

MINNESOTA FRENCH FACTS

[National AATF ADVOCACY FACT PACK FOR MINNESOTA]

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES:

Belgian Consular Representative
Consular Representatives in Minnesota
Ms. Lydie STASSART, Honorary Consul
238 S. Mississippi River Boulevard
Saint Paul MN 55105
Phone (651) 699-2528, Fax (651) 699-4821
E-mail: St.Paul@diplobel.org

Consulate General of Canada Minneapolis
701 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 901
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1899
Tel: (612) 332-7486, Fax: (612) 332-4061
e-mail: mnpls-td@international.gc.ca
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/can-am/minneapolis/>

Québec Delegation, Chicago
444. N. Michigan Av.
Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel: (312) 645-0392
Fax: (312) 645-0542
qc.chicago@mri.gouv.qc.ca
http://www.mri.gouv.qc.ca/usa/en/chicago/qui_sommes_nous/index.asp

Consulat Général de France à Chicago
205 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3700
Chicago, IL 60601
Tel: 312/327-5200 - Fax: 312/327-5201
E-mail : contact@consulfrance-chicago.org
<http://www.consulfrance-chicago.org/>

IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL ADDRESSES

Minnesota Chapter of the AATF

<http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/mlwolsey/mnaatf/1.htm>

Michele Cassavante, Immediate Past Co-President

The Blake School

511 Kenwood Parkway

Minneapolis, MN 55403

E-mail: mcassavante@blakeschool.org

Laurent Déchery, President-elect (Fall, 2005)

Gustavus Adolphus College

800 W. College Ave.

St. Peter, MN 56082

E-mail: dechery@gustavus.edu

Alliance Française

Alliance Française de Minneapolis/St. Paul

113 North First Street

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401-1464

Tel. 612-332-0436

Fax. 612-332-0438

Email: bonjour@afmsp.org

Web: www.afmsp.org

Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures

<http://www.mctlc.org/>

Minnesota New Visions: Languages for Life

<http://www.mctlc.org/newvisions/>

Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition

<http://carla.acad.umn.edu/>

Ursula Lentz representative to NCSSFL
Minnesota – CARLA
271 19th Avenue S 615 Heller Hall
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-625-8866
Fax: 612-624-7514
lentz003@umn.edu

Minnesota Department of Education
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113-4266
Phone: (651) 582-8200
Fax: (651) 582-8727
TTY: (651) 582-8201
Email: children@state.mn.us
Website: <http://education.state.mn.us>

MINNESOTA FRANCOPHONE DEMOGRAPHY:

There are well over a quarter of a million Minnesota who claim French, French Canadian or other Francophone ancestries. and over 16,000 residents whose native language is French, French Creole, French Patois or Cajun.

French Place Names in Minnesota

Mille Lacs County, French River, French Lake, Roseau County, St. Louis County, Lac qui Parle County, Hennepin County, Le Sueur County, Lyon County, Voyageurs National Park, Lake Vermilion, Grand Portage, Lake Marquette, Fond du Lac river, Lac Bois Blanc lake, Lac Vieux Desert lake, Lac Plè (or Pelé) lake, Belle Plaine, Belle Plaine park, Belle Fontaine post office, Belle Taine, Belle Rose Island, La Croix Lake. La Salle Lake, La Salle River, LaBelle Lake. Le Homme Dieu Lake, Nord lake, La Grand, La Crosse, Audubon, Bain, Beauford, Beaulieu, Bejou, Bellaire, Belgian Township, Belle Prairie Township, Bellevue Township, Belleville, Des Moines, Detroit, Duluth, Dumont, Duquette, Frenchman's Bar, Frenchy Corner, Frontenac, Grand Marais, Lafayette, La Fontaine, La Cressent, Lagarde, Le Claire, Le Roy, Le Center, Louisville, Maine, Marcoux, Sault, St. Hilaire, Chapeau Lake, Faribault, Lake of the Woods (=Lac des Bois), Nicollet County, Orleans

Minnesota Place Names (Minnesota Historical Society)
<http://mnplaces.mnhs.org/upham/>

French Media In Minnesota

KFAI Minneapolis 90.3, 106.7 FM ("Bonjour Minnesota", Wednesdays at 9:30PM)

White Bear Lake, MN

SCCTV France Feelings Canapé (reaching 60,000 viewers)

FRENCH MOMENTS IN MINNESOTA HISTORY

1654 – French traders Pierre Radisson and the Sieur de Groseilliers reached Wisconsin and probably Minnesota (1st expedition).

