

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa,..... FEB 23 1906

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 who 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.

✓ Wakaw
Sask.

Wakaw is part of the Cree word
wakawkomah - bent or crooked or curved water
Pere Racomb translates wakaw croche and also courbe
The lake is a ~~semi lunar~~ ^{crescent shaped} body 12 miles long
lying with its convex shore facing S. E. and is the
source of the Carrot River
The banks are in places fully 200 feet high and one may
easily imagine an Indian standing on an eminence and
naming it true to shape "Curved water."

By many the place is known as Crooked Lake and the
Galicians shorten it to "Kruk-lak" and many letters
so addressed find their way here
An attempt is being made to retain the rather unenphonic
Indian name

Yours truly
George Arthur