

Ukraine Genealogy Group (UGG) of Edmonton and Area Society, Alberta February 2025 Update



UGG Edmonton and Area Society continues to provide information and suggestions to its members whose interests that include the geographic areas of East Galicia (Ukraine), West Galicia (Poland), Bukovina (Ukraine and Romania), Volhynia, and the West Russian Empire (Ukraine and Poland), and all of Ukraine. We invite people from all of the Eastern European countries to participate in our meetings.

There are no membership requirements to this genealogy group. Our main focus at this time is on Western Canada and the former regions of Galicia and Bukovina in Western Ukraine. Whenever possible the presentations are shared with the participants who attend the Zoom meetings and in-person workshops.



Your 2025 Genealogy Research Plan (Organized by Month) by Sunny Jane Morton, Family Tree Magazine

“Achieve your genealogy goals with this year-long research plan. Follow the monthly prompts, or simply choose what tasks inspire you most and get started!

If you’re like me, as each new year settles in, you fill the blank pages of your calendar quickly—too quickly. But this year, elevate your family history research to a priority worthy of its own spot in your schedule. Whether you mark off 15 minutes a day, an hour a week, or a weekend binge every month is up to you.

Not sure what to do in that time? Too busy to think about next month, let alone six months from now? We hear you, and we’re here to help.

Here’s your guide to planning an orderly, comprehensive and time-flexible series of essential family history tasks for the coming year. And we’ve broken each goal into several achievable steps. Choose one task each month if your time is short, or go all-out and try several. Re-order the monthly assignments as needed to fit your schedule, lifestyle and budget. The important thing is to keep your genealogy calendar time slot full of family history tasks you love (or need) to do.

JANUARY | Get Organized

Start the year off right by organizing what you’ve already learned about your family. In addition to having an organized workspace, organizing the research you’ve already done prevents you from repeating your efforts.

Set up computer file folders. Create a genealogy file on your computer (if you don’t already have one). Add subfiles for each surname you’re researching. As you add new surnames, you could add folders at the same organizational level (Plan A) or nest them within major surnames of interest (Plan B). Plan A is simpler; Plan B mimics your family structure.

Within each surname folder, add subfolders for nuclear family groups as needed. This will be especially helpful if you’re studying multiple generations of a family. (If you’ve already got an electronic family history filing system, tidy it up.)

Populate subfolders with files. Add digitized photos and documents, research reports and other materials relating to each person or family group. Download copies of records attached to ancestors in your online trees, which ensures you’ll have copies of the files even if your subscription expires or the site goes down.

Download raw DNA data. Do this for all tests you manage. Stash your raw data in a DNA subfolder in your main genealogy file. Read instructions for downloading data from AncestryDNA.

Start (or update) your family tree online or in genealogy software. Be sure all your discoveries get added to the appropriate individuals. If your tree “lives” in software on your computer, activate any syncing features so linked online trees stay current.

This protects you against computer failure or other loss. You could do regular, manual backups to multiple locations (cloud-based storage such as Dropbox and hardware-based using an external hard drive). Automate this process—and make it continuous—by using a cloud-based backup system such as Backblaze, Carbonite or iDrive.

FEBRUARY | Reconstruct a Family

Cold-weather weekends are great for research binge sessions. This month, you’ll use records to reconstruct a family. This is a perfect next step after organizing what you already know and can rapidly expand your genealogy knowledge.

Identify a family or branch on your tree for which you have little information.

Put a working family tree on genealogy websites you subscribe to. This activates automated record hinting, which means you’ll get hints and links to censuses and vital records that may match your ancestors.

Carefully review record hints for each nuclear family, beginning with the most-recent generations. Watching for records that match on multiple, specific parameters, such as a spouse’s name and the names and approximate ages of children. Attach records to their tree profiles only when you have a high degree of confidence in the match—but keep track of “maybes” for later reference.

Go to each family member’s tree profile after exhausting record hints. Look for record gaps such as missing census years or dates of birth, marriage or death. Run targeted searches for records likely to fill these gaps. Identify as many records about the same vital event as possible (for example, an obituary, death certificate and tombstone inscription). Multiple, independent sources for these vital events strengthen your tree.

Clean up loose ends as you go. For example, if you find a second marriage, determine how the first one ended. Try to identify which children belonged to each partner and ensure the relationships are correct on your tree (record hinting systems may automatically attach children to step - parents when they appear together in records).

Identify other sources. As needed, visit different genealogy websites or research specific record types to learn about records covering your ancestor’s time and place, and how you can get them.”

Source: <https://familytreemagazine.com/research/genealogy-research-plan/>

Here is the current 2025 schedule for the “Ukraine Genealogy Group of Edmonton and Area”:

“Databases and Digital Content at EPL for Genealogy” workshop, in-person only event. Saturday, February 15, 10 am – 11:30 am, at the Blind Enthusiasm Group Computer Lab on the second floor, at the Edmonton Public Library (EPL), Stanley A. Milner (Downtown) with a capacity of 18. This also includes a tour of the North of 52 Collection.

Digital Content/Genealogy & History <https://www.epl.ca/resources/genealogy/> and <https://www.epl.ca/genealogy/>

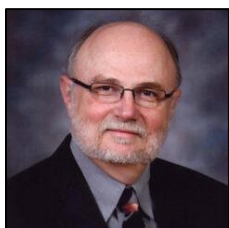
A portion of this workshop will be for discussions and independent search time. We will also be sharing tips and tricks for research. If this runs past the time booked in the lab then we can move into the public area of the library or go to a cafe. Please email Elaine directly if you are interested in attending this workshop, at kalyna@outlook.com



“Ukrainian Settlement in Canada: The Role of Bukovynian Ukrainians”. On Wed., March 26, 2025, starting at 7pm, our guest speaker is Dr. Taras Lupul, who is currently a co-researcher, Scholars at Risks Programme (Ukraine), College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Department of History, Classics and Religion, Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta as well as a visiting researcher in CIUS. This lecture will discuss different aspects of the history of Bukovynian-Ukrainian immigration to Canada, including the emigration process, arrival and settlement in Canada, and community development. Dr. Lupul will focus on emigration from the states of Austria-Hungary prior to World War I and from Romania in the interwar period of 1920-39. The role of Ukrainians from Bukovyna in the development of Orthodox churches in Canada will also be examined, including the founding of parishes such as the Holy Trinity Bukowinian Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa and the Saint Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Montreal.

A Bukovynian native (born in Oshykhliby village, Kitsman raion, Chernivtsi oblast), Dr. Taras Lupul was an associate professor in the Department of International Relations, Chernivtsi Fedkovych National University. His candidate's dissertation topic was on current immigration trends in Canada, and he has authored a book about the politicization of ethnicity as an institutional factor in the formation of the contemporary Canadian political nation (Chernivtsi National Univ. 2010) and many articles in Ukrainian and other Eastern European scholarly journals.

The Zoom meeting link will be sent out at the end of February, with the March 2025 UGG Edmonton newsletter.



