

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 18 1905

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 that 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.

"cedar"

Bl

Nanaimo Dist.

Cedar, B. C.  
Cedar District  
September 4<sup>th</sup> 1905.

Dear Sir.

- As this is only a District, there is very few natural features connected with it.
- (1) The nearest towns are Nanaimo about eight miles & Ladysmith just eight miles Ladysmith to the south & Nanaimo to the north.
  - (2) The only river is the Nanaimo River, which comes from the mountains on the west side of the Island & runs through part of this District & empties into the salt water at Nanaimo Harbour.
  - (3) The Lakes are Fish hook Lake so called from its resemblance to a fish hook & is surrounded by farms. And "Michael's Lake" in Oyster District about two miles from here, so called from the name of the first settler Edwin Michael who settled there about thirty five years ago. He is now dead but his son Walter Michael still lives on the farm.
  - (4) The nearest Bay is Oyster Bay, so called from its beds of Oysters about three miles from here & not far from Ladysmith.
  - (5) The only Harbour is Boat Harbour, a safe Harbour but not much used only for landing timber & small boats where it got its name.

The only Point is Yellow Point about  
four miles from here to the south East about  
half way between Boat Harbour & Ladysmith

The E & N Railway now owned by the C. P. R. Co  
which runs from Wellington to Esquimaux  
is about two miles from this Post Office.

This is about all the information I can give  
you concerning this District. Hoping it will  
be satisfactory.

I remain  
yours Truly.

Henry Maguire, P.M.

P.S.

I mislaid this for a week or would of  
answered it before. Cedar B.C.