

Chinook Arch

April 2025
Volume 7 Issue 4



ALBERTA FAMILY
HISTORIES SOCIETY
Supporting worldwide family history research

NEXT SOCIETY MEETING

Monday, April 14, 2025

Topic: Researching Canadian WW2 Ace William McKnight
Speaker: Shelly McElroy
Location: Zoom (register on website calendar)
Time: 7 – 9 pm

FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday, April 21, 2025

Topic: Chit Chat Session
Hosts: Linda Murray and Kelly Southworth
Location: Zoom (link on website calendar)
Time: 7 – 8:30 pm

Monday, May 12, 2025

Topic: AFHS Annual General Meeting & Murder and Consequences
Speaker: Ron Gilmore
Location: In-person and Zoom (register on website calendar)
Time: 7 – 9 pm

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NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Watch for our newsletter, *Chinook Arch*, distributed monthly by email from September to June.

We are looking for short articles with copyright-free pictures. Favourite relatives, fond family memories, research tips and tricks, new genealogy technology you love, book reviews or any related topics are accepted.

Editor: Amber Godfrey

Email: chinookarch@afhs.ab.ca

President's Message

An Update from the AFHS Move Team

Marion and Warren Peterson, Linda Murray, Dorothy Clements, Anna Babaeva, Gordon Lane

We are only weeks away from our move to Suite 251S in the south tower of Heritage Square (8500 Macleod Trail SE). There has been lots going on behind the scenes.

Linda Murray arranged quotes from three moving companies, and the decision was made to use the services of Premiere Office Movers.

Anna Babaeva prepared a budget to compile the anticipated costs of this project.

A floor plan of the space was created; many revisions were made to set up the space to suit our needs. We will now have:

- A section set up for presentations, fully equipped for doing hybrid Zoom presentations
- An area for our two office desks
- A pod of four computers for visitor use
- A section for our bookshelves, our map cabinet and a new-to-us set of rolling bookshelves
- A scanning room with a large desk equipped with a computer and multiple scanners
- A room for storage, including shelves to display our duplicate and surplus books and journals for sale
- A kitchen to prepare refreshments at our meetings

It is going to be a huge improvement to have all of our meetings and resources in an accessible, single-level space!

Dorothy Clements and Marion Peterson did a shopping trip to purchase the additional chairs, bookshelves and dividers that are needed for this expanded set-up. Thanks to the Library Committee and a few others who held a sale to try to sell some of our extra books, journals and surplus other items. A painting crew, headed by Steve Henley, is giving our new space a coat of fresh paint.

Our 16th Avenue current location will remain open until April 19, then crews of volunteers will work together to move our collection to the new location and clean up our current location. We will reopen with a ribbon-cutting and refreshments on Thursday, May 1 at 10 am.

We look forward to showing off our new Resource Centre. Please check the calendar on the website for upcoming meetings and visit us soon!

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with AFHS Bylaws Articles 7.1 & 7.4, of the Annual General Meeting of Alberta Family Histories Society which shall be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, at Suite 251S in Heritage Square (8500 Macleod Tr SE, Calgary and via Zoom (a hybrid meeting), starting at 7:00 pm, during which financial and other reports will be presented, business conducted and elections held. A vote will also be taken on amendments to our bylaws. A copy of the proposed changes will be distributed to AFHS members via a Windsock message prior to the Annual General Meeting.

The Alberta Pioneers page will alternate with the Ancestor Anecdotes page. Please submit your stories for either page!

The George Canning Ives Family

Shelley Lunney

George Canning Ives was born on September 1, 1848 in Compton, Quebec, to Eli and Artemesia Ives. At age 12, he was baptised in the Wesleyan Methodist faith. In May and June of 1870, he was a member of the 58th Battalion, Compton Company of The Fenian Raid Volunteers.

On May 15, 1872, he married Sarah Abby Thomas in Compton. They had two children: William Carlos "Billy" (1872) and Ellen Lydia "Nellie" (1876).

In 1879, George joined the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, first coming to Macleod in what was then the Northwest Territories. He then was transferred to the Pincher Creek detachment.

On the Canada Census of 1881, he was living in the Bow River District of the Northwest Territories while his family remained back in Quebec. He sent for them later that year and they took a circuitous route to join him. First they travelled by train to Bismark, North Dakota, then got on a stern-wheeler and went up the Missouri River to Fort Benton, Montana, and finally travelled by horse and wagon (also known as a "prairie schooner") through Montana Territory to Macleod.

