

**Enrolment Officer's Reply in Response to a Responding Submission  
from an Interested Party:**

**Report Regarding Ancestor  
Toussaint Laronde  
(RIN #16683)  
dated March 30, 2023**



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

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## **1. Introduction**

The Tribunal received a submission from an individual in support of retaining the ancestor Toussaint Laronde (RIN #16683) on the Schedule of Algonquin Ancestors. The submission is posted on the Tribunal website at:

<https://www.tanakiwin.com/tribunal/toussaintlaronde/>

It appears on the website as:

- Document 7 – Reply Submission by T. Chartrand

The submission was responding to the Enrolment Officer's Report on ancestor Toussaint Laronde dated October 2022 which is posted on the website as Document 1 – Enrolment Officer's Report Regarding Ancestor Toussaint Laronde and the Enrolment Officer's Responding Report posted on the website as Document 5 – Enrolment Officers Reply to Initial Submission Regarding RIN 16683.

This report addresses the content of the submission that is relevant to the purposes of the Tribunal hearing, which is to determine whether the ancestor Toussaint Laronde was 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 he 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 submission refers to documents and facts that are contained in the Enrolment Officer's reports. As noted in the Enrolment Officer's reports, archival documents recording a family's life events have been assigned ALG document numbers; RIN numbers have been assigned to individuals to aid in identification. Both RIN numbers and ALG numbers will be referenced in this report for ease of discussion.

## **2. Document #7 – Submission by T. Chartrand**

The Respondent T. Chartrand made a submission to the Tribunal that included a text narrative and appended documents. This reply report comments on the Respondent's submission following the sub-headings provided.

### ***2.1 Respondent's Introductory Remarks***

The Respondent provided comments on the absence of evidence, the burden of proof, and the difficulties inherent in documenting Indigenous people.

The Enrolment Officer has no comment on this section.

### ***2.2 Louis Marie's generation***

The Respondent refers to the father of Toussaint Laronde (RIN #16683) as Louis Marie, which appears in some secondary sources; he is referenced in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted

as Document 1) as Louis Denys Thibaudiere Delaronde (various spellings).<sup>1</sup> He is referenced in his will, a critical document for identifying Toussaint's Indigenous mother, as Louis Denis de La Ronde and signs his name on that document as Denys de Laronde.

The Respondent challenges the speculation that Pierre Francois Paul could have been a grandparent to both Toussaint and his spouse Marie Kekjicakoe (RIN #16684), who also appears in documents as Marie Laronde.

The section of the Enrolment Officer's responding report (posted as Document 5) that refers to that possibility is in direct response to another respondent. Recall that Marie and her spouse Toussaint were documented as being first cousins.<sup>2</sup> Another respondent submitted that there was a particular genealogical link between Marie Kekjicakoe (Laronde) and her spouse Toussaint Laronde (RIN #16683) which would make them first cousins. In response to that submission, the Enrolment Officer sought to demonstrate that there was more than one way in which they could be first cousins. After demonstrating the two possibilities, the Enrolment Officer states that "[n]o information has been found that helps elucidate whether Toussaint and Marie were first cousins through their paternal line or their maternal line." In any event, Marie Kekjicakoe is not the subject of this inquiry so the debate over her parentage is not germane to the matter before the Tribunal.

### ***2.3 Genealogical timelines and analysis***

The Enrolment Officer has no comments on the spouse of Toussaint Laronde (RIN #16683) who is recorded in documents as Marie Laronde and Marie Kekjicakoe (RIN #16684) and known to be his first cousin. Her parentage is not the subject of this inquiry so the debate over her parentage is not germane to the matter before the Tribunal.

Note however that the Respondent states there is no sibling relationship between Toussaint and his spouse Marie. There are no known documents that suggest that Toussaint Laronde and Marie Kekjicakoe (Laronde) were siblings. Toussaint Laronde (RIN #16683) and Marie Kekjicakoe or Laronde (RIN #16684) are documented on their marriage rehabilitation record as being first cousins.<sup>3</sup>

### ***2.4 Nipissing Connection***

Documents name Toussaint's mother, known as Wosneswesquigigo (various spellings, aka Ne8tchikijikok8e RIN #58244) as an Indigenous woman from Lake Nipissing where Toussaint was born around 1783 or 1787.<sup>4</sup> Her tribal affiliation is not mentioned in any document. Note

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<sup>1</sup> ALG-40070 cited in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1) on pages 11 to 12 and the Enrolment Officer's Responding Report (posted as Document 5).

<sup>2</sup> ALG-22581 cited in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1) on pages 7 to 8 with a full translation of the text. It is also cited in the Enrolment Officer's Responding Report (posted as Document) on page 5.

<sup>3</sup> ALG-22581 cited in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1) on pages 7-8 with a full translation of the text. It is also cited in the Enrolment Officer's Responding Report (posted as Document) on page 5.

<sup>4</sup> ALG-40069 and ALG-40070 cited in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1) on page 11.

that the Algonquin and Nipissing chiefs who petitioned for the recognition and protection of Algonquin and Nipissing rights from 1772 to 1897 described their territory as extending to Lake Nipissing.

The information gathered from elders at Lake Nipissing regarding the ancestry of Wosneswesquigigo was as a result of investigations carried out by Department of Indian Affairs officials into the Robinson-Huron treaty rights of Laronde descendants. The investigation was made in 1899, over a century after Toussaint Laronde's birth.<sup>5</sup>

### ***2.5 Positivist confirmation bias***

The Enrolment Officer has no comment on this section.

### ***2.6 Yves Drolet***

The published genealogy by Yves Drolet is appended to the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1).<sup>6</sup> The Respondent also submitted an article by Yves Drolet on the de La Ronde Family.

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<sup>5</sup> Discussed in the Enrolment Officer's Responding Report (posted as Document 5) Section 3.1, pages 5 to 6.

<sup>6</sup> ALG-40064 cited in the Enrolment Officer's Report (posted as Document 1) on pages 11 and 13. See also ALG-40075.