

IMPORTANT RECORD TYPES FOR CANADA – GENERAL REGION RESEARCH		
Must Know Very Well	Good Working Knowledge	Some Familiarity
Cemetery Records	Biographical records	Court Records
Census Records	Directories	Genealogies
Church Records	Emigration and Immigration Records	Obituaries
Civil Registrations	Maps and Gazetteers	Periodicals
Land Records	Naturalization Records	Taxation Records
Military Records		
Probate Records		
Vital Records		

STRATEGIES & RESOURCES SPECIFIC TO CANADA - GENERAL

- Know where to find and how to use the records needed to solve the client’s research problem. To learn about resources for the CANADA-GENERAL region see the following:
 - [Cyndi’s List](#) see categories for Canada
 - [Facebook](#) genealogy pages for the region, use search field to locate specific titles
 - [FamilySearch](#) Wiki article [“Canada Genealogy”](#)
 - Your favorite search engine
- Use original records, when possible, created at the time of the event. These might be found at various jurisdictional levels (such as town, county, state/province, federal/national). Many of which are available online. See FamilySearch Family History Research Wiki, [Canada Online Genealogy Records for suggestions.](#)
- Be familiar with the changes that may occur from record to record regarding CANADIAN names. For example: CANADIANS of European origin usually had surnames. American Indians and Eskimos often did not. In English-speaking provinces, women usually took their husband’s surname. In all parts of CANADA, children usually used the surname of the father.¹

¹ https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Canada_Names,_Personal

- Be familiar with the dates of commencement of civil registration in each province for CANADA. A useful section of Links to Wiki pages for each Province for information with dates of commencement of civil registration and accompanying notes may be found [HERE](#).
- Be familiar and understand applicable economics, religion, ethnicity, prejudices, and laws. For example: Researching First Nations ancestors can be particularly challenging because use of the records is often restricted. In CANADA, native races (Aboriginal people) include: First Nations, the indigenous peoples of CANADA and often referred to as North American Indians; the Inuit, who are often referred to as Eskimos in the United States; and the Métis, who are mixed blood.”² Refer to [CANADA First Nations](#) for additional information on researching CANADA First Nations ancestry, family history and genealogy.
- Understand your family in historical context, including wars and jurisdictional boundary changes. Important events in CANADIAN history are noted [HERE](#).
- Don’t assume relationships. Exhaust research efforts to make connections and contact other family historians via indexed family trees, mailing lists and bulletin boards. [The Directory of CANADIAN Genealogical Resources – AVITUS](#), provided by the Library and Archives CANADA, allows access of databases, catalogues, and Web sites regarding genealogical resources and collections all over CANADA.
- If indirect evidence is used, assemble it correctly to support your conclusions. For example, consider using the [CANADA Record Selection Table](#) for further research suggestions to locate other records and evidence that might aid your research and help form conclusions.
- Consider downloading the printed [FamilySearch Library Research Outline for CANADA](#). Even though this Research Guide was taken out of print in 2009, some researchers still use the outlines as they contain valuable information about genealogy and records that are applicable to today’s research.
- Be familiar with key repositories used for CANADA genealogical research:
 - Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N3, Canada
 - Collection Gagnon – Bibliothèque de la Ville de Montréal, 1210 rue Sherbrooke est, Montreal, QC H2L 1L9, Canada
- Prominent reference works for CANADA – GENERAL include the following:
 - Jonasson, Eric. *The Canadian genealogical handbook: a comprehensive guide to finding your ancestors in Canada*. Second Edition. Winnipeg, Canada: Wheatfield Press, 1978. (Family History Library Call No. 971 D27)

² https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Canada_First_Nations

- Muise, D. A., ed. *A Reader's Guide to Canadian History. I. Beginnings to Confederation*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1982. (Family History Library book 971 H23r v. 1.)
- Granatstein, J. L., and Paul Stevens, eds. *A Reader's Guide to Canadian History. II. Confederation to the Present*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1982. (Family History Library book 971 H23r v. 2.)
- *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1966–. (Family History Library book 971 D3d)
- Elliott, Noel Montgomery, ed. *The Atlantic Canadians 1600–1900: An Alphabetized Directory of the People, Places, and Vital Dates*. 3 vols. Toronto: Genealogical Research Library, 1994. (Family History Library book 971.5 D22a.)
- Elliott, Noel Montgomery, ed. *The Central Canadians 1600–1900: An Alphabetized Directory of the People, Places, and Vital Dates*. 3 vols. Toronto: Genealogical Research Library, 1994. (Family History Library book 971 D22cc.)
- Elliott, Noel Montgomery, ed. *The Western Canadians 1600–1900: An Alphabetized Directory of the People, Places, and Vital Dates*. 3 vols. Toronto: Genealogical Research Library, 1994. (Family History Library book 971 D22w.)
- *Canadian Almanac and Directory*. Toronto: Canadian Almanac and Directory Publishing Co., annual. (Family History Library book 971 E4ca)
- *The Pre-1900 Canadian Directories=La Collection de répertoires d'avant 1900*. Ottawa: Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions, 1988. (Family History Library book 971 E43p; 4,214 microfiche beginning with 6360453.)
- Lovell, John, ed. *Canadian Dominion Directory for 1871*. 8 vols. Montreal: John Lovell, 1871. (Family History Library book 971.3 E4L 1871; films 856124 and 856125; fiche 6046766)
- Ross, Tim. *Directory of Canadian Map Collections/Répertoire des collections canadiennes de cartes*. 6th ed. Ottawa: Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives, Cartographic and Audio-Visual Archives Division, National Archives of Canada, 1992. (Family History Library book 971 E74r; computer number 815797.)
- Nicholson, N. L., and L. M. Sebert. *The Maps of Canada: A Guide to Official Canadian Maps, Charts, Atlases and Gazetteers*. Folkestone, Kent, Engl.: Wm. Dawson and Sons Ltd., and Hamden, Conn.: The Shoe String Press, 1981. (Family History Library book 971 E7nL; computer number 272666.)
- *Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada*. Toronto: H. Belden, 1880. (Family History Library film 982194 item 5; computer number 212839.)

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

Look beyond the records that are online or on microfilm as some records might only be available on-site. Check private collections and contact courthouses, churches, and other repositories. An excellent AG® professional also must know where to find and how to use the records needed to solve the client's problem. To learn about resources for your region of interest check out the following:

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- Search all applicable census records to find complete families
- Evaluate each record. Resolve any conflicting information. Correlate findings.
- Source each event in each person's life. Capture the information about each source to facilitate proper citation when writing the report.
- Keep a research log of all records searched, including any searches for which nothing was found.
- Verify generational links.
- Substitute records might be used when there is a lack of records or record loss. An event might be recorded in multiple ways. For example, a marriage might be recorded civilly, by the church, or in a newspaper. Each should be checked.

This is an overview of some resources, record types, and strategies that may be covered on the ICAPGen regional exams. Although not a complete list, it is offered as a guide to build upon in your preparation for testing and to maintain your professional-level skills.