

The following submissions are made by L. Hanley regarding Ancestor Hannah Mannell

With Respect - Attention: Tribunal – Response to posts by Joan Holmes and Pikwakanagan (#18786)

Offense is not relegated to Makwa and the Government:

It is difficult to understand what an academic would arbitrarily endorse statements made by chiefs or governments that suggest someone is a white settler when they were Indigenous. The accusation that Charles Thomas was a white settler is misleading information This is hardly productive. What would have been responsible and appropriate was to correct the erroneous information rather than using it as a way of discrediting the Mannal/Thomas family.

That Makwa had no legal right to the land in 1830 is a fact and the EO can find all this history in the Taniwakiwin site. It was not until 1873 that the government purchased land for the Algonquin people so in 1830 with Makwa arguing about Charles Thomas, he really did not lay claim to any land at all. Charles Thomas was entitled like any other Indigenous person to harvest game and fish for his families needs and he did so with the same respect for harvesting that we should all be practising today.

<https://www.tanakiwin.com/algonquins-of-ontario/our-proud-history/>

HOWEVER, what is the point of this submission by the Chiefs, Leroux and Holmes about Makwa? It has nothing to do with Hannah Mannal and her mother's blood line.

Charles Thomas Obituary:

The same goes for the comment about Thomas being a “pioneer” in Charles Thomas obituary written by no doubt the editor and owner of the Renfrew Mercury at the time – W.E. Smallfield and Sons (<https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/local-renfrew/news/2021/10/20/renfrew-mercury-s-history-finds-new-home-in-mcdougall-mill-museum.html>) who was from England and who would undoubtedly have been impressed to learn Charles went to school in England for 8 years if he knew that or that he was writing a book about his life which would naturally appeal to another writer. He may never have met him assumed with knowledge of his education and a journal being written that he was a white settler which we know he was not. However, one must be reminded that we do have Indigenous “Pioneers” today.....Dr. Nadine Dimaline, Alanis Obomsawin, Mary Golda Ross (NASA), Thomas Daniel Petite (developed the smart grid) and NASA astronaut John Herrington. There are others.

Again, what does this have to do with the Algonquin blood line of Hannah's mother????

Assumptions about Hannah Mannal

To say Hannah was Ojibwe or anything other than Algonquin is ludicrous and where is the proof?

Some of that information was presented at the 2014 inquiry with Justice Chadwick whose decision was in part based on this information. Where is it now in the submission from the EO? Has it been deliberately excluded so a whole new group of tribunal members and participants who would not know about this? That information contributed Justice Chadwick's decision based on the balance of probabilities. Now even more information and family history has become available to support Hannah's mother's Algonquin roots which will be presented to the Tribunal in June.

Frederick House and Kenogamassi

I do not argue about Frederick House or Kenogamassi. Mannel moved around as he brought supplies and helpers from Moose Factory to build the Kenogamassi site. He served many posts and was often leading exploration into new territories for sources of the trade in furs. He also had to move around to capture new Indigenous fur traders and their business whether at a post or on a trade route trail. The EO has seemingly neglected the Timiskiming area which is not acting objectively either. With fierce competition in the late 1780s and 90's the whole area from Timiskiming to Abitibi to Frederick House and Kenogamassi was fair game. By the way the distance from Kenogamassi to Abitibi was about 60 kilometres and with known portages and water routes a team of canoers could do those trips in a day or two at most. No proof exists that suggests was from Cree or Ojibwe territory. Hannah being born in Kenogamassi means nothing when her mother was Algonquin from Timiskiming.

The EO has not produced a detailed report of Hannah's mother that even considers Timiskiming and work should have been done on that long ago.

Maps constructed by Europeans were often "tampered with to include territories that suited the colonialist objective which was to divide, marginalize and erase boundaries while gaining profits from territories of others". (Metis lawyer Bruce McIvor, "Canada Before Confederation" map conference, Halifax, 2018) It is naïve to believe lines were drawn in the sand by the 1780s and 90s.

Journal Entry:

Putting Charles Thomas's 200 page journal into the mix and some bio of his father serves no purpose as numbers of us in this family have copies and share them with other family members and furthermore the original handwritten copy of which the family have copies of as well is in the National Archives in Ottawa. For those who do not have a copy sitting reading 200 odd pages is very difficult particularly for those with disabilities and sight problems. The copy shown by the EO was done by his grand daughter, Margaret Anne Thomas who married William Wilcox in June of 1903. Margaret Anne died in 1945 but before doing so attempted to type out a copy on an old manual typewriter before submitting the original to the Archives. Sadly, over time the rest was missing. Of course, there are many Algonquin Wilcox descendants today, so there you are with yet other descendants of Hannah still living in the Golden Lake area.