One night on the journey, their tent was found to be infested with rattlesnakes but luckily one of their travelling companions was a snake charmer who soon remedied the problem. In August of 1881, they travelled to their final destination of Pincher Creek, where they lived in an 18 by 20 foot log cabin with dirt floors. The only other inhabitants of Pincher Creek were a policeman and a rancher.

George was given the job of caring for the government beef cattle herd in Pincher Creek and he set up a ranch west of the town. The ranch furnished rations to the Peigan tribe, who were located on a reserve west of Macleod following the signing of Treaty 7. He was a strong believer that children should have an education and, along with other parents, built the first log schoolhouse in Pincher Creek. It had a total of six pupils, two of which were his children.

In 1885, George was promoted to customs officer, and the family moved to Macleod. The 1901 Census of Canada shows his occupation as Customs House Officer earning a salary of \$700 per year. The census also showed that the family had a boarder, a young female teacher. George became a prominent figure in the community, ran in the first North West Council election and also became a Freemason.

George's son, known as Billy Ives, worked as a cowboy for several years at the Cochrane Ranch before going to McGill University and obtaining a Civil Law degree. After a brief stint practicing law in Montreal, he returned to Lethbridge in 1901 and opened a law office.

He married Millicent M. Toulee on March 12, 1906, in Spokane, Washington. They had two children: Millicent Elizabeth (1906) and William B. (1912). They lived in Lethbridge and moved to Calgary after he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Alberta in July 1914. In 1942, he became the Chief Justice of the Trial Division of the Court. He was known as "The Cowboy Judge."

Billy died in Calgary on July 10, 1950, and his ashes were spread on Spring Hill behind the Cochrane Ranch. Millicent died in 1958 and is buried in British Columbia.



George's daughter, known as Nellie Ives, married Judge Edward P. McNeill in 1901 and had three children: Margaret (1902), Duncan (1904) and John (1913). John McNeill also became a lawyer, like his uncle and father. Many of the McNeill family members are buried in Banff Cemetery.

George Canning Ives died in Macleod, Alberta on April 21, 1922. Sarah died in 1929 and they are both buried in the Pincher Creek Pioneer Cemetery.

Special Interest Groups

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs) are the ideal place to expand your knowledge and share your own family history challenges. The small-group setting gives you an opportunity to ask questions and get help from more experienced researchers.

SIGs are now being held in three formats: in-person only, Zoom only or a hybrid version of in-person & Zoom. Check the calendar on our website for up-to-date information or email the SIG leader. The SIG groups do not meet during July and August.

SIGs are a major AFHS member benefit. If you would like to attend a SIG meeting to try one out before joining, ask for an invitation from communications@afhs.ab.ca

SIG GROUP	NEXT MEETING	TIME	CONTACT
BASICS	Saturday, April 5	10 am – Noon	basics@afhs.ab.ca
CELTIC (Irish/Scots)	Saturday, April 26	10 am – Noon	celticsig@afhs.ab.ca
DIGITAL GENEALOGY	Saturday, April 12	10 am – Noon	familygenes@afhs.ab.ca
DNA	Sunday, April 13	12:30 – 2:30 pm	dnasig@afhs.ab.ca
ENGLISH/WELSH	Saturday, April 19	10 am – Noon	englishwelshsig@afhs.ab.ca
FAMILY TREE MAKER	Saturday, May 3	10 am – Noon	ftmsig@afhs.ab.ca
LEGACY	Tuesday, April 22	7:00 – 9:00 pm	legacysig@afhs.ab.ca
ONTARIO	Monday, April 28	1:30 – 3:30 pm	ontariosig@afhs.ab.ca
WRITING	Friday, May 9	9:30 – 11:30 am	writing@afhs.ab.ca

The AFHS Resource Centre is located at **712-16 Avenue NW, Calgary** (until April 19, 2025) and all in-person SIG group meetings are held there. As of May 1, 2025, the Resource Centre will be at **Suite 251S, 8500 Macleod Trail SE**. Members are encouraged to stay after meetings, when possible, to browse the collection!

Our collection has over twelve thousand print items and many are available to be borrowed for a one-month loan. Electronic resources include computers, a multi-function printer, scanners (flatbed and overhead) and a microfiche reader. Journals from around the world are available to view in either print or digital formats. As a **FamilySearch Affiliate Library**, visitors can now view additional FamilySearch digital records at the AFHS Resource Centre that they can't see at home. We also have a subscription to the Canadian newspapers on Newspaper Archive.