1659–1660 – French fur traders the Sieur de Groseilliers and Pierre Radisson explore western end of Lake Superior and environs (2nd expedition).

1660s – French explorers make Grand Portage a major trading center

1660s – Frère Claude Allouez, explored the northern and western shores of Lake Superior

1673 – French explorers Marquette and Joliet discover the upper portion of the Mississippi River (important water route from Green Bay to the Mississippi River).

1678 – Daniel Greysolon, Sieur Du Luth, reaches the interior of Minnesota. He returns to Lake Superior, travels up the northwest shore and builds a post on the Kaministiquia River.

1679 – Du Luth meets with Dakota Indians near Mille Lacs.

1679 – Pierre and Jean Pepin, sons Eugene Pepin De la Fond, explored the area of Lake Pepin

1680 – Reaching the mouth of the Illinois River, La Salle sends Michel Aco and Father Louis Hennepin north to explore (Minnesota included). Hennepin discovers St. Anthony Falls.

1683 – Catholic Missionary Father Louis Hennepin returns to France after exploring Minnesota and being held captive by the Dakota to write the first book about Minnesota, *Description de la Louisiane*.

1683 – Nicholas Perrot established a small trading post, Fort Perrot, near the site of the present town of Wabasha, Minnesota

1689 – Perrot proclaimed the sovereignty of the French king over the regions of the upper Mississippi.

1693 – Pierre Charles LeSueur sent by the Governor General of New France to establish forts around Lake Superior and to make peace between the native tribes.

1695 – French found Isle Pelee north of Red Wing

1699 – Pierre Charles LeSueur was part of a mission to claim the mouth of the Mississippi for France

1700 – French establish Fort L. Huillier near Mankato

1727 – French establish Fort Beauharnois near Frontenac

1727– Michel Guignas and Nicholas de Gonnor (Jesuit Missionaries) founded mission on Lake Pepin.

1730 – Fort Beauharnois was rebuilt on a plot of higher ground

1731 – French establish Fort St. Pierre by International Falls and Fort St. Charles (1732) in the Northwest Angle.

1731–32: Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de la Verendrye, explores canoe route from Pigeon River to Rainy Lake.

1750 – French built Fort La Jonquière on the west side of Lake Peping, near Frontenac

1755 – French built Fort Le Sueur, near La Crescent

1760 – England wins eastern Minnesota from France.

1763 – Spain receives Louisiana Territory (includes Minnesota west of the Mississippi River) from France in compensation for its loss of Florida during the Seven Years War.

1800 – France acquires Louisiana Territory from Spain.

1803 – Thomas Jefferson bought the part of Minnesota lying south and west of the Mississippi River from Napoleon Bonaparte in the Louisiana Purchase. Boundary disputes with British Canada keep British fur companies in parts of Minnesota until 1818.

1832 – Canadian voyageur and whiskey trader, Pierre (Pig's Eye) Parmentier surfaces in Minnesota, first person of European descent to live in what is now the city of St. Paul.

1836–1837: Joseph Nicolas Nicollet, French explorer and geographer, began a mapping exploration of the Upper Mississippi, mostly in the area that is now Minnesota.

1841 – Father Lucien Galtier, French Catholic missionary from Ardèche, named St. Paul.

1856 – The City of Duluth named after Daniel Greysolon, Sieur Du Luth

1900 – Minneapolis and St. Paul contained a fairly large community of French Canadians.

Minnesota has been a favorite immigration state for Franco–Manitobans

The Peopling of Minnesota

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbacig/mhcpresent/metisprs.html#peopling1>

White Oak Society (Deer River voyageurs & fur trade)

<http://www.whiteoak.org/>

Half-breeds, Settlers and Rebels: Newspaper Images of the Red River *Métis* in 1869

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbacig/writing/Metis/newsimag.html>

On Being Métis

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbacig/writing/Metis/>

Minnesota Historical Society

<http://www.mnhs.org/>

A Glance to the South: Recent Work on Minnesota's History

http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/mb_history/06/minnesotahistory.shtml

A History of Minnesota during the French and Fur Trade Era
<http://hometown.aol.com/minifroggy/history1.html>

History of Minnesota's Lake Superior
<http://www.mnhs.org/places/nationalregister/shipwrecks/mpdf/mpdf1.html>

1836: Joseph Nicollet explores the area
<http://www.startribune.com/stories/1701/38044.html>

Michel Aco (fl.1680-1702) was a French explorer
<http://www.answers.com/topic/michel-aco>

The Anishinabe (or Ojibwe, also Chippewa) people moved into Minnesota from the east. They lived much like the Dakota, but from the French fur traders they obtained metal tools and weapons, cloth, blankets, and ornaments. By 1800, the Anishinabe had taken over the lakes and woods of the north.

