



Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation

March 7, 2023

Algonquin Tribunal
31 Riverside Dr #101
Pembroke, ON
K8A 8R6

Dear Panel Members,

RE: Tribunal Hearing for Subject Ancestor: SOPHIE CARRIERE

On behalf of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation (“AOPFN”), I write to convey our intention to participate in the Algonquin Tribunal’s inquiry into the lineage of the Subject Ancestor noted above for the purposes of the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors.

We appreciate that our submission is past due, however, in the interest of ensuring a fulsome record and that the views of AOPFN are duly considered, we request leave of the Tribunal to accept our submission. In this regard, we attach our submission, prepared by Dr. Darryl Leroux and endorsed by the Chief and Council of the AOPFN.

Please confirm acceptance of our submission.

Sincerely,

Wendy Jocko, Chief
On behalf of the Council, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation

c.c.: Dr. Darryl Leroux

Attachment: Carriere Submission

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ALGONQUIN TRIBUNAL

Submission by the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation

Written by Darryl Leroux, PhD

Disputed Ancestor: Sophie Émilie Jamme dite Carrière (RIN #11566)

POSITION STATEMENT

I have reviewed the document available on the Algonquin Tribunal website for Sophie Carrière: Document 1 – Enrolment Officer Report Regarding Sophie Emilie Jamme dite Carriere.

I agree with the Enrolment Officer's (EO) main findings about Sophie Carrière:

- Sophie was baptized on 2 June 1807 at St. Eustache, now a suburb west of Montréal.
- Her parents were recorded as Michel Carrière and Geneviève Falmard of St. Eustache parish.
- They are easily traceable through reliable genealogical databases. They and their forebears were French-Canadian.
- Sophie and her husband Thomas Lagarde moved to Litchfield Township, Pontiac County, by 1844.
- None of the documents associated with Carrière's life make any reference to Algonquins or Indigenous peoples.

Besides the overwhelming body of documentary evidence pointing to Carrière's French-Canadian identity, the EO's report assessed the document that was used at the 2013 Chadwick hearing to keep Carrière on the Schedule of Ancestors. As you may know, this document was the focus of a CBC investigation in July 2022. The report highlights several aspects of that document that place its provenance and authenticity in question. It's best to cite the EO's own conclusion:

None of the documentation regarding Sophie Emilie Jamme dite Carrière (RIN #11566), her immediate family, ancestors, or descendants identify these individuals as having any Indigenous or Algonquin affiliation. No one from the immediate Jamme dite Carrière/Lagarde dit St. Jean family marry into known Algonquin families, reside with known Algonquins, or witness/have events witnessed by known Algonquins. Most significantly, Sophie's ancestors trace back to France with one individual being descended from a person born in the United States of parents residing in Virginia.

An unsubstantiated document for an Emilie Carrière, the daughter of a Michel Carrière of Algonquin descent names parents which do not match the parents of the 1807 baptismal record or the 1827 marriage record of Sophie Emilie James dit Carrière, the woman who married Thomas Lagarde dit St. Jean and who is the progenitor of the parties claiming her as an Algonquin ancestor.

The EO's report ultimately concludes that Carrière was a French-Canadian woman, who, along with her husband Thomas Lagarde, followed the route then adopted by many of his compatriots and settled in Algonquin territory in Pontiac County. I concur with the EO – it's my assessment that Sophie Émilie Jamme dite Carrière is not an "Algonquin Ancestor" as defined in Article 1 of the Special Resolution of January 22, 2020.