On Saturday morning, John was watching his first snowfall through the window. Deng, his roommate, walked into the apartment. Deng shivered. “It’s freezing! Let’s check the weather on TV to see what the temperature is.”

“The meteorologist says it’s minus 17, but it feels like minus 25 with the windchill. I hope you have some winter clothes,” said Deng. Deng remembered his first winter in Canada. It was terrible because he didn’t have appropriate clothes for the climate. He got severe frostbite and had to go to the hospital. He didn’t want John to experience frostbite. John asked Deng to help him shop for winter clothes. “Get your jacket on,” Deng said. “We’re going shopping.”

John and Deng took the bus to a thrift store. Deng knew he could buy good quality, clean, inexpensive clothing at thrift stores. They looked through a big pile of mittens, gloves, toques and scarves. “Mittens keep your hands warmer than gloves,” Deng told John. John found thick wool mittens and a toque. Then they came across a pair of boots in perfect condition. They found a down-filled jacket with a hood for $10.00. After they paid, John put on his new winter clothes. Now John was prepared for his first Canadian winter.