

**Enrolment Officer's Responding Report made in response to the Initial
Submissions of various Interested Parties:**

**Report Regarding Ancestor
Mary Petrin
(RIN #4762)
Dated January 23, 2023**



**Joan Holmes, Enrolment Officer for AOO
Prepared for the Algonquin Tribunal
January 2023**

Contents

Introduction	3
Document #2 – Initial Submission by M. Mitchell	3
Oral history	3
Places of residence and birth of children	6
Indian Affairs Annual Reports on Indian Populations.....	6
Oral history, lifestyle, experience, and beliefs of respondent and her community.....	7
Document #3 – Initial Submission by R. Campbell	7
Reference to the Tribunal	7
Locations where Mary Petrin lived	7
Origins represented on census records	8
Ancestral lineage of Respondent.....	9
Lifestyle, Experience, and Beliefs of Respondent and his Family.....	9
Documents #4 and #6 – Initial Submissions by R. Tooley.....	9
Photographs enclosed with the November 15, 2022 submission.....	9
Removal of John McIsaac Wajaw RIN #4761 from the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors	9
Some Descendants of Mary Petrin did not meet the Propose Beneficiary Criteria (PBC)	10
Census records.....	10
Documents #5 – Initial Submissions by N. Giroux	11
ALG-40058 – 1901 census for North Temiscamingue, Quebec.....	11
ALG-40050 – 1921 census for Bear Island, Temagami, Ontario	11
ALG-40043 and ALG-40047 – marriage documents for Mary Petrin and William Petrin.....	11
ALG-02443, ALG-02465, ALG-30331, ALG-02770 – baptisms of Mary Petrin’s children.....	11
ALG-05845, ALG-02050 – Mary Petrin sponsors Algonquin baptisms	12
ALG-13606 – son married Algonquin woman.....	12
Temiscamingue (aka Temiskaming).....	12
Document #7 – Initial Submissions by B. Higson	12
Descendant documents	13
Oral history at page 28 of the submission	13
Document #8 – Initial Submissions by S. Crawford	15

Introduction

The Tribunal received submissions from six families in support of retaining the ancestor Mary Petrin (RIN #4762) on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors. The submissions are posted on the Tribunal's website at: <https://www.tanakiwin.com/tribunal/marypetrin/>

The submissions appear on the website as:

- Document 2 – Initial Submission by M. Mitchell
- Document 3 – Initial Submission by R. Campbell
- Document 4 – Initial Submission by R. Tooley
- Document 5 – Initial Submission by N. Giroux
- Document 6 – Initial Submission by R. Tooley
- Document 7 – Initial Submission by B. Higson
- Document 8 – Initial Submission by S. Crawford

The submissions were filed in response to the Enrolment Officer's Report on Ancestor Mary Petrin, dated September 2022, which is posted on the website as Document 1 – Enrolment Officer's Report Regarding Ancestor Mary Petrin (RIN #4762).

This responding report addresses the content of those submissions that is relevant to the Tribunal's inquiry, which is to determine whether the Mary Petrin is identified in a historic record or document dated on or before December 31, 1921, in such a way that it would be reasonable to conclude that she was considered to be an Algonquin or Nipissing, or a sibling of such a person. A "sibling of such a person" means a person with a common Algonquin parent.

The submissions refer to many documents and facts that are contained in the Enrolment Officer's Report. As noted in the Enrolment Officer's Report, archival documents recording a family's life events have been assigned ALG document number; RIN numbers have been assigned to the individuals to aid in identification. Both RIN numbers and ALG numbers will be referenced in this report for ease of discussion.

Document #2 – Initial Submission by M. Mitchell

The respondent Mallorie Mitchell submitted oral history, referenced several documents contained in the Enrolment Officer's Report, as well as an Indian Affairs report on Indian populations. She also provided information regarding family lifestyle, experience and beliefs. The documents cited by the respondent that were enclosed with the Enrolment Officers report can be viewed with that report. The Enrolment Officer has not cited any new documents in this report. The elements of the submission are addressed below:

Oral history

The respondent indicates that family oral history indicates that Mary Petrin was "a princess from Deux Montaigne" and that her father was a chief there. The known facts regarding the origins of Mary Petrin and her father are reviewed below.