Brunswick and New Brunswick House

Also, the EOs insistence that John Mannel served at Brunswick House or New Brunswick House and based on his HBC biography is wrong. I downloaded the journals from those posts and the B145-A-1 to 6 series clearly states the HBC post factors were William Bolland and Germaine Mauginest from 1788 through to 1793. The B23-A-4 to 15 series clearly shows John Thomas, Philip Turnor and William Boland, Thomas Knarston, John Lisk, Germaine Mauginest and Robert Folster from 1780-92 and these post journals come from both Brunswick and New Brunswick House. New Brunswick House was sometimes referred to as Micawbanish House. John Mannel never served during that period from 1788-92, not even as a writer. I am not attaching all these post journals which number some 18. The EO can look them up herself. Any subordinates would rarely if ever be listed so no proof exists to show that Mannel was there in the times that are being argued.

Vaudreuil

Also, whoever suggests Hannah and her husband lived entirely in Vaudreuil is wrong. They lived there for 1 year in 1822-23 as Charles tied up his late father's affairs. What was either deliberately left out or ignored was the Lower Canada census report of 1831 which showed the enumerator finding a house in Charles name in Vaudreuil uninhabited and under construction. (*Sub-District: Vaudreuil - County/District: Vaudreuil -Volume Number: 26 - Page Number: 1958. House Inhabited: 1, house under construction: house vacant:*) It only shows 1 inhabitant which could have been his brother Henry, a bachelor who lived in Vaudreuil for his whole life and came to Round Lake area each summer to help with the haying – Family journal)

10 members were connected to that home so while in his name it does not mean Charles and Hannah lived there. Others of the family may have lived there upon arrival from Moose Factory in 1814 and while Hannah and Charles were in the Athabasca. Charles had siblings who came from Moose Factory and availed themselves of the Vaudreuil location. Thus, the connection to Lake of Two Mountains cemented Hannah and her husband's eventual settlement at Golden Lake where the founding families from Lake of Two Mountains came from.

Again, however what does this matter? With a large family undoubtedly working for the HBC at Lake of Two Mountains and young children there would be constant shuffling around and what does this have to do with Hannahs mother's blood line?

Samuel Mannal

With respect to the post about Samuel Mannal. That subject came up some 20 years ago and the whole post and its contents, plus the mention of a genealogist is questionable. That Mannal may have had a son is one thing but the rest of the information is highly suspicious and comes from a site that is not qualified nor entirely accurate. Anyone can post or delete information from the Family Search site and when I posted something from it several weeks ago about Hannah Mannal's grandson, the EO questioned the validity of the site and I do not use it so why rely on it now?

Violation of Human Rights

Having provided information and to repeat information that is not listened to is wasteful of a good human resource. Hannah and her mother are the major and most important focus of this inquiry and trying to detract from that by criticizing or overloading with huge EO documents, misleading inaccurate maps made by non indigenous people, misleading inaccurate references to other siblings, treating female contributors in such continued condescending manners, finding fault with Hannah's husband who stood by her for some 50 years and displaying no objectivity or any accommodation to the contributors leads one to believe that with this constant ageism, sexism and continued pressure to produce documents that never existed because of colonialism (Joan Holmes, 1999) and forcing people to prove their racial and ethnic Identity calls into question violations of one's human rights under the Ontario Human Rights code which most decidedly includes ageism, sexism and pressuring one for their racial and ethnic background and the insidious components and effects of differential treatment. (OHRC – Articles 3 and 4) We have spent hours and hours researching what we could to provide what this tribunal seems to demand and yet no accommodation was made for oral history, a long practice of Indigenous people. How far from reconciliation is that? We are not dogs who have to prove their pedigree and should not be treated as such. It also calls into question the known unfair advantage that the EO has with

information from the records of status Algonquins which overwhelms anything non status have or could possibly find. This knowledge of that disparity is also unethical and must be considered by the tribunal and how the EO herself presented this problem to a conference in 1999.

Accommodation

In conclusion, no accommodation has been provided for those who do not have computers or access to one, are disabled and unable to access information about this ongoing ordeal, who are elders whose voices should be heard, who have spent money on pages and pages of photocopying for their research, were never properly contacted about this tribunal process and whose true family history information has been trivialized by the author of these posts on behalf of Pikwakanagan and from the EO.

This is our life, our family history and one which I have personally studied and known about for over 50 years. As an elder, disabled woman I have been treated with disrespect and subjected to condescending remarks, uncalled for and completely inappropriate. I will add that there are members of the Pikwakanagan community who are supportive of this family and who are very upset about our treatment. I thank them for their continued support.

Lynn Thomas Hanley – May 18, 2023.