

# Caryl Eve Dolinko

Royal Roads University - RRU 332385

GBLD501 - Assignment #1

# My History

My name is Caryl Eve Dolinko.

I was born in Edmonton, Alberta, and I'm a 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Canadian, born into a Jewish family that emigrated from Eastern Europe in the early 1900's.

My grandparents were all founders of the Jewish community in both Edmonton and Vancouver. My grandfathers were leaders in the religious and business community, and entrepreneurs who started successful family businesses.

My grandmothers ran organizations for underprivileged families, women's issues and the Hebrew school. They were presidents of the local chapters, and called up to speak, represent and lead the newly founded organizations.

My grandparents all held prominent positions and were unknown mentors to me, living examples of leadership. Without knowing it, I would strive to replicate and honour their legacy by achieving this in my life.



My Grandfather's family



Great grandparents



Great grandparents



Celia and Sam Dolinko



Allan and Annette Gold



My Grandmother's family

# My Family History

My mother and father raised me with a strong moral compass, respect, love and an open mind. I grew up in a solid middle class family in the 70's, with guidance, rules and responsibilities, creating a framework for growth and maturity.

My parents each had one sister, and I am very close with my extended family. This created a commitment to those around me and a high level of emotional intelligence and stability.

I have an older sister, Jamie, and a younger brother, Steven, who passed away at 39. I was always learning from older sister Jamie, and teaching alternate ways of being to my brother. I have always taken an experience, turned it into a lesson and mindfully, changed the outcome.

I am the second daughter, of a second daughter, of a second daughter, of a second daughter...



My Family



Cousins



Cousins

# My Childhood and Youth

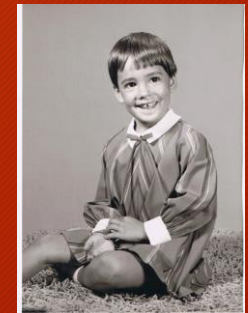
From my 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday, my Parents knew I wouldn't follow the crowd - I spent my party playing in the charcoal, in my special dress (pictured with charcoal...) while everybody else was upstairs!

At a very young age, I displayed an inquisitive nature and was curious about everything. I was always courageous and would venture off on my little tricycle to explore, returning home with tales of exotic discovery around the neighbourhood.

I always enjoyed extracurricular activities and team or group events, and was usually instrumental in organizing the kids, rules and games. Everybody would be included. I was the who would stand up against older, or mean kids and speak up for those who couldn't. I knew right from wrong, and had integrity at a young age.



Caryl as a kid



# Young Adulthood

I was very athletic and a tomboy from an early age, from climbing trees to playing competitive sports against boys, I did not follow the traditional gender roles. I was allowed to play baseball, hockey and compete in track and field. I was supported in all my endeavors and encouraged to succeed.

I attended a 'British' boarding school and there, I was taught to become results-oriented though tenacity and commitment to the task, noted by Mendenhall (2002) as a competency of leadership.

Brentwood College had high academic standards and they rigorously tested my scholastic abilities and pushed me to try harder and achieve more, so I did. This changed my life.



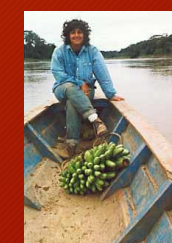
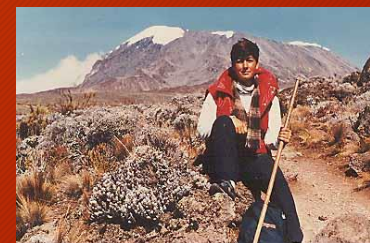
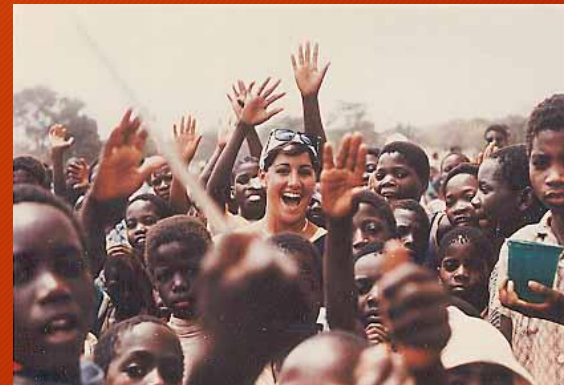
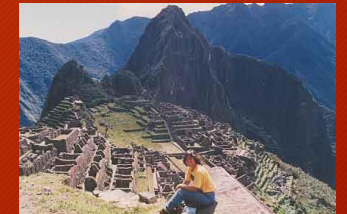
# World Travel

After graduation, I set off on what was supposed to be a 4 month trip, but was gone for almost 8 years. During that time I travelled a lot, and experienced life in almost 50 countries, now, I've been to 78. I was a rarity, a woman travelling independently around the world.

I was invited into homes of the poorest, and palaces of the rich! I slept in mud huts and five star hotels, travelled with locals on buses and trains, and took tours with the elite. I learned languages fast and talked to anyone and everybody. This ability to connect is a common trait mentioned in the Global Explorer Model, Black et al. (1999a).