On Wed., April 16, 2025, starting at 7 pm, our guest speaker is Jars Balan. His presentation on **“Ukrainian Settlement in Western Canada”** looks at the evolution of Ukrainian communities in the Canadian Prairies beginning in the late 19th century. Seen as ideal immigrants to take on the challenges of transforming the Parkland region of the Canadian Prairies into productive farmland, thousands of Ukrainians came to Canada under the Canadian Government’s Prairie Settlement initiative. Mr. Balan will discuss the process of attracting Ukrainians to Canada, their long journey by trains and ocean vessels to homesteading lands on the prairies, and the difficulties they had to overcome in making their home in Canada. Many Albertans claim Ukrainian heritage, and have a contributed a rich, cultural element to the development of western Canada.

JARS BALAN is the Director of the Peter and Doris Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta. He has authored numerous scholarly and popular articles on Ukrainian - Canadian history, literature, and theatre, and an illustrated history of Ukrainians in Canada. A lifelong activist in the Ukrainian community, he is the initiator and curator of the Kalyna Country Ecomuseum, a heritage district encompassing Canada’s oldest and largest Ukrainian bloc settlement in rural east Central Alberta. Jars has been involved with CIUS, in one capacity or another, for almost all of its nearly fifty-year history.

The Zoom meeting link will be sent out at the end of March, with the April 2025 UGG Edmonton newsletter.

Dr. Maryna Paliienko at the Kyiv University has canceled her presentation to our group in Feb/March due to having a very busy schedule with the universities in Poland, a certification process for the Kyiv University plus it is extremely difficult for them all to work today as they are facing the challenges of war. We can pray for her and her students that this war ends soon. Hopefully, we might be able to book her at a later date.



We have created a **“Ukraine Genealogy Group – Edmonton, Alberta based & Global focused”** private Facebook group. This is a Ukraine genealogy group which is based in Edmonton, Alberta but collaborates with family researchers from Western Canada. And in all of the regions of the former Galicia and Bukovina under the Austro-Hungarian Empire, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/429397856414849/>

Local Events:

Don'ya Ukraine's Kitchen, new space grand opening, Thurs., Jan. 30 to Sat. Feb. 1, 12153 Fort Road, Edmonton.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1315538102894711/1315538669561321>

Ukrainian Market, League of Ukrainian Canadian Women Edmonton, Feb. 7, 5 pm to 8:30 pm, at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex, 9615 – 153 Avenue, Edmonton, cash is welcome. Includes art, books, clothing, home décor, jewelry, food, music and dance, and much more. Photo exhibition “Unbreakable Ukraine: Unity and Resilience Captured” – a powerful display of photos showcasing war-torn Ukraine and the resilience of its people organized by Firefighter Aid Ukraine and League of Ukrainian Canadians in Edmonton. <https://www.facebook.com/lucwedmonton>

Pioneer Churches on the Prairies with Russell Sawchuk, an ACUA workshop, Fri., Feb. 7 at 7 pm. 10554 – 110 St., Edm., Unit 100, ACUA: Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts <https://www.facebook.com/events/602341658972767/>
<https://acuarts.ca/whats-on/pioneer-churches-on-the-prairies-with-russell-sawchuk/>

Ukrainian Wedding Traditions with Larisa Sembaliuk, an ACUA workshop, Sat., Feb. 8, 11 am, 10554 – 110 St., Edm., Unit 100, ACUA: Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts <https://www.facebook.com/events/609939278098423/>
<https://acuarts.ca/workshops/ukrainian-wedding-traditions-with-larisa-semwaliuk-cheladyn/>

International Conference: **The Russo-Ukrainian War: Russia's Information Warfare Strategies in Comparative Perspective**. Feb. 21-22, in-person (Ottawa) and online. Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. This creative forum will bring together renowned specialists from Canada and other countries—including professional journalists and media experts, political scientists, sociologists, and anthropologists—in order to closely examine the propaganda and disinformation warfare strategies that Moscow has been using to destabilize political and social situations in Ukraine, other countries, and indeed in Russia itself. <https://ruwconference.ca/>



Global Call to Action, Feb. 24, doors 6:30 pm, start 7 pm, Third Anniversary of Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine, prayer, rally and fundraiser, St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic Church, 7007 109 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.

The Harvest Excursions and Women on the Prairies, Wed. Feb. 25, 1-3 pm. This meeting deals with the waves of men and women brought to the Prairies between 1901 and 1929 to assist with the annual fall harvest, many of whom remained on the Prairies as homesteaders. Also, the efforts of the Canadian Government and the Railways to deal with the shortfall of women coming to the Prairies. Will also finish the follow-up on the Family History Fair. \$3.00 drop-in fee, WSAC Boardroom, Westend Seniors Activity Centre, 9629 – 176 Street, Edmonton. Lead: Paul Rose, prose0849@gmail.com https://weseniors.ca/whats_new/genealogy-drop-in-class/



Genealogy 101

Want to start your family tree and don't know where to start? Alberta Family Histories Society is offering a 3-part workshop.

- What is genealogy?
- How to organize and record
- Use of software
- Importance of citing sources
- The Internet as a source
- The research process
- Census records
- Building timelines

For more information or to register, contact communications@afhs.ab.ca or visit our website calendar

www.afhs.ab.ca



ALBERTA FAMILY HISTORIES SOCIETY



March 2 & 16 (hybrid) and March 30 (in-person at 712 16 Ave NW Calgary) 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Alberta Family Histories Society is offering a **Genealogy 101 workshop**. Aimed at beginners or those wanting to learn some best practices from a few experienced members, it will be held on three Sundays (March 10, March 24 and April 7). For more information see our website <https://afhs.ab.ca/event/genealogy-101-3-part-workshop-2/>

Perogy Supper, 9003 – 153 Avenue, Edmonton, Sat. March 1, Exaltation of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Adults (13 yrs+) \$25.00, Youth (7-12 yrs) \$15.00 and children (6 & under) free. Cash bar. Two sittings, 4:30 pm – 6 pm then 6:30 pm – 8 pm. Advanced tickets only, contact Dianne @ 780-242-1534.

Diseases, Illnesses and Remedies, Wed. March 5, 1-3 pm. This meeting deals with the variety of diseases and illnesses that people faced during the 19th and early

20th centuries, and the remedies and medications that were used to alleviate and hopefully cure victims of these illnesses. \$3.00 drop-in fee, WSAC Boardroom, Westend Seniors Activity Centre, 9629 – 176 Street, Edmonton.

https://weseniors.ca/whats_new/genealogy-drop-in-class/

UKE: The Untold Story of Hockey Legends (film), March 10, 5:30 – 9:30 pm, Ford Hall, Rogers Place, Edmonton, two ticket options: regular admission is \$50 with film screening and pyrohy/kubie plate and VIP Experience is \$150 with exclusive pre-screening with Kelly Hrudehy and director Volodymyr Mula, film screening and pyrohy/kubie plate. Throughout the 100-year existence of the NHL, more than fifty Ukrainians became champions of the League. This remarkable documentary, directed and produced by acclaimed Ukrainian filmmaker Volodymyr Mula, promises to be a captivating exploration of hockey's hidden history of Ukrainian hockey legends.

