

Jeanne Pelletier, Clementine Longworth, Maria Campbell
Video 1

Start 5:16.35.16 Jeanne Pelletier: My grandma was a medicine woman. She was a, what do you call those people that ...

Clementine Longworth: Your mom too, was good for medicine.

Jeanne Pelletier: Must have learned it from my grandma, or, I don't know, what do you call those women that deliver babies?

Maria Campbell: A midwife.

Jeanne Pelletier: A midwife.

Clementine Longworth: ... was good eh?

Jeanne Pelletier: She was kinda ...

Clementine Longworth: Used to call, get called all over. Oh, you had to go over there. You would have to deliver a baby, baby boy.

Maria Campbell: Did she deliver lots of babies? Did she ever know how many she delivered?

Jeanne Pelletier: I don't know how many she delivered, but she delivered lots. She said over a hundred.

Clementine Longworth: She was just like a doctor.

Jeanne Pelletier: Just like, mostly all the people, like, all the Michif people that lived around there. All of them were, all the kids, my age were or and older she delivered. Yeah, yeah.

Maria Campbell: So she knew all kinds of medicines, too?

5.17.38 Jeanne Pelletier: Yeah, she did, yeah, she picked up roots. She used to make us pick up some of these. They're just like from the, the thistles, you know, they have some kind of like nice furry inside. She used to make us pick up those kind for her, too, and we used to make whistles out of the them, us. But she took the inside—I don't know what she used it for. I never did ask her, she told us it was none of our business, eh. And what else did she make us do? She made us pick up something from the river. I don't remember. And she fed us the ducks' insides—the, the guts—she roasted them, she showed us how to do that. And she showed us how to make soap, lye soap.

Maria Campbell: Do you remember how to make it?

Jeanne Pelletier: No.

Maria Campbell: Do you remember how to make it, Clementine?

Clementine Longworth: What's that?

Maria Campbell: Lye soap?

Clementine Longworth: Oh yeah **(inaudible)**..

Jeanne Pelletier: La potasse.

Clementine Longworth: Yeah, we used to make that stuff so much, by we'd get some tubs about half, and then after when you finished you cut 'em, like how big you want was good for washing.

Maria Campbell: Yeah, do you remember how they made ...

Jeanne Pelletier: With ashes. With ashes and grease.

Maria Campbell: Grease and ashes.

Jeanne Pelletier: Yeah.

Clementine Longworth: All that stuff, yeah. And grease, eh?

Jeanne Pelletier: Yeah, hard grease.

Clementine Longworth: Had to be, had to be hard grease ...

Jeanne Pelletier: ... and you boiled them and poured ashes in. It was just like a javex soap.

Maria Campbell: Yeah.

Clementine Longworth: Yeah.

Clementine Longworth: We were smart, eh? How to do things, eh?

5.19.12 Jeanne Pelletier: Everybody washed by hand. I remember washing by hand.

Clementine Longworth: Boy, I used to have scabs here, washing.

Maria Campbell: Scrubbing clothes?

Clementine Longworth: Yes, scrub, and scrub, oh boy.

Jeanne Pelletier: We used to wash right by the river, too.

Maria Campbell: Just put your tubs outside.

Clementine Longworth: But now, today, nothing.

Jeanne Pelletier: Push a button.

Clementine Longworth: Push a button.

Maria Campbell: Nobody gets scabs on their hands anymore.

Clementine Longworth: No.

End 5:19.39.29