

Name of Interviewer: Lucy Damiani Date of Interview: March 28

Time 1 1/2 hrs.

1. Raymond Sutherland

2. Dupuis wife

3. 4 Earl St.

4. 679-8171

5. construction worker

6. I was born in Cobalt my wife was born in Haileybury

7. My Mother was born in England My Father was born in Renfrew

8. Married and have 7 children

9. 60 yrs.

10. The town of Cobalt is alright, the only drawback is the unemployment and I think something should be done about it before it becomes another ghost town.

I don't like the regional educational system it seems foolish to have schools and facilities right in town and still transport children and students to out of town schools. I think it's also harder to keep track of your children when they go to school out of town, you don't know if they're going to school or they are not and it's a long day they have to start out much earlier and coming home much later. They are talking about a losing Grade 13 at the local High School and there are the Temagami and Latchford students going to New Liskeard when they could be coming to Cobalt.

Our economic situation would probably be better if the companies and individuals who made all their money in Cobalt, they would start industries or put some money back into our economy. It has long been mentioned that Cobalt built Bay Street in Toronto.

Another instance here a labourer cannot get work at a lot of places unless he knows someone who knows someone else. Sherman Mines is one offender. I have applied there for work, none, time and time again and always the same answer. We have nothing. And their medical examination is so strict they couldn't pass it for underground.

Some of the local mines did not know until they had closed up that the government is offering a grant for exploration work which is very helpful, this has kept the Agnico operating, a secondary industry if we could encourage capital to come in would relieve some of the unemployment.

I hear is no encouragement for a small business to be located here. But, I doubt they would be able to survive until our economy is boosted if people are not working they cannot spend money.

We have no job opportunities without industry the stores or offices cannot hire if they are not busy. As for training, schools the manpower courses require you have two yrs. in the work force to qualify and we do not have a training school locally so again we are missing the advantages of larger centres, which means our young people are taking off and going elsewhere

I really think organized sport is a good idea and should be encouraged we have all the facilities here in our community hall, a large arena, and school is also a must in a town, with young people and adults both. The youth do need organized sports and recreation to keep them occupied.

Yes, I would like to see a baseball park and an outdoor swimming pool maybe in conjunction with one of the service clubs, do we have to go to Bass Lake for swimming and baseball? If we don't have transportation it is very difficult.

I would like to make a comment on Unemployment Insurance Benefits.....the Act has just recently been amended but it leaves many unfavourable conditions.

11. There is a long 3 week waiting period. which is very hard on a family man

12. It lasts only 18 weeks in some instances and if you are off due to weather conditions your benefits are smaller.

13. I am only receiving \$90 weekly with 7 children. I have had to apply for welfare as well.

14. More often than not it is a lot of trouble, a lot of correspondence, and quite a mixed up arrangement, can we have this settled or made more comprehensible for the work force, Price of silver is low there is no work in the mines so I've had to apply for welfare to keep going. There aren't too many prospects at present in the contract work. Perhaps the price of silver went up to about \$3 an ounce and then put a ceiling on it, might be one solution for the economy.

The town is doing a good job of municipal government the taxes are fair, the snow removal has been very good, and they have also improved the appearance of the town by building the parks renovating some of the old buildings they have encouraged new homes by a new subdivision.

My father worked in 1938 at the Preston East Dome Mine in Timmins wages were better there in comparison to today. I worked here 1 1/2 yrs then went to Missinabie Clay north of Kapuskasing 8 miles out of Smokey Falls, just a winter job then back to Cobalt for Cobalt Products they had the Beaver, Temiskaming, Agnico, old Silver Bar and Cobalt Products Properties. I worked here about 15 yrs. I also worked at the Silver Miller 2 yrs and the Langis Silver two years. then I went out to the West Coast on the Alaska Highway from there to Sarnia Construction for a year. Euchi Lake near Red Lake and Thompson Manitoba and Inco Property. Thompson was a prosperous community with its own smelter at the mine, I was only there for three months had been led to believe the money was much better. Then it was Temagami Mining properties. I began working on the Power Notch Dam Project which lasted till September 1971. Worked on a pipeline till December and and now unemployed.

When I first married we were living in West Cobalt paying rent then in 1952 I bought the house I am now live in, Its a duplex and upstairs 6 rooms, and three large rooms downstairs

For entertainment I am very fond of sports especially bowling, I have won a trophy, I also like softball, swimming, watch T.V. follow hockey series very closely and I like to fish and hunt.

When I was young, we played ball in the park at West Cobalt all summer and we used to swim at Pretty Lake, corn roasts at Loon Lake. In the winter sleigh riding and skiing we could get a sleigh from Mr. Bigelow anytime and the gang would go down to Cooks and Gillies Coles at Gilles or stay at Bigelow's in West Cobalt and the schoolhouse at Firstbrook for dances, had some really good times,

They used to hold big Rodeo's at the West Cobalt park, there was a big grandstand and we had a dance hall, the entertainment was all imported from out of town. Mr. Brewer had the job to put the grounds in and in 1930 they built them.

There were in the early days stories from one end of Toronto, to the other. Buck's T.B.S., Simards , McKays Tailor Shop, Canadian Horne Furnishings, Sherrys Mens Wear, Ough's Butcher SL27, Fauteaus Butcher Shop,

'We have also had a pet shop 3 banks, 3 theatres, Cuckoo Clock Shop. Woolworths, 3 drug stores. I can remember Charboneaus Jewelry, Minerva, Boston and Chinese restaurants, Taylor Hardware, Northern Canada Supply Damiani's Grocery, Royal Trust Co. was in the Fraser Building, we used to have 2 dentists, 2 doctors a lawyer three banks and many other business establishments.

My big hope is for the price of silver to go up. I like Cobalt the people the atmosphere and of course my home family and friends are here. So I would not like to move away ,the old saying goes, you're the best old town I know