While no birth or baptismal record has been located for Mary Petrin, the available historical documentation shows that:

- No records have been found that show a baptism of a Mary Petrin at the mission at Lake of Two Mountains (aka Deux Montagnes, Oka).
- The available historical documents indicate that Mary Petrin's father was named Bertrand Petrant (Petrin). However, no historical documents have been located that identify Bertrand Petrant (Petrin) as a chief at Lake of Two Mountains. It is noteworthy that in the first half of the nineteenth century, many leading men signed petitions at Lake of Two Mountains. Mary's mother's family were known in the Abitibi and Temiskaming area during that period.
- All available records indicate that Mary Petrin's parents were Bertrand Petrant and Jenny Polson and her maternal grandparents were William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe, who were known at HBC posts at Abitibi (1821-27, 1831-52) and Temiskaming (1854-57, 1871). Mary was born around 1853 when her parents were in the Temiskaming/Abitibi area and was married at Temiskaming in 1871.
- According to her June 1871 marriage record, Mary's parents were named as the deceased Bertrand Petrin (RIN #26675) and Jenny Polson (RIN #5270). Mary was living in Temiscamingue, Quebec at the time of marriage.¹
- Just prior to being married, Mary Petrin was enumerated on the 1871 census for Temiscamingue East, North Pontiac, Quebec living with an elderly couple named William and Flora Polson, along with her older brother William Petrin (RIN #10439). She was recorded as having been born in Quebec and of Indian origin. Mary was listed as being 18 years of age, putting her date of birth around 1853.² William and Flora Polson have been identified as Mary Petrin's maternal grandparents.
- Mary's brother William was enumerated with her on the 1871 census. When he married in 1874 at Temiscamingue, his parents were named as Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson.³ This is further proof of the identity of Mary's parents.
- Census and baptism records for Mary Petrin's children, outlined below, indicate she later moved south, obtained religious services in Mattawa and Sheenboro/Fort William, and lived predominantly around Bissett Creek in the Townships of Clara, Head and Maria.

¹ ALG-40043

² ALG-29406

³ ALG-40047

Enrolment Officer's Responding Report regarding Ancestor RIN #4762

- No marriage record has been located for Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson, the parents of Mary and William. However, a "Jenny Paulson" was baptized at Abitibi on July 18, 1837 aged around 5 years old, with her parents named as "William Paulson" and Otenimakwe (ou l'Eveque). Jenny was baptized at the same time as her brother Thomas who was aged around 1 and a half years old. William Polson was noted as being a "Commis" (clerk) for the HBC at this Post.⁴
- A marriage record has been located for William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe dated 1838 at Abitibi. The people identified as William Polson and Otenimakwe on this record are also known as William and Flora Polson, who are the maternal grandparents of Mary Petrin with whom she was living when enumerated on the 1871 census at Temiskaming. Additional records regarding William and Flora's other children are outlined in the Enrolment Officer's Report.
- Mary's death record in 1940 states that her father was William Petrant, born in France, and her mother was unknown.⁵ This appears to be an error as it is not consistent with other documents. In this regard, it is important to note that the marriage record, made 70 years prior to the death record, identifies Mary's father as Bertrand Petrant, not William. Mary's brother was named William Petrin and the historical documents indicate that he was baptized at Temiskaming. Historical documents indicate that William Polson, Mary's maternal grandfather was born in Eastmain on Hudson Bay. The information for Mary's death record was given by Mary's daughter, Florence McIsaac of Bissett Creek; Mary was buried nearby at Stonecliffe, Ontario. This record suggests that in 1940 Mary Petrin's daughter was unclear about the names of her grandparents and may have confused the first name of her grandfather, Bertrand with that of her great grandfather William or may have confused her uncle, William Petrin with her grand father. No evidence has been found suggesting William Polson, William Petrin or Bertrand Petrin was born in France.

The oral history submitted by the respondent further states that, "there was a war between the Indians. The Iroquois raided the village and killed her father and mother. She had climbed a tree and hid there. A while later, some of her tribe who had survived had come by and seen her in the tree and knew what had happened to her family. One couple took her with them and brought her up."

As noted above, Mary Petrin was born around 1853. The War with the Iroquois in the vicinity of Montreal Island and in the Ottawa Valley took place in the mid-seventeenth century, which is two hundred years prior to her birth. There is no record of Iroquois attacks around Lake of Two Mountains or in the Ottawa Valley in the mid-nineteenth century.

⁴ ALG-40051

⁵ ALG-29478

Places of residence and birth of children

Ms. Mitchell indicated that Mary Petrin and her spouse and children lived in Bissett Creek in Maria Township. The available historical documentation supports that conclusion.

Mary's place of residence and areas of activity after moving south from Lake Temiskaming is noted in the Enrolment Officer's Report of September 2022. The historical documents indicate that the family lived along the Ottawa River, predominantly around Bissett Creek in the Township of Clara, Head & Maria. For example, the available documentation indicates that:

