

41A/14

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 27 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.

Red Bay  
Bruce Co. Ont.  
Ans'd  
Good



Red Bay Oct 6" 1905

James White Esqr

Ottawa

Dear Sir

In compliance with your request as to the origin of the name "Red Bay" would state that years ago an Indian Settlement was here as far as I can find out of the Chippewa's they had quite large clearings also a burying ground many of the graves being still enclosed by fencing some twenty four years ago when I came here some fifteen years ago. An Indian was in the locality and digging around in the clearings my father having talked him in and sheltered him he stated he was hunting for brass Kettles buried by them before leaving here for the United States which his father used to tell him about when a Boy in conversation with my father he stated this place was called by them "Red Stone Bay" called that from a large Red Stone which lay on the beach near their landing a short sandy beach the only place free from Rock or Stone for a landing I think the stone must have been struck by Lightning as it is shattered up. I have seen it and should judge it to have been five or six feet in diameter and polished by the Rains &c. I might state that the same statement was verified by an old man by name Capt W<sup>c</sup> Babe who traded along the shore years ago and who states he steered to their landing by the same stone when settlement took place and application made for the establishment of a Post office the stone was dropped out as people had got into the habit of simply calling it Red Bay. Hence the name

yours truly  
C. W<sup>c</sup> Harland  
Postmaster