

MEET BRENDA KOVRIG

This feature is usually reserved for CI or IS members. But we noticed Brenda at the AGM held last September, and remember seeing her at another AGM a couple of years ago. After we heard that she was back at CIHQ last month gathering material for a documentary, we thought members would like to learn more about this intelligent, interesting Canadian!



The documentary I'm working on is called Forever. It's a creative film about Life Extension for Canadian television (and hopefully American television eventually). I became interested in the Life Extension movement about 3 years ago, and came about it in a very uncommon way. I was adopted, and met my biological mother in 2001. I made a documentary about my experience - called Relativity - in 2004. Since the meeting and the film, I became very interested in identity, genetics, birth and ultimately, death - basically, the existential questions of life. It was during that period of inquiry that I discovered the life extension movement - including cryonics.

Actually, I guess I re-discovered it. I remember as a young girl contemplating my own mortality and couldn't really wrap my head around it. Around that time, I remember hearing about cryonics and thought it was interesting, but forgot about it...until recently.

So about 3 years ago I hooked up with the Toronto Cryonics meet-up group, joined the Cryonics Society of Canada, and eventually met Ben. Through him, I met Mr. Ettinger who I was very impressed with. He struck me as a kind of reluctant philosopher. I say reluctant, because he's a pretty laid back guy, and mainly an engineer or mathematician in terms of his personality, but because of cryonics, he's had to discuss some pretty heavy philosophical questions over the years and has a very unique and refreshing perspective on life and death.

I knew immediately he'd make a great interview, and I was right. He was fabulous.

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