

## Coming Full Circle

Gerald Nadeau, Transcript

“You were torn from something that had grown on you, or in you, without giving you a choice, or saying ‘Do you want to give this up, or don’t you?’ And there’s something about saying it in that fashion that makes your... that makes you a bit bitter. Because you don’t have a choice. It’s like someone imposing something on you, you know? And you think ‘Oh lord, I’m human, I live in a free country, why do I not have a choice?’ Because you were led to believe that you owned the little block of land that you lived on. And then someone comes along and says ‘Sorry, I’m taking it from you. You don’t own it, you’re only sitting here. We allowed you to stay here, and we’re taking it back.’ But no one ever told you before that this would be taken from you.

Well, I’ve just come to the conclusion not that many weeks ago, that the trade-off was worth it. So I thought to myself, I’ve often felt bad about leaving the [Ottawa] River, but for the good they’ve done, I would say it was worth it. Yep, because if we had to depend on far-away things we would be in a very difficult situation. I rethought that. I always didn’t like having to leave the river that I left, but then as I got into a tight spot where I did have need for the service of that hospital, I thought to myself ‘This is payback time. I’m getting paid back—with interest—for what I lost.’ Does that answer you?”