

BCGS Canadian Prairies Coffee Chat, February 22, 2022

Searching for Family Histories on the Prairies using the Mennonite Church

The Mennonite Church is producing a series of films featuring Anabaptist Churches, endorsed by the Mennonite World Conference.

<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/transmission-films>

Mennonite Heritage Village: <https://mennoniteheritagevillage.com/> Mennonite Historical Society Steinbeck, Manitoba. Many WWII Mennonite refugees couldn't come to Canada so went to Paraguay.

The Mennonite Historical Society of British Columbia, - Abbotsford - <https://www.mhsbc.com/index.php> have a section for Family Histories online.

The Mennonite Historical Society of BC also have a Facebook page.

Other Discussions:

BCGS has a new collection of histories of families who settled the prairies. See books in the BCGS Library: <https://www.bcfgs.ca/prairies-coffee-chat> for Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village – Guide.

Swan River Settlers: A book about the first families entitled “*100 Years in the Swan River Valley*” is held by one of the BCGS Members and a digital copy is also available at the University of Manitoba.

<https://digitalcollections.lib.umanitoba.ca/islandora/object/uofm%3A2399985#page/1/mode/2up>

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections – Digital Collections -

<https://umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives-special-collections>

Manitoba record types at Family Search: Go to - Search, Research Wiki - Map to North America – Manitoba. This gives a listing of all record types they hold.

Saskatchewan Historical Societies -

<https://www.familytreeresources.com/saskatchewan-family-history-societies.html>

SK **Uranium City** Saskatchewan History. What happened to the miners?:

<https://miningwatch.ca/blog/2021/7/14/uranium-city-what-happened-miners> Uranium exploration. People from many parts of the world came to this small city. It is no longer a viable city.

Saskapedia – Celebrating Saskatchewan: <https://saskapedia.com/>

Cemetery recordings: Billion Graves: <https://billiongraves.com/search> and Canadian Headstones: <https://canadianheadstones.ca/wp/headstone-search-update/>

Page 2. BCGS Canadian Prairies Coffee Chat – Feb 22, 2024 (cont'd)

Traveling from the Prairies to BC – try **Border Crossings**. Fernie to Spokane was a fur trade route. Try **Library and Archives** (LAC) Immigration records: search for more than one person. So many of the homesteaders came to BC. Also available at Ancestry.ca but a subscription required to access.

NewspaperArchives.com for Prairie news. This is an adjunct to newspapers.com.

Humboldt – Dept of Interior – Dominion Lands and Crown Timber office. Books recommended: *The District of Prairie Rose #2*- is about the Jackson area. LeRoy, Sk - *The Way things Were* refers to LeRoy, Saskatchewan.

BC Directories on Vancouver Public Library: <https://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/british-columbia-city-directories>

PEEL'S PRAIRIE PROVINCES DIRECTORIES: <https://library.ualberta.ca/peel>

Rootstech by Family Search: Genealogy in Canada's Western Provinces.

These classes are tied to familysearch.org and connects with relationships in family tree. Classes are available from Feb 2019 - March 2, 2022

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/session/1-introduction-genealogy-in-canadas-western-provinces>