



Ancestry.com brings wealth of information, tools to library Web site

Looking for online support in researching your family tree? Then look no further than the Western Counties Regional Library Web site <http://www.westerncounties.ca/databases.html>.



The Western Counties Regional Library has the Ancestry Library Edition of Ancestry.com as part of its online database section to assist genealogists and those tracing their family history. Because of the specialized licence, the database can only be accessed from a computer at a branch of the Western Counties Regional Library.

“Genealogy is of great interest to so many people so having one of the most popular and comprehensive genealogy Web sites to our databases only makes sense,” says Rick Beharriell, Coordinator of Reference Services at the regional library. “It’s a service that many of our patrons will use.”

The variety of information is incredible ranging from Australian convict records to audio storytelling with more and more information added by users every day.

“(Ancestry.com) has a lot of censuses, they have a lot of newspapers, obituaries from a lot of states,” explains Luella Marshall, a family researcher from the Digby area. Marshall puts together the *Surname Index to the Digby Courier* series.

The site has access to U.S. and British census records; birth, marriage and death records; the U.S. immigration collection; OneWorldTree; a worldwide collection of millions of names in family trees submitted by members; U.S. military records, a rich collection of records that includes original images of First World War draft cards; and Member Connections, an easy way to connect with other members researching the same ancestors.

It provides users with family tree templates to help get researchers started and many other tools and services such as detailed workshops on researching family histories.

“The database fits in nicely with the great U.S. connection to this region,” adds Beharriell.