

MUSIC

Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity

Working Man

Words and music by Rita MacNeil
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Chorus:

It's a working man I am
I've been down under ground
And I swear to God if I ever see the sun
Or for any length of time
I can hold it in my mind
I never again will go down under ground.

1. At the age of sixteen years
He quarrels with his peers
To vow they'll never see another mine
In the dark recess of the mines
Where you age before your time
And the coal dust lies heavy on your lungs.

2. At the age of sixty-four
He'll greet you at the door
And gently lead you by the arm
Through the dark recess of the mines
He'll take you back in time
And tell you of the hardships that were his.

Recording:

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