

# A Guide to Researching Family History at Surrey Libraries, Cloverdale Branch

## Indigenous / Métis



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**SURREY LIBRARIES: FAMILY HISTORY**  
*Finding your roots. Telling your story.*



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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Surrey Libraries recognizes that our work takes place on the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territories of the SEMYOME (Semiahmoo), q̓í'c̓əy' (Katzie), k̓w̓ik̓w̓ə́łəm (Kwikwetlem), q̓w̓ɑ:n̓łən' (Kwantlen), q̓iq̓éyt (Qayqayt), x̓w̓m̓əθk̓w̓əy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nations and on the ancestral and traditional territory of the sc̓əwaθən məsteyəx̓w (Tsawwassen) First Nation.

We strive to develop new relationships with Indigenous Peoples based on recognition of their rights, respect, and cooperation.

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**Cover photo details:** Photo taken by Joan Peters at The Narrows, between Tenas and Lillooet Lakes heading toward Mount Currie, 1954. Bottom center is Henry Peters, then clockwise: Jeffrey Wallace, Jeffrey's mother, ? boy in hat, ? boy, Harold Peters, Margaret Ann Peters, Francis Joe (sitting up on helm), ? woman holding child, Shirley Peters, then unidentified women & children.

## Introduction

First Nations, Inuit, and Métis are collectively referred to as Indigenous People. This guide outlines the Indigenous family history research resources available through our Family History Department. It will also provide information and links to external online resources that may further assist you in your research.

This guide will focus on researching Indigenous People in BC, but will include resources for accessing information in other provinces as well.

Our Family History Department has trained staff that are willing to assist you in your research. Contact [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca) or 604.598.7328. You can also visit our website: <https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

## To know before you begin

### 1. Bias and colonial records language in historical records

When researching historical records, you will need to look for and use the historic terms “Indian’ ‘native’, ‘half-breed’; we would not use these terms today, but these were commonly used in records and documents.

### 2. Name variations and changes

There was no standardized spelling. Sometimes only one name was used as a first name or surname. When only a first name was used, children of that parent were often assigned the parent’s first name as their surname. E.g. Father = “Joseph”; children become Mary Joseph, John Joseph, etc.

### 3. Restricted access to some records

Records containing personal information may be subject to access restrictions due to privacy legislation or restrictions placed on them by the owners of the records.

## First Steps

1. Work backwards, starting with yourself. Record what you already know: Names, dates, places (even your best guess) regarding your own generation and your parents and grandparents.
2. Ask relatives and/or friends of the family for information. Record the name of the person who provided the information, the date, and location.
3. Try to focus on searching for just one ancestor, or family name, at a time.
4. Keep track of what you find including the sources of the information used to find it. Forms are available to assist with this.

## Locations of Indigenous Communities

### **Canada: First Nations Profiles Interactive Map**

<https://geo.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/cipn-fnpim/index-eng.html>

### **BC First Nations A-Z Listing**

Alphabetical listing of current First Nations includes information about the First

Nation(s) contacts and locations.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing>

#### **Alberta**

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/1925-5209>

#### **Saskatchewan**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1601920834259/1601920861675>

#### **Manitoba**

[Map Of Manitoba First Nations – Manitoba First Nations Diabetes Leadership Council \(mfndlc.ca\)](http://MapOfManitobaFirstNations-ManitobaFirstNationsDiabetesLeadershipCouncil(mfndlc.ca))

#### **Ontario**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-first-nations-maps>

#### **Quebec**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/sac-isc/Mobile/Nations/NationsAltMap-eng.html>

Also

<https://accessgenealogy.com/native/quebec-first-nations.htm>

#### **New Brunswick**

[https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/aboriginal\\_affairs/fnc.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/aboriginal_affairs/fnc.html)

#### **Prince Edward Island**

<https://mcpei.ca/community/>

#### **Nova Scotia**

<https://novascotia.ca/abor/aboriginal-people/community-info/>

#### **Newfoundland/Labrador**

<https://www.mun.ca/research/Indigenous/researchcontacts.php>

#### **Inuit Communities Map**

<https://www.itk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20050922-itk-communities-map.pdf>

## **Digital Resources**

**All digital resources listed below are FREE to use in our Family History Department.**

*Ancestry Library Edition:* An international Family History resource with the largest online Canadian family history collection, searchable by surname. Many digitized records are available for viewing, printing, and saving. Ancestry Library edition is available at all Surrey Libraries Branches .

*Family Search Affiliate Library Access.* A large, free digital resource available anywhere that is administered by the Church of Latter-Day Saints and has many digitized collections not found elsewhere. Users create their own free account that they can use from home, however, Surrey Libraries has Affiliate Library status with Family Search, allowing users at the Library to access many digital images of original documents that would otherwise be blocked to home users. Available at all Surrey Libraries branches.

*FindMyPast.* An international genealogy resource with a large collection of Canadian records, searchable by surname. Many digitized records are available for viewing, printing, and saving. Available only in the Cloverdale Branch Family History Department.

*TheGenealogist.* A key site for British research, this digital resource contains over 800 million records and includes collections not found in other databases. Its international holdings include emigration and military records for Canada, Australia, South Africa, and India, and Scottish directories from the 15th to 19th Century. Most of its records are independently transcribed – useful for addressing indexing errors in other databases. Available only in the Cloverdale Branch Family History Department.

*Points to the Past.* This is a gateway to a world-class collection of primary sources, made up of nearly 200 million pages of digitized historical content – maps, photos, newspapers, manuscripts, pamphlets, portraits, and much more. Includes a solid collection of UK historical newspapers from the 17th to 19th Centuries. Available to anyone, anywhere.

*American Ancestors.* This database includes records from eastern Canada and the northeastern parts of the US. Available only in the Cloverdale Branch Family History Department.

*PRDH and BMS2000.* These are specific to Quebec research and contain birth, marriage and death records, as well as some census and other records dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Available only in our the Cloverdale Branch Family History Department.

## Vital Records

Government-registered birth, marriage, and death records are available and are excellent sources of information for family history research. Privacy laws restrict public access to these records to a waiting period before records are publicly released, unless a relationship is proven. Public access is different for each province.

**Researchers are encouraged to consult our corresponding provincial research guide for the province of interest for more information on finding and accessing these records:** <https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

**Basic information for each province is provided in the following table.**

It is always good to look at the guidelines provided by each of these databases to get the most out of a search, as they all work a little differently.

