ORIGINAL PLACE NAMES OF CANADA

For National Indigenous History Month we wanted to recognize some of the many places in Canada that have names derived from our Onkwehón:we languages and take a look at their original meanings.

Canada - Kaná:ta
meaning "village" or "settlement" in Kanyen'kéha (Mohawk)

Ontario - Kanyatarí:yo
meaning a "beautiful lake" in Kanyen'kéha (Mohawk)

Toronto - Tsi Tkarón:to
meaning "a log submerged in water" in Kanyen'kéha (Mohawk)

Oshawa – Aazhawe
meaning "the crossing place" in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibway)

Ottawa - Adaawe
meaning to "buy" or "trade" in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibway)

Quebec - Kepék
meaning "strait" or "narrows" (Mi'kmaq)

Saskatchewan - Kisiskatchewanisipi
meaning "swift flowing river" (Cree)

Saskatoon – Manimisāskwatān
meaning "the place where willows are cut" (Cree)

Manitoba - Manidoobaa
meaning "the narrows of the Great Spirit" in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibway)

Winnipeg - Win Nipi
meaning "muddy water" (Cree)

Nunavut -
meaning "our land" in the Inuit language of Inuktitut

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