

Invitation to Canada

by Sally Robertson and Bill Robertson

Book Description

This is a story of resiliency and adaptability. It is about a medical doctor who found himself working on three continents within one decade, a situation which necessitated redesigning his career to meet shifting circumstances. After a medical missionary career in India, Bill Robertson would have a second, very different, career in Canada, both careers occurring at times of immense change.

With his eight year medical missionary career behind him, Bill returned to the United Kingdom in the 1960s to face the daunting task of restructuring his career within a tightly restricted medical environment. When a government decision affected a clinical option, he shifted to a National Health System medical administrative position with responsibilities for half a million people. This move would, in time, lead to an invitation to Canada. In Canada he first held a faculty position at a leading medical school, and later, two senior executive positions, provincially and federally, in the newly emerging Canadian Medicare system. For a brief spell, he left the federal government to work as a private consultant in planning a thousand bed health science complex in the eastern part of Canada. Prior to retirement, he returned to the federal government as the Chief Medical Officer of Veterans Affairs Canada.

In retirement, Bill had time to focus on his love of spirituality, gardening, teaching, writing and editing. This story should appeal to those interested in a medical career which spanned different geographical and health industry dimensions, the evolutionary demands of a publically funded health system, and the flexibility required in a health industry career in the latter part of the twentieth century.

About the Authors

Sally Robertson, born in Prince Edward Island, obtained her Bachelor and Master's degrees in Canada, and her PhD from Curtin University of Technology in Australia. She is a Usui Reiki Master and Karuna Reiki Master, author of *The Pebble*, co-author of *Mission to India* and lives on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

Bill Robertson, born in Scotland, received his medical degree from Glasgow University and went to India as a Church of Scotland medical missionary. Returning to Scotland he received his Social Medicine diploma from Edinburgh University, worked for the National Health Service and emigrated to Canada. He is a Usui Reiki Master and Karuna Reiki Master, and co-author of *Mission to India* and lives on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.



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