

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,

AUG 23 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.

*"Nutana"
Sask*

(See over)

Answers

T. COPLAND,
LAND AGENT and CONVEYANCER,
Saskatoon, Sask.

Fire Insurance. Marriage Licenses

(1) no

(2) no

(3) no

(4) yes. Nutana is the original
Saskatoon and when a Post
office was required on the West
side of the River it was at first
tried to have the west side called
"West Saskatoon" and leave the old
name where it originally belonged.
Confusion arose, and it was decided
to call the west side 'Saskatoon'
because the Ry Station is there by
that name, and a new name for
the East side resulted in 'Nutana'
x partly on my suggestion, amended in the
P. O. Dept. The name of Nutana
is ~~is~~ compiled. Yours truly T. Copland

Ottawa, Oct. 20th, 1905

Dear Sir,

I note from your memo that the name of your P. O. was "compiled" and presume it was compiled from portions of the names of persons or places. Will you kindly give me some further information respecting its derivation, assuming that I am correct in my assumption.

Yours truly,

James White
Geographer

Further Answer.

X When I was asked for a new name for this old Post Office, it occurred to me (among other names) to try Saskatoon backwards, and with a slight modification I got 'Nootaska', which I sent in. You will observe the softening to 'Nootana' is easy and a great improvement. All that remained was to change oo to u in the spelling which latter changes I cannot tell you the author of, but they seem good to me, though they completely hide the origin of the name.

Yours truly
Thos. Copland

Saskatoon. Sask. }
3rd Nov. 1905 }