Prov	Civil Reg. began	Births avail. after # years*	Marriages avail. after # years*	Deaths avail. after # of years*	Searchable digital resource link	Notes
BC	1872	120	75	20	<a href="https://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy">https://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy</a>	Our Department has this collection on microfilm
AB	M&D 1890 B 1850	120	75	50	<a href="https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/how-to/find-birth-marriage-and-death-records">https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/how-to/find-birth-marriage-and-death-records</a>	Includes limited database of indigenous marriages
SK	B&D 1888 M 1878	100	75	70	<a href="http://genealogy.ehealthsask.ca/vsgs_srch.aspx">http://genealogy.ehealthsask.ca/vsgs_srch.aspx</a>	
MN	1882	100	80	70	<a href="https://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php">https://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php</a>	
ON	1869	1869-1917	1803-1845 1869-1938	1869-1948	Available on Ancestry & FamilySearch.org. Marriage bonds for Upper Canada (Ontario) are searchable through LAC: <a href="https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/vital-statistics-births-marriages-deaths/marriage-bonds/Pages/search.aspx">https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/vital-statistics-births-marriages-deaths/marriage-bonds/Pages/search.aspx</a>	Our Cloverdale Branch Family History Department has microfilm index reels for Ontario births, marriages and deaths from 1869
QUE	B 1926 M 1960 Full BMD = 1994	See our provincial guide	See our provincial guide	See our provincial guide		Roman Catholic Church = only source for early death records.
NB	1888	See our provincial guide	See our provincial guide	See our provincial guide	<a href="https://archives.gnb.ca/Search/VI/SSE/NameIndex.aspx?culture=en-CA&amp;letter=A&amp;datasets=012">https://archives.gnb.ca/Search/VI/SSE/NameIndex.aspx?culture=en-CA&amp;letter=A&amp;datasets=012</a>	
NFLD	1891	1891-1899	1891-1949	1891-1922	<a href="https://www.therooms.ca/collections-research">https://www.therooms.ca/collections-research</a>	Also see FamilySearch.org
NS	B&D 1864-1877; 1908-present M 1758	1920-present	1920-present	1920-present	<a href="https://archives.novascotia.ca/vital-statistics/">https://archives.novascotia.ca/vital-statistics/</a>	Large gaps in pre-1908 records
PEI	1906	120	50	75	<a href="http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/">http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/</a>	See also FamilySearch.org

- \*(1) Fees may apply to accessing records for some provinces, even those that are open to public access;
- (2) More recent records are available but require special application and fees.
- (3) The only Birth/Marriage/Death records prior to the civil registration dates are church/parish records.

## Census Records

### GENERAL

Census returns can provide a variety of information about your family. Almost every national census has a column to indicate some aspect of racial origin: exceptions are 1851 and 1891. This can be helpful for Indigenous research, though the indications in that column are not always correct; e.g. when the head of the family was “white”, but his wife was not, often the entire family’s heritage would be classified as “white”. Census information will determine the geographical location that could lead to a Band/Nation name.

When searching online census records for indigenous peoples, since “Indian” is often used as a racial descriptor in the “Racial Origins” column, you can do a broad search using location and “Indian” in either the Keyword or Race search boxes available in some databases.

See page 7-1 of our guide: *Canadian Family History Resources* for more information on how to search census records for indigenous peoples.

<https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

### ONLINE

Canadian censuses are available to search online for the years 1851-1921, plus 1926 for the prairie provinces. Below is a list of free websites where you can find Canadian Census records.

- *Library & Archives Canada*: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/Pages/census.aspx>
  - Information centre for all Canadian censuses (1640-1926) and links to searchable databases.
  - Provides an excellent on-line Guide.
  - For terminology pertaining to Indigenous people, select your census year of interest from the list on the left and then scroll down to the Racial Origins or Citizenship/Nationality sections for that census.
- *FamilySearch*: [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). (The 1921 Census is not available on this site.)
- *Ancestry Library Edition* available at all branches of Surrey Libraries <https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>
- *Automated Genealogy*: <http://www.automatedgenealogy.com/index.html>  
1901, 1906, 1911 and partial 1851 census available. This digital resource provides an option to search “aboriginal agencies” (i.e. on reserve).

### 1666-1891 Census:

There are several copies of a Finding Aid called *Catalogue of Census Returns on Microfilm 1666-1891*. This book is organized by province, and then town or county with the matching microfilm numbers noted for each location. (Note only some of these are available online; the earlier censuses are only available on microfilm.) The early censuses took place in eastern Canada. Some are simply agricultural returns, others are head-of-household counts, and some are nominal that include information about the family as well. These early censuses may be of interest to Metis researchers with a French line looking to pursue that side of their family back to Quebec.

### Prairie Census 1906, 1916, 1926

These are special census records released for the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

### 1901-1921 Census:

These Census records are mostly available online, but the Cloverdale Family History Branch does hold some extracts in print. Please ask a Family History staff person for assistance.

### 1877 Census of British Columbia Indian Reserves

Library and Archives Canada holds a digitized microfilm of a census of BC Indian Reserves in 1877, entitled *Report of the British Columbia Reserve Commission with Census Reports*. The census portion begins on **page 53** of the document. It is not keyword searchable, but is browsable on their website here: <https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Record?app=fonandcol&ldNumber=2061136&new=-8585747939241503293>

### PRINT

Census Indexes: If you prefer to view census records in print, rather than online or on microfilm, the Family History Department has some finding aids and census extracts. To find a census in print, please check our library catalogue with the keyword search "Canadian Census". Some examples:

Maine, Lorne W. 1984. *Index to 1881 Census of Manitoba with Extensions & East Rupert's Land*. Vancouver: L.W. Maine.  
Library call number – 929.37127 MAI 1984

Morin, Gail. 2016. *Census of the Turtle Mountain Reservation*. Belcourt, N.Dakota.  
Library call number – 929.3784 MOR 2016

### MICROFILM

Our Family History Department has some items in print which can help you identify the correct microfilm for your ancestor. You need to know the location – town, county, province to your best knowledge. Generally, most census records are available online, but the Department has a large collection of Canadian Census microfilms.

