

Lucy Damiani March 6, 1972

1:00 - 2:15 p.m.

1. Mrs. Eva Audette
- 2.
3. Eva Ladouceur
4. 173 Lang St.
5. 679-5754
6. 64 years old
7. South Indian, now known as Lepage, Ont.
 - a. Lepage, Ont.
9. Don't know
10. Came to North Cobalt, 9 years old and then to Cobalt one year later when I was
10. That was 1917
11. Street car
12. by way of North Cobalt
13. with mother and father two brothers one sister and myself.
14. worked as a butcher at Coutus grocery store.
15. Housekeeping
16. widow
17. Storekeeper
18. very busy little town, street cars went to North Cobalt, Haileybury. We had dirt roads and wooden sidewalks.
19. Good sized town, lots of stores and real busy. People everywhere when you walked downtown
20. Came here with my father, my mother had passed away and he came to Cobalt because friends told him there was lots of work here. We He worked at Charles Reckin wholesale for couple of years. After that he got a contract with Mr. Campbell, the coal dealer to deliver coal. He also got other deliveries on the side so he bought two teams of horses.
21. Mines, contract work for those who had teams of horses work in stores, there were livery stables that hired men and in Latchford and Montreal River there were saw mills for lumber.
22. Worked until the work was done sometimes 8 or 10 hours.
23. \$2.50 a week when I first started then later on \$5 per week.
24. When I married we lived in an apartment at Coutu's where Bilodeau's Empire Meat Market is today, then a small five room house on Earl Street. Later we bought a large two storey dwelling on Lang Street, It was 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, living room, entrance area, since then part of downstairs has been turned into confectionery with groceries and staples and non food items.
25. All the family went to a friend's camp on a sleigh and I remember we all had such a wonderful day with our friends.
26. Water in home.
27. Electricity, but still not all the appliances we have nowadays. It was really just lighting and for a radio in the home.
28. At first I cooked on a wood stove then in later years an electric stove. When you baked in a wood stove you could somehow smell it all over the house

29. To start with a large heater that burned coal then later we bought an oil heater.
30. There were clothing stores, Buckovetsky's, TBS, Ansara Koury, Vellis, Bata, hat shops grocery stores Coutu's Morin Freres, & Malouin, Smiths, Giachino, Zanin bake shops, shoemaker shops, hardware's, Bowdon, Black. You could buy anything you wanted here in those days now we have to shop out of town for so much. I can remember travelling salesladies coming to the door to sell clothes from a suitcase.
31. There were theatres, all kinds of Halls for dancing, I can remember Mrs. Halouka on Third Street used to rent her front room and we had many parties there. We also did a lot of skating and went to many house parties.
32. Skated and went sleigh riding in the summer we used to go to Peterson Lake or Sass Lake.
33. Saint Hillarion French School.
34. went to 6th grade
35. horse and buggy, street cars trains and a few cars were starting to come in
36. Dr. Schmidt
37. Cobalt Miners Hospital
- 38.
39. in Cobalt
40. Anita quit at 17, Lucille quit at 16, Gisele quit at 16
41. Anita worked at splint factory; Lucille worked at Woolworths, Gisele worked at Northern Telephone. My dad never worked in a mine but my husband did. He worked on surface but he always said how lucky he was not to be underground. The men used to all say it was hard work and not mechanized the way it is today.
42. Diamond drill contests, hand steel contests.
43. Most miners used to take a lunch pail to work with a variety of sandwiches, cheese, fruit or pie.
44. The main meal was nearly always eaten at supper time at our house.
- 45 Just wore plain clothes, skirt and blouse.
46. On Sundays if we had a nice dress we wore it to Church and as soon as we got home had to take it off to go out and play.
47. First we always went to Church-then later on we would go skating on the slimes, the boys always ma a rink and in summer we played ball or games or went to Peterson Lake swimming
- 48.I have no special treasure just some photos which I like to keep.
49. Cobalt now and before has always been a friendly town.
50. Because it's a good feeling to live in a town where everyone talks to everyone. Also as a widow my neighbours and friends I have around me I can call anytime I need help and I know they will come.
51. The park downtown, the renovation of the old buildings on Lang St., our new subdivision with its nice new homes.
52. I like all the changes that have been made.
53. Yes the lack of stores.
54. Because I feel with a bigger shopping area we could keep people buying in their own town. Quite often strangers come in that are visiting and inquire about drill store and I have to tell them we don't have one.
55. Yes

56. I think we should encourage companies or new businesses for the town. I would like to see another doctor, a dentist and maybe a small clinic where people could go for a general check-up. All these things would help to create more jobs.

57. Summer – winters are too long.

58. Watch tv, play cards, belong to WI, go to bingos, like to read

59. Knit and crochet

60. If we could have enough work for people here and keep our young people here too – for this we need industry for employment and perhaps a collegiate or trade school where the young people could further their studies.

61. We could use more tourist dollars – the summer season is short but couldn't we have winter holidays – there is a ski place in operation. We have ice skating, some wonderful ski-doo trails, ice fishing and so it could almost be a year round business.

62. We have lakes for fishing, trailer park, good beaches for swimming, many historical sites to visit, you can pick berries and all these things are close by.

Highlights:

My home is in Cobalt and my family and friends are also here. I wouldn't go anywhere else. But I do think I would be nice for everyone if we had a larger shopping area. We also need children's clothing, shoe store, a drug store and information centre for tourists. We should make a big thing of these mine tours. I'm sure they would be interesting. There is a need for all this as we have a good outlying district to count on Temagami area, Latchford, Gillies, Kerr Lake, Mileage 104, and other small districts. I would like to see my dream come true, a busier Cobalt.