

Victoria Daigneault

Summary

I went to school in Beauval. I have my grade three. My husband's name is Daniel Daigneault. He's from Ile a la Crosse. Maiden name was Durocher. Parents' names were William Durocher and Marie Adele Laliberte. Parents live in Beauval. Paternal grandparents were Hermaline and Paul Durocher. Hermaline's maiden name was Morin. Maternal grandparents' names were Alexander Laliberte and Marie Isabelle Iron. Grandmother was from Canoe Narrows. A bit of English and Cree. We always went camping with my mom and dad. We'd go fishing and trapping muskrats. Things like that. My dad used to hunt moose, deer. It's the same thing that people hunt today. I remember once, we went to Patuanak and we stayed there for a while. He was trapping. The little river over in Beauval, South Beaver River. My dad used to trap muskrats and things at Misakamiyak. (South of Beauval) My dad fished in the Beauval River by Beauval. Every summer, you'd have to walk a long ways before you found any berries. Blueberries. Made minisapay (jam); boil the berries and put them in jars. Pick eggs in spring, May. There was an old man in Beauval who used to pick plants (herbs) to make medicines to give to someone who was sick, like my mom. They fixed (tan the hides) so they could make moccasins. The also would make gloves, mitts. Yes, they would do beadwork on moccasins. Yes, I remember them using the diamond spades altogether. I used to do a little beadwork. I did a lot of knitting. I used to make siwash sweaters. We had fourteen altogether, but two died. One was almost two years old. He died from whooping cough and the other died in an accident. He fell from a building. He was fifteen years old. Oldest child is fifty-seven years old. Her name is Marie Adele. They had measles, whooping cough and another that I can't remember. Not all the time. Sometimes I would give them something to get well. If they were really sick, then I'd bring them to the hospital. The 1937 measles epidemic. I lost three brothers to measles. I didn't have any sisters. I was the only girl, but I had lots of brothers, about seven of them. One of them died about two years ago. His name is Stanley Durocher and he lived in La Ronge. Arthur died in 1937 and one was Joseph and Michael. (Measles epidemic) When I was a child, we ate wild meat, moose meat, fish, duck, rabbits and things like that. We didn't have anything from the store. We used to grow potatoes. Yes, we used to have a garden. Yes, but they were (boarders) convent, because we lived across the lake at Fort Black. The children had to stay as boarders. (convent) By canoe or horses in the winter or we'd walk. We walked far to go to school. They showed a picture of her dad, Paul Durocher, from Beauval, Saskatchewan.