Cloverdale branch owns Microfilm number T-6554 covering the 1901 Native census returns for several provinces, including Alberta. The Indian Agencies enumerated on this microfilm include; Blackfoot (*Niitsitapi, Kainai, Siksika, Piikani*), Edmonton, Hobbema, Lac LaBiche, Saddle Lake, Sarcee (*Tsuu t'ina*) and Whitefish Lake.

For the Prairie census of 1916, there is a binder marked "1916 Census," located on the census book shelves near the print directories, which summarizes the census districts and sub-districts by name. To find the corresponding microfilm number for a certain location, see the list in the binder of film numbers and areas covered on each reel.

## Residential Schools

Since the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, new information about residential schools in Canada continues to be made available.

### National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation

The key resource for viewing available records is The National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation (NCTR): <https://nctr.ca/records/view-your-records/archives/> Of interest to most family history researchers will be the Quarterly Returns for the residential school attendance records. There is an excellent tutorial video for locating these records here <https://archives.nctr.ca/Tutorial+Videos>. Instructions from that video are:

1. Go to:  
<https://archives.nctr.ca/actor/browse?sort=alphabetic&sortDir=asc&entityType=840>
2. Either scroll down the alphabetical list of school names, or enter the school name in the “*search authority record*” search box (i.e. not the one at the top of the page).
3. Select the school name. This will take you to the school’s page, including a brief description of its history, and all public records available.
4. On the left of the page, just under the *Creator of* heading, click on “*Browse ### results*”. That will give you the full list of available records.
5. Filter those results by going back to the left side of the page, click on the *Subject* drop-down menu and the *Genre* drop-down menu. If the Quarterly Returns for attendance records are available for that school, they will be on one of those drop-down lists. (If they do not appear, check back at a later date.)
6. Click on the Quarterly Returns link and the list of Quarterly Returns records will appear on the right, listed by date. Browse the list to select the date of interest.

### Residential Schools Locations

The NCTR website also provides an interactive map of residential schools in Canada, with links to each school’s archival records. <https://nctr.ca/records/view-your-records/archival-map/> . If using this tool to locate records, locate the school and then continue from step 3 above.

Other sources for residential schools’ locations are:

The Canadian Encyclopedia:

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/residential-schools-in-canada-interactive-map>

UBC Library: <https://guides.library.ubc.ca/aboriginalmaps/residentialschools>

### Residential Schools Memorial Register

The NCTR website also has a memorial register of children who died while at residential schools. This register is searchable by name and is updated as new information is available <https://nctr.ca/memorial/>

### Residential Schools Records from Church Organizations

Church organizations often operated residential schools, and they are also making many their records available for researchers by submitting them to the NCTR. For

information about these records, other available records, and to contact the churches regarding records that were not submitted to the NCTR, see the following:

Catholic Church of Canada:

*At time of writing, access to Catholic Church records from residential schools is pending.*

United Church of Canada:

<https://www.unitedchurcharchives.ca/residential-school-records-in-united-church-of-canada-archives/>

(The Methodist Church of Canada was merged into the United Church in 1925)

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate:

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Catholic) administered ten residential schools in BC. These records are held at the BC Archives and access to them is still under review. Generally, if a representative from a Nation represented in the records requests access to them, the archives will provide access to those specific records. The contact to request access is: [access@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca](mailto:access@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca).

Catholic Archdiocese of Grouard-McLellan, Northern Alberta:

Provides photo galleries of over 3,000 images from the missions and residential schools that operated in that region: <https://archgm.ca/irs-photo-galleries/>

Sisters of Saint Ann (SSA) Archives:

An order of Catholic nuns that ran four residential schools in British Columbia – Kamloops, Kuper Island (near Chemainus), St. Mary's (Mission), and Lower Power (just south of the BC-Yukon border). The order is working with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) to have the records submitted to the NCTR. Any updates to that process can be found on the SSA website: [www.ssabc.ca](http://www.ssabc.ca)

Anglican Church of Canada:

<https://www.anglican.ca/about/organization/dioceses/>

Presbyterian Church of Canada:

<https://presbyterianarchives.ca/>

(See also United Church, per merger in 1925)

### **Census Records for Residential Schools**

Residential schools are included in most census records. Because Indigenous names were changed, anglicized, limited to first names only, or misspelled in different ways, searching for someone by name is difficult if not impossible. Searching for the school by name (e.g. keyword in Ancestry) is rarely successful. However, census records were conducted by electoral enumeration districts, so it may be necessary to first determine in which electoral enumeration district the residential school is included, and then scroll through that district's records to find the school. Electoral districts changed from one census to another.

To find the electoral districts by province for each census, use the link below, then select which census year from the column on the left. Once at the page for that census year, select "Districts and Subdistricts" from the list on the left for a list of district names:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/Pages/census.aspx>

While this Library and Archives Canada site provides microfilm numbers (available in our Family History Department) the census can be searched through Ancestry. In Ancestry, select "Search Census" from the main page, then select the census year from the bottom part of the next page. Once on the census search page, go to *Indigenous & Métis: A Guide to Researching Family History at Surrey Libraries, Cloverdale Branch*

the column on the right “Browse this Collection”, select the province, then the district name from the list.

Another approach would be to find the school information and obtain the name of a teacher, minister, or priest that worked at the school, then try a census search for that name.

## Obtaining Status

Obtaining Indian Status can be complicated. The Government of Canada background information on status, the Indian Act, Bill C-31, and Bill S-3 can be found here:

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1540405608208/1568898474141>

The Government of Canada information about eligibility, applying, and **application forms**, can be found here:

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032472/1572459733507>

Family History Department staff can provide assistance with application information.

## Adoption

Many Indigenous children were forcibly removed from their families and placed into foster homes or adopted by non-indigenous families. This practice was particularly prevalent in the 1960s and became known as “The Sixties Scoop”. An overview article of this initiative and its impacts is here:

[https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/sixties\\_scoop/](https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/sixties_scoop/)

Researching family members who were adopted or placed in government care can be challenging. The Forget-Me-Not Family Society provides links to all the provincial adoption registry pages here: <http://adoptioncircles.net/wp/web-links/>. The Society provides information on adoption reunion support networks as well.

## Church Records

Church (or parish) records of baptisms, marriages, and deaths are excellent resources especially for records that may be missing from the civil registrations.