SIG NEWS

If you or someone you know would like attend as a guest at a SIG meeting, request an invitation at communications@afhs.ab.ca.

Our members can watch recorded sessions of past Society and SIG meetings and view handouts at the AFHS website. You must be **signed in** to the website to access them. Go to Resources, then click on Meeting Videos & Handouts.

Check back for new content as it is constantly being added!

- A handout is available on resources about Fleet Marriages and Bigamy from a presentation done at the English/Welsh SIG.
- The Basics SIG is meeting on April 5 and the topic is Census Records.
- At the April meeting of the English/Welsh SIG, there will be a presentation about "Border Reivers".

The Canadian Encyclopedia Online

Amber Godfrey

As family historians, we are always seeking to learn more about historical events. While it is easy enough to use Google or Wikipedia to find information, if you want an authoritative source that you can be confident has accurate and well-sourced research you should use the Canadian Encyclopedia Online. You can access it through the Digital Library on the Calgary Public Library's website or directly on its own website. The online encyclopedia is a project of Historica Canada, a not-for-profit organization, and is not affiliated with any government or political party. It is free for anyone to use but normal copyright rules apply.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en>

The Canadian Encyclopedia has excellent articles on Canadian and world events. Some are written specifically for the encyclopedia and include the author, the source citation and links to other relevant articles in the encyclopedia. Others are from partners, like Maclean's magazine and still include the author, source citation and references.

When I did a basic search for Alberta, there were over 4000 articles to peruse. Some of the titles were: Politics in Alberta, Francophones of Alberta, Alberta and Confederation, Geography of Alberta, Reserves in Alberta, Natural Resources in Alberta, Alberta's Dinosaur Fossils, First Nations in Alberta, and even Rat Control in Alberta!

Some articles are updated on an on-going basis, which is noted at the top of the article, while others are editorials or partner articles (like the ones from Maclean's magazine) and tend not to get updated.

In addition, the encyclopedia includes interviews with people who experienced events (from the Memory Project Archive), education guides created for teachers on specific topics, maps from places like Library and Archives Canada, Heritage Minutes videos, and timelines of People, Places or Things.

You can save the website addresses of specific collections on the site if you want to keep going back to one of them. For example:

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/collection/heritage-minutes>

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/collection/the-memory-project-archive-collection>

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/collection/aboriginal-peoples>

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/collection/ukrainian-history-in-canada>

So next time you have a question about Canada or Canadian history, head over to the Canadian Encyclopedia and see what you can learn!

Library Highlights

Calgary Henderson's Directories

Amber Godfrey

I am excited about the AFHS Resource Centre's move to a new location where all our resources will be on one floor and much easier for everyone to access.

One of the print resources that I went down in the basement to use was the Henderson's Directories for Calgary. I had a great-uncle by marriage who lived in Calgary from 1910 until his death in 1972. While I was able to find some directories for the earlier years online, I also looked through the paper copies of the Calgary directories at the AFHS Resource Centre which covered the 1950s to 1970s. Maybe it shows my age but I prefer flipping through a print book in person. You can miss things when scrolling through a whole book online that are more obvious when you have a book in your hands.

Some people may think telephone books and directories have the same information. This is not true. Phone books are just a list of people's names and telephone numbers in order by surname and some local advertisements. While these can be useful too, directories have much more information. Directories started before everyone had a telephone and included much more information than just a telephone number. Some things that directories may contain are:

- Names and addresses
- Occupations and employers
- Marital status (including widows and their husband's names and even death dates)
- Personal property value (p/p)
- Businesses (listings and advertisements)
- Officers and leaders of organizations (including police, fire department, schools, benevolent societies, social clubs, etc.)
- Area maps

- Addresses of post offices, churches, courts, banks, hospitals and schools
- Gazetteer entries for locations covered by the directory (giving brief histories of businesses and local areas)

Henderson Directories for Calgary were published from 1910 to 1991. AFHS has Calgary directories from 1950 to 1991. Most but not all years are available. If you are looking for a specific year, you can search AFHS's online catalogue to confirm that year is in the collection.