<https://www.universe.com/events/the-canadian-premiere-of-uke-the-untold-story-of-hockey-legends-tickets-0ZV1HM>

The Household Doctor with Michael Mucz, March 15, 1 – 3 pm, in-person only, Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts, Suite 100, 10554 – 110 Street, Edmonton. Ukrainian settlers brought a wealth of traditional knowledge that enabled them to settle, survive, and thrive on the Prairies. Michael Mucz, author of *Baba's Kitchen Medicines*, has been translating *Household Doctor: How to Treat Yourself with Home Remedies Without the Help of a Doctor* by M.M. Belegai. Written in the early 1900s in Edmonton, the theme of this book covers a variety of treatments using various household items or practices. The author of this book was not a doctor, but someone who compiled information from various European and Slavic medical books, selecting what they felt was useful and practical. Join Michael for an insightful discussion on his research into this publication. \$20 CAD for non-member, \$15 for ACUA members.

<https://alberta-council-for-the-ukrainian-arts.square.site/product/the-household-doctor-lecture-with-michael-mucz/4021>

Love and Marriage. Echoes of love and loss linger in the vaults of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Love letters, photographs and even government documents recount stories of romance and separation. But sometimes it's the absence of records that tell the real story. Visit the Provincial Archives of Alberta during public hours to view our latest gallery exhibit. Admission is free. May 7, 2024, to May 30, 2025.

<https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/whats-new/exhibits>

Alberta Council for Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) – Events page (note that other events are listed here)

<https://acuarts.ca/projects-events/>

Other Genealogy Sessions:

German Immigration in the 18th and 19th Centuries to Western Ukraine (Galicia) and the Discovery of My Grandfather Kindraczuk's German Ancestry: Part 2 by Dr. Romana M. Bahry Ph. D, Jan. 28, 7:30 pm (Eastern Time), UGG-NCR, <https://uggncr.org/next-webinar/>

SLIG Spring Virtual 2025, Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Feb. – May 2025 (Virtual) - No classes the week of RootsTech

Course 1: Reconstructing Ancestral Neighborhoods & Networks

Course 2: Researching Women from 1860 to 1950

Course 3: A Century of Change: The Emigrant-Immigrant-Migrant Experience in the U.S., 1825–1925

Course 4: The Art of Writing a Research Report

Course 5: Bring 'Em Back to Life: Writing Our Ancestors' Stories

Course 6: Tracing French-Canadian Ancestors and Telling Their Stories

Course 7: Becoming an Accredited Genealogist Professional: The Why, the What, the How

Course 8: BCG Certification: Understanding and Meeting Standards

<https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=650> and <https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=653>

Season 11 Schedule for **"Finding Your Roots"** on PBS. Tuesdays, 8 pm MST, Channel 140, Edmonton cable channel.

January 7 – "Larger Than Life" – actors Lea Salonga and Amanda Seyfried

January 14 – "La Famiglia" – talk show host Joy Behar and actor Michael Imperioli

January 21 – "Stranger Than Fiction" – novelist Amy Tan and poet Rita Dove

January 28 – "Dreamers One and All" – actor Sharon Stone and model Chrissy Teigen

February 4 – "Family Recipes" – celebrity chefs José Andrés and Sean Sherman

February 11 – "Latin Roots" – musician Rubén Blades and journalist Natalie Morales

February 18 – "The Ties That Bind" – actors Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard

February 25 – "The Butterfly Effect" – actors Debra Messing and Melanie Lynskey

April 1 – "Moving on Up" – historian Lonnie Bunch and actor Sheryl Lee Ralph

April 8 – "Finding My Roots" – actor Laurence Fishburne and host and executive producer Henry Louis Gates, Jr

<https://www.pbs.org/show/finding-your-roots/> and <https://www.pbs.org/video/larger-than-life-wz3hsi/>

AI & Genealogy: Trouble Ahead? With Thomas MacEntee, Feb. 3, 7 pm (BC time), Kelowna & District Genealogical Society, members free, non-members \$10, registration required. While AI (artificial intelligence) might be the current "hot" buzz word, the fact is that many genealogy vendors and even genealogists have already been using this technology for years. The AI industry is at a crossroads and within the next five years, it will permeate almost every aspect of business and society. Learn how AI is currently being used to improve the genealogy experience, and whether or not you should seek out other uses of artificial intelligence for your own genealogy research.

<https://kdgs.ca/2025/2025-february-general-meeting/>

Recognizing Inaccurate and Misleading Genealogical – Records, Citations, and Sources, with Bryan L. Mulcahy, Tues., Feb. 4, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm (ET), Allen County Public Library. False and error filled information can be found in all genealogy sources, including many of the highest rated quality sources. The Internet has proliferated this tendency. In the name of convenience and time, genealogists are increasingly failing to compare original records with the information gleaned from print and online resources. Taking this information at face value, leads to mistakes spreading throughout sources. This seminar will discuss issues associated with this topic and how to overcome problems.

<https://acpl.libnet.info/event/12680398>

Foundations in DNA 1 of 5: Introduction to DNA and Genetic Genealogy, with Blaine Bettinger, Wed., Feb. 5, 12 pm MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Discover how DNA testing can transform your family history research! This foundational lecture introduces the core principles of genetic genealogy, explaining the types of DNA tests available (autosomal, Y-DNA, and mitochondrial), what they can reveal, and how they complement traditional

genealogical methods. Learn how genetic insights can connect you to your ancestors and provide new avenues to explore your family's story.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/foundations-in-dna-1-of-5-introduction-to-dna-and-genetic-genealogy/>

Using AI to Translate and Manipulate Foreign Language Documents, with Natalie Webb, Feb. 8, 1 pm MST, Appleton Public Library. In this session, we'll explore how cutting-edge AI tools translate foreign languages and unlock the rich histories our ancestors left behind. From instant translation and language detection to deciphering handwritten records and uncovering cultural nuances, AI offers powerful solutions to interpret texts from across the globe. Whether you're tracing your roots in a far-off land or piecing together the stories of your ancestors, this class will show you how to leverage AI to make foreign language interpretation faster, easier, and more accurate. Discover how modern technology is revolutionizing the way we connect with our past!

