

APPLICATION FOR GENEALOGY CERTIFICATE

MAILING ADDRESS INFORMATION

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: AFS#	
SURNAME	GIVEN NAME(S)
MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY, PROVINCE/STATE, COUNTRY	POSTAL CODE
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)	WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)
E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)	IF COMPANY, ATTENTION:

B I R T H	SURNAME (FOR MARRIED WOMAN: SURNAME AT BIRTH OR ADOPTION OR AFTER LEGAL NAME CHANGE)		GIVEN NAMES		SEX	Please indicate type and number of certificates required <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy - Registration copy OR <input type="checkbox"/> Commemorative Certificates ↓ Click on link below to see certificate options and their item numbers. Enter your selection in the box (below). www.vs.gov.bc.ca/commemorate/index.html Item # <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	
	DATE OF BIRTH MONTH DAY YEAR <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/>		PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE)				BRITISH COLUMBIA
	SURNAME OF FATHER		GIVEN NAMES		BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (CITY, PROV/STATE, COUNTRY)		
	MAIDEN/BIRTH SURNAME OF MOTHER		GIVEN NAMES		BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (CITY, PROV/STATE, COUNTRY)		

M A R R I A G E	DATE OF MARRIAGE MONTH DAY YEAR <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/>		PLACE OF MARRIAGE (CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE)			BRITISH COLUMBIA	Please indicate number of certificates required <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy - Registration copy
	SURNAME OF PARTY 1		GIVEN NAMES		BIRTHPLACE OF PARTY 1 (CITY, PROV/STATE, COUNTRY)		
	SURNAME OF PARTY 2		GIVEN NAMES		BIRTHPLACE OF PARTY 2 (CITY, PROV/STATE, COUNTRY)		

D E A T H	SURNAME OF DECEASED		GIVEN NAMES		DATE OF DEATH MONTH DAY YEAR <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 15px;" type="text"/>		SEX	AGE	Please indicate number of certificates required <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy - Registration copy	
	PLACE OF DEATH (CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE)				BRITISH COLUMBIA		PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY, PROV/STATE, COUNTRY)			
	PERMANENT RESIDENCE AT TIME OF DEATH (STREET AND CITY IF KNOWN)									

YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO EVENT: Self Mother Father Spouse Other: _____

REASON CERTIFICATE REQUIRED: _____

YOUR SIGNATURE (written): _____

PAYMENT METHODS

<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque*	<input type="checkbox"/> Money Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/> American Express
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* Postdated cheques not accepted

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Interac/Cash payment may be made in person at one of our three offices. Cheque or money order made payable to the Minister of Finance.

Credit Card # _____

Card holder signature _____

PRINT Card holder name as shown on Credit Card _____

Expiry Date _____

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

WHO QUALIFIES TO APPLY

- * **Commemorative Birth Certificates** may be released to
 - a) you, if the record pertains to your own birth
 - b) parents of a child
 - c) guardian; copy of guardianship papers must be attached
 - d) a person on the written consent of "a" or "b" above
- * **Birth Genealogy** (Certified Registration Copy for Genealogical Research) may be released to
 - a) you, if the record pertains to your own birth
 - b) parents of a child
 - c) custodial guardian; copy of guardianship papers must be attached
 - d) anyone, as long as the person has been dead for 20 years, and proof of death is provided
 - e) anyone, if the record has been in existence for 120 years
 - f) a relative of the person named, on production of proof of death and relationship ***
 - g) a person on the written consent of the eligible person
- * **Marriage Genealogy** (Certified Registration copy for Genealogical Research) may be released to
 - a) you, if the record pertains to your own marriage
 - b) a relative of the person named, on production of proof of death and relationship***
 - c) anyone, as long as the parties to the marriage have both been dead for 20 years, and proof of death is provided
 - d) anyone, if the record has been in existence for 75 years
 - e) a person on the written consent of an eligible person
- * **Death Genealogy** (Certified Registration Copy for Genealogical Research) may be released to
 - a) a relative of the deceased, on production of proof of relationship***
 - b) anyone if the event occurred more than 20 years ago
 - c) a person on the written consent of an eligible person

*** Note: Eligible applicants are as follows, and proof of relationship must be provided
Mother Father Son Daughter Sister Brother Spouse Grandparent Grandchild

Acceptable proof of relationship for a relative includes photocopy of a certified birth registration, a parental certificate and/or associated marriage certificates.