<https://afhs.ab.ca/library>

If you would like to learn more about how directories can help your genealogical research, check out these links:

History of directory publishing (Library and Archives Canada)

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/directories-collection/Pages/directories-collection-history-publishing.aspx>

Getting more from city directories (Linda Yip of Past Presence)

<https://past-presence.com/2018/11/15/en-for-genealogy-using-en-with-hendersons->

THANK YOU!

AFHS would like to thank the Calgary Board of Education Retired Employees Association Genealogy Group that donated the five new books featured in the March issue of *Chinook Arch*.

Upcoming Events

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Family History Coaching

In-person at Central Library

Calgary Public Library

April 26, 2025 1:00 – 3:00 pm

<https://calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/family-history-coaching>

UPCOMING EVENTS

*all times listed are in MDT

Ye Olde Genealogy Faire

In-Person

AGS Red Deer Branch/LDS Red Deer Stake

April 26, 2025 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://rdfamilyhistoryfair.blogspot.com>

Invaded! The Fenian Raids and the Canadian Response by Kathryn Lake Hogan

Virtual

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

April 30, 2025 Noon

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/invaded-the-fenian-raids-and-the-canadian-response>

Nach Kanada! Immigration of Germans to Canada by Dave Obee

Virtual

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

May 2, 2025 Noon

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/nach-kanada-immigration-of-germans-to-canada>

Nova Scotia Genealogy Virtual Conference

Virtual

Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia

May 3 – 4, 2025

<https://www.nsgenconference.ca>

Your Genealogical Legacy: Plan, Prepare & Share Seminar

In-Person

Ontario Ancestors

May 31, 2025

<https://seminar2025.ogs.on.ca>

Ken Your Kin Summer School

In-Person

Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies

June 4 – 11, 2025

www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/genealogy/kenyourkin

Exploring Library and Archives Canada Online

Virtual

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

June 20, 2025 Noon

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/exploring-library-and-archives-canada-online>

Rockbound Roots Conference

In-Person

The Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador

July 25 – 27, 2025

<https://rockboundroots.com>

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About Our Society

Alberta Family Histories Society is a registered non-profit organization that welcomes anyone interested in genealogy and family history! For over 40 years, we've helped people grow their family trees and discover the stories of their roots. We have substantial resources about Calgary and southern Alberta but can help you research your roots worldwide. Our website is <https://afhs.ab.ca>.

We learn from each other in a variety of settings – Society meetings, **Special Interest Group** meetings, workshops and biannual conferences. For up-to-date meeting information, see our website calendar at <https://afhs.ab.ca/calendar>.

Visit one of our most valuable resources - the **AFHS Resource Centre**! While our collection has an emphasis on materials pertaining to Alberta and Canada, we also have basic genealogy books and information from around the world. AFHS is a **FamilySearch Affiliate Library**, which gives you access to FamilySearch records you can't view at home. Our volunteers look forward to showing you what we have to offer for your genealogy research! You can view a catalogue of our holdings at <https://afhs.ab.ca/library>.

Documenting local historical records is part of our mission. **Alberta Ancestors** is a special project to showcase cemetery records at <https://albertaancestors.ca>. We have over 300 cemeteries now and over 250,000 memorials.

Members have a wealth of opportunities to share strategies, struggles, successes and stories with others who appreciate the challenges of this hobby. One option is for members to share family tree projects and to post stories online as part of our **Family Genes** website at <https://www.familygenes.ca>.

We welcome visitors, so please drop in at a meeting and introduce yourself. Come see how our services and programs can fit your needs. We hope you will join us either in-person or virtually! To receive a guest Zoom invitation to one of the **AFHS Society Meetings**, contact Marion at communications@afhs.ab.ca.

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AFHS RESOURCE CENTRE

712 - 16 Avenue NW (until April 19, 2025)

Suite 251S, 8500 Macleod Trail SE (open May 1, 2025)

Winter/Spring Hours

Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm

Friday, 10 am - 2 pm (closed April 18)

Saturday, Noon - 4 pm

Check our website calendar for any time changes or closures.



ALBERTA FAMILY
HISTORIES SOCIETY

CONTACT US

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Website: www.afhs.ab.ca

Phone: 403-214-1447

Facebook: Alberta Family Histories Society

Instagram: abfamilyhistoriessociety



Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of reconciliation, we would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather and where we work to preserve the records and family history of those who came before us are on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising of the Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani First Nations), the Tsúut'ínà, the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw and Goodstoney First Nations), the Métis Nation (Districts 5 & 6) and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.