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BR4VwU0HRiS1CgbwOfVSbQ#/registration

Have Questions, Get Answers for Galicia, with Michelle Chubenko, Tues., Feb. 11, 8 pm ET, (5 pm MST), to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vlBvTQHqRY-rl3O30fGNyA>

AncestryDNA 101, Feb. 12, 11 am MST. In this introductory webinar, we'll show you how to use your AncestryDNA® results to accelerate your family history discoveries. Whether you're looking to discover new branches of your family tree or understand the science behind your results, you'll walk away with the information you need to make the most of the tools available! <https://www.ancestry.com/c/discover/education>

Finding Your Elusive Female Ancestors in Local Archives, with Melissa Barker, Wed. Feb. 12, 12 pm MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars, Local archives of all kinds have records for your female ancestors. Many times, these records are not digitized or available online. Learn from a seasoned archivist how to locate and research female records in local archives. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/finding-your-elusive-female-ancestors-in-local-archives/>

Creating Children's Stories from Ancestral Lives, with Michael John Neill, Fri., Feb. 14, 10 am MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. This presentation will discuss ways that ancestral stories—obtained from actual documents and records—can be converted to children's stories. The created story is not necessarily going to be entirely genealogically accurate. The goal of stories for children is to hopefully nurture an interest in their family history, not bore them to tears with an endless list of names and dates.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/creating-childrens-stories-from-ancestral-lives/>

Top 10 Tips for Being a Better Researcher, with Ken Mckinlay, Feb. 19, 6-8 pm MST, East European Genealogical Society (Winnipeg), Zoom meeting only and for members. In this presentation, Ken will explore the top ten tips and strategies for uncovering your ancestors' stories. Rather than focusing on specific search techniques, this talk takes a broader approach to genealogy, offering insights into how to think strategically and see the bigger picture in your research. Whether you're new to genealogy or have years of experience, this session will provide practical advice to help you uncover new connections and make progress in your family history journey. <https://eegsociety.org/events>

Enhance your family tree accuracy with MyHeritage's Timeline and Consistency Checker, with James Tanner, Tue., Feb. 25, 12 pm MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars, When you begin a family tree on the MyHeritage.com website, you may discover that the website has an app called the Consistency Checker that scans your family tree and identifies mistakes and inconsistencies in your data, so you can make the necessary changes in your tree, thereby improving its overall quality and accuracy. Another helpful app is the MyHeritage Timeline. This app allows you to view your family tree as a timeline. Using this feature, you can visualize how the story of your family unfolded over time and place your ancestors in the context of the period in which they lived. Come and learn about how these two tools can work together to vastly improve the accuracy of your family tree.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/enhance-your-family-tree-accuracy-with-myheritages-timeline-and-consistency-checker/>

Researching Eastern European Family History workshop, Feb. 26-27, \$259 US, by the New York Genealogical and Biographic Society, online via livestream. Presenters are Michelle Tucker Chubenko, Rhoda Miller and Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz. Join the NYG&B for an online seminar (held over two days) focused on Eastern European family history research. Experts on Eastern European genealogy will lead sessions on various topics, including understanding geography and places of origin; accessing and using both U.S. and European records of various types; navigating language barriers; and breaking through brick walls in research. Topics for genealogical research will include Austrian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Jewish, Polish, Russian, Slovakian, and Ukrainian ancestors.

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/events/researching-eastern-european-family-history>

From Spit to Screen: The Journey of Your DNA Sample, with Paul Woodbury, Fri., Feb. 28, 12 pm MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. We all know that genetic genealogy has transformed the way we perform family history research, but how does it actually work? Join us as we learn about the underlying technology and processes that can transform your spit sample into informative reports and match lists facilitating genealogical discovery.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/from-spit-to-screen-the-journey-of-your-dna-sample/>

Streamlining Genealogical Research Plans with AI: A Step-by-Step Guide, with Diana Elder, Fri., Feb. 28, 12 pm MST, members only webinar, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. This practical session offers a detailed look at integrating AI into your genealogical research planning workflow. We'll explore AI-powered tools that can assist with each step of the planning process: clarifying research objectives, analyzing and summarizing known facts, generating hypotheses based on existing data, expanding your list of potential sources, and creating an optimized research strategy. Learn how to use AI to save time, reduce oversight, and create more robust research plans while maintaining control over your genealogical process.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/streamlining-genealogical-research-plans-with-ai-a-step-by-step-guide/>

RootsTech 2025, March 6-8, 2025, online worldwide and in-person in Salt Lake. 200+ new online sessions in over 26 languages. 2025 Class Preview. Here is a sneak peek at all of the new sessions coming to RootsTech in 2025. This list changes frequently, so come back often and plan to start building your schedule in January. First Keynotes Announced for RootsTech 2025 have been added to their website. <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/> and <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/schedule/preview>

A Case Study Workshop in Ukrainian Jewish Genealogy with a Special Q&A by Alex Krakovsky and Ellie Vance, Russian Genealogist Expert (Russian Empire). Alex is a Jewish-Ukrainian Genealogist. Sun. March 9, 1 pm Pacific (1.5 hours), Santa Cruz Jewish Genealogy Society. Non-members pay \$5.00 US. Not sure where to start researching your Jewish ancestors from Ukraine? Or, are you looking to advance your research skills in Ukrainian research? Whether you are a beginner or a more experienced researcher, you'll be sure to learn something new in this case study and Q&A. <https://scigs.org/> and check under "Upcoming Events" and https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=UT5F44CCHSSCQ

Roots Tech 2025 Recap, with Daniel Horowitz, Tue, March 11, 12 pm MDT, Join Daniel Horowitz, genealogy expert at MyHeritage, for a detailed review of all the exciting MyHeritage announcements and events that took place at RootsTech! Hear all about the biggest news from the conference and enjoy some behind-the-scenes tidbits from a MyHeritage insider. <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/rootstech-2025-recap/>

Grandma Said She Was From Poznań: An Introduction to Polish Genealogy with Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz, March 19, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, (2 hours ahead of us in Alberta so 4:30 pm start), in-person and Zoom presentation sponsored by the Hamilton East Public Library. For information and registration, please visit (not posted on the website as of Nov. 24) <https://hepl.libnet.info/events?l=Noblesville,Virtual>

5 Resources for Eastern European Research by Michelle Chubenko, at the East European Genealogical Society (Winnipeg), virtual session for members only, (is not posted on their events page yet). <https://eegsociety.org/events>

Picture the Past: An Introduction to AI Images for Family Historians with Steve Little, Fri., March 28, 12 pm, members only, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Learn how to use artificial intelligence to transform written records and family stories into memorable images. Whether recreating a long-lost family homestead or visualizing your ancestors' daily lives, discover how today's AI technology can add a new dimension to your family history research. This webinar will show genealogists how to use the best AI image generators available today and demonstrate the methods for getting the best results from them.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/picture-the-past-an-introduction-to-ai-images-for-family-historians/>

Make a Family History Photo Book in Three Days, April 2025, Family Tree University, \$99.99 US, 23 lessons, with Sunny Jane Morton. In this workshop you will learn how to make a 20-page photo book using a combination of photographs, documents, and text to tell their ancestors' stories.

