



#110 1514 – 11th Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 0H2

February 14, 2020

Honourable Jim Reiter
Minister responsible for eHealth Saskatchewan
Room 204, Legislative Building
2405 Legislative Drive
REGINA, Saskatchewan
S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Reiter:

Once again we are writing to express our concern about the lack of access to an up-to-date index of Saskatchewan births, marriages and deaths for genealogical purposes. There have been no additional records indexed online for many years. This makes it difficult for researchers, adds an additional burden for your staff to do searches, and is embarrassing to the Government of Saskatchewan.

We are increasingly hearing and seeing complaints online from genealogists everywhere, not just our members, about the lack of an updated index for Saskatchewan records and also about the excessive fees for certified genealogical copies.

Attached, for your information, is a comparison of online record availability and costs for records across Canada. You will note that Saskatchewan is lagging behind significantly compared to most other jurisdictions and yet charges far more for records. If your fees were less it would quite likely result in more revenue as there are large numbers of people conducting genealogical research.

The Saskatchewan Genealogical Society has offered its assistance in the past. We have experienced researchers who would be willing to sign non-disclosure agreements and, who would be more than willing to volunteer to assist with the indexing of these important records.

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Interest in genealogy and family history is growing rapidly. Unfortunately, as previously stated, Saskatchewan is lagging far behind other jurisdictions in this area and is an embarrassment – and always cited as the problem area for Canadian researchers. We strongly encourage you to update your online index and seriously consider a reduction in the fees for genealogical records. Saskatchewan should be seen as a leader, not a road block!

Sincerely,



Marge Cleave
President
Saskatchewan Genealogical Society



Deanne Cairns
Executive Director
Saskatchewan Genealogical Society

c. Jim Hornell, CEO, eHealth Saskatchewan

Att.

**SURVEY OF CANADIAN JURISDICTIONS
ONLINE RECORDS AND FEES**

PROVINCE	ONLINE – DIGITAL COPIES	RESTRICTIONS AND AVAILABLE RECORDS ONLINE	FEES
<p>British Columbia</p>	<p>Index and Images available at: http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 120 years Marriages > 70 years Deaths > 20 years</p> <p>Available Records: Births 1854-1903 Marriages 1872-1943 Deaths 1872-1998 Colonial Marriages 1859-1872 Baptisms 1836-1888</p>	<p>\$30 for certificate from BC Archives \$50 for certified true copy of registration from Vital Stats</p>
<p>Alberta</p>	<p>Index and Images available via Provincial Archives https://provincialarchives.alberta.ca/how-to/search-your-genealogy</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 120 years Marriages > 75 years Deaths > 50 years</p> <p>Available Records: Same as above</p>	<p>Genealogy certificates are .35/page and shipping for records that are available to the public.</p>

<p>Saskatchewan</p>	<p>Online index is in development (does not include images). Births to 1908 (partial) and Deaths to 1916 (partial); marriages (no records).</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 100 years Marriages > 75 years Deaths > 70 years</p> <p>Available Records: Births – to 1908 (partial) Marriages – none Deaths – to 1916 (partial)</p>	<p>\$55 for certified copy or genealogical photocopy.</p>
<p>Manitoba</p>	<p>Online index is available at: (does not include images) https://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 100 years Marriages > 80 years Deaths > 70 years</p> <p>Available Records: Same as above</p>	<p>\$25 for copy. However, if the registration of birth, marriage or death is on the online index, the charge is only \$12.</p>

Ontario

Information is available through www.ancestry.ca (free access at Archives of Ontario, and all Ontario public libraries), and anyone who has ancestry access (e.g. SGS, Sask public library); or at www.familysearch.org.

Privacy Restrictions:
Births > 102 years
Marriages > 82 years
Deaths > 72 years

\$33 for each certified copy of a registration through Archives of Ontario.

Available Records at:

Ancestry:

Births 1869-1913

Marriages District

Registers ca 1801-

1857

Marriages County

Registers (ca 1858-

1869

Marriages July 1,

1869-1937

Deaths 1869-1947

Deaths of Ontarians

overseas 1939-1947

FamilySearch:

Births ca 1830-1868

Marriages District

Registers (ca 1801-

1857)

Marriages County

Registers (ca 1858-

1869)

Marriages (July 1,

1869-1927)

Deaths 1869-1937

Deaths of Ontarians

overseas 1939-1947

<p>New Brunswick</p>	<p>The online index is located at (includes images): http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/VISSE/?culture=en=CA</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 95 years Marriages > 50 years Deaths > 50 years</p> <p>Available Records: Births: up to 1923 Marriages – up to 1967 Deaths – up to 1967</p>	<p>A certified copy is \$9/record.</p>
<p>Nova Scotia</p>	<p>The online index (includes images) is located at: https://www.novascotiagenealogy.com/Start.aspx</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 100 years Marriages > 75 years Deaths > 50 years</p> <p>Available Records: Births: 1864-1877, 1908-1917 Delayed Births – 1830-1917</p> <p>Marriages: Bonds 1763-1864 1864-1942</p> <p>Deaths: 1864-1877 1890-1908 (Halifax only) 1908-1967</p>	<p>Copies can be provided as follows: e-files cost \$11.17/record; and Paper copies \$22.39/record</p>

<p>Prince Edward Island</p>	<p>The online index is available at (does not include images): http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births > 120 years Marriages > 75 years Deaths > 50 years</p> <p>Available Records: Births – no civil reg, but they do have church baptismal records from late 1700s to 1923 Marriages up to 1936 Deaths 1906-1968</p>	<p>Min. \$5 (incl. 10 prints of microfilm or 20 photocopies)</p>
<p>Newfoundland & Labrador</p>	<p>No online index is available. Searches must be done via Newfoundland & Labrador Archives for records prior to 1892. Other years are available via vital statistics.</p>	<p>Privacy Restrictions: Births 1891–1899 Marriages 1891–1922 Deaths 1891-1949</p>	<p>\$35/certificate.</p>

NOTES:

- Ontario is changing restriction access to records from 102 years to 105 years after birth
- Available Records includes records that are currently available online, and may or may not be the same as the privacy restrictions.
- While other records are available, the above summary focusses on **online** records.