

# Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 21 1906

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or who have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,

*Geographer.*

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

"Blackfalds"  
Alto.

14-39-27-W4

Blackfalds is situate  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles from  
Blind Man river & directly North of River  
From a very old Indian I was informed  
that the country round the Blind Man River  
was formerly called the Paskapoo Country.  
Then through a blind Indian being drowned  
near here it got called the Blind Man River.  
The first Post Office was situated on the  
River & the Post Master General gave it  
the name of Waghorn in 1891 - the same  
year the construction of the Calgary & Edmonton  
Railway. The Railway Co called the siding  
"The Eleventh Siding", but all Cars & goods  
were shipped in here to Waghorn. Some 2  
or 3 Years later the C & E Co named it  
Blackfalds. Where or from what it originates  
I have never been able to find out. A good  
bit of Mail still comes addressed Waghorn  
altho the name has been changed to Blackfalds  
about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Years. When I came here in 91 there  
was only one White family here & they came here  
in March as I came <sup>in</sup> the April. Some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Years  
since some land owners wished to start a town  
on the river & retain the name, so as to kill  
Blackfalds but their speculation was useless

I do not know if the name of Waghorn  
was given in honor of Lieutenant Waghorn  
the discoverer of the overland Route  
to India. or your Obedt Servant

Walter Waghorn  
Postmaster

Blackfalds is about a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile  
from the old Calgary & Edmonton trail

W.W.