<https://university.familytreemagazine.com/courses/make-a-family-history-photo-book-in-three-days-april-2025>

GPTs for Family History: Unlocking the Potential of AI with Andrew Redfern, Thurs., April 3, 6 pm, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Explore the cutting-edge world of Generative Pre-trained Transformers (GPTs) and their applications in family history in this innovative webinar. You'll learn about the various GPT models available, how they can be utilised to enhance your genealogical research, and the benefits they offer in terms of efficiency and creativity. The session will also provide a guide on how to create your own GPT tailored to your family history needs, from data preparation to fine-tuning the model. Whether you're a seasoned researcher or new to AI, this webinar will equip you with the knowledge and tools to leverage GPTs in uncovering and preserving your family's stories.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/gpts-for-family-history-unlocking-the-potential-of-ai/>

DNA testing: when the unexpected knocks on your door with Janna Helshtein, Fri., April 4, 5 am MST, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. This captivating webinar presents real-life stories of individuals who took a DNA test and received answers to questions they never asked. Each story opens the door to unexpected revelations, presenting profound ethical and moral dilemmas, the complex emotions and challenging decisions people need to make when unexpected information is revealed. How far should one go to uncover the truth? This webinar will echo long after it ends. Don't miss out on these gripping tales of DNA surprises.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/dna-testing-when-the-unexpected-knocks-on-your-door/>

FamilySearch Catalog: The Sears Christmas Catalogue for Genealogists with Lianne Kruger (President of the Alberta Genealogical Society), Fri, April 4, 7 am MST, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Did you mark your wish list in the Sears Christmas catalog as a child? FamilySearch Catalog lists everything available in the FamilySearch Library. Many of these items are also available online, at FamilySearch Centers and Affiliated Libraries. Items include books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications. This session will go through the steps on how to search by location, surname, title, author, subject, or keywords, and combinations of these. Learn to find where the items are located and what type of media they are stored in. Search online in film images, and adjust their image or zoom in and out. When you find records for your research, mark each to view later in a to-do list of items which may be printed to the library when you get in person. See how the FamilySearch Wiki will help find records for an area anywhere.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/familysearch-catalog-the-sears-christmas-catalog-for-genealogists/>

Advocacy for Genealogy with Alec Ferretti, Fri. April 4, 8 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. From overbearing privacy laws to poor funding to archives, genealogists' access to the historical records we need are always under threat. Learn why genealogists need to take an active role in fighting for records access, what genealogists have already been doing, and what we can do going forward!

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/advocacy-for-genealogy/>

From Research to Writing: AI Tools for Genealogists with Nicole Elder Dyer, Fri. April 4, 9 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Writing about your genealogy research can be challenging. Assembling genealogical conclusions requires time, persistence, and dedication. Learn how generative AI tools can help – whether you're writing a biography, research report, or proof argument. Tools like ChatGPT and Claude can turn research logs into reports and timelines into narrative.

Providing text to the AI tools help increase accuracy and limit errors. Generative AI tools can increase your writing efficiency, but your personal style may be lost. Learn how to maintain your unique voice while increasing productivity. We will also discuss when to disclose writing assistance from AI tools and how to cite them.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/from-research-to-writing-ai-tools-for-genealogists/>

How to Use MyHeritage DNA to Get the Most Out of Your DNA Test Results, Even If You've Already Tested Elsewhere with Rick Crume, Fri., April 4, 10 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. MyHeritage DNA offers a key feature missing from its main competitors: a chromosome browser. That tool lets you view the DNA segments that you share with your matches. Export your matching segment data to DNA Painter and you can determine exactly what DNA you inherited from the ancestors you share with your DNA match. MyHeritage DNA even accepts DNA results from other DNA testing companies, so you can import that information into MyHeritage DNA and get matching segment data to use with DNA Painter. In this webinar, you'll get step-by-step instructions.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/how-to-use-myheritage-dna-to-get-the-most-out-of-your-dna-test-results-even-if-youve-already-tested-elsewhere/>

Boosting Your Genealogy Research: How to Leverage the Google Translate Chrome Extension with Natalie Webb, Fri, April 4, 11 am, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Did you know that the Google Translate tool you rely on as a genealogist also comes in a convenient browser extension? With this extension, you can instantly translate text right on the page you're viewing, without the hassle of switching tabs or opening a new window. It's a seamless way to break down language barriers while staying focused on your research!

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/boosting-your-genealogy-research-how-to-leverage-the-google-translate-chrome-extension/>

Piecing Together History: Using Maps and Gazetteers to Rediscover Eastern European Towns, Sunday, April 6, 1 pm Pacific, with Michelle Chubenko, Global Jewish Genealogy Society, non-members pay \$5.00 US, zoom link will be sent the week of the event. Our ancestor's lives were more than the life events of birth, marriage and death. Yet, finding already constructed historical vignettes for where they lived aren't always readily available. During the presentation, Michelle will share how to use published materials such as gazetteers, schematisms, directories and maps, to build the historical image of your ancestral town/village. She will demonstrate how to use the statistical data and incorporate visual details using a variety of examples from locations across Central and Eastern Europe. <https://www.globaljgs.org/upcoming-events/> and to register: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=DZUCR9QUE2FLQ

Foundations in DNA 2 of 5: Understanding and Using Y-DNA and mtDNA with Blaine Bettinger, Wed., April 9, 12 pm, register for free, Legacy Family Tree Webinar. Y-DNA and mtDNA have revolutionized genealogical research, breaking through barriers that once seemed insurmountable. This session dives into the unique inheritance patterns of Y-DNA and mtDNA, showing how these tests trace ancient ancestry and identify relationships both close and distant. Gain insights into their application for solving lineage mysteries and uncovering ancestral connections.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/foundations-in-dna-2-of-5-understanding-and-using-y-dna-and-mtdna/>

120+ Tips & Sources for Finding Ancestral Photos Online & Offline, by Katherine R. Willson, April 12, 2-4 pm Central Time, Appleton Public Library. Discover more than 120 tips and sources for locating ancestral photos from print media, various organizations and repositories, online sources, as well as from distant relatives we haven't yet met or even know. <https://appleton-wi.whofi.com/calendar/event/1253633>

From the Mid-Atlantic to New Frontiers: Tracing the Migration Patterns of Your Ancestors, with Michelle Chubenko, April 24, 7:30 pm ET, Fairfax Genealogical Society, virtual session. This presentation explores migration patterns of those who migrated from the Mid-Atlantic region to places westward. Participants will learn about the economic, social, and political factors driving these movements, including land opportunities, industrial growth, and cultural shifts. Using maps, historical documents, and case studies, attendees will learn about tools to trace their ancestors' footsteps and uncover the stories behind their journeys. The session will also address the challenges of tracking movements across the country, including changes in records, naming conventions, and shifting boundaries. Whether your family's journey spanned a few

miles or several states, this presentation offers strategies to strengthen your understanding of your ancestors' migrations.
https://www.fxgs.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=912730&item_id=2518969

Researching Your Ancestry in the Austrian Crownland of Galicia (2025), [waitlist](#). With Michelle Chubenko. This institute-level course is designed for those who have identified their immigrant ancestor's hometown in Galicia (Königreich Galizien), an Austro-Hungarian Empire crownland, and are seeking in-depth instruction on Empire's history and genealogically relevant record groups beyond birth, marriage, and death records. Instruction will be given on record types which can be used for not only Polish and Ukrainian, but German and Jewish ancestry. There will be hands-on exercises in class and optional homework assignments to help you gain experience. Attendees will have the opportunity to (re)construct the historical context for their ancestral village/town using many sources like gazetteers and historical maps as well as a mapping exercise using Google Earth. <https://genealogy.chubenko.us/researching-your-ancestry-in-galicia>

What to do when metrical records don't exist? Limited, free download access of a PDF with Michelle Chubenko. Thank you for your interest in my presentation – What to do when metrical records don't exist? For a limited time, the recorded presentation and chat log will be available online. Follow the links in the PDF file to access the files.
<https://genealogy.chubenko.us/what-to-do-metrical-records>