FEES

- * For each certificate \$50.00. Fee is for a search of records and a positive search will result in service. Where a service cannot be provided because no record exists, a \$50.00 search fee will be assessed.
- * Payment to be made in Canadian funds by credit card, cheque or money order payable to the Minister of Finance. Prices are current as of January 1, 2009 and are subject to change without notice. If ordering after April 1, 2012, contact our office for current fees.

TO AVOID DELAY

- * Complete the appropriate section in full (All requests with incomplete information must be accompanied by a signed, written explanation for the omission. If any portion of the relevant event information is left blank the application will be returned by mail for completion).
- * Be sure you are authorized to make the request.
- * Enclose the correct fee by cheque, money order or credit card (Canadian Funds).
- * Be sure your address and telephone number are correct and clear.
- * A service charge of \$30.00 will be levied on all cheques not honoured by the payees financial institution.

MAILING ADDRESS

Vital Statistics Agency
PO Box 9657 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9P3

ENQUIRIES & CREDIT CARD ORDERS

Telephone: **250 952-2681** (Victoria & Outside BC)
Toll free: **1 888 876-1633** (within BC)

OR VISIT ONE OF OUR OFFICES

VICTORIA:
818 Fort St
Victoria BC

VANCOUVER:
250 - 605 Robson St
Vancouver BC

KELOWNA:
305 - 478 Bernard Ave
Kelowna BC

Check our Web Site at: www.vs.gov.bc.ca

The information on this form is collected under the authority of the **Vital Statistics Act** (RSBC 1996, c.479, Sec. 36, 37, 38 & 39). The information provided will be used to fulfill the requirements of the **Vital Statistics Act** for the release of information. The release of this information is in compliance with the **Vital Statistics Act** and the **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact a Vital Statistics Representative at 250-952-2681.



The Vital Statistics Agency (Agency) provides a number of services and certificates for genealogical purposes. Listed below are the services which we provide.

Genealogy

Copies of original vital event records are an important resource for the family historian. Records of birth, marriage, and death occurring in the province of British Columbia since 1872, if registered with the Agency, are available to qualified applicants.

For genealogical research purposes the Agency issues unique registration copies, which make available all the information recorded on the original event record.

Births prior to 1951 may not include the weight or time of birth. This information will be provided separately along with the registration copy when available. This information is often of general interest and particularly useful to persons interested in numerology and astrology.

To learn more about genealogy services visit our web site at www.vs.gov.bc.ca/genealogy.

The Vital Statistics Agency and British Columbia Archives now provide an electronic index to British Columbia's historical birth, death, and marriage records from as early as 1872. Access to this electronic index is through www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca or you can link to this site through our web page at the address noted in the previous paragraph.

Adoption Services

Over the last few decades, social attitudes towards adoption have changed, and as such, many people involved in adoptions want greater openness and access to information.

To ease the access to adoption information, the *Adoption Act* allows an adopted person 19 years of age or older to obtain a copy of their birth registration and adoption order, if the events occurred in British Columbia. The act also allows the birth parents access to the adopted person's birth registration and adoption order, once the adopted person reaches his/her 19th birthday.

To learn more about Adoption Services, visit our web site at www.vs.gov.bc.ca, or contact a Vital Statistics Representative at 250 952-2681.

Commemorative Certificates

The Agency offers a decorative series of commemorative birth certificates suitable for framing. There are 42 styles in this series.

- The Newborn style features playful toys as well as a place to display a newborn's photograph. This is now available in 5 background colours.
- The Classic style features the Flag and Coat of Arms of British Columbia.
- The BC Series has 36 stylized scenes portraying various regions of the province. See our website at: www.vs.gov.bc.ca/commemorate/index.html to view the complete collection.

Important Note

Commemorative certificates are not identification documents and cannot be used to obtain benefits or services (example: passport).

Genealogical Resources for British Columbians

After acquiring a genealogy certificate or using the Vital Events Indexes, many individuals inquire to the Vital Statistics Agency about additional sources of genealogical information. To help individuals begin their genealogical research, the Vital Statistics Agency published the guide, *Genealogical Resources for British Columbians*. This resource guide contains descriptions of various institutions' genealogical holdings and provides contact information. Readers will find information on genealogical societies, vital statistics offices, libraries, churches, internet sites, and many other sources of genealogical information.

The guide can be downloaded and printed from our website at: www.vs.gov.bc.ca/forms/vsa006.pdf.

Vital Statistics Agency Web Site

The Agency web site, located at www.vs.gov.bc.ca, is an excellent source of information about BC Vital Statistics services and products. Users starting at the Agency's home page can access a wide variety of informative pages, download forms, read electronic versions of some Agency publications, access the Vital Events Index and view samples of some certificates.