



## **Canada Memory of the World Register 2019-20 Call for Nominations for Inscription on the Register**

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO) is pleased to launch the third Call for Nominations for inscription on the Canada Memory of the World Register.

The Register recognizes significant documentary heritage items, collections, or fonds that tell the stories of our country and its peoples, including those of Indigenous peoples. Since its creation in 2017, sixteen entries have been inscribed on the Register.

The Canada Memory of the World Register is modeled on the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register, which aims to preserve and provide access to documentary heritage held in libraries, archives, museums and other places as the embodiment of the ‘memory’ of humanity. Its mission is to facilitate preservation, by the most appropriate techniques, of the world's documentary heritage; to assist universal access to documentary heritage; and to increase awareness worldwide of the existence and significance of documentary heritage.

Both the Canadian and International Registers are accessible online, kept up to date regularly and made available to the public via the [CCUNESCO](#) and [UNESCO](#) websites.

Please note that, while inscription on the Canada Memory of the World Register is prestigious, it does not come with monetary prizes or other compensation. The Register also takes no ownership of the documentary heritage which becomes inscribed.

### **A. Areas of focus 2019-2020**

Nominations related to all forms of documentary heritage are welcome.

In recognition of the United Nations’ International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024, CCUNESCO extends a special call for documentary heritage related to Black Canadians with the goal of increasing awareness of this community’s diverse cultures, history, and contributions to Canadian society.

CCUNESCO continues to extend a special call for proposals for documentary heritage related to Indigenous languages and cultures. Many are considered to be endangered, and their preservation, strengthening and revitalization are of crucial importance to Indigenous peoples and to Canadian society.

### **B. Who can nominate?**

All individuals, private and public institutions, organizations, and communities are invited to submit documentary heritage of Canadian significance for inscription on the Canada Memory of the World Register. Joint submissions are also welcome.

## C. What can be nominated?

Nominations can be of a single document, a collection, or fonds that tell stories about Canada.

The Canada Memory of the World Register defines the word 'Canada' as a geographical area that has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) since time immemorial. Over time, people from all over the world have also made Canada their home.

These stories can be documented in numerous ways: text items, non-text items, audiovisual items and virtual items. Hence, it could include diaries; letters; manuscripts; posters; published books; wampum belts; art works; photographs; recordings, including of oral heritage and storytelling; and films, as well as material made for the web (sites, games, online lessons, apps, and so on).

The committee accepts documentary heritage that is part of open collections, i.e. those that are still accepting items, but can only assess materials that are part of the collection at the time of nomination. The Committee asks successful nominators whose submissions are inscribed in the Register to keep it apprised of major future acquisitions.

## D. How to nominate?

### First Step

If you are interested in proposing documentary heritage for inscription, please send a short Declaration of Interest to CCUNESCO. Describe the documentary heritage, its custodian, where it is located and the story it tells about Canada.

In preparing your declaration please refer to the criteria for the Canadian register, which are attached to this document. Documentary heritage must meet at least one of the six criteria of significance and be authentic, unique and irreplaceable.

Please note that if your submission contains Indigenous knowledge and/or language and/or traditional cultural expressions, protocols and agreements need to be in place with the Indigenous nations, communities and/or people to respect their cultural concepts of copyright with regard to their history or heritage, which is often located in but not limited to oral traditions, songs, dance, storytelling, anecdotes, place names, hereditary names and other forms of Indigenous knowledges as outlined and recommended by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) – Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.<sup>1</sup>

Your Declaration can be a written document, a video or a recording. If you are submitting a written declaration it should be between 500 and 1,500 words. The video or the recording should be between 5 and 8 minutes long.

Your Declaration will be reviewed by the [Canadian Advisory Committee for Memory of the World](#) as an initial assessment of its suitability. You will then receive a letter providing feedback and potentially inviting you to proceed to the second step in the nomination process.

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<sup>1</sup> CCUNESCO Memory of the World is committed to respecting the Intellectual Property right of Indigenous people as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action #69, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Updated Set of Principles for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights through Action to Combat Impunity (2005), more commonly known as the Joinet/Orentlicher Principles.

## **Second Step**

Invited applicants will have approximately four to five months to submit a Nomination Form. The Committee will then conduct a full evaluation of your nomination and inform you of its decision.

## **E. Timelines**

There are two dates possible to submit a Declaration of Interest: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 and March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

There are also two dates to submit the Nomination: May 15, 2020 and September 7, 2020.

Inscriptions on the Canada Memory of the World Register should be announced during the fall of 2020 by CCUNESCO in collaboration with the Canadian Advisory Committee for Memory of the World.

## **F. Contacts**

If you have questions about the program please contact Elaine Young, Programme Officer, Communication and Information, Canadian Commission for UNESCO: [elaine.young@ccunesco.ca](mailto:elaine.young@ccunesco.ca), 613-566-4414 x 4095.

Please send declarations of interest and nominations to the attention of Daly Koffi, Program Assistant, Social and Human Sciences, Communication and Information, by email at [daly.koffi@ccunesco.ca](mailto:daly.koffi@ccunesco.ca), or by mail at PO Box 1047, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5V8.