Availability of church records varies widely by province and by church organization. Records can be stored with individual churches, their regional offices, their archives, or their head office. **For more detailed information, please see the Church Records section in our corresponding research guide for the province you are researching**, or ask staff for assistance. Basic information is provided below.

### ONLINE

Church records are increasingly becoming digitized and available online on the databases noted on page 4 above.

### PRINT

The Family History Department has a small collection of church histories from churches that contain records of church members. Some examples:

*Indigenous & Métis: A Guide to Researching Family History at Surrey Libraries, Cloverdale Branch*

Morin, Gail. *St. Joachim, Fort Auguste (Fort Edmonton), 1858-1890  
Baptisms, Marriages and Burials.*  
Library call number: 929.37123 MOR 2000

Macdonald, Darby. 2011. *St. John's Presbyterian Church, Cornwall, Ontario,  
Canada: births, marriages & deaths, 1833-1856.* Milton, Ontario;  
MacDonald Research.  
Library call number – 929.371375 MAC 2011

## **MICROFILM**

The Family History Department has a number of church records on microfilm. They are listed in the library's guide, *Canadian Family History Resources*, under Parish and Vital Records on page 5-53. Church records that are available only on microfilm (for some provinces) can usually be ordered via interlibrary loan through our Family History Department.

## **Cemetery Records**

Most municipal or public cemetery records are maintained at the local level (church, town, municipal or city hall). If the resources below do not meet your research needs, please consult with a staff member in our Family History Department and/or see our corresponding research guide for your province of research.

Information about cemeteries “on reserves” can be sensitive, and much of it is not available online. Indigenous People often prefer to manage this information themselves. If you know where your ancestor died, or where they are buried (often noted on the death registration), you can start by contacting the local Band office or local Band Chief and Council (see the Locations section on pages 3-4) to learn what records they have and what protocols they expect you to follow.

## **ONLINE**

Note: Many online resources for cemeteries are crowdsourced, and welcome volunteers to input information from their local areas. Although it is great to volunteer to add information to sites such as these below, not every Indigenous community wants the information posted. *If you are interested in volunteering to post cemetery information to public sites, be certain to contact the responsible Band office first to confirm their permission to do so.*

CanadaGenWeb's Cemetery project:  
<https://cemetery.canadagenweb.org/>

Find a Grave:  
<https://www.findagrave.com/>

Canadian Headstones project:  
<https://canadianheadstones.com/index.html>

Canadian Genealogy Select your province of interest from this page:  
<http://www.canadiangenealogy.net/index.htm>

## PRINT

The Family History Department has a small collection of books containing transcriptions from cemetery markers in different provinces, especially for British Columbia. Some examples:

Abbotsford Genealogical Society. 2004. *Mt. Lehman Cemeteries Memorials*.  
Abbotsford, BC. William T. Overy  
Library call number – 929.

Trace, Mary Kearns. *Monumental Inscriptions of Union Cemetery, Calgary, Alberta*. Library call number – 929.5097123 MON 1986

## City Directories

City directories are a good resource to use to fill in the gaps from Census records. They are generally published annually, and contain information such as address, occupation, marital status.

Unless your Indigenous ancestor was involved in a business or lived in a town, it is quite rare they would be listed. However, if they were in a “mixed” marriage, particularly if the male was Caucasian, a record may have been included, so directories are worth checking.

Accessibility varies by province. For directories that are not included in the collections noted below, or for more recent directories that may assist in locating living relatives, it is recommended that researchers contact the public library, archives, or genealogy society closest to their location of interest and inquire about local directories’ availability.

## ONLINE

Directories are increasingly becoming digitized and available online on the databases noted on page 4 above.

Library and Archives Canada has a collection of historical directories for some locations across Canada, searchable here: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/directories-collection/Pages/directories-collection.aspx>

Ancestry.ca and FamilySearch.org also have collections of directories for most provinces, and TheAncestorHunt.com provides links to directories for all provinces here: <https://theancestorhunt.com/directories.html>

Below are additional resources for each province.

### British Columbia:

Vancouver Public library has digitized the BC directories collection from 1860-1955 and made it available online here; <https://bccd.vpl.ca/>

### Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba:

*Peel’s Prairie Provinces* has directories for select towns and cities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba going back as early as 1905:  
<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/henderson.html>

### Ontario:

A project is underway to digitize the entire collection of Vernon directories for Ontario. These will be available to search on FamilySearch.org (free) once the

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project is complete.

OnGenealogy.com also provides links to many Ontario directories here:

<https://www.ongenealogy.com/listings/ontario-online-historical-directories/>

#### **Quebec:**

The Quebec Archives provides a collection of Lovell's directories for Montreal and suburbs/region, here:

<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/details/52327/3652178> as well as

for Quebec City here;

<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/details/52327/3691079?docsearchte xt=Municipal%20%20Directories>

#### **New Brunswick:**

The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick provides access to the following:

Hutchinson Directories 1865-1868:

<http://archives.gnb.ca/APPS/PrivRecs/HD/?culture=en-CA> and the

Lovell Directory 1871:

<https://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Directories/Lovell/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA>

Here are some additional links from the Toronto Public Library:

Saint John Business Directory 1857:

<https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/371136/saint-john-business-directory-and-almanac-for-1857?ctx=bc3190b47bfaa7c04671d8feab0c68319d9c10f6&idx=0>

Saint John and Fredericton Business Directory 1862:

<https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/338670/the-st-john-and-fredericton-business-directory-1862->

<conta?ctx=c496faef6e8907942669fdd2ccea983ecf81af1&idx=0>

Also:

The New Brunswick Eastern Division directory for 1912:

[https://sites.rootsweb.com/~cannb/NB\\_Directory\\_1912.htm](https://sites.rootsweb.com/~cannb/NB_Directory_1912.htm)

#### **Newfoundland and Labrador:**

The following website provides a number of links for Newfoundland and Labrador directories: <http://ngb.chebucto.org/directories.shtml>

The Memorial University of Newfoundland's website also provides a number of links here: [https://collections.mun.ca/digital/collection/cns\\_tools](https://collections.mun.ca/digital/collection/cns_tools)

#### **Prince Edward Island:**

The Island Register provides the following:

<http://www.islandregister.com/directories.html>

The Hutchison directory of surnames by area:

<http://www.islandregister.com/hutchinson8.html#savage>,

The McAlpine's Directory 1880-81: <http://www.islandregister.com/alpines.html>

and the following telephone directories:

1889-90: <http://www.islandregister.com/phones/1889/1889book.html>

1922: <http://www.islandregister.com/phones/1922/1922book.html>

1928: <http://www.islandregister.com/phones/1928/1928book.html>

1935: <http://www.islandregister.com/phones/1935/1935book.html>

## PRINT

For BC, directories from approximately 1980 to the present for the Fraser Valley and Vancouver area, as well as a few from other parts of BC, can be found in our Family History Department's print collection. The Surrey Archives also has a collection of Surrey-specific print directories. Some of the formats are criss-cross (address and phone number indexes), regular directories, and phone books. There are a small number of miscellaneous directories from the 1960's and 1970's as well.

