



Who are we?

Lies Wind Verhoeff;

Evelien Marie Reimer;

Charles Paul Reimer;

Pieter Jacob Reimer;

Chloe Frances Reimer;

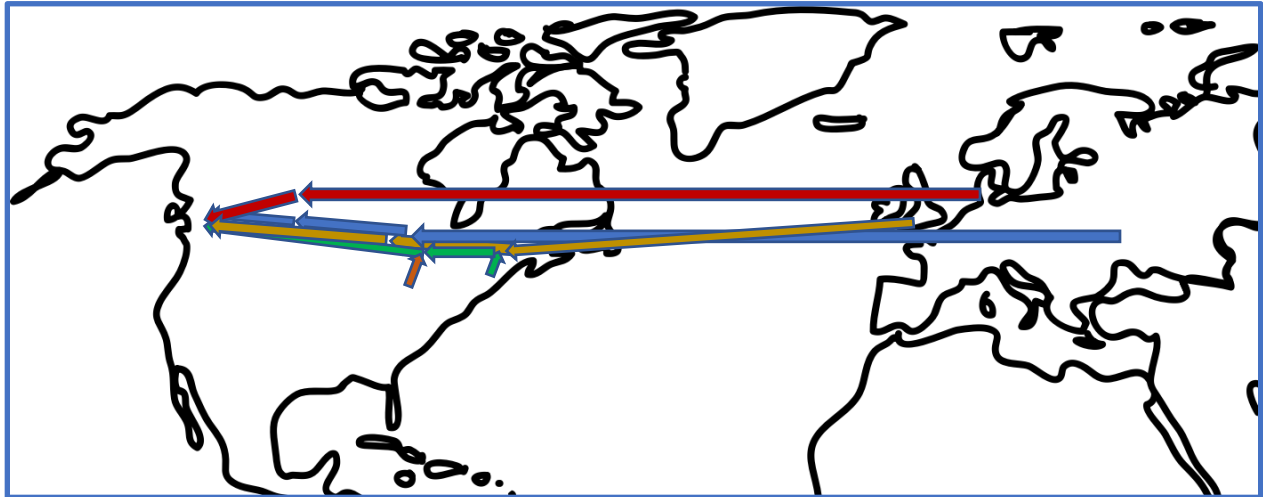
Jean Pierre (JP) Reimer

You might notice from our names that our ancestors are based in Dutch and Mennonite cultures but they also include members from Britain and the USA. If you are interested in more details we will be happy to share our stories with you.

For the past 14 years we are thankful to have lived on the unceded territory of the traditional lands of the Kwantlen First Nations. Our home is located in the current city of Fort Langley, BC in a lovely old family building.



The map below shows the locations and movements of our ancestors as they came to the part of Turtle Island we now call Canada.



They came to Canada for various reasons--most often as the result of war and persecution. The Verhoeffs came here from the Netherlands in the 1950s the Reimers came in 1901 to escape persecution and violence in southern Russia (from a region we now call Ukraine). They were part of a pacifist culture so were vulnerable to those exploiting their refusal to fight back. Our Jones-Dumville ancestors came after the death of John Jones in France during WWI (1920), our Shaver ancestors arrived here as United Empire Loyalists about 1785, and the Healds arrived in 1907 from Minnesota.

Why are we visiting here?

As a family history based in Colonial-Settler traditions, we have only started to learn about the people and places who lived here before us. Their stories have fascinated, disturbed, and inspired us so we are seeking to learn more about them and our relationships with them. We feel that the best way to do this is to visit the people and places who are part of those stories.

Over the past two years we have been preparing ourselves to make those visits. This includes reading, learning, and planning a six-month trip across the northern USA and Canada. Our plans for the Canadian part of the trip are to visit settlements and region as far north as possible, with particular emphasis on those which include the descendants of the earliest people.

We hope to be able to exchange stories and learn as much as we can to facilitate the creation of a future which is truthful, respectful, and collaborative with respect to all peoples, lands, and the environment we share.

We have little to offer you--except for our wish to learn. We are happy to offer our own stories and images in return. If you find them interesting, we will be pleased to add to them while we are with you--or after, through the various means of correspondence available to us.