

## **Canadian Resources and Repositories**

### 1. Government resources

#### **National - Library and Archives Canada -**

Genealogy and Family History homepage is found at

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/genealogy/Pages/introduction.aspx>

Portal to resources/holdings on LAC website and introduction/links to genealogical resources

Not all records indexed, but complete holdings of census and ship records, among others

**Provincial** – Vital records indexes, online ordering, some records online – depends on province

2. FamilySearch.org - free – coverage varies – see Family Search Wiki for collection details, by province
3. Ancestry.com (\$) - Canada has its own edition (Ancestry.ca); also part of Ancestry.com World Explorer membership, Ancestry Library and Ancestry FHL editions
4. MyHeritage (\$) – Census, obituaries 1997-2017, and some vital records - library edition available
5. Databases and Archives – Jewish and general
6. Public and university libraries, historical newspapers, historical and genealogy societies, local histories

**Census** - By law, census records remain private for 92 years.

#### *Library and Archives Canada*

- LAC holds copies of census enumerations held every 10 years, beginning in 1851, through 1911 and enumerations of the Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta) which were taken in 1906, 1916, and 1926.
- Census enumerations may be searched individually (census by census) by name. Introductory pages for each census also describe record field details:

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

*Ancestry and MyHeritage* hold Canadian census collections covering 1851 through 1921, as well as some other earlier censuses in specific areas

*FamilySearch* has a comparable collection and additionally holds the 1926 Census of the Prairie Provinces

## **1940 National Registration Records**

See <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/AAS-DAR/cpsp-prfp-eng.cfm#wb-head> an order form to order records from Statistics Canada. Note that records will not exist for Canadians who served in the armed forces in World War II. They are not subject to census privacy restrictions. Search fee is \$45 Canadian.

## **Immigration**

*FamilySearch.org* - Canada Passenger Lists, 1881-1922 – indexed by passenger name – includes images

*Ancestry.com* – *Canadian Ship Records Holdings and Border Crossings*

### 1. **Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865-1935**

See Ancestry database description for complete holdings – ports and dates

Note that there is a coverage gap for Quebec ports between July 1908 and May 1919

2. **Canada, Ocean Arrivals (Form 30A), 1919-1924**
3. **U.S., Border Crossings from Canada to U.S., 1895-1960**
4. **Border Crossings: From U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935**
5. **Detroit Border Crossings and Passenger and Crew Lists, 1905-1957** – US Collection
6. **U.S., Records of Aliens Pre-Examined in Canada, 1904-1954**

LAC - *Canadian Ship Records – Passenger Lists, 1865-1922* - The lists are organized by port and date of arrival. This database provides access to passenger lists for the following ports: Québec (1865-1921), Halifax (1881-1922), Saint John (1900-1922), North Sydney (1906-1922), Vancouver (1905-1922), Victoria (1905-1922), New York (1906-1922), Eastern American coast (1905-1922)

Search passenger lists by ship name, date of arrival, shipping line:

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/passenger-lists/passenger-lists-1865-1922/Pages/search.aspx>

Ship details for British steamship lines are found on UK outbound passenger lists: Ancestry.com - **UK, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960** and Findmypast.com - **Passenger Lists leaving UK 1890-1960**.

### **Naturalization**

- LAC has searchable database of Citizenship Registration Records for the Montreal Circuit Court (1851-1945), with digitized copies of records: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/citizenship-naturalization-records/citizenship-montreal-1851-1945/Pages/introduction.aspx>
- LAC website has searchable digitized copies of the Canadian Naturalization Index (1915-1951): <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/citizenship-naturalization-records/naturalized-records-1915-1951/Pages/introduction.aspx>
- Online form to request records (must be a Canadian citizens or resident): <https://atip-aiprp.apps.gc.ca/atip/welcome.do?lang=en>
- Helpful background information on both the index, ordering records, and the Montreal Circuit Court records may be found at: <https://perلمان.ca/gen/canat>

### **Vital Records**

- **British Columbia** - British Columbia Archives genealogy databases link to digitized images of more than 700,000 scanned and indexed documents: Birth (1854-1903), Marriage (1872-1943), Death registrations (1872-1998) - <http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy/BasicSearch>  
BC vital records are also indexed on FamilySearch – time ranges vary slightly from BC Archives
- **Nova Scotia** – Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics: <https://www.novascotiagenealogy.com/>
- **Ontario** – vital records on Ancestry and FamilySearch – coverage years vary
- **Manitoba** - Genealogy searches – indexes: Births (more than 100 years ago), Marriages (more than 80 years ago), Deaths (more than 70 years ago) - <http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php>
- **Saskatchewan** - Vital Statistics Genealogy Index – work on index has stalled  
Searches: [http://genealogy.ehealthsask.ca/vsgs\\_srch.aspx](http://genealogy.ehealthsask.ca/vsgs_srch.aspx)  
Orders – select “Genealogical Photocopy”:  
<https://www.ehealthsask.ca/residents/genealogy/Pages/Ordering-Genealogy-Documents.aspx>
- **Quebec** - Strict privacy laws for vital records  
Substitute: Drouin Institute microfilms of Quebec church records, including synagogue registrations of births and marriages – Ancestry: Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968; also available (not indexed) from Genealogy Quebec (\$) - <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/>  
Quebec Marriage Returns, 1926-1997 – MyHeritage; also available on Genealogy Quebec
- FamilySearch has a large collection of vital records (BMD and probate)– browse the FamilySearch Wiki – use keywords “[Province] Online Genealogy Records” for details by province