For other provinces, our Family History Department has a small collection of directories or guides to directories in print. Some examples below. Note that local libraries and archives generally keep historical directories for their location/region.

Lovell, John. 2000. *Montreal Directory 1868-69: containing an Alphabetical Directory of the Citizens and a Street Directory*. Milton, Ontario: Global Heritage Press.  
Library call number -- GEN 917.1428 MON

Elliott, Noel J. ed. 1994. *The Atlantic Canadians, 1600-1900; an alphabetized directory of people, places and vital dates*. Toronto: Genealogical Research Library. 1994.  
[3 Volumes- please ask for assistance to interpret the codes following each entry]  
Library call number -- GEN 929.3715 ATL

## MICROFILM

The Family History Department has the entire collection of BC Directories on microfilm from 1860-1995.

## Newspapers

Your Indigenous ancestor may have appeared in a newspaper for various reasons; for example, in an obituary, death announcement, legal notice, or mentioned a news piece. Smaller, local newspapers will have coverage of sports events, holiday celebrations, parades, or articles about fires or other local interest.

## ONLINE

Both Ancestry and FamilySearch.org have searchable collections of historical newspapers for all provinces.

TheAncestorHunt.com provides a comprehensive list of links to historical newspaper sites for all provinces here <https://theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html> (scroll down to the Canada section).

Canadiana.ca provides a searchable collection of digitized historical newspapers for all provinces: <https://www.canadiana.ca/collection-serials>

Library and Archives Canada provides a geographical list newspapers by province and then by city/town names. Some of the titles have links to digitized copies of the newspapers:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/newspapers/newspaper-collection/Pages/microform-holdings-geographical-list.aspx>

This is a good resource for determining the name of the newspaper in the research location of interest. If the newspaper of interest does not provide a link to a

digitized copy, it may be available by searching for it on Canadiana.ca  
<https://www.canadiana.ca/collection-serials> .

An excellent, although fee-based, site is Newspapers.com, which has good coverage of many smaller newspapers in Canada. Sometimes free short trials of this paid subscription database are available.

Other good resources for finding digitized copies of historical newspapers would be found by contacting the local public library, archive, or genealogy association closest to the area of interest. Please ask a staff member if assistance is needed.

**Please refer to our provincial guide for your research province of interest for more information on historical newspapers for that province.** A few province-specific online resources are below.

**British Columbia:**

Surrey Libraries has the *BC Historical Newspapers* digital resource, searchable, containing full coverage for the *Vancouver Sun* (1912 to 2010), *Province* (1898 to 2010), and *Victoria Times Colonist* (1894 to 2010).

<https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

*British Columbia Historical Newspapers 1859-1995*. Site hosted by UBC, contains many smaller newspapers from all across BC.

<https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers>

*Native Voice, the Official Organ of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia*, has archived newspapers 1947-1955.

<https://nativevoice.ca/>

**Alberta:**

*Alberta Genealogical Society*

<https://www.abgenealogy.ca/newspaper-indexes>

*Peel's Prairie Provinces: University of Alberta Libraries A division of Learning Services:* <http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/>

Digitized newspapers from 1871 to 2013

**Saskatchewan:**

Saskatchewan Historic Newspapers Online / University of Saskatchewan

<http://pasnewspapers.usask.ca/>

**Manitoba:**

*Manitoba Life & Times: Newspapers:*

[https://digitalcollections.lib.umanitoba.ca/islandora/object/uofm%3Amanitoba\\_newspapers](https://digitalcollections.lib.umanitoba.ca/islandora/object/uofm%3Amanitoba_newspapers)

**Ontario:**

Archives of Ontario provides an online index of newspapers that are mostly available through microfilm interlibrary loan (via Surrey Libraries Family History Department):

[http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/access/documents/l23\\_newspapers.pdf](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/access/documents/l23_newspapers.pdf)

The Ontario Community Newspapers portal offers a searchable database index of their large collection, which then provides contact information to assist researchers in accessing the full article.

<https://news.ourontario.ca/search>

## Wills and Estate Records

Please see our provincial research guide for your province of interest for information on accessing wills and estate records.

<https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

## Border Entry Records

Travel across the US-Canada border was much easier and more fluid than is currently the case, and many people crossed back and forth on a regular basis, often without going through a formal process. Therefore, records may not always be available.

### ONLINE

*Ancestry Library Edition* includes: “Border Crossings: From U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935” that covers border entries into Canada at various locations along the US border. Ancestry also has “Border Crossings from Canada to the U.S., 1895-1956.”

The Ancestry digital resource also includes “Form 30A that in records: from 1919 to 1924”. During this time, the federal government required individual forms be completed and submitted when crossing the border into Canada.

### MICROFILM

The library has microfilm records of border crossings from the U.S. to Canada between 1908-1919, organized by date and port. To view a list of ports of entry and the corresponding film numbers, check section 3-41 in the library’s guide: *Canadian Family History Resources*.

## Land Records

Land records apply most often to male ancestors, particularly if they were of European descent. **Please see the provincial research guide for your province of interest for full information on accessing land records for your province of interest.** Many land records are also available on *FamilySearch.org* and *Ancestry*.

Land records can have a language all their own and be difficult to understand. Whenever you search for land records at a particular resource, be sure to look for guides / explanations provided there and check them before searching.

Below are some examples of key record sets for the western provinces.

With the acquisition of Rupert’s Land in 1869, western lands came under federal control. In 1930, responsibility for Crown Lands was transferred to the provincial governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The federal government retained a copy of the original patents issued for these lands which are indexed in the *Western Canada Land Grants* database at Library & Archives Canada: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-grants-western-canada-1870-1930/Pages/search.aspx>. The actual homestead applications and files relating to the grants were transferred to the provincial archives.

