

# Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 22 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.

~~Otokoto~~  
Otokoto Alta.

Okotoks is from an Indian  
derivation named after the crossing  
or ford of Sheep Creek on the  
MacLeod Trail and means  
"Stoney Crossing"

The name was changed to Druduey  
about the year 1892 and remained that  
way until 1897. In the meantime  
the Calgary & Edmonton Railway  
named their Station and Townsite  
"Okotoks" following their custom of  
naming after the old original names  
so that we were in the position of having  
the Town & Railway Station called Okotoks  
and the Post Office Druduey, when the  
matter was drawn to Postal Authorities  
<sup>attention</sup> they changed the name back to the  
Original "Okotoks".

The first settlement was in 1887 and  
the Post Office re-established in 1883.

The Town was incorporated in June 1904

John Paterson  
Postmaster