Metro Continuing Education, Edmonton Public Schools, Adult Online Learning

Includes but not limited to, Write Your Life Story, Beginners Guide to Getting Published, The Keys to Effective Editing, Write and Publish Your Nonfiction Book, Photography Suite, Creative Writing Value Suite, Beginning Writers Workshop, Writing Essentials, Discover Digital Photography, Grammar Refresher etc.
<https://www.metrocontinuingeducation.ca/adult-continuing-education/online-learning/>
<https://www.ed2go.com/metro/SearchResults.aspx#SearchBar>

The Nashi Predky/Our Ancestors Family History Group

The Ukrainian History and Education Center in New Jersey, USA

<https://ukrhec.org/collections-research/family-history-group> and <https://ukrhec.org/events>

Ukrainian Genealogy Group – National Capital Region (Ottawa, Canada)

<https://uggncr.org/>

FamilySearch Library Webinars, Ongoing and repeated sessions

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/library/classes> and <https://www.facebook.com/familysearchlibrary>

Legacy Family Tree Webinars, Upcoming Webinars

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>

In their Webinar Library, you can choose from 2,325 classes at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar-library/>

Family Tree Magazine has free resources and newsletters at <https://familytreemagazine.com/newsletter-signup/> and <https://university.familytreemagazine.com/collections> (cost money to take) and <https://store.familytreemagazine.com/learn/> (various costs per session).

MyHeritage Webinars

Free to watch the sessions one week after but have to have a membership to access the Syllabus.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/>

Alberta Genealogical Society, 2025 memberships now available. Due to the postal strike and the backlog created, the AGS membership deadline was extended to January 15, 2025. Hopefully you have renewed your membership!

<https://www.abgenealogy.ca/renew-your-membership>

[Articles, videos, publications, etc.:](#)

50th Anniversary Conference, Strength in Unity – Building Community Together! Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council. This conference was a remarkable opportunity to reflect on our achievements, discuss key issues important to our community in Alberta and shape the future of our community. Now, whether you couldn't attend in person or simply want to revisit any of the 16 sessions, you can watch it all online, speakers and videos are at:

<https://www.uccab.ca/speakers/>

Genealogy vs. Family History | Definitions and Examples of Each, by Andrew Koch, Family Tree Magazine
Genealogy or family history? You may have wondered which term more-accurately describes how you approach your family tree. Although many use the terms interchangeably, the two fields of study are sometimes thought to have distinct meanings.

<https://familytreemagazine.com/general-genealogy/what-is-genealogy-family-history/>

Our Interview With Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. by Sunny Jane Morton, Family Tree Magazine

<https://familytreemagazine.com/entertainment/henry-louis-gates-jr-interview/>

12 Must-See Genealogy TV Shows That Will Inspire You by Sunny Jane Morton, Family Tree Magazine,

<https://familytreemagazine.com/entertainment/must-see-genealogy-tv/>

Live: Ukrainians celebrate Christmas mass at 980 – Year – Old Kyiv Pechersk Lavra monastery

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NThg0s-9WgA>

Galicia: Kingdom of the Naked and Starving (1773-1918), Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto

<https://tarnawsky.artsci.utoronto.ca/rescentre/slavic/ukr/Sla-Civil/Davies-Galicia.pdf>

The Myth of Galicia, album published on the occasion of the exhibition The Myth of Galicia, organized by the International Cultural Centre in cooperation with the Wien Museum. Kraków

https://www.academia.edu/57995235/International_Cultural_Centre_and_Wien_Museum_The_Myth_of_Galicia

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/304577387_International_Cultural_Centre_and_Wien_Museum_The_Myth_of_Galicia

Austro-Hungarian Army Records blog, by Carl Kotlarchik

<http://ahmilitary.blogspot.com/>

[A huge thank you to Michelle Chubenko for the above info on the Galicia papers and the army records blog.](#)

Galicia in the Realm of Habsburg Mythology by Tomasz Gasowski, Jagiellonian University in Krakow

<https://bibliotekanauki.pl> then search for the title.

Lefands in 1822--More Females Found--but Russian Handwriting Help Needed! By Lara Diamond, posted on Jan. 12.

The indefatigable Alex Krakovsky posted of an interesting record set that included--among other things--many family lists of both Jews and Christians in Chernigov Guberniya. So of course, I went Lefand hunting--and I had success (although it does have their name here as "Lefan").

<https://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com/2025/01/lefands-in-1822-more-females-found-but.html>

Top tips for searching the largest European archive website like a professional by Vera Miller, posted on Jan. 25. The amount of information found on one archive website cannot compare to any other website in Europe. The Russian State Historical Archive is the holder of about 6.5 million records from the Russian Empire and has an easy to use search engine to view detailed record descriptions. These records cover the countries of the former USSR and Poland, which once was part of the Russian Empire. This is an important database for anyone who had ancestors living in these areas.

<https://lostrussianfamily.wordpress.com/2025/01/25/top-tips-for-searching-the-largest-european-archive-website-like-a-professional/>

Hidden Genealogy Clues in Your Home: Unlocking the Stories of Your Ancestors, by Will at Ancestral Findings.com
<https://ancestralfindings.com/hidden-genealogy-clues-in-your-home-unlocking-the-stories-of-your-ancestors/>

Genealogy Myths Debunked, by Will at Ancestral Findings.com
<https://ancestralfindings.com/genealogy-myths-debunked/>

12 Ideas for Displaying Your Family Tree by Diane Haddad, Family Tree Magazine, Don't hide your heritage. Try these 12 simple, affordable ideas for creatively displaying your family tree.
<https://familytreemagazine.com/projects/family-tree-ideas/>

Timely Genealogy Organization Tips, by Editors of Family Tree Magazine. There are a few simple steps to organizing your genealogy research without losing your mind or feeling overwhelmed.
<https://familytreemagazine.com/organization/5-timely-organization-tips/>

Six Tips for Staying Focused While You Research, by Lisa A. Alzo, Family Tree Magazine. Genealogy research is fraught with distractions. Follow these six tips to stay focused and maximize your research time.
<https://familytreemagazine.com/strategies/six-tips-for-staying-focused-while-you-research/>

How to Create a MyHeritage Family Tree in 4 Steps by Sunny Jane Morton, Family Tree Magazine, An example of a MyHeritage family tree (MyHeritage) As one of the giant genealogy research websites, MyHeritage offers historical record-searching, DNA tests and online family trees. But long before it offered DNA and records, MyHeritage specialized in hosting family trees from around the world. Its platform had facial-recognition technology for family photos.
<https://familytreemagazine.com/websites/myheritage/create-myheritage-family-tree/>

Tracing Your Roots: Using Immigration Records to Find Ancestral Origin by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/tracing-your-roots-using-immigration-records-to-find-ancestral-origin-2/>

How to Interpret Your Raw DNA Data Easily and Unlock Your Ancestry by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/how-to-interpret-your-raw-dna-data-easily/>

Global Migration Patterns Analyzed and Explained by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/global-migration-patterns-analyzed-and-explained/>

Understanding Pedigree Charts: A Comprehensive Guide by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/understanding-pedigree-charts/>

