

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.

Yale Park
Indian for
Means "Grizzly Bear" and was given the name by
John Coryell C.E. who surveyed the town site of Kelowna
The Lake "Okanagan" on which Kelowna is built is so called
after an Indian tribe of that name who reside in this district, and Vernon was so named
after Forbes Vernon ~~the~~ formerly M.P. for this district
Kelowna
B6

"Kelowna" was formerly "Okauagan Mission" which was started here upwards of 50 years ago by the "Oblate Fathers", they became possessed of quite an extensive piece of property, which they occupied, and cultivated keeping large herds of stock. They built a church, over 40 years ago, which is still standing in good repair and is used regularly as a place of worship by the R.C. part of the district. This church is about 3 miles from the present village at what is known as the "Old Mission" and is about 1 mile back from the lake front in a direct line. "Kelowna" is situated on the lake and was surveyed into lots in 1891 by "John Coryell" C.E. who gave it the name of "Kelowna" which is the Indian name for "Grizzly Bear". The "Grizzly" is and has always been quite common in this district and the name having a pleasing sound was selected by Mr Coryell for the village (and raised to the rank of a city) It is situated on the "Okauagan" Lake so named after the tribe of Indians who occupied and still occupy the district though now in greatly diminished numbers. Vernon which is situated some four miles north of the North End of Okauagan Lake was so named after "Forbes Vernon" a former M.P. for this district and who was at one time agent in London for the Province of British Columbia, but is now a resident of Victoria B.C.

W. M. M. M.