

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.

"Roosthern" ✓
last.

Rosthern, Sask., Sep. 20/05.

The Geographer,
Department of the Interior
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of 23rd Aug. 1905,
Re "Rosthern" I beg to say that
I have made inquiries but could not
get any information as to the origin of
the name except from Messrs Osler, Ham-
mond & Nanton of Winnipeg who say: "The
name, we believe, was suggested by one of
the original directors of the Q. R. R. and S. Rail-
way, but his reason for doing so we cannot tell."

Mr. Gerhard Eus, Immigration Agent, at this
place, one of the very first settlers in this district
was utterly unable to give anything definite
on the point, and so I am at a loss to satisfy
you fully. His relating an incident would not
help much I am quite sure; he said: "A man by
the name of Ross while working at the then con-
structed Railway, got drowned in the creek just
south of town & the creek was then named Ross Creek
by the gang of workmen and is likely that this had
something to do with the fixing of a name for
the new station - making it Rosthern."

Having done the best I could I am

Yours Respy
Wm Rempel
P.M.