I developed a global mindset and was able to scan the environment, manage uncertainty, and improvise in multiple situations, all while developing cross-cultural skills and refining the ability to connect and recognize common patterns across cultures and countries.

My years travelling prepared me to become a global leader, as defined by Mendenhall and Osland (2002).

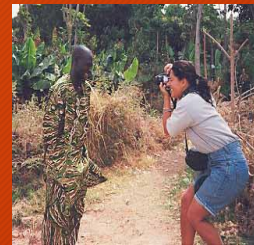


# Work Abroad and Returning Home...

In my early 20's, the owner of an advertising agency gave me a chance, mentored me in business and taught me about sales, marketing and messaging. With those skills, I was able to continue to travel, and when needed, get great, well-paying work. I carried those capabilities in my back pocket while travelling.

With each employment experience, I learned different organizational processes and systems, cross-cultural communication skills and developed global business savvy.

When I returned to Canada, there was tremendous demand for the travel knowledge I had accumulated. I was asked to teach and so I presented workshops and seminars, and learned the nuances of public speaking. I compiled my experiences into course material, and soon, my one page handout became a 25 pages booklet. My one class turned into eight years of inspiring and empowering others to take to the road with know-how and knowledge, Mendenahall and Osland (2002).



## TRAVEL: THE SAFE WAY

Course No. 90395

When in India never accept oranges on the train. Wonder why? Caryl Dolinko, co-author of the Canadian Bestseller [The Globetrotter's Guide](#), offers her advice from first hand experience. **ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR WORLD TRAVEL**

Course No. 90395

for whatever reason. When in India never accept oranges on the train. Wonder why? If you're travelling anywhere in the world this is the class for you. Planning a trip and knowing all that there is to know can be a little overwhelming. From preparation and packing to getting around town and finding your way safely, best selling author, Caryl Dolinko is waiting to share her first hand experience about traveling the safe way around our world. She is full of tips and advice and is waiting to share many of the secrets that will keep you safe. Get the most out of your trip for whatever destination you've packed in your bag!

## TRAVEL FOR THE FIRST TIME

Course No. 90395

If you're travelling for the first time then this is the class for you. Planning a trip and knowing all that there is to know can be a little overwhelming. Best selling author, Caryl Dolinko started traveling the world independently twenty years ago and has traveled to over 60 countries. She is waiting to share her tips and knowledge to help you make the path that you want to take.

Course No. 90395

of you who are finally planning a trip in the near future? Nobody to go with? Don't let that stop you. This class prepares you and offers you a realistic view of what to expect as a woman on the road. Caryl Dolinko is an independent traveler and has been to 65 countries worldwide. She is the author of the upcoming [Globetrotter's Guide for Women](#) and offers her first hand experience about traveling the safe way around our world. She is full of tips and advice and is waiting to share many of the secrets that will keep you safe. Get the most out of your trip for whatever destination you've packed in your bag!

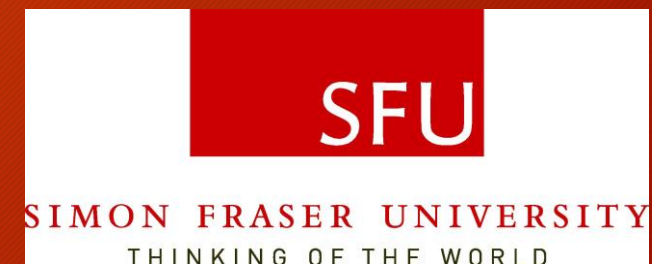


# Education

I wanted to make a difference with my travel experiences, change the world. I knew I needed academic accreditation and an education, so I enrolled at Langara Community College in the Peace and Conflict Studies diploma program.

After completion, the plan was to transfer to SFU to complete an Anthropology and Sociology bachelor's degree, and then go on to a master's degree in International Relations. My education was the start of a long term goal to achieve something great and contribute to changing our world.

My father became ill before I had a chance to complete my bachelor's degree. So, I quit university in my third year, moved back to Edmonton, looked after my father, and managed the family business my grandparents started all those years ago.



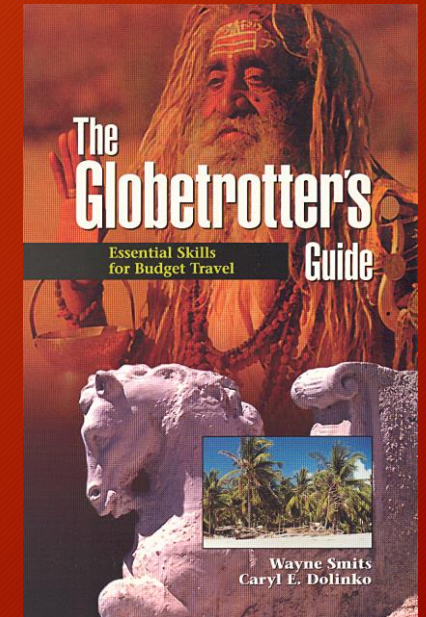
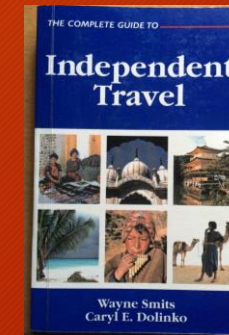
# Globetrotter's Guide

When I moved back to Edmonton, I connected with an old friend. With our combined travel experiences and my travel class handouts, we wrote and self published *The Complete Guide to Independent Travel*.