The BC Archives holds the print records for provincial crown land grants, applications for homesteads, and purchases of crown lands. However, they have shared these resources with *FamilySearch.org* and they are available for browsing.

*Indigenous & Métis: A Guide to Researching Family History at Surrey Libraries, Cloverdale Branch*

In most cases you either must know the specific location, grant number or year to narrow down your search for information. Below is a list of collections available at *FamilySearch.org*.

- “British Columbia Crown Land Grants Records 1851-1874” - by location
- “British Columbia Crown Land Grants 1869-1930” – by year or volume number (vol)
- “British Columbia Crown Land Pre-Emption Registers 1860-1971” – by location
- “British Columbia Dominion Land Branch Records 1885-1949”

The government of British Columbia has an online resource, searchable by name, known as “GATOR”:

[http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator\\$queryforms.menu](http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator$queryforms.menu) If your grant is found you can find 2 documents related to it: a type of contract explaining the conditions of ownership, and a map which shows the legal description of the land. Free access.

Our Family History Department also holds microfilm for the *Inspector of Indian Agencies British Columbia Letterbooks 1910-1920* which pertains in large part to Indigenous and Metis land claims. Please consult with our staff for access to these microfilms.

*University of Calgary Glenbow Library and Archives: Archives CPR Land Sales Catalogue:*

<https://glenbow.ucalgary.ca/archives-cpr-land-sales/>

- Database of records of agricultural land sales by Canadian Pacific Railway to settlers in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan from 1881-1927.
- Searchable by name and location.

The *Manitoba Land Index 1870-1930* is available on microfiche in our Family History Department. Please consult with staff about accessing these records. The fiche is organized by surname or corporate name and is an index of administrative records related to Dominion lands that were made available for settlement through homestead entry. Since records from this index are also duplicated in Library and Archives Canada’s Western Land Grants database, search there first:

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-grants-western-canada-1870-1930/Pages/land-grants-western-canada.aspx> If you find an entry on the microfiche index, but *not* in the online database, copy the information from the fiche and contact the Archives of Manitoba.

Note that local history books will often have individualized information on land occupation within the locality. See Local Histories section of this guide.

## Métis Land Records

For Métis or Half-Breed Scrip: Land Records, the main collection of records is titled "Half-breeds & Original White Settlers 1870-1920". “Scrip” refers to a system used by the Canadian government beginning in 1870, of issuing certificates for land claims made by mixed-race people and original white settlers, for property released from the Hudson’s Bay Company’s jurisdiction in the West.

A key record set within this collection is the Department of the Interior records (RG-15), which offer considerable family history information. Notably women can be searched by maiden name as extensive cross-referencing is provided. The RG-15

records are available in our Department's microfilm collection and searchable online at Library and Archives Canada here: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/metis/metis-scrip-records/Pages/find-scrip.aspx>

See the Métis Land Claims in section 7 of the library's guide: *Canadian Family History Resources*.

## ONLINE

Glenbow Archives: <http://www.glenbow.org/collections/archives/genealogy/>

- Information about Métis genealogical resources

Library and Archives Canada – How to Find Metis Scrip Records:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/metis/metis-scrip-records/Pages/find-scrip.aspx>

Library & Archives Canada: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/metis/Pages/introduction.aspx>

- Detailed information about Métis people and the records, as well as access to an online database with over 15,000 digitized images.

\* Note that the Library and Archives Canada databases contain over 15,000 images. Many, but not all, Metis Land Claims are included but researchers may also need to consult microfilms, below.

Many provinces also have their own Metis association that may be able to provide assistance.

## MICROFILM

Section 7 of the library's *Canadian Family History Resources: A Guide to the Materials Held at Cloverdale Library* describes the microfilms that we have at Cloverdale for Métis scrip records. These include an alphabetical index to affidavits (applications) for Manitoba 1870-1885, the Northwest Territories (includes present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan and Manitoba) 1885-1901/06, and the RG-15 films noted above, among others. Ask the our Family History Department staff for assistance.

## PRINT

Our Family History Department holds several print resources pertaining to Metis land records. A small sample of our holdings is below:

Flanagan, Thomas. 1991. *Metis Land in Manitoba*. Calgary. University of Calgary Press.

Library call number: 929.37127 FLA 1991

Morin, Gail. *Company Men*.

[A series of over 30 volumes of genealogies of men who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company, includes scrip applications]

Library call number: 929.37127 MOR 2017

Morin, Gail. 1998. *1900 Scrip*. Pawtucket, R.I. Quintin Publications.

Library call number

Roberts, John. *Discover your Métis Ancestry: a beginner's guide*.

Library call number: 929.108997071 ROB 2008

Sprague, D.N. *The Genealogy of the First Metis Nation: the development and dispersal of the Red River Settlement, 1820–1900*. (Winnipeg, 1983).

Library call number 971.37127 SPR 1983

## Place Names

Gazetteers are an excellent source for place names. A gazetteer is something like a land dictionary, it describes places and place names along with showing locations on a map. You can find gazetteers in our print collection under the call number 917.11 or 917.15.

Our Family History Department has gazetteers for each province in Canada.

## Atlases & Maps

The Family History Department has a large collection of historical atlases and maps. Many maps are oversized and cannot fit on regular bookshelves; they can be found on a separate stand close to the print collection. Also check the non-fiction section on the main floor which has many maps and atlases.

## Hudson's Bay Company Indexes

The Hudson's Bay Company was active in the development of the western provinces since its establishment in 1670. These records can be useful to research early family history. Many types of records exist including contracts, personal accounts, pension records, estate records and census information on some indigenous peoples.

### ONLINE

The Archives of Manitoba holds the Hudson's Bay Company Archives collection. For more information about their collection and the research tools available, please visit this link: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/index.html>

There is an easy-to-use guide to the HBC records on the Internet at:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/resource/filmlist.html>

As well, the name index link is here:

[https://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/name\\_indexes/index.html](https://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/name_indexes/index.html)

### MICROFILM

Our Family History Department has three Hudson's Bay Company record indexes on microfilm, that act as detailed finding aids to what's available at the Hudson Bay Archives in Manitoba. The films are finding aid microfilms: 20M1, 1M1252 and 1M1253. Please ask a staff member for assistance.