- Mary Petrin's son, Joseph Washa⁸, was baptized at St. Anne's Church, Mattawa in 1872.⁶
- Mary Petrin's son, Joseph Richard Isaac was baptized at St. Anne's Church, Mattawa in 1873.⁷
- Mary Petrin's daughter, Margaret Mclsaac, was baptized at Sheenboro in 1879, at which time the family was living at "Des Joachim, P, Que".⁸
- Mary Petrin's son, Thomas Mclsaac, was baptized at St. Anne's Church, Mattawa in 1883, at which time the family were said to belong to the mission of Deux Rivieres.⁹
- Additional records show Mary's place of residence as follows:
 - 1881 census in the Township of Clara, Head & Maria;¹⁰
 - 1891 census in the Township of Clara, Head & Maria;¹¹
 - 1901 census in the Township of Clara, Head & Maria;¹²
 - 1911 census in the Township of Clara & Maria;¹³
 - 1921 census in the Township of Head & Maria & Clara;¹⁴
 - 1940 death record states that Mary lived in Bissett Creek and was buried at Stonecliffe.¹⁵

Indian Affairs Annual Reports on Indian Populations

The respondent outlined published numbers of "Indians" as reported in Department of Indian Affairs Annual Reports, between 1867 and 1891. The documents were not appended. The respondent contends that the fluctuation in numbers over the period demonstrates a "degree of inaccuracy in the Department's enumeration f [sic] the Algonquin population." The number and whereabouts of Algonquins is not at issue in the question of whether or not Mary Petrin meets the definition of Algonquin Ancestor.

⁶ ALG-02443
⁷ ALG-02465
⁸ ALG-30331
⁹ ALG-02770
¹⁰ ALG-29413

¹¹ ALG-29425
¹² ALG-01377
¹³ ALG-22737
¹⁴ ALG-22750
¹⁵ ALG-29478

Oral history, lifestyle, experience, and beliefs of respondent and her community

The Enrolment Officer's responding report is confined to commenting on information related directly to the ancestor and is undertaken to confirm whether the oral history pertaining to the ancestor at issue is consistent with the available historical documents, if any. The Enrolment Officer does not have any comments on the lifestyle, personal experiences or personal beliefs the respondent and her community.

Document #3 – Initial Submission by R. Campbell

Mr. Robert Campbell submitted an initial reply to the Enrolment Officer's Report on Ancestor Mary Petrin (RIN #4762) by way of a two-page letter emailed to the Tribunal dated September 5, 2022.

This responding report comments on the points made in Mr. Campbell's submission that are within the purview of the Enrolment Officer to address. For ease of reference, the issues raised by the respondent are organized into sub-sections. Documents containing factual information are footnoted by ALG reference numbers. Those that were enclosed with the Enrolment Officers report can be viewed with that report. The Enrolment Officer has not cited any new documents in this responding report.

Reference to the Tribunal

The respondent asked who had brought the Mary Petrin lineage "into dispute."

As noted in the Enrolment Officer's Report, the Algonquin Negotiation Representatives (ANRs) passed a motion on June 16, 2022 directing The Tribunal to make inquiries into whether or not 14 historic persons listed on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors are respectively a person who was born on or before July 15, 1897 and identified in an historic record or document dated on or before December 31, 1921, in such a way that it would be reasonable to conclude that the person was considered to be an Algonquin or Nipissing, or a sibling of such a person. A sibling of a person is a person with a common Algonquin parent. The ANRs referred this matter to the Tribunal in order to establish an inquiry process to ensure that all interested parties had the opportunity to make submissions and examine the evidence in each case. Mary Petrin is one of the 14 ancestors under review.

The respondent refers to "a document from a Lawyer representing Pikwakanagan First Nations" in which the lawyer neither "confirms or denies the fact that the PETRIN Lineage is Algonquin." The Enrolment Officer is not familiar with the document referred to so can not comment on the document or what it purports to say.

Locations where Mary Petrin lived

The respondent notes that Mary Petrin is documented as living in the area in which Algonquin people settled, specifically in the Pontiac and at Fort William.

The Enrolment Officer's Report shows that Mary Petrin was married in June 1871 in Temiscamingue, Quebec where she was living at the time.¹⁶ Temiscamingue/Temiskaming was in Pontiac County, Province of Quebec at that time. Mary Petrin celebrated family events, such as the baptisms of her children in Mattawa, Ontario in 1872, 1873 and 1883,¹⁷ and in Sheenboro/Fort William in 1879.¹⁸ Mary was noted as living at Des Joachim, Quebec in 1879,¹⁹ Deux Rivieres parish in 1883,²⁰ and in Township of Clara, Head and Maria Township, specifically at Bissett Creek in 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921, and 1940.²¹ Temiscamingue/Temiskaming was known to be a place frequented by Algonquins. Sheenboro/Fort William, Mattawa and the Township of Clara, Head and Maria are all recognized as places where Algonquins resided.

Origins represented on census records

The respondent noted that some descendants of Mary Petrin were identified as "Algonquin" others as "Half Breed" on census record.

