

July 28, 2015.

Dear Rino and Bob,

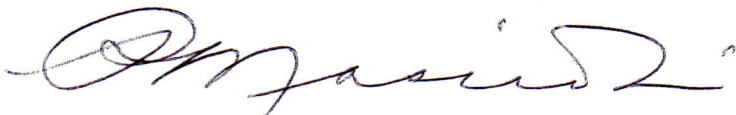
You asked me what your documentary "Piazza Petawawa" meant to me and my family. I thought the answer would be simple and concise, but it isn't. Your documentary stirred up a lot of feelings which were at times confusing. Having said that, I wrote down all the feelings and thoughts that came to mind when I thought about your documentary.

I won't list these in any order of importance - merely as I recall them. I felt sad that so many people had to deal with the humiliation, fear and anxiety they must have felt as they were taken away like criminals. I felt sad for their families left behind with so many questions and so few answers. I felt compassion for these men and their families, for the courage they had to summon to carry on during such an uncertain and insecure time. That led to a feeling of tremendous respect for them.

I felt angry that so many injustices were carried out on the innocent. I am still angry that so many lost their businesses and properties - that they were confiscated by the government and sold off for peanuts. Even though everyone was found innocent, no one was compensated for their losses. They had to start all over again.

Your touching documentary brings these injustices to light and is finally exposing a part of Canadian history that was ignored and never included in our history books. Your documentary tells a compelling story about how so many lives were affected and wounded. But it also tells a story about how these people carried on as loyal and hard working citizens and refused to be broken.

With sincere thanks for all that you've done.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paula Mascioli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "M".

Paula Mascioli and family