

honestly thought that I was going to be scared to death from the height, but after I got past the glass elevator (YIKES!), it was beautiful. The sun was just going down and the lights of the city were all aglow. A local carnival was off in the distance and you could see the lights of a ferris wheel. The view from the CN Tower can't be described as anything less than breathtaking. Next up that day was Planet Hollywood, and that too was something to see. We even had to do a live interview there for the media with cameras flashing everywhere we looked. I seriously hope I didn't have food in my teeth!

We also went to Niagara Falls and went on the Maid of the Mist. It's a boat, which takes you beside the falls, up close and personal. It was well... wet! We went on an aerial cable car above part of the falls. Never in my life have I ever seen water as aqua and perfect in my life.

Besides all the touring we did, there of coarse competition. We were judged the entire week, not just that one pageant night. We wrote a scholastic test, we participated in a fitness test, (can you believe I did 38 pushups?!) and also a talent category. We had a one on one interview with each judge for 10 minutes, which had the most overall weight for marks. For talent, I did a monologue of Romeo and Juliet just in front of the judges and a camera, as it was not for public viewing. Next after waiting for close to a year the night of the pageant arrived.

We were given gowns and dresses. We even got our hair and makeup done professionally. There were three dance numbers for us to do, and they gave us workout outfits for them. By this point the competition was at an all time high and some girls were taking things a bit too personally. Yet, for the most part everyone was just excited and somewhat nervous. I admit I had some difficulty with the dance numbers, as I am not a "dancer". I somehow managed to get through them. Let's just say that at the humor awards I received "the Least Sense of Direction" award despite my efforts, or rather because of them.

Pageant evening was nothing less than intense and amazing in one. All 16 of us we called to the stage and were told that it was time to announce the top eight delegates. This was it, and my heart was in throat. The names of the girls were called one by one, and some very happy girls stepped forward. Unfortunately my name was not called. I do admit that yes, I was a bit upset. As all of us left the stage, some were very happy and others were sad. But the feelings of sadness faded fast as the curiosity for which one of us was going to win grew. After a long emotional rollercoaster or a night it was time for the winner to be announced. The winner of Miss Teen Canada was Lorraine Savoie, a fellow New Brunswicker infact! Everyone completely smothered Lorraine as she broke into tears of joy. It was a feeling of relief and release combined together with pure joy.

Traveling back to the hotel was strangely quite. Everyone knew that our week as best friends was almost at an end. That night we talked and cried along with the exchanging of addresses and e-mails from all around Canada.

The next morning was one of tears, as we all left for our homes and said our good-byes. We promised to keep in touch, and we have to this day. Overall, my week was something that will be impossible to forget. There were sights I saw there, that I had only dreamed of. Being treated as if we were Royal, even having bodyguards was hugely different from what I was used to. We went to 4 and 5 star restaurants in Toronto, which was not at all like the usual McDonald's meals I eat. We even had had hair and makeup sessions, along with a modeling session, both from which we learned a lot. Everything in general was such a huge change from my life here in the town of St. Stephen. Always being in the eye of the media with the cameras in your face and the flashes causing you to wince was something I was unable to prepare for. Believe it or not, we had people asking us for autographs and pictures with their kids. It was a change yes, but I loved it!

Even though I did not wear a crown home I most definitely didn't come home empty-handed. Here is a list of some items I was given:

2 Dresses, one cocktail, one gown

2 pairs of shoes