The Enrolment Officer's Report identified the following notations on census records for Mary Petrin:

- 1871 census Mary and her natal family were identified as "Indian";²²
- 1881 census Mary and her children were identified as "Half-Breed";²³
- 1891 census Mary and her children were identified as "French Canadian";²⁴
- 1901 census Mary identified as "French"; her children as "Tete de Boule French Breed";²⁵
- 1911 census Mary identified as "French"; her children as "Scotch";²⁶
- 1921 census Mary identified as "French"; her child and grandchild as "Scotch";²⁷
- 1937 Indian Affairs inquiry noted Mary was said to be Indian and spoke "Indian";²⁸
- 1940 death record identified Mary as "French".²⁹

It should be noted that information was recorded on census tracts by the enumerator hired to conduct the census. The information may have been provided by the person being enumerated (e.g. Mary Petrin or her husband) or by a third party such as a neighbour. It is also possible that the enumerator entered information based on his own knowledge or assumptions.

There was no mechanism for individuals to challenge the information recorded on the census and it is difficult to know if the persons being enumerated were aware of the information that was being recorded about them during the relevant period. It is not unusual for the ethnic origins of individuals to be listed differently in different census years. This was particularly true for persons of Indigenous descent.

¹⁶ ALG-40043, ALG-29406

¹⁷ ALG-02443, ALG-02465, ALG-02770

¹⁸ ALG-30331

¹⁹ ALG-30331,

²⁰ ALG-02770

²¹ ALG-29413, ALG-29425, ALG-01377, ALG-22737, ALG-22750, ALG-29478

²² ALG-29406

²³ ALG-29413

²⁴ ALG-29425

²⁵ ALG-01377

²⁶ ALG-22737

²⁷ ALG-22750

²⁸ ALG-40063

²⁹ ALG-29478

Ancestral lineage of Respondent

The lineage recited by the respondent regarding his direct lineal descent from Mary Petrin has been demonstrated by documentation held in the Enrolment Office (i.e. Mary Petrin to Sophie Wajaw Isaac to Emira/Almira Chamberlain to the respondent's mother). Those facts are not at issue.

Lifestyle, Experience, and Beliefs of Respondent and his Family

The Enrolment Officer's responding report is confined to commenting on information related directly to the ancestor and is undertaken to confirm whether the oral history pertaining to the ancestor at issue is consistent with the available historical documents, if any. The Enrolment Officer does not have any comments on the lifestyle, personal experiences or personal beliefs of the respondent and her community.

Documents #4 and #6 – Initial Submissions by R. Tooley

Mr. R. Tooley submitted an initial reply to the Enrolment Officer's Report on Ancestor Mary Petrin (RIN #4762) by way of two emails to the Tribunal dated October 20 and November 15, 2022. The October 20 submission enclosed census records from 1881 to 1911. The November 15 submission enclosed multiple annotated photographs of the descendants of Mary Petrin. The person making the submission will be referred to as the respondent in this responding report.

This responding report comments on the points made in the submission which are within the purview of the Enrolment Officer to address. For ease of reference, the issues raised by the respondent are organized into sub-sections. Documents containing factual information are footnoted by ALG reference numbers. Those that were enclosed with the Enrolment Officers report can be viewed with that report. The Enrolment Officer has not cited any new documents in this responding report.

Photographs enclosed with the November 15, 2022 submission

The Enrolment acknowledges the submission of 58 family photographs organized in chronological order beginning with Mary Petrin and her husband John (Wajou) Mclsaac. The majority of individuals in the photographs are identified. The Enrolment Officer has no comments on these photographs.

Removal of John Mclsaac Wajaw RIN #4761 from the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors

The respondent notes that John Mclsaac (aka Wajaw or Wajou), the husband of Mary Petrin, was removed from the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors. At this stage, the Tribunal is addressing a reference from the ANRs to inquire into 14 ancestors, of which Mary Petrin is one. The status of Mary Petrin's spouse is not an issue currently before the Tribunal.

Once this initial stage is completed, it is anticipated that the Tribunal will accept application for the addition of Ancestors to the Schedule of Ancestors. If the respondent believes that John

Mclsaac Wajaw (RIN #4761) should be added to the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors he must apply when the Algonquin Negotiation Representatives authorize the Algonquin Enrolment Review Committee and Tribunal to begin that stage of their work.

Some Descendants of Mary Petrin did not meet the Propose Beneficiary Criteria (PBC)

The respondent noted that the line that descended from Mary Petrin's younger children lived for an insufficient time during the Petitioning Period (i.e. prior to July 15, 1897) to meet all of the PBC elements in that period. This is an issue that pertains to the application of the PBC and not to the question of whether Mary Petrin meets the definition of Algonquin Ancestor. This issue can be addressed at the appeals stage after the initial reference regarding the 14 ancestors is resolved and the Algonquin Negotiation Representatives authorize the Algonquin Enrolment Review Committee and Tribunal to begin that stage of their work.