### **Burials and Probate**

## O Canada! Tracing Your Canadian Jewish Roots

JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR)

Find A Grave, Billiongraves.com, individual cemetery websites

Jewishdata.com – via JGSLA or LAPL

FamilySearch – Saskatchewan, Probate Estate Files, 1887-1931 and British Columbia Wills, 1861-1981,  
Manitoba Probate, 1871-1930

### City Directories

Montreal – 1842-1999:

- *Annuaire Lovell de Montréal et sa banlieue* [Lovell Directories of Montreal and its Suburbs]  
Available at <http://bibnum2.bnquebec.ca/bna/lovell/index.html> or access through Steve Morse's one-step website <http://www.stevemorse.org>
- After finding correct page click "Affichage plein écran" to display the full screen view

Toronto – 1900-1922:

- Toronto city directories 1833-1939 available on Toronto Public Library's website, some available through the Internet Archive: <http://wheresthestorytakesme.ca/toronto-city-directories/>

Western Canada:

- University of Alberta's Peel's Prairie Provinces collection includes a series of digitized Henderson's city directories: <http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/henderson.html>  
Alberta: Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge; Manitoba: Winnipeg, Brandon; Saskatchewan: Saskatoon, Regina (years of coverage vary by location)
- Vancouver Public Library website has scanned city directories for Vancouver, Victoria and other cities, covering 1860-1955 - <https://bccd.vpl.ca/>

If unable to find digitized city directories for a specific city, do an internet search for "<city name> historical city directories"; also check public library websites for city directory holdings.

**Voter Lists** - Ancestry.com database - Canada, Voters Lists, 1935-1980 – indexed by name, listed by address

### Newspapers

Canadian Jewish Review – Simon Fraser University Multicultural Collection -

<https://newspapers.lib.sfu.ca/mcc-cjr-1/canadian-jewish-review>

Newspapers.com (Publisher Extra) (\$)– Montreal Gazette, three newspapers from Saskatoon, SK; Manitoba Free Press (Winnipeg), Vancouver Sun, Ottawa Citizen and Daily Citizen, Regina Sun, etc.

Canada online historical newspaper links - [http://www.theancestorhunt.com/1/post/2014/04/canada-online-historical-newspaper-links.html#.U2Aky\\_lDU8b](http://www.theancestorhunt.com/1/post/2014/04/canada-online-historical-newspaper-links.html#.U2Aky_lDU8b)

Google newspaper archives

Ancestry.com, Findmypast.com, other genealogy and historical newspaper websites

Ancestry.com, MyHeritage, and Genealogy Quebec (obituaries)

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada indexes obituaries through contemporary times

Canadian Jewish Heritage Network has Yiddish obituaries from the *Keneder Adler* (1908-1932) and St. John, New Brunswick burials and obituaries

Toronto area – <http://canadianobituaries.com> – obituary aggregator

Library reference departments can assist researching specific local questions

### Military Records

## O Canada! Tracing Your Canadian Jewish Roots

Library and Archives Canada holds various records: Searchable database of First World War Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), Casualty records – World War I and II, War diaries

Obtaining records for service after 1919 (including WWII service) - use application form – Unless you are an immediate family member, must provide proof of death at least 20 years – headstone photo is acceptable; “Genealogy package” provides copies of selected military service documents:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/022/f2/022-909.007-e.pdf>

Canadian Jewish Heritage Network - Canadian Jewish Casualties in the Canadian Armed Forces

### **Archival Collections**

Library and Archives Canada Photo Collections - <http://thediscoverblog.com/2012/01/17/how-to-find-photographs-online/>

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada - <http://www.jhcwc.org/index.php> -

Publications and exhibits of interest to those with ancestors in Western Canada  
Archival (including newspapers) search is free – there is a charge for copies

Canadian Jewish Heritage Network - <http://www.cjhn.ca/en>

Genealogy Database includes: JCA individual farm settler reports from Western Canada and Quebec (1906-1951) – *can be used as census substitute*; Yiddish obituaries from Montreal’s daily *Keneder Adler* (1908-1932; Hebrew Sick Benefit Association of Montreal membership listings 1897-1945; Saint John, New Brunswick Jewish Residents, Businesses, Burials & Obituaries 1863-1999; Jewish Immigrant Aid Services client name lists from 1922-1952 – records available from CJCCC National Archives - <https://cija.ca/cdn-jewish-archives/>

JewishGen Canada Database - <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Canada/>

Front-ends multiple collections, both JewishGen and CJHN (see above)

JewishGen Infofile - Guide to Canadian Jewish Genealogical Research -

<https://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Canada/index.html>

### **Other Sources**

Local genealogy societies – general and Jewish

Publications of local historical and genealogical societies – general and Jewish

Local archives (contact online)

Our Roots – Canada’s local histories online – ourroots has migrated to <https://libapps.ucalgary.ca/>

### **For Further Reading**

- Abella, Irving. *A Coat of Many Colours; Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Canada*. Toronto: Key Porter Books, 1999.
- Gutkin, Harry. *Journey Into Our Heritage; the Story of the Jewish People in the Canadian West*. Toronto: Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1980.
- Smith, Marian. "By Way of Canada: U.S. Records of Immigration Across the U.S.-Canadian Border, 1895-1954 (St. Albans Lists)." *Prologue Magazine* 32 (Fall 2000). E-journal.  
<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2000/fall/us-canada-immigration-records-1.html> : 2019.