6 Tips to Find Ancestors and Uncover Your Family's Past by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/tips-to-find-ancestors-and-uncover-your-familys-past/>

Polish Family History: Uncovering Your Ancestry in Poland by Admin. at MyHeritage Blog
<https://blog.myheritage.com/2025/01/polish-family-history/>

Genealogy Meets AI: Expert Guide to ChatGPT, Claude, and Beyond (2024), Genealogy with Dana Leeds,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jT2KYepyCk&list=PLC6xLbn7JeDm7Xo2UBYKHM3s3BhgVx4or&index=3>

12 Unconventional Ways to Stay Focused (That Actually Probably Work) by Marc McDermott, Genealogy Explained Blog
<https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/12-unconventional-ways-to-stay-focused-that-actually-probably-work/>

AI in Genealogy: Game-Changing Tools That Are Revolutionizing Family History Research by Marc McDermott, Genealogy Explained Blog, <https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/ai-in-genealogy-game-changing-tools-that-are-revolutionizing-family-history-research/>

The Top 10 Tips for Using AI Effectively in Genealogy, by Diane Henriks, Know Who Wears the Genes in Your Family: Family History and Genealogy Blog, posted January 26, 2025
<https://www.knowhowwearsthegenesinyourfamily.com/blog/the-top-10-tips-for-using-ai-effectively-in-genealogy>

Census of the Prairie Provinces, 1926 now on Ancestry ... sort of, by Ken McKinlay, Family Tree Knots blog, posted Jan. 9.
<https://familytreeknots.blogspot.com/2025/01/census-of-prairie-provinces-1926-now-on-ancestry-sort-of.html>

Your Genealogical Will, by Nancy Battick, The Piscataquis Observer (rural Maine), posted on Dec. 23, 2024.
<https://observer-me.com/2024/12/23/opinion/your-genealogical-will/>

Humanitarian Aid:



Meet and Greet event for Ukrainian newcomers

Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Edmonton

They provide immigration services, settlement service and community services. I (Elaine) sit on their board. They are looking for donations.

UCSS Goals: 2025 – Beyond include increasing the number of settlement employees (assist newcomers in finding employment); create a separate emergency budget (re: critical situations like domestic violence) and organize language courses for CELPIP preparation. Also, they are looking for more volunteers for their bi-monthly bingos and other events.

<https://ucssedmonton.ca/> and <https://ucssedmonton.ca/donations/>



Kingsway Mall Welcome Centre, a few of the volunteers including me, Elaine on the right side of this photo with a red shirt.

Government of Canada announces extension of 2024 charitable donations to February 28, 2025

Announced that the federal government intends to amend the Income Tax Act to extend the deadline for making donations eligible for tax support in the 2024 tax year, until February 28, 2025. (UCSS is a registered charity and can issue tax receipts).

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-announces-extension-of-2024-charitable-donations-to-february-28-2025.html>

On a side note:

January 29 is Free Thinkers Day, and you have the freedom of thought, so feel free to think outside the box. It is also Chinese Lunar New Years Day and National Puzzle Day!

Groundhog Day – February 2, 2025. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow, it will retreat to its den and winter will go on for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive early. In 2024, an early spring was predicted.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Groundhog_Day

Valentine Day – February 14, 2025. It originated as a Christian feast day honoring a martyr named Valentine, and through later folk traditions it has also become a significant cultural, religious and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world. Also called Saint Valentine's or the Feast of Saint Valentine.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s_Day

Family Day – February 17, 2025. This is a statutory holiday in Alberta. It is to recognize the great contribution that families make to our lives, our communities and our province.

Ukrainians celebrate their Name Day. In Ukraine, a name day (день ангела, lit. 'angel's day') is a celebration associated with Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic churches commemoration of a saint's birth.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Name_day

The Kyiv Independent News has launched a free newsletter focusing on **Ukraine's culture, history and society.**

<https://kyivindependent.com/newsletters/> or <https://kyivindependent.com/tag/culture/>

Ukrainians jump into the icy waters of the rivers or lakes to mark the **Feast of the Epiphany**, which Christians say marks the baptism of Jesus Christ. This tradition serves as a reminder that the new year represents a fresh start. In years when the river is totally frozen, people jump in a hole cut into the shape of a cross.



Vodokres in Ukraine, Slavic Spirituality on Facebook



Landscapes of War, Landscapes of Victory: Ukraine's Changing Environment, Feb. 7-8, 5th Annual Temerty Contemporary Ukraine Program Conference, in-person & online, Cambridge, MA/Zoom, Harvard University.

<https://www.huri.harvard.edu/tcup-conference>

Non-State Diplomats: North American Ukrainian Diaspora and the Ukrainian Cause, a lecture by Dr. Ola Hnatiuk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQikbACrSZs>

How Edmonton became the capital city of Alberta

“Edmonton became the capital city of the new province of Alberta in 1905, beating out Calgary, Banff, and Vegreville. Red Deer and Athabasca were also on the list. Edmonton won out due to getting the railway. In 1907, Strathcona became a city, with a university, hotels, mills, lumberyards, a woollen mill, a brick plant, a pork packing plant, 4800 people, and many tents. Edmonton had streetcars by 1908, and Queen Alexandra School was built, as well as a college and 5 churches. High Level Bridge was built, and Edmonton had 5 hospitals. Edmonton annexed Strathcona in 1910, nearly doubling in size. Beverly mines began, Jasper Avenue was built, and the city got water and power.

French Canadians came to this spot from Fort William (Thunder Bay) in 1717. Fort Garry (Winnipeg) began in 1734 as a major trading post. The Blackfoot fur trade began about 1739. Canoes travelled the North Saskatchewan River. Explorer de Niverville travelled the Pembina and N. Saskatchewan Rivers in 1751.

Iroquois families came and created Calahoo in 1793, to the west. In 1795 Fort Augustus was built along the North Saskatchewan, where Ft. Saskatchewan now sits. Fort Edmonton was built 22 miles upstream from Ft. Augustus, in 1798. David Thompson with the HBC visited the fort in 1800, when Athabasca Landing began, and Edmonton House was built.

A Methodist mission began in 1807, and journals were written to write the history we now know. Lord Selkirk came in 1812, and Edmonton House #2 was built. A trading post was built in 1831 at Sturgeon Crossing (St. Albert). Fort Victoria began in 1837, 125 miles downstream. Missions were built at Lac Ste. Anne in 1842. The Wolf Track was built to Calgary in 1851. Alberta's first post office opened in Edmonton in 1878.

In 1891 the railroad from Calgary reached Strathcona, south of the N. Saskatchewan River, across from Edmonton. The railroad did not cross the river to Edmonton for over 10 years. The High Level Bridge was completed in 1912.

Note: Until the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company merged, the NWC Fort Augustus and the HBC Fort Edmonton were essentially built side by side through several relocations, even sharing a stockade toward the end. The first location was at the mouth of the Sturgeon River *across* from today's Fort Saskatchewan, and that Fort Edmonton was said to have been built just 'a musket shot away' from that Fort Augustus."