Census records

The respondent supplied copies of census records from 1881 to 1911 and referenced correspondence from an Indian Agent regarding Mary Petrin. All of these documents were reviewed and appended to the Enrolment Officer's Report of September 2022. The ethnic identity of Mary and her husband as stated in these census documents are summarized below for ease of reference:

- 1881 census Mary, her husband John "Isaac" and their children were identified as "Half-Breed," he was noted as born in the North West, she in Quebec;³⁰
- 1891 census Mary, her husband John "Mclsaac" and their children were identified as "French Canadian," he was noted as born in Nipissing from parents born in the North West, she in Quebec of parents born in Quebec;³¹
- 1901 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as Tete de Boule, and their children as "Tete de Boule French Breed," she was born in Quebec, he was born in "indian cry" (i.e. Indian country);³²
- 1911 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as "Scotch," their children as "Scotch," he was born in Hudson Bay, Mary in Quebec and the children in Ontario;³³
- 1937 Indian Affairs inquiry noted Mary was said to be Indian and spoke "Indian";³⁴

The Enrolment Officer's Report also included the 1871 census for Mary Petrin, which identifies Mary and her natal family as "Indian".³⁵

³⁰ ALG-29413

³¹ ALG-29425

³² ALG-01377

³³ ALG-22737

³⁴ ALG-40063

³⁵ ALG-29406

Documents #5 – Initial Submissions by N. Giroux

Neil Giroux submitted his reply in support of Mary Petrin. Mr. Giroux cited census records, baptismal records, and marriage records to support his position that Mary Petrin should remain on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors. The cited documents are all addressed in the Enrolment Officer's Report. For completeness, the materials relied on by the respondent are reviewed below:

ALG-40058 – 1901 census for North Temiscamingue, Quebec

As noted in the respondent's submission, this census lists Thomas and Johny Polson (who are the brothers of Jenny Polson, and hence Mary Petrin's maternal uncles) as Algonquin and speaking Algonquin as their mother tongue. This document is discussed on page 10 of the Enrolment Officer's Report. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submissions with respect to this document.

ALG-40050 – 1921 census for Bear Island, Temagami, Ontario

As noted in the respondent's submission, this census lists William Petrin (who is the brother of Mary Petrin) as Algonquin in origin and speaking Algonquin. This document is discussed on page 9 of the Enrolment Officer's Report. The Enrolment Officer's Report also lays out other evidence regarding William beginning on page 8. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submissions regarding this document.

ALG-40043 and ALG-40047 – marriage documents for Mary Petrin and William Petrin

As noted in the respondent's submission, the 1871 marriage record for Mary Petrin to Johny Wash8 Mclsaac at Temiscamingue names her parents as the deceased Bertrand Petrin (RIN #26675) and Jenny Polson (RIN #5270). The Enrolment Officer's Report discusses this document on page 5. The 1874 marriage record for Mary's brother, William Petrin, at Temiscamingue also names his parents as Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson. These two documents, therefore, show that Mary and William Petrin were full siblings. The Enrolment Officer's Report discusses this document on page 8. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submissions regarding these documents.

ALG-02443, ALG-02465, ALG-30331, ALG-02770 – baptisms of Mary Petrin's children

The cited documents show that the baptisms of Mary's children were witnessed/sponsored by known Algonquins:

- 1872 baptism of Joseph Washa8 at Mattawa sponsored by Bernard Micmac (RIN #9249) and Philomene Antoine (RIN #57526);
- 1873 baptism of Joseph Richard Isaac at Mattawa sponsored by Paul Chevalier (RIN #9690) and Anna McDonald (RIN #2197);
- 1879 baptism of Margaret Mclsaac at Sheenboro sponsored by Joseph Stevens (aka Joseph Steven Casenipinensi, RIN #5895); and
- 1883 baptism of Thomas Mclsaac at Mattawa sponsored by Xavier McDougall (aka Francois Xavier Kitchiganakwaham, RIN #22083) and his wife Elizabeth Notinons (RIN #22084).

These documents are discussed on page 6 of the Enrolment Officer's Report. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submission that these documents demonstrate "close ties" between Mary and members of the Algonquin community.

ALG-05845, ALG-02050 – Mary Petrin sponsors Algonquin baptisms

The 1884 baptism of the Helene, daughter of Xavier McDougall (aka Francois Xavier Kitchiganakwaham, RIN #22083) and his wife Elizabeth Notinons (RIN #22084) was witnessed by Mary Petrin. This document is discussed on page 6 of the Enrolment Officer's Report.

The 1876 baptism of Catenin Simon (who was the daughter of Micen Simon aka Michel Kawitakijik, RIN #8622, and Catenin aka Catherine Pessindawatch RIN #3969) was sponsored by Mary Petrin at Sheenboro. The other witness was Benjamin Leclerc, who is on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors.

These documents are discussed on pages 7-8 of the Enrolment Officer's Report. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submission that these documents demonstrate "close ties" between Mary and the Algonquin community.