In 1998, we were signed, and our book was rewritten and published as *The Globetrotter's Guide ~ Essential Skills for Budget Travel*. I coordinated the sales, marketing, media and publicity and the North American tour and the book soon became a Canadian best seller!

I spoke at book signings and literary events, and soon became a keynote speaker at conferences and conventions. I appeared on television in most major cities on the West and East coasts and I was interviewed on radio programs and for articles in magazines and newspapers. I became a a celebrity in the travel world!

I knew how to deliver a message, or a sales 'pitch', so I was clear, concise and entertaining. I learned about media and PR and how to deliver a good 'sound bite'.



"enjoyed both the text and the illustrations"  
TRANSITIONS ABROAD - Dr. Clay Hubbs (editor)

"Very impressively written and put together."  
ROUGH GUIDE - Martin Dunford (managing editor)

"Voluminous and compendious."  
LONELY PLANET - Greg Alford (senior editor)

Available at [Amazon](#)

# Smart Cookie Consulting

As personal computers became ubiquitous and software available for publishing, graphics and web design, I immersed myself in learning these requisites for the work I was performing.

I took an course in desktop publishing followed by a professional consulting program, and in 2001, founded Smart Cookie Consulting. For the past fifteen years I have been contracted for my communications expertise. I continue to focus on sales and marketing, media and PR, social media and strategic communications.

Through traveling, I acquired interpersonal skills and learned how to read people and situations. I used this to connect with decision makers, and cultivate and steward business relationships as required of leaders according to Mendenhall and Osland (2002).



[www.smartcookie.ca](http://www.smartcookie.ca)

*Big enough to serve you, small enough to know you*

# Community Life

When I returned to Vancouver from traveling, I was newly 'out'. The LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) movement was still 'in the closet' until the late '80s but I found community in a small lesbian softball league. I joined a team and was soon elected to the executive. I had a vision to grow the league and used my professional skills to create a strategy, build partnerships and grow our presence and network of players.

My time on the board coincided with the changing face of the LGBT movement around North America so timing was everything. I became a vocal, visible and respected community member, and a change agent in a political movement, fighting for acceptance and equality.

My professional acumen met the needs of an expanding LGBT community. I volunteered my time with organizations and grew my reputation and business. I am now regarded as a premier LGBT communications consultant.



# Vancouver Pride

I started work with the Vancouver Pride Society (VPS) after my years of softball. I developed effective marketing and advertising campaigns and created the communications strategy, which led to the exponential growth of the parade and festivals over 300%.

With a long term vision, (unconscious) mapping, and a diverse and effective top management team, the VPS brand grew in visibility and significance, Mendenhall and Osland (2013). Relationships with corporate sponsors and community partners blossomed and I learned new solutions, and adapted to challenging situations with flexibility. Pride became a globally recognized LGBT event.

My hard work building an internationally recognized brand was a significant factor in the City of Vancouver's decision in granting the parade and festival the prestigious designation of a civic event!



# InterPride

I became intensely immersed in InterPride (the International Association for LGBTI Pride Organizations) when Vancouver Pride gained recognition in the global movement.

I attended local, national and international Pride conferences and then organized and hosted the InterPride AGM in Vancouver. I was elected to the board of directors as Vice-President of Operations and soon after became Communications Director and then, Co-President of the organization. I was able to engage my travel experiences, professional skills, and business acumen to benefit InterPride.

My commitment to global LGBT rights and equality was fueled by my experience as a fearless and independent traveler. With an understanding of cultural nuances and global viewpoints, I thrived working with a global organization in a leadership capacity, and being on the right side of history, changing the world. This is where I was meant to be...



# WorldPride and Olympics

During my tenure as Co-President, I represented the international organization and was the spokesperson at WorldPride in London, Madrid and Toronto; and Whistler, for Pride House at the Winter Olympics.

A transnational CSR approach with a hybrid strategy was necessary to balance the requirements of the global organization and meet the needs of the local hosts, requiring a complex CSR integration (Husted and Allen (2006)).

I was a transformational leader and exemplified the competencies for the role of Co-President, by envisioning, empowering and energizing the organization to make fundamental change and global transformation, Tichy and DeVanna (1986).



# RRU and The MAGL Program

To achieve the success I desire and to work in an international capacity, I need an academic education to enhance my professional acumen and travel experiences. With the Royal Roads University MAIS program, I am able to create the program I want, and focus on Professional Communications, Intercultural and International Communications program and Global Leadership. Integrating and amalgamating my skills is the purpose of this graduate degree.

I want an advanced education to prepare for what is ahead, and the global leadership course is the absolute, perfect fit. It marries my professional expertise, my vast travel experience and my global community mindset. Royal Roads University and the Global Leadership program is the key to open the door to the next step in my growth.



# References

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