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Writers Bio: Richard Dowson

Richard Dowson, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

My Grandmother, Clara Parker lived at Berriedale for many years. I loved visiting her and walking north on the old Berriedale Road and up the hill to the Cemetery. I swam in the Magnetawan behind Mister Saunder's place; at Pink's Rapids and at Stony Lake. I even had an 'encounter' with Pete the Bear in Burks Falls.

I was born in Toronto. School was a dreadful experience. I'm dyslexic and could not read, so, convinced I was stupid I became the Class Clown. As a result, I was expelled from the Ontario School System at age fifteen. I left home, went north to Sudbury; worked at a lodge on the French River and then lived with my grandmother in Berriedale for a while.

At age seventeen I moved to Alberta with a buddy and worked as a cowboy.

One thing led to another and with the encouragement of others I attended high school in Alberta. I loved high school, had wonderful teachers and taught myself how to read.

I later completed a Bachelor and Masters degree in Education at the University of Alberta. For the last 20 years of my career in education I was a Secondary School Principal in Alberta.

I'm still dyslexic. It's genetic. I studied my family history and in 1986 visited Dunchurch, Ontario and identified the genetic roots of my dyslexia. I later published a Paper on dyslexia. You can find it on the Internet.

I began writing in high school. I have written jokes, comedy, newspaper columns, military stories and fun stuff. I did a Literature Review on the Cause of Multiple Sclerosis, love medical history and am curious about almost everything.