ALG-13606 – son married Algonquin woman

Mary Petrin's son James married Angelique Dufond in 1917 at St. Anne's Church, Mattawa. Angelique was the daughter of Alexander Dufonts (RIN #1777) and Mani Anne Simon (RIN #3757) both known Algonquins. Enrolment Officer's Report discusses this document on page 8. The Enrolment Officer does not disagree with the respondent's submission that this document is also indicative of there being "close ties" between Mary and the Algonquin community.

Temiscamingue (aka Temiskaming)

The respondent notes that the majority of Mary Petrin's maternal family events took place at Temiscamingue. This fact was demonstrated in the Enrolment Officer's Report including the 1871 marriage of Mary Petrin (cited above), the 1871 census at Temiscamingue (cited on page 5 of the report), the 1874 marriage of Mary's brother (cited above), the 1881 census of Mary's brother (cited on page 8 of the report), as well as the sub-section on the Polson family (cited on pages 9 to 11 of the report).

As noted in the Enrolment Officer's Report at pages 11-12, the modern-day Temiskaming First Nation is an Algonquin community with long-standing Algonquin roots. Algonquins successfully petition to have a reserve created at that location; it was officially created by Order-in-Council in 1853 for Nipissings, Algonquins and Outaouais inhabiting the "Country watered by the Ottawa adjacent to the Hudson Bay Territory."

Document #7 – Initial Submissions by B. Higson

Brenda Higson submitted a 73-page reply in support of Mary Petrin. Ms. Higson provided a copy of the notification that she met the Proposed Beneficiary Criteria dated October 9, 2020 which

included the caveat that her enrolment was subject to potential protest. Her submission included several pages of photographs of family members in which the individuals were identified, personal identification cards, newspaper cuttings regarding Eddy Chamberlain (1905-1982), notes and copies of baptism and burial records and other documents related to descendants of Mary Petrin, extracts from census records, and a typed oral history narrative regarding the Wajou-Petrin Family. The respondent's material is reviewed below:

Descendant documents

The archival documents, secondary sources such as family trees and newspaper clippings and photographs regarding descendants of Mary Petrin provide information regarding various descendants of Mary Petrin. This information does not add any new evidence regarding questions at hand regarding whether Mary Petrin meets the definition of Algonquin Ancestor. Consequently, the Enrolment Officer will not comment on these parts of the submission.

Oral history at page 28 of the submission

The typed narrative regarding the Wajou-Petrin Family at page 28 of Ms. Higson's submission includes a story regarding the origins of Mary Petrin. The narrative states that Mary Petrin was an Indian princess born at Lake of Two Mountains, whose father was a chief there. According to the narrative, the family travelled the water routes of the territory and eventually arrived at Mattawa where she met and married John Mclsaac in 1871. The family later settled at Bissett Creek.

While no birth or baptismal record has been located for Mary Petrin, the available historical documentation shows that:

- No records have been found that show a baptism of a Mary Petrin at the mission at Lake of Two Mountains (aka Deux Montagnes, Oka).
- The available historical documents indicate that Mary Petrin's father was named Bertrand Petrant (Petrin). However, no historical documents have been located that identify Bertrand Petrant (Petrin) as a chief at Lake of Two Mountains. It is noteworthy that in the first half of the nineteenth century, many leading men signed petitions at Lake of Two Mountains. Mary's mother's family were known in the Abitibi and Temiskaming area during that time period.
- All available records indicate that her parents were Bertrand Petrant and Jenny Polson and her maternal grandparents were William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe, who were known at HBC posts at Abitibi (1821-27, 1831-52) and Temiskaming (1854-57, 1871). Mary was born around 1853 when her parents were in the Temiskaming/Abitibi area and was married at Temiskaming in 1871.
- Census and baptism records for Mary Petrin's children, outlined below, indicate she later moved south, obtained religious services in Mattawa and Sheenboro/Fort William,

and lived predominantly around Bissett Creek in the Townships of Clara, Head and Maria.