Minnesota's French Legacy Forum – A Threaded Discussion of French and Métis Influence in Minnesota
<http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbacig/frencher/forum/>

Minnesota Humanities Commission Teacher Institute Seminar – French Legacies in Minnesota
<http://www.d.umn.edu/~tbacig/mhcpresent/>

Chez-nous net (French Canadian heritage in North Dakota & Minnesota)
<http://www.chez-nous.net/>

MINNESOTA'S INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

In 2004, total exports to Minnesota's top 25 trading partners was 11,711,300,000. Here is a partial breakdown in millions of dollars for four of those:

1. Canada	3,212.7
8. France	429.6
11. Belgium	320.2
21. Switzerland	96.3

In other words, nearly 35% of Minnesota's exports go to francophone countries.

The Franch American Chamber of Commerce (Minneapolis–St. Paul)
<http://www.faccmn.com/en/index.htm>

Minnesota has attracted relatively little foreign direct investment. It ranks 36h in the US for the 3.5% of its work force employed by foreign companies in Minnesota.

However Minnesota is a relatively active foreign investor, with a number of its companies having branches and offices in France:

3M Company – St Paul, MN
Acist Medical Systems, Inc. – Eden Prairie, MN
Adc Telecommunications, Inc. – Minnetonka, MN
Arizant Inc. – Eden Prairie, MN
Automatic Products International, Ltd. – Saint Paul, MN
Bemis Company, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
C. H. Robinson Worldwide – Eden Prairie, MN
Cargill Corporation – Wayzata, MN
Carlson Companies, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Colwell Industries Inc – Minneapolis, MN
Compex Technologies, Inc. – New Brighton, MN
Computer Network Technology Corporation – Minneapolis, MN
Computype Corp – Saint Paul, MN
Datacard Corporation – Minnetonka, MN
Delphax Technologies Inc. – Minnetonka, MN
Deluxe Corporation – Saint Paul, MN
Digi International Inc. – Minnetonka, MN
Donaldson Company, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Ecolab Inc. – Saint Paul, MN
Ecowater Systems, Inc. (Marmon Group) – St. Paul, MN
Entegris, Inc. – Chaska, MN
Ergotron, Inc. – Saint Paul, MN
Ev3 Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Fsi International Inc. – Chaska, MN
General Mills, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Graco Inc – Minneapolis, MN
H.B. Fuller Company – St. Paul, MN
Honeywell Automation And Control Solutions
(Honeywell International, Inc) – Minneapolis, MN
Imation Corp. – Oakdale, MN
Medtronic Inc. – Minneapolis, MN

Merril Corporation – St. Paul, MN
Minco Products, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Minnesota Rubber – Quadion Corp. – Minneapolis, MN
Mts Systems Corporation – Eden Prairie, MN
Multi-Tech Systems, Inc. – Mounds View, MN
Network Instruments, Llc – Minneapolis, MN
Northwest Airlines Corporation – St. Paul, MN
Patterson Companies, Inc. – Saint Paul, MN
Pentair, Inc. – St. Paul, MN
Polaris Industries, Inc. – Minneapolis, MN
Regis Corporation – Minneapolis, MN
Retek Information Systems, Inc. (Hnc Software) – Minneapolis, MN
Rtp Corporation – Winona, MN
St. Jude Medical, Inc. – St. Paul, MN
Starkey Laboratories Inc – Eden Prairie, MN
Sybaritic, Inc. – Bloomington, MN
Telex Communications, Inc. – Burnsville, MN
Tennant Company – Minneapolis, MN
The Schwan Food Company – Marshall, MN
The Smead Manufacturing Company – Hastings, MN
The Valspar Corporation – Minneapolis, MN
Tsi Incorporated – Shoreview, MN
Xiotech Corporation – Eden Prairie, MN

Document courtesy of: "Tennessee Bob"

Robert D. Peckham, Ph.D
Professor of French
Vice President, American Association of Teachers of French
Director, Muriel Tomlinson Language Resource Center
Director, Globe-Gate Intercultural Web Project
Director, Andy Holt Virtual Library
Department of Modern Foreign Languages
Univ. of Tennessee at Martin / Martin TN 38238
Email: bobp@utm.edu

1st edited & reformatted for MnAATF website 17 July, 2005
2nd re-edit done on 23 Sep 05. PDF version is found in a link
on the MnAATF chapter's website homepage:
<http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/mlwolsey/MnAATF/1d.htm>