



RESEARCHING YOUR ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY



Before going to an archive, write down as much information as you can about every generation in your family. Include the names, dates of birth, marriages and deaths, and places of residence of your ancestors. You can discover a great deal of information just by talking to relatives and/or close family friends.

- Some mention of Aboriginal individuals may be found in parish registers, census records, military records, and published historical/genealogical sources.
- **Military Records:** Many records relating to military service consist only of lists of names on a muster roll or pay list. For later periods, personnel records usually exist, which can also provide researchers with personal information about an individual.
- **Parish Records:** Parish registers are an important source for information on births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials. For you to locate relevant records, you must know the place and the religious denomination of a person. This information can be found in census records.
- **Census Records:** Census records are federal government records which may provide a great deal of information about the age, sex, religion, occupation, and place of birth of an individual and their family members. These records are held at Library and Archives Canada as well as some archives and libraries.

ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES, AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

- **Research in Archives:** Archives contain records, which must be examined within the institution in which they reside. You may have access to: birth, marriage, death, census and land records.
- **Research in Libraries:** Most libraries have manuals and guides that provide basic information about research methods in genealogy; and many also hold more detailed or specialized works on particular aspects of genealogical research. Libraries may also have census records on microfilm pertaining to a specific location.
- **Research in Genealogical Societies:** Some societies have members with years of experience in genealogical research, who are more than willing to assist beginners. As well, these societies distribute guidebooks and manuals to help you along your way. Many societies also offer workshops and lectures of interest to their members and the larger community. These are a great way to learn the tricks of the trade.



HELPFUL RESOURCES



Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, ON

- Guide to Researching Your Aboriginal Ancestry at the LAC
<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-607.002-e.html>

Archives of Ontario, Toronto, ON (York University, Keele Campus)

- Downloadable guides on genealogical research and on using the records of the Archives of Ontario - <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/family-history/the-records.aspx>

Provincial/Territorial Archives

- The Canadian Council of Archives has a listing of all Archival institutions located throughout Canada - www.cdncouncilarchives.ca

Ontario Genealogical Society

- The Society strives to promote genealogical research, offers instruction in effective research methods, and makes resources available to those with ancestry from Ontario - www.ogs.on.ca

Canadian Library Gateway

- A comprehensive list of all libraries in Canada that contain special collections of value to researchers. - <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/gateway/index-e.html>

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

- Information regarding eligibility for Indian registration and status.
<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ai/scr/mb/prser/irssc/index-eng.asp>

Native Canadian Centre of Toronto 16 Spadina Road, Toronto, ON



<http://ncct.on.ca>



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