- According to Mary Petrin's June 1871 marriage record, Mary's parents were named as the deceased Bertrand Petrin (RIN #26675) and Jenny Polson (RIN #5270). Mary was living in Temiscamingue, Quebec at the time of her marriage.³⁶
- Just prior to being married, Mary Petrin was enumerated on the 1871 census for Temiscamingue East, North Pontiac, Quebec living with an elderly couple named William and Flora Polson, along with her older brother William Petrin (RIN #10439). She was recorded as having been born in Quebec and of Indian origin. Mary was listed as being 18 years of age, putting her date of birth around 1853.³⁷ William and Flora Polson have been identified as Mary Petrin's maternal grandparents.
- Mary's brother William was enumerated with her on the 1871 census. When he married in 1874 at Temiscamingue, his parents were named as Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson.³⁸ This is further proof of the identity of Mary's parents.
- No marriage record has been located for Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson, the parents of Mary and William. However, a "Jenny Paulson" was baptized at Abitibi on July 18, 1837 aged around 5 years old, with her parents named as "William Paulson" and Otenimakwe (ou l'Eveque). Jenny was baptized at the same time as her brother Thomas who was aged around 1 and a half years old. William Polson was noted as being a "Commis" (clerk) for the HBC at this Post.³⁹
- A marriage record has been located for William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe dated 1838 at Abitibi. The people identified as William Polson and Otenimakwe on this record are also known as William and Flora Polson, who are the maternal grandparents of Mary Petrin with whom she was living when enumerated on the 1871 census at Temiskaming. Additional records regarding William and Flora's other children are outlined in the Enrolment Officer's Report.
- Mary's death record in 1940 states that her father was William Petrant, born in France, and her mother was unknown.⁴⁰ This appears to be an error as it is not consistent with other documents. In this regard, it is important to note that the marriage record, made 70 years prior to the death record, identifies Mary's father's Bertrand Petrant, not William. Mary's brother was named William Petrin and the historical documents indicate that he was baptized at Temiskaming. Historical documents indicate that William Polson, Mary's maternal grandfather was born in Eastmain on Hudson Bay. The information for Mary's death record was given by Mary's daughter, Florence McIsaac of

³⁶ ALG-40043

³⁷ ALG-29406

³⁸ ALG-40047

³⁹ ALG-40051

⁴⁰ ALG-29478

Bissett Creek; Mary was buried nearby at Stonecliffe, Ontario. This record suggests that in 1940 Mary Petrin's daughter was unclear about the names of her grandparents and may have confused the first name of her grandfather, Bertrand with that of her great grandfather William or may have confused her uncle, William Petrin with her grandfather. No evidence has been found suggesting William Polson, William Petrin or Bertrand Petrin were born in France.

Information on Mary and her children, their baptisms and places of residence, including evidence from census of 1881 and 1901, are all discussed in Enrolment Officer's Report. The ethnic identification of Mary, her husband and her children on a full range of available census records, as noted in the Enrolment Officers Report as follows:

- 1871 census Mary and her natal family were identified as "Indian;"⁴¹
- 1881 census Mary, her husband John "Isaac" and their children were identified as "Half-Breed;" he was noted as born in the North West, she in Quebec;⁴²
- 1891 census Mary, her husband John "Mclsaac" and their children were identified as "French Canadian," he was noted as born in Nipissing from parents born in the North West, she in Quebec of parents born in Quebec;⁴³
- 1901 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as "Tete de Boule," and their children as "Tete de Boule French Breed," she was born in Quebec, he was born in "indian cry" (i.e. Indian country);⁴⁴
- 1911 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as "Scotch," their children as "Scotch," he was born in Hudson Bay, Mary in Quebec and the children in Ontario;⁴⁵ and
- 1937 Indian Affairs inquiry noted Mary was said to be Indian and spoke "Indian."⁴⁶

Document #8 – Initial Submissions by S. Crawford

S. Crawford submitted a reply in support of Mary Petrin. S. Crawford provided secondary sources regarding family trees related to Mary Petrin's descendants in addition to several pages copied from a report by the Metis Nation of Ontario (MNO) regarding the Mclsaac-Poitras family. The MNO material refers to Mary Petrin as Mary Poitras. The MNO report includes a graphic showing some connections between the Mclsaac-Poitras family and the MNO's version of the Bastien-Sibikwe and Ferris-Good families. Some text paragraphs provide information on descendants of Mclsaac-Poitras family. There is no information in the MNO publication

⁴¹ ALG-29406

⁴² ALG-29413

⁴³ ALG-29425

⁴⁴ ALG-01377

⁴⁵ ALG-22737

⁴⁶ ALG-40063

regarding the natal family of Mary Petrin (i.e. her parents and grandparents) or their ethnic or tribal affiliation. S. Crawford's submissions did not include the historical documentation, if any, on which the conclusions in the MNO report may be based. As such, it is not possible to assess the accuracy of the MNO report as the source materials have not been described.

The Enrolment Officer's Report addresses the issue at hand regarding whether or not Mary Petrin meets the definition of Algonquin Ancestor. The relevant information focuses on the parentage of Mary Petrin and evidence regarding their ethnic or tribal identity.

