

Researching Your Family History In Canada

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Norwegian Emigration To Canada

- Leif Eriksson, the son of Eric the Red, is often credited as being the first European to reach North America. His colony is known as Vinland.
- Up until the 1890s many Norwegian emigrants crossed the Atlantic, landing in Quebec, and from here continued on to the USA, often down the St. Lawrence.

Norwegian Emigration to Canada

- After Confederation, the Prairies were surveyed, but were slow to be settled
- In the 1890s a push was made to increase settlement on the prairies and the way to do this was to portray Canada as an obvious destination for emigrants.
- This push, aided by the American Midwest and Northwest becoming more populated, and immigration policies more restrictive, made the Canadian Prairies a choice of destination.

Norwegian Emigration to Canada

- What is now Saskatchewan and Alberta were the areas of choice, largely because of the available homestead land. The gold rush in the late 19th century also brought many Norwegians to British Columbia
- To encourage settlement in Western Canada, the Dominion Government offered a grant for a free homestead of 160 acres (also known as a quarter section) for a \$10 registration fee to those who were prepared to live on and cultivate the land during a qualifying period of time

Norwegian Emigration to Canada

Required Duties In Order to Obtain Patent (Title) to Homestead(1886-1908)

The settler must:

- Commence cultivation of his/her homestead within six months of date of entry or, if entry was obtained on or after the first day of September in any year, before the first day of June following.
- Within the first year after entry, break and prepare for crop no less than 5 acres.
- Within the second year, crop the initial 5 acres, and break and prepare for crop no less than 10 additional acres.
- Build a habitable house before end of second year and at the beginning of the third year must commence residence on homestead.
- Give six months notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his/her intention to make application for patent.

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Pages/home.aspx>

- Land Grants of Western Canada
- Post Offices and Postmasters
- Military Heritage
- Immigration
- Censuses

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

[Land Grants of Western Canada, 1870-1930](#)

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Post Offices and Postmasters

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Military Heritage

[World War I](#)

-Soldiers of the First World War database

[World War II](#)

-Second World War Service Files: CAF War Dead

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Immigration

- Naturalization Records, 1915-1951
 - Passenger Lists

Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Census

- 1901 Census of Canada
- 1906 Census of the Northwest Provinces (AB, SK, MB)
- 1911 Census of Canada
- 1916 Census of the Prairie Provinces (AB, SK, MB)
- 1921 Census of Canada

Our Roots

Our Roots: Canada's Local Histories Online

<http://www.ourroots.ca/>

Census

- 1825, 1831, 1842, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1906 (Northwest Provinces), 1911, 1916 (Prairie Provinces), 1921

Sources:

- [Library and Archives Canada](#)
- [Ancestry.com](#)
- [Automated Genealogy.com](#)
- [Family Search.org](#)

[Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)

- click on 'Search'
- then scroll down to 'Explore by Location'
- From here choose 'Canada' or province of interest

*Of Interest:

-Border Crossing records

Church Records

- Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada

<http://www.elcic.ca/>

Find a Congregation near bottom of page

- ELCIC Archives

Archives

Lutheran Theological Seminary

114 Seminary Crescent

Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X3

phone: 306-966-7850

email: lutheran.seminary@usask.ca

Church Records (Cont'd)

- Norlie, O.M., Pastor. *Norske Lutherske Menigheter i Amerika 1843-1916*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg, 1918.

<https://archive.org/details/norskelutherske00kasbgoog>

Miscellaneous

- Canada-wide online telephone directory
<http://www.canada411.ca/>
- Canada Genweb
<http://www.canadagenweb.org/>
- Recent Obituaries
<http://www.legacy.com/ns/obitfinder/obituary-search.aspx>

British Columbia

- Births, Death, Marriage Records

<http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy>

- British Columbia Archives

<http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bcarchives/>

- British Columbia Genweb

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canbc/>

Alberta

- Alberta Genealogical Society

<http://www.abgenealogy.ca/>

Index: Alberta Homestead Records

- Alberta Family Histories Society

<http://www.afhs.ab.ca/>

- Our Future Our Past

http://www.ourfutureourpast.ca/loc_hist/

Alberta (Cont'd)

- Provincial Archives of Alberta

<http://culture.alberta.ca/paa/>

- Alberta Genweb

<http://ab.canadagenweb.org/>

Saskatchewan

- Saskatchewan Genealogical Society

<http://www.saskgenealogy.com/>

-Indexes: Residents (SRI), Burial, Cemetery, Obituary

- Saskatchewan Cemetery Index

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cansacem/>

- Birth and Death index

http://genealogy.ehealthsask.ca/vsgs_srch.aspx

- Municipal Directory

<http://www.mds.gov.sk.ca/apps/Pub/MDS/welcome.aspx>

Saskatchewan (cont'd)

- Saskatchewan Archives

<https://www.saskarchives.com/>

- Saskatchewan Homestead Index

<http://www.saskhomesteads.com/>

- Saskatchewan Genweb

<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cansk/Saskatchewan/>

Manitoba

- Births, Deaths, Marriage Records

<http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php>

- Archives of Manitoba

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/>

- Manitoba Genweb

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canmb/>

Facebook

- Library and Archives Canada
- Canadian Genealogy
- Manitoba Genealogy
- Alberta Genealogical Society
- Saskatchewan Genealogy Network
- Saskatchewan Genealogical Society
- British Columbia Genealogical Society

Facebook (cont'd)

- Saskatchewan History & Folklore Society
- Saskatchewan History Online
- Museums Association of Saskatchewan
- Association of Manitoba Museums
- BC Museums Association
- History of Alberta