

Home Page

The screenshot shows the home page of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography. At the top, there is a search bar labeled 'Recherche' with a red arrow button. Below the search bar are links for 'Print' and 'Advanced Search'. The main heading is 'Dictionnaire biographique du Canada' in a large, dark red serif font. To the left of the main content is a vertical sidebar with a light gray background and a faint map pattern. It contains the following links: 'DCB/DBC News', 'New Biographies', 'Updated Biographies', and 'Biography of the Day'. Below these links is a small portrait of a man in a suit, with the text 'WEIR, WILLIAM - Volume XIII (1901-1910) b. 28 Oct. 1823 in Greenden, Scotland'. To the right of the sidebar is a section titled 'Our Most Popular Biographies'. It features three portrait images: a man in a dark coat (Lambton), a Native American man in traditional dress (Tecumseh), and an older man in a dark coat (Bessette). Below each image is a caption: 'LAMBTON, JOHN GEORGE, 1er comte de Durham', 'TECUMSEH', and 'BESSETTE, ALFRED, dit frère André'. Below the portraits are two buttons labeled 'French' and 'English'. At the bottom of this section, there is a line of text: 'To view the 100 biographies most frequently read in English or in French, click on the language of your choice'.

Logo



URL

<http://www.biographi.ca/en/>

Subject

Canada-Biography-Dictionaries

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

The Dictionary has been published in two editions, English and French: the Dictionary of Canadian biography by the University of Toronto Press, and Dictionnaire biographique du Canada by Les Presses de l'Université Laval.

***Brief History***

The project of preparing Canadian biography like United Kingdom's Dictionary of National Biography was undertaken by University of Toronto, after getting bequest from James Nicholson in 1959.

The first volume of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography appeared in 1966 with 594 biographies covering the years 1000 to 1700. In 2001 the federal Department of Canadian Heritage, in conjunction with Library and Archives Canada, approached the two universities i.e. University of Toronto/Université Laval about establishing a website, and two years later the texts of the 14 published volumes, together with some additional biographies, including those of 12 significant individuals whose death dates are post-1930, was made available online.

***Scope and Coverage***

There are now more than 8,500 biographies on this website, comprising the complete contents of volumes I to XV, which describe the lives of those whose deaths or whose last-known activities, occurred in the years 1000 to 1930. Also included are entries on voyagers whose verifiable dates precede 1000 – Saint Brendan (Bréanainn), Eiríkr Thorvaldsson (Eric the Red), and Herjólfsson Bjarni – and more than 70 biographies of individuals who died after 1930. Volume XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII are included which cover the lives of those who died or whose last-known activity was during the 1931–1940, 1941-50, 1951-60, 1961-70, 1971-80, 1981-90, 1991-2000 period respectively. Each volume contains 500-600 biographies.

## Kind of Information

This biographical article sketches the date of birth, parental history, career details, life style, and story on personal life. Works and key achievement are emphasized. Life stories are mapped out in chronological way from birth to death. Photos along with the sources attach with the biography.

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Dictionary of Canadian Biography. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for FRANÇAIS, HOME, BROWSE, ABOUT US, CONTACT US, and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook. On the right side of the navigation bar are links for LOG IN and REGISTER. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar with a search button and a link to Advanced Search. The main title of the page is "Dictionary of Canadian Biography". On the left side, there is a sidebar with a "HIDE SIDEBAR" button and a list of navigation options: FIRST PARAGRAPH, BIBLIOGRAPHY, IMAGES, FIND OUT MORE, and HOW TO CITE. Below these options are social media sharing buttons for Tweet, Share, and Like. At the bottom left of the sidebar, there is a red box with the text "DCB/DBC News" and "New Biographies". The main content area features a portrait of Alexander Graham Bell. To the right of the portrait is a short biography of Bell, including his birth date (3 March 1847), his parents (Alexander Melville Bell and Eliza Grace Symonds), his marriage to Mabel Gardiner Hubbard in 1877, and his death date (2 Aug. 1922). Below the portrait is a source citation: "Source: [Library and Archives Canada/MIKAN 3191862](#)".

## Special Features

- ❖ Links to Facebook, twitter.
- ❖ How to cite the articles is described under each biographical article.
- ❖ Image gallery, bibliographical sources are attached with each article.
- ❖ New Biographies: recently added biographies; Updated Biographies: presents corrected biographies; Biography of the day: who died or born on this day; Recent interviews, recent corrected biographies are provided in this site.

## Arrangement Pattern

Biographies are sub-divided categorically i.e.

- Browse by Region of Birth
- Browse by Region of Activities
- Browse by Occupation and other identifiers
- Browse by Name

Under each category, entries are arranged alphabetically.

**Remarks**

It is a Canadian biographical reference source with huge coverage. The collection of biographies is confined to Canadian personalities may be born in India or famous in other region by their activities. Advance search option also presents in this site.

**Comparable Tools**

- Dictionary of Irish Biography (<http://dib.cambridge.org/>)
- Australian Dictionary of Biography (<http://adb.anu.edu.au/>)
- American National Biography Online  
(<http://anb.org/login.html?url=%2Farticles%2Fhome.html&ip=112.133.231.175&nocookie=0>)

**Date of Access**

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