Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, _____AUG 25 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 localties, 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.

Ans'd

Beulah
Man.

Miniota
Minnewaste
Minnedosa
Birtle

Glenmurray ranche

Beulah .Municipality of Miniota

Manitoba Sept 27th 1905

James White Esq
            Ottawa

Dear Sir :k

        As per request on attached sheet,I have pleasure in giving you
the derivation of the name " Beulah"   I was the first settler here in
1879. George H.Rowswell was the first Merchant, and when we applied for a
P.O. and were asked by tha Dept to suggest a name , we had just been readi
ng a Novel called " Beulah", and suggested that name.
Beulah is in the Municipality of Miniota(Sioux word meaning much water)
as the Municipality is unusually well watered by the Assiniboine river,and
Minnewaste creek. I named the Municipality , being asked to do so as the
first Warden of the County of M niota, by the Provincial Secy of that year
1882."Minnewaste Is sioux for "Good water ", As a large Sioux reserve is
in this Municipality, and these indians, have made really creditableXXXXXX
progress in civilization and agriculture, we have ever been pleased to per
petuate the euphoniuos sioux names. The Town of Minnedosa is named for is
rapids at that place, and the name is derived from the sioux words" Minne-
duza." Minne - Water and " duza or " duzahan" rapid or running XXXXX fast.
 Birtle is named for the " Bird Tail"creek which runs through the Town, a
is a shortening ,simply,of the name " Bird Tail" ,.
    The railwaty Town of Miniota is named from the Municipality in which it
lies.

                        Yours Truly

                        W.A.Doyle

My place " Glenmurray Ranch" is XXX named for the Deep glen beside my
residence, and my youngest son MX " Murray" . The Glen rapidly deepens from
the Parairie level ,where it enters my land, to a depth of 300 feet where
it leaves my land ,three miles below. This action of the great flow of
water of former years, is characteristic of thsi country, as the glens or
gorges deepen very rapidly, especially near the larger rivers.

                        W.A.D.

good man