Source: Alberta Hometown Memories, including comments. Two postings on January 15, 2025, at 9:56 am. Lots of comments on Facebook about the details of this history. <https://www.facebook.com/altapastplaces>



Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, date unknown, est. 1928

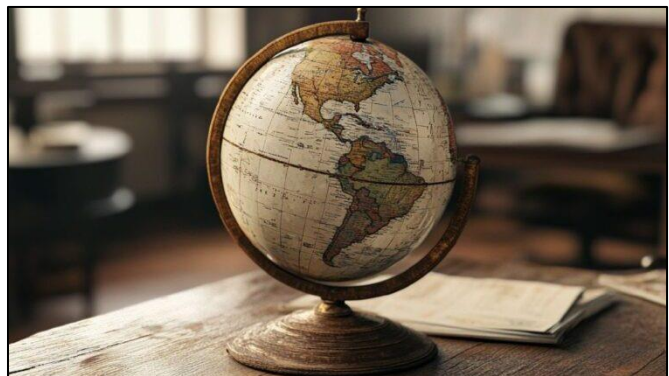
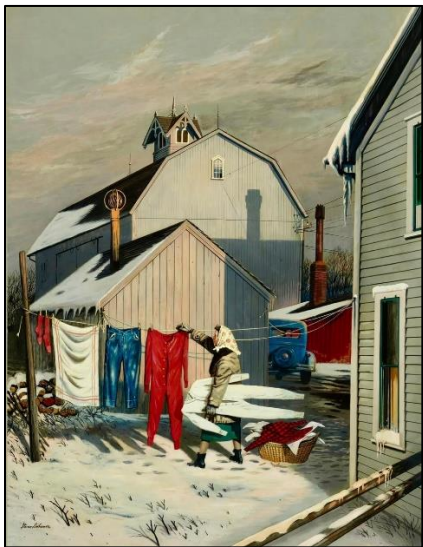
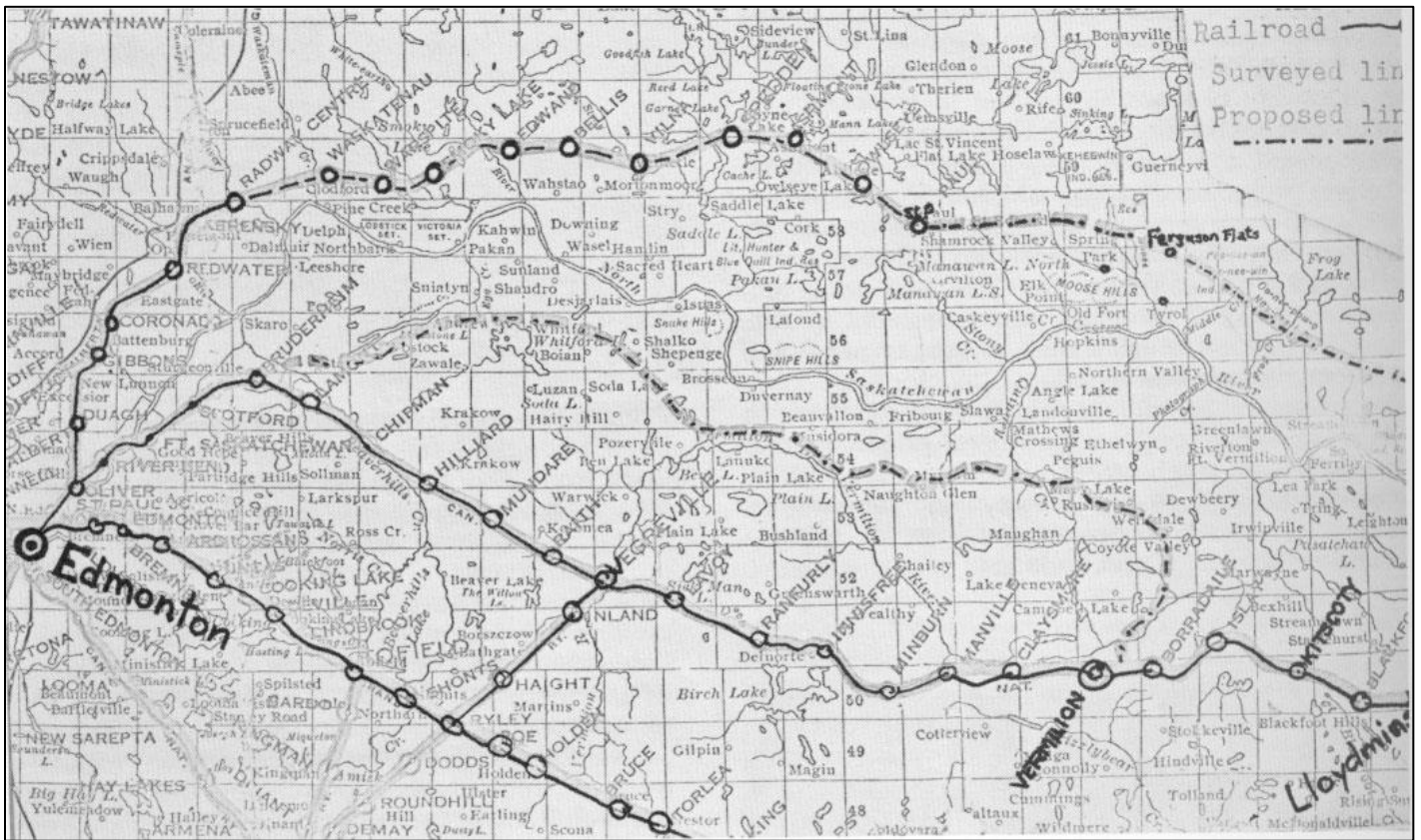


Edmonton, 1898

“The Last Best West: Railroads by B.B French Prior to the arrival of the first settlers there had not been a complete railroad construction survey eastward from St. Paul de Metis, then only a country village, though there had been a reconnaissance made and a map was available depicting the proposed railway. According to this map, the railway would have by-passed Elk Point by approximately five miles and continued on through Ferguson Flats district to the Frog Lake district where there was to be a Divisional Point. The railway would then continue on to Onion Lake, Saskatchewan, eventually connecting with the western end of the branch of the Canadian National Railway that was under construction west-ward in Saskatchewan at St. Walburg. As a result of the map and the rumored Divisional Point being established in the vicinity of the Frog Lake Post Office-Telegraph office - Sub-Dominion Lands Office and Store, many people homesteaded in that area. There were also many homesteaders, some post offices and general stores established within the area between Frog Lake and St. Paul de Metis. Their wishes and dreams never materialized. Another railroad survey was made in or about 1924 and the railroad was then surveyed through the village of Elk Point, then continued south eastward. to near the Mooswa Post Office and Store and on to the Heinsburg Post Office and Store, which in 1928 became the End of the Steel, and has remained so to date. The homesteaders appreciated the partial completion of this Branch, even though it was a few miles south of the original map delineation.“

For More: <https://fergusonflats.ca/coming-railroad>

Source: Elk Point Historical Society, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069365930667>



Note that spring starts on Thursday, March 20, 2025 (spring equinox) and ends on Thursday, June 19, 2025. Then we have summer starting on Friday, June 20th.