### PRINT

The Family History Department has several resources relating to Hudson's Bay Company records in its print collection. Some examples:

Simmons, Deirdre. *Keepers of the Record: The History of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives*.  
Library call number: 971.201 SIM 2007

Morin, Gail. *Company Men*.  
[A series of over 20 volumes of genealogies of men who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company.]  
Library call number: 929.37127 MOR 2017

Oliver, Prof. E.H. (ed.) *The Canadian North-west, Its Early Development and Legislative Records: Minutes of the Councils of the Red River Colony and the Northern Development of Rupert's Land*  
Library call number 971.2 CAN

## Local Histories and Other Print Resources

Local histories can be a great resource for filling in many different types of family history details. Local histories can have detailed information about the people who lived there, including photos and biographies. Also important to note, some local history books will also have a bibliography section that can point readers to additional information about the community.

### ONLINE

Many local community histories can be found online, and some are even downloadable.

Google Books: <http://books.google.ca/bkshp?hl=en&tab=wp>

University of Calgary Library and Cultural Resources Digital Collection  
<https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/search/collection/p22007coll8!p22007coll25/order/title/ad/asc>

### PRINT

Our Family History Department has many books pertaining to indigenous genealogy, history, and research. A few examples here:

Hanowski, Laura. 2006. *Tracing Your Aboriginal Ancestors in the Prairie Provinces*. Regina, SK, Saskatchewan Genealogy Association  
Library call number: 929.10720712 TRA 2006

Duff, Wilson 1959. *Histories, Territories, and Laws of the Kitwancool*. Victoria, BC, BC Provincial Museum Department of Education.  
Library call number: 970.3 DUFF 1959

Leon, Shirley, and Sharon Syrette. 2021. *Courage to Speak; Honouring Ancestors Voices*. Victoria, BC, Aboriginal Genealogy Association.  
Library call number: 497.3 LEO 2021

Faux, David Kenneth. 2002. *Understanding Ontario First Nations Genealogical Records: Sources and Case Studies*. Toronto, Ontario Genealogical Society.  
Library call number – 929.3713 FAU 2002

Our Department also has many local histories for towns in Canada, especially western Canada. While most of these books focus on European settlers,

indigenous people local to the area are also often included. To see if the library has a history of a particular town or area, look in the library catalogue using “Subject browse” and terms: [*your research province*] – History. You may also want to browse the bookshelves in the call number area of GEN 971. Some examples:

Hope and District Historical Society. *Forging a New Hope: Struggles and Dreams 1848 – 1948*.

Library call number GEN 971.13 FOR

Loosmore, W.S.B. *To Trail’s End: Early Settlement in Drayton Valley*.

Library call number: GEN 971.233 LOO 1994

Noel, Oliveer. *A Pictorial History of St. Paul [des Metis] and District*.

Library call number: GEN 971.233 NOE 1979

Neepawa History Book Committee. *Heritage: A History of the Town of Neepawa and District as Told and Recorded by its People*

Library call number: GEN 971.272 HER 1983

Forgotten Echoes Historical Society. *Forgotten Echoes: A History of Blackfoot and Surrounding Area*.

Library call number: GEN 971.23 FOR 1982

Pearson, John. 1960. *Land of the Royal Kwantlen: a history of North Surrey, BC*.

Library call number: GEN 971.133 PEA 1960

Thornton, Mildred V. 2000. *Buffalo People: Portraits of a Vanishing Nation*. Delta, BC, Hancock House.

Library call number: GEN 971.200497 THO 2000

Morin, Gail. 2001. *Metis Families: a genealogical compendium*. 2001/2016 (11 volumes). North Charleston, SC, CreateSpace Independent Publishing.

Library call number GEN 929.37127 MOR 2001

Faux, David K. 2002. *Understanding Ontario First Nations Genealogical Records: sources and case studies*. Toronto, Ontario Genealogical Society.

Library call number: GEN 929.3713 FAU 2002

## Military Records

Indigenous soldiers would have been included in general resources pertaining to service in Canada’s wars. Several resources specific to service by indigenous soldiers are also available, as noted below.

### ONLINE

#### Databases offering a name search

*Ancestry* and *FamilySearch.org* include searchable military records in their databases.

Library and Archives Canada holds the military personnel and service files. Records that are open to the public are pre-1914, World War 1, and World War 2 for soldiers that died in service. Information is provided on this link, which also

provides searchable databases: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/transparency/atippr/Pages/Access-information-military-files.aspx>

*Books of Remembrance*

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/books/search>

*Soldiers of the First World War:* <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/introduction.aspx> Digital images of war diaries of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, searchable by unit name and date

*Canadian Expeditionary Force records:*

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx>

*Library & Archives Canada: Military Records:*

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/pages/military-heritage.aspx>

*Commonwealth War Graves Commission:* <https://www.cwgc.org/>

*Canadian Virtual War Memorial:*

<http://www.virtualmemorial.gc.ca/>

Library and Archives Canada has digitized a collection of World War 1 microfilms pertaining specifically to indigenous soldiers. While these digitized microfilms are not searchable by name, they are viewable and browsable from this link:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/introduction.aspx#h>

Information on the military contributions of Indigenous soldiers

*Government of Canada: Indigenous Peoples in Military History*

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/defence/caf/militaryhistory/military-history-heritage/indigenous-peoples-military-history.html>

*Library and Archives Canada: Indigenous Soldiers, Foreign Battlefields*

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/those-who-served/indigenous-veterans/native-soldiers>

*Canadian War Museum – First Nations Soldiers:*

<https://www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/people/in-uniform/first-nations-soldiers/>

*Veterans Affairs Canada – Indigenous Veterans:*

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/historical-sheets/indigenous-veterans>

*Veterans Affairs Canada – Indigenous Veterans in the Second World War:*

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/classroom/fact-sheets/aborigin>

*Royal Canadian Armored Corps Battle Honors:*

<http://regimentalrogue.com/battlehonours/rcac.htm>

*Canadian Military Heritage Project:*

<https://canadianmilitaryproject.com/>

## MICROFILM

Our Family History Department has a collection of microfilms pertaining to military records. See Section 9 of the library's guide: *Canadian Family History Resources* which describes Canadian military records on microfilm available at the library or ask staff for assistance.

