

MUSIC

Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity

The Coal By The Sea

Words by Gerard MacNeil
Tune: "Nine Years A Soldier"
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1. In seventeen-twenty they sailed to CB,
In search for coal that outcropped by the sea;
They settled the land 'round Morien Bay,
'Twas here coal mining started, they say.

Chorus:

Mush-a-doo doo-i-a, singing fal the doo-i-addy,
Mush-a-doo doo-i-a, singing fal the doo-i-ay!

2. The immigrants came from far and wide,
To work in the coal mines side by side;
Mates became buddies and brothers to be,
Down in the deeps of old CB.

3. When the mines shut down at Morien Bay,
They packed up and left to work in Glace Bay;
Many mines did they open in this big town,
Now, my friends, there's none to be found.

4. Coal mining spread through many a town,
As far as we know it will always be around.
Cape Breton is rich in coal, you see,
And it all began with that coal by the sea.

Recording:

[The Coal By The Sea](#), 1996. The Men of the Deeps/Joan Weeks. FT-59, Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University.