

Censored¹

Michelle Lam
 Brandon University
lamm@brandonu.ca

Speaker: This place is the ideal place, when you
 come here you realize
 you start to explore and you realize that
 I can go I can get better opportunities
 you know. This is utopia.
 everything will be okay.

Researcher: If you were the mayor, what kinds of things would you do?

Speaker: You have very educated people coming here

very qualified skilled people

people want to come here and
 feel included. Inclusion is a big thing.

Researcher: Do you think there's a critical mass of your own
 people that would make you feel comfortable here?

Speaker: Yes absolutely.

it's quite easy to, kind of, feel a sense of belonging

there are businesses and events and a life.
 Here I've
 known people who just dove right in, you know
 they really postured
 themselves to be as Canadian as possible.

Researcher: That's an interesting phrase

Speaker: I would say, I love what I do here,
 There are things that
 People want to see

People are like, Oh I just love ethnic food
 it's so great!

I've had to learn to
 adapt I'm good at
 it now. it's comfortable. It's
 comfortable for me.

Endnote:

¹ In this contribution, there are two related poems in which an imaginary dialogue takes place between the Speaker and the Researcher. The first poem: "Censored" erases much of the text to present a dominant, status quo perspective.