In summary, the primary source historical documents attached to the Enrolment Officer's Report indicate that Mary Petrin was the daughter of Bertrand Petrant and Jenny Polson and the granddaughter of William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe on her mother's side. Corroborating historical documents regarding Mary's maternal uncles and brother indicate that her mother's family were Algonquin. This documentation is laid out in the Enrolment Officer's Report is as follows:

- No birth or baptismal record has been located for Mary Petrin. However, available records indicate that Mary Petrin's parents were Bertrand Petrant and Jenny Polson and her maternal grandparents were William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe, who were known at HBC posts at Abitibi (1821-27, 1831-52) and Temiskaming (1854-57, 1871). Mary was born around 1853 when her parents were in the Temiskaming/Abitibi area and was married at Temiskaming in 1871.
- According to her June 1871 marriage record, Mary's parents were named as the deceased Bertrand Petrin (RIN #26675) and Jenny Polson (RIN #5270). Mary was living in Temiscamingue, Quebec at the time of marriage.⁴⁷
- Just prior to being married, Mary Petrin was enumerated on the 1871 census for Temiscamingue East, North Pontiac, Quebec living with an elderly couple named William and Flora Polson, along with her older brother William Petrin (RIN #10439). She was recorded as having been born in Quebec and of Indian origin. Mary was listed as being 18 years of age, putting her date of birth around 1853.⁴⁸ William and Flora Polson have been identified as Mary Petrin's maternal grandparents.
- Mary's brother William was enumerated with her on the 1871 census. When he married in 1874 at Temiscamingue, his parents were named as Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson.⁴⁹ This is further proof of the identity of Mary's parents.
- No marriage record has been located for Bertrand Petrin and Jenny Polson, the parents of Mary and William. However, a "Jenny Paulson" was baptized at Abitibi on July 18, 1837 aged around 5 years old, with her parents named as "William Paulson" and

⁴⁷ ALG-40043

⁴⁹ ALG-40047

⁴⁸ ALG-29406

Otenimakwe (ou l'Eveque). Jenny was baptized at the same time as her brother Thomas who was aged around 1 and a half years old. Their father, William Polson was noted as being a "Commis" (clerk) for the HBC at this Post.⁵⁰

- A marriage record has been located for William Polson and Flora L'Eveque dite Otenimakwe dated 1838 at Abitibi. This William Polson and Otenimakwe would be, the William and Flora Polson, maternal grandparents of Mary Petrin with whom she was living when enumerated on the 1871 census at Temiskaming. Additional records regarding other sons of William and Flora are outlined in the Enrolment Officer's Report.
- The 1901 census for North Temiscamingue lists Thomas and Johny Polson, the brothers of Jenny Polson, and hence Mary Petrin's maternal uncles as Algonquin and speaking Algonquin as their mother tongue.⁵¹
- The 1921 census for Bear Island, Temagami lists William Petrin, the brother of Mary Petrin as Algonquin in origin and speaking Algonquin.⁵²
- Mary's death record in 1940 states that her father was William Petrant, born in France, and her mother was unknown.⁵³ This appears to be an error as it is not consistent with other documents. In this regard, it is important to note that the marriage record, made 70 years prior to the death record, identifies Mary's father as Bertrand Petrant, not William. Mary's brother was named William Petrin and the historical documents indicate that he was baptized at Temiskaming. Historical documents indicate that William Polson, Mary's maternal grandfather was born in Eastmain on Hudson Bay. The information for Mary's death record was given by Mary's daughter, Florence McIsaac of Bissett Creek; Mary was buried nearby at Stonecliffe, Ontario. This record suggests that in 1940 Mary Petrin's daughter was unclear about the names of her grandparents and may have confused the first name of her grandfather, Bertrand with that of her great grandfather William or may have confused her uncle, William Petrin with her grand father. No evidence has been found suggesting William Polson, William Petrin or Bertrand Petrin were born in France.

Census records that identify the ethnicity of Mary Petrin and her family:

- 1871 census Mary and her natal family were identified as "Indian;"⁵⁴
- 1881 census Mary, her husband John "Isaac" and their children were identified as "Half-Breed," he was noted as born in the North West, she in Quebec;⁵⁵

⁵⁰ ALG-40051

⁵¹ ALG-40058

⁵² ALG-40050

⁵³ ALG-29478

⁵⁴ ALG-29406

⁵⁵ ALG-29413

Enrolment Officer's Responding Report regarding Ancestor RIN #4762

- 1891 census Mary, her husband John "Mclsaac" and their children were identified as "French Canadian," he was noted as born in Nipissing from parents born in the North West, she in Quebec of parents born in Quebec;⁵⁶
- 1901 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as "Tete de Boule," and their children as "Tete de Boule French Breed," she was born in Quebec, he was born in "indian cry" (i.e. Indian country);⁵⁷
- 1911 census Mary identified as "French," her husband John "Mclsaac" as "Scotch," their children as Scotch, he was born in Hudson Bay, Mary in Quebec and the children in Ontario;⁵⁸ and
- 1937 Indian Affairs inquiry noted Mary was said to be Indian and spoke "Indian."⁵⁹

⁵⁶ ALG-29425

⁵⁷ ALG-01377

⁵⁸ ALG-22737

⁵⁹ ALG-40063