## PRINT

When searching for military print items in our library catalogue use keywords such as "soldiers – Canada", "soldiers - Canada - indexes", or "soldiers –[location]- registers". A sample from our collection here:

Wright, Glen T. *Canadians at War 1914 – 1919: A Research Guide to War Service Records*.

Library call number: 940.40971 WRI 2010

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa. *Index to Canadian Service Records of the South African War (1899-1902) held at the National Archives of Canada*.

Library call number 929.371 IND 1999

## Other Resources

A large number of genealogy resources and databases are available at Library and Archives Canada Genealogy: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/genealogy/Pages/introduction.aspx>

Vancouver Public Library Indigenous Research Guide:

<https://www.vpl.ca/guide/genealogy-and-family-history/indigenous-ancestry>

Metis Nation Historical Online Database:

[https://www.metisnationdatabase.ca/index.php?source=All&family\\_name=smith&first\\_name=&year=&app\\_year=&birth\\_location=&res\\_location=&app\\_location=](https://www.metisnationdatabase.ca/index.php?source=All&family_name=smith&first_name=&year=&app_year=&birth_location=&res_location=&app_location=)

Aboriginal Genealogy Association, based in Mission, BC:

<https://www.facebook.com/aboriginal.ancestors/>

Email: [ancestorconnections@gmail.com](mailto:ancestorconnections@gmail.com)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

It is also useful to search for FaceBook and other social media groups. For example:

- Aboriginal Genealogy Network  
<https://www.facebook.com/aboriginal.ancestors>
- Canadian Genealogy  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CanadianGenealogy>
- Canada First Nations Genealogy Research  
<https://www.facebook.com/CanadaFirstNationsGenealogy>
- Metis Family Research Website Resources & Discussions  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/metisfamilyresources/>
- Sto:lo Genealogy Office  
<https://www.facebook.com/stologenealogyoffice>

- Lac La Ronge History (Saskatchewan, Metis homeland)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/167290217199505/>
- Ohsweken Genealogy Society (Six Nations of the Grand River in Tuscarora Township, Brant County, Ontario)  
[https://www.facebook.com/Ohsweken.Genealogy/about/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/Ohsweken.Genealogy/about/?ref=page_internal)
- Haudenosaunee/Iroquois/Six Nations Genealogy (between Lake Erie & Hudson River)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/218083517254/>

Both *FamilySearch.org* and *Ancestry* have many resource collections for various provinces.

## **OTHER KEY RESOURCES BY PROVINCE**

Local genealogy associations and local archives are excellent resources for indigenous family history research in their areas. Below is a list of genealogy associations, archives, and other key resources in each province with links to their websites for contact information.

### **Library and Archives Canada**

LAC has a webpage with contact information by province for a number of genealogy organizations

<https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/collection/research-help/genealogy-family-history/pages/links.aspx>

### **British Columbia**

BC Genealogical Society  
<https://www.bcgs.ca/>

BC Archives Indigenous Materials  
[https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/images/resources\\_for\\_first\\_nations\\_genealogical\\_research\\_at\\_the\\_bcarchives\\_2018.pdf](https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/images/resources_for_first_nations_genealogical_research_at_the_bcarchives_2018.pdf)

BC Archives Indigenous Research Guide  
[https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/images/first\\_nations\\_guide\\_2018.pdf](https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/images/first_nations_guide_2018.pdf)

Abbotsford Genealogical Society  
<https://abbygs.ca/index.html>

Maple Ridge Family History Group  
<http://mapleridgemuseum.org/about-us/family-history/>

UBC X̱wi7x̱wa Library  
<https://xwi7xwa.library.ubc.ca/>

### **Alberta**

Alberta Genealogical Society  
<https://www.abgenealogy.ca/>

Alberta Archives Genealogy  
<https://www.provincialarchives.alberta.ca/how-to/search-your-genealogy>

## **Saskatchewan**

Saskatchewan Genealogical Society  
<https://www.saskgenealogy.com/>

Saskatchewan Archives First Nations and Metis Research  
<https://www.saskarchives.com/using-archives/family-history-research/first-nations-and-metis-records>

## **Manitoba**

Manitoba Genealogical Association  
<https://mbgenealogy.com/>

Archives of Manitoba  
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/>

## **Ontario**

Ontario Genealogical Society  
<https://ogs.on.ca/>

Metis Nation of Ontario  
<https://www.metisnation.org/registry/citizenship/historic-research/>  
(community reports toward the bottom of the page contain names for those communities)

Archives of Ontario – Records Relating to Aboriginal People  
[http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/aboriginal\\_peoples\\_records.aspx](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/microfilm/aboriginal_peoples_records.aspx)

Archives of Ontario Genealogy  
<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/tracing/index.aspx>

## **Quebec**

Quebec Family History Society  
<https://www.qfhs.ca/>

Quebec Genealogical Society  
<https://genquebec.com/>

BAnQ du Quebec – Quebec National Archives  
[https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/entrez\\_archives/archives\\_banq/index.html?language\\_id=1](https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/entrez_archives/archives_banq/index.html?language_id=1)

Access Genealogy – Quebec First Nations  
<https://accessgenealogy.com/native/quebec-first-nations.htm>

## **Prince Edward Island**

Prince Edward Island Genealogical Society  
<https://peigs.ca/>

Archives of Prince Edward Island – Genealogy  
<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-lifelong-learning/genealogy-at-the-public-archives>

## **New Brunswick**

*Indigenous & Métis: A Guide to Researching Family History at Surrey Libraries, Cloverdale Branch*

New Brunswick Genealogical Society  
<https://www.nbgs.ca/>

Provincial Archives of New Brunswick – Genealogy  
<https://archives.gnb.ca/archives/?culture=en-CA>

### **Nova Scotia**

Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia  
<https://www.novascotiaancestors.ca/>

Nova Scotia Genealogy Network Association  
<http://nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/>

Nova Scotia Archives  
<https://archives.novascotia.ca/genealogy-guide/>

### **Newfoundland & Labrador**

Family History Society of Newfoundland & Labrador  
<https://www.fhsl.ca/>

Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador  
<https://www.therooms.ca/collections-research>

Need help? Have questions? Contact us!

### **Surrey Libraries Family History**

<https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history>

Email: [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca)

Tel: 604-598-7328

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<https://www.facebook.com/aboriginal.ancestors/>