

**Hap Boyer, Rose Richardson, Sherry Farrell-Racette**

**Video 2**

**Start 10:02.35.05 Sherry Farrell-Racette** - You're saying your, your grandma was a fiddle player?

**51.5 Rose Richardson** - My grandma was a fiddle player ah, you knew George Delaronde eh? [Hap Boyer says, "Ya, knew him well."] Ya, tall and curly. [Hap Boyer says, "You ever see his handwriting? Oh that man had nice handwriting."] Ya.

**51.7 Hap Boyer** - And I went to the Meadow Lake Stampede, I stayed with him, I was, I must have been about, oh, sixteen years old. I went to the Meadow Lake Stampede and I went and stayed at his house.

**52.1 Rose Richardson** - And like he was a good fiddle player. My grandma played the fiddle, but when she played the fiddle she'd dance at the same time and, it was really neat. She'd dance with us at the same time. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Play and dance?"] Ya.

**52.5 Sherry Farrell-Racette** - I always get a kick out of watching people's feet, [makes sound], you know, when you're at Batoche, even if you look at the judges, all their feet are going. The fiddle players, lot of times their feet are going too. Oh ya, were there any ah, like, what, did people always use this for like the, the, like for their bows and all that? Was that ever anything like, kind of handmade or what they did with, to fix their fiddles?

**53.0 Hap Boyer** - ??? we used to use, we used to make, out of, out of horse tail. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Horse tail?"] Ya. You'd ah, get a, cut some tail off a horse and then put it on. It's quite a hard job to do. Now some people using nylon now but I, I don't use nylon, this is real horse hair. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "That's horse hair?"] Ya.

**53.5 Rose Richardson** - I remember them using horse hair, you know, pulling it together.

**53.6 Hap Boyer** - That's horse hair, you never touch the hair, on account of your grease at the end of it, ah, you gotta put your fingers on here either, it just greases and it slides and this is what makes the scratch noise. [Plays fiddle]

**54.0 Rose Richardson** - My ???, my hair's probably long enough to make...

**54.1 Hap Boyer** - I, I work on the McKenzie highway, when they built the McKenzie highway from, from ah, Peace River to Hay River, so, my uncle was a cat skinner there, in Hay River, and he, he told me he says, you go to, to Edmonton he says, I put your name in there to come play, to come work.

And he says ah, I'll send you some money he says. I was about eighteen years old. I get you some money, he says, you take the, a bus and come to Edmonton and go to Bohn's [??] construction and then, he said, they got your name there, he's gonna work here. So my cousin and I went and I didn't want to go without my fiddle, only time I can't carry my fiddle there with me because of the, well that guy's gotta come in here to work, eh? So, my neighbour, he was in the air force, years ago, Second World War, and he, he says, I got a great big blue ah, bag, like this air force bag, he said, you can use it, you can have it, he says. So I put what little clothes I had in the bottom, and I put my fiddle case in, in there like this, fiddle, and I wrapped all my clothes around, right up, I was told, but a little bit, and then, now I had you back, and they, well they didn't know I had a fiddle in there. I got to, went to Edmonton, took the train to Peace River, and got on a plane there, a new route, and we flew to Hay River, and worked there in, in the construction, till freeze up, and then we came back. And ah, when we were in ah, under construction there, the cook was a fiddle player, a good fiddle player, and he played a fiddle for me there. And I played it in the, in the bunkhouse there, and oh had a lot of fun. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "I bet you were glad you brought it."] I was glad I brought it. Ya, it took the loneliness away. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Did it?"] Ya, it's good. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Makes ya feel good when you play?"] When I was in Korea we were in ?????, I had my fiddle. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Your fiddle's been around eh?"] Had my fiddle and just sat there, oh boy, and when I went to look at my fiddle it was all flat, it all came apart. All the glue... [Rose Richardson says, "Moisture."] So you know what? I ????????? and I threw it in the garbage. Eh, and I come back and I, I, and then I bought another one, but ah, that's what happened to my fiddle. It just melted away. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "In the heat."] In the heat. Ya, it just come apart. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "How many fiddles do you have now?"] Four. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Four."] Ya. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "What's the oldest one you got?"] Oh, I got a Stradivarius but... [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Oh wow."] ... it's just a copy. You could get it from a hundred to three hundred dollars, really. You have to pay nine dollars for them in ????? [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "A nine dollar fiddle?"] Ya. Ya. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "This one your favourite?"] Ya, this is a good one. This one was given to me by my friend, it's a good one.

**58.6 Sherry Farrell-Racette** - Is there any ah, I don't know where you, are there any special ways that you treat your violin, or any way that you were taught to treat your, your violin?

**58.8 Hap Boyer** - Oh I was, I just treat my violin like I treat my wife, with care. Eh? [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Do you look after it?"] Ya. Oh ya.

**59.1 Rose Richardson** - They used to say never hang a fiddle upside down in your house eh? [Hap Boyer says, "Why?"] It would bring bad luck, ya.

[Hap Boyer says, "I never heard of that."] Ya. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Not to hang it upside down."] Ya, I guess it only stands to reason that...

**59.4 Hap Boyer** - Years ago, seventy-five percent of the Métis people had a fiddle hanging on the wall whether they played it or not, you know that? Hanging on the wall. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Actually, it really is like that."] Ya, somebody comes you played. [Sherry Farrell-Racette says, "Always ready."] Ya.

**59.7 Rose Richardson** - Ya, we always had a fiddle at home and a guitar and whether we play it or not.

**End 10.09.55.15**