

A MARKED TERRITORY

ANNEX 1 | INDIGENOUS PLACE NAMES

The First Nations and Inuit of Canada have given names to the features of their territories: lakes, rivers, mountains, campsites, gathering sites, etc. European newcomers continued to use these place names for a long time, but a number of them were later replaced. However, many Indigenous place names are still used today: they show up on maps and road signs everywhere in Canada.

Find the origin and meaning of the following Indigenous place names:

Place Name	Origin (nation, language)	Meaning	Area (history, imaginary, geography, resource...)
Amqui	Mi'gmaq	Where we have fun	Culture
Manicouagan	Innu	Where there is bark (for canoes)	Resource
Oka	Anishinabeg	Golden fish	Resource
Rimouski	Mi'gmaq	Kennel (dog house)	History
Nunavik	Inuit, Inuktitut	The place where we live	Geography
Pontiac	Anishinabeg	None; it's the name of a person	History
Coaticook	Waban-Aki	River of the land of pine trees	Geography



Locate two place names on a map, in an inventory of sites across Canada or in your surroundings. Find their origin and meaning. Be creative! You will be amazed at the new things to be found out about the territory where you live!

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