

114/8

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 28 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.

"Bear River"  
Kings Co. P.E.C.



Sir  
To give you what Information I can about this  
Place I Live at Bear River Station P E Island  
a small village it is situated Three or a half miles  
from shore of the Gulf of St Lawrence fifteen  
miles from East Point Bear River is named after  
a Bear that attacked a man by the name of  
Captain Rodrick Mac Donald about 80 Eighty  
years ago The Captain and the Bear fought for  
four hours The Captain killed the Bear after four  
hours fight with nothing but his Bare fists  
The Bear weighed six hundred Pounds  
Bear River rises at St Charles Station in Lot 43  
four miles from the shore and runs on a North East  
Direction in the Township of Lot 44 and runs  
North about one mile into the Gulf of St Lawrence  
This Information is Reliable and True

Respectfully yours

Lawrence McDonald

Post Master

Bear River P E Island