend it? I don't know, it was a lot of work. And I think you got to really love the job because it was all encompassing. And again, you know, even though I went through the internship, you know, at the time, the media environments, a bit different than it is today. But it's still a competitive one. And one where there were jobs where, you know, tricky to come by in terms of full time work. So I did a lot of part time work, which has its challenges, but also has its opportunities as well, because it allows you to try different positions, try different types of jobs, and really get a more well rounded perspective on the different types of journalism that is available on air or off air. I remember it feeling like a lot, but also being really proud when I was able to get my degree and also kind of work at the same time. Yeah.

Emma Jean

So in the years since now that you've been working at the CBC for for all these years, what have been, what have been your favorite projects and stories that you've worked on that you're you're the proudest of?

Jason D'Souza

A few things that come to mind. I think the one that always feels like the standout project that I'm so proud to have been a part of and to have put together was back in 2019. We did a series called Matheson. And this was all born out of the mind, actually of the host of the morning show. The Early Edition, Stephen Quinn, who I remember we were chatting after a morning meeting where he mentioned, you know, I've got these teenagers in my house, and they just don't talk to me about what life is like in school. And I just I always want to know, it's such a big part of their life, of course, and I think every parent feels this way that we've got these teenagers and we just don't know, the questions they have the issues they're facing, because they won't you don't necessarily talk to their parents about that. And it's a it's a tale is oldest time. And Steven was like, you know, I think we have an opportunity to maybe put together a series like this, except I need someone who is on the younger side of journalism, and that kids might trust. And then I was nodding along think again, this is great. You know, I think it's super valuable to get young people's perspective on life. And then as he kept describing the type of journalist he wanted to be in this role, I realized he was about to say, "I want you to do the project." And I was like, no way. There's nothing more terrifying than interviewing really cool like high school students and feeling like you're an old person trying to like at, you know that "hello, fellow kids" meme?

Emma Jean:

Yes. [laughter]

CLIP: 30 Rock

Steve Buscemi:

How do you do fellow kids?

Teenager:
What?

Jason D'Souza:
That's gonna be me! It wasn't just as simple as going to a hi2

you familiarize yourself with reporting in communities that perhaps you haven't lived in before that are new to you?

Jason D'Souza

So I went to Ontario, in 2020, in the middle of the pandemic, to take on a program called fresh air, which is the weekend morning show. And your question was the exact same question I was asking myself, which was, I feel like an outsider, you know, this is such a incredible show. It's existed for so long, it's a legacy program for not only CBC but airwaves across Ontario, people love their weekend morning show. And I felt intimidated by the idea of never really living in Ontario before. It was also a challenge that was really exciting to me. I think when you ask, how do you how do you prepare for that? And how do you work on being someone who can be behind the microphone talking to all these different communities, you really have to put the work in. So I decided when when when I got the job, that my partner and I instead of flying out to Toronto, which were which is where it was based, we were going to road trip from Vancouver to Toronto, not only because it would be a good excuse to drive across the country and see the country, but specifically because it forced me to be in all of these communities from Kenora. East, you got to drive through it, I got to talk to people in those communities, I got to spend time, because you know, as you probably know, Ontario is a massive province, it is mind boggling to think that road trip, you get to the official border, and you only are really halfway there because driving around Lake Superior is such a process. But it was great in and allowed me to have exactly that experience on the ground, I could be in those communities that I know I would be talking to and talking about. So you have the firsthand experience. So that's one element, I think you really have to put the work in as a broadcaster, as a journalist, we're taking on the responsibility of hosting a program that was this big and talked about really important topics to people in Ontario. I think the other aspect of it too, is turning something like my lack of Ontario history into almost a strength for the program. And we talked about that a lot like join me on this ride. As I moved to this new province, and how it would be at the base of it asking questions and and you look at a city like Toronto, or Kitchener or Ottawa, or Thunder Bay, quite frankly, you could go anywhere across Ontario. And in recent years, it's so transient, you have people coming who are newcomers from around the world, but also different places in the country who are now calling different cities in Ontario home and lean into that, I'm one of those people, you know, so it was an element of, of not feeling like I needed to be a voice for Ontario or anything like that. But asking questions

into the sort of dominant sort of form that it is today. And I think CBC is an interesting position
being a public broadcaster compared to organizations like Bell that are seeing a real uncertain
future. So I wondered what you see as being the future of Canadian news media in the next 10
years, both CBC as a public broadcaster, and just broadly. What do you see as that future
being?

Jason D'Souza

Yeah, it's such a great question. I mean, I don't even know like, even if you look back 10
years, and I look back,

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always hear about layoffs and funding changing, and it sort of seemed less

yourself if you could go back in time about to start that internship, or to me about to start the internship, or to any future internsa