



Brazil, 2017

# Decision-making of the Board

Helen Kerfoot

UNGEEN  
(Canada)



# ... for the Board and Secretariat

- Where do we start?
- Language and spelling
- How much evidence is needed for a name to be approved?
- Changing names
- Type of feature/application of a name
- The public and the politics





# Where do we start?

- Perhaps all names on a published map could be considered official
  - then add and modify
- May be starting from card records





# Language and spelling

- Unwritten language
- Differences in spelling
- Multiple names in the same language
- Multiple languages
- Romanization





# How much support?

- How many people? Who?
- How much evidence?





# Changing names

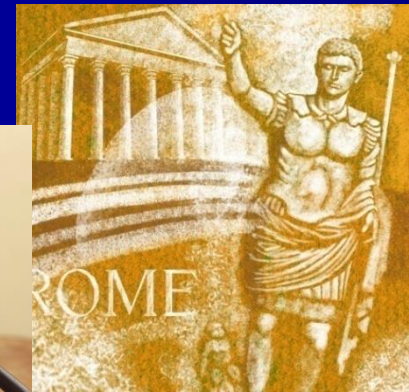
- Names recorded with incorrect spelling
- Names well known
- Names locally used or names of “colonial”/military/historical use
- Names now considered derogatory or pejorative
- Names that are no longer known






# The public and the politics

- What public input should be involved in the naming process?
- Results of Board decisions sent up to the Departmental Minister for signature to be final?
- How does the Board avoid political interference?





# Board decision – Ontario, Canada

	The Ontario Geographic Names Board / La Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario	Name of Geographic Feature / Nom d'entité géographique	Serial Number / No de série	Meeting Date / Date de la réunion
	MNR District / District du MRN	Provincial Map / Carte provinciale	Federal Map / Carte fédérale	Decision Date / Date de décision
Ontario	Parry Sound	10 17 6200 49650	31D14	March 5 2004 (115th)

The following name of a geographic feature has been considered by the Ontario Geographic Names Board and pursuant to Section 3(8) of the Ontario Geographic Names Board Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.16 is recommended to the Minister for approval under Section 4 of the above Act / Le nom d'entité géographique qui suit a été pris en considération par la Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario et, en vertu du paragraphe 3 (8) de la Loi sur la Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario, L.R.O. 1990, chap. O.16, est recommandé au ministre pour approbation selon l'article 4 de la loi sus-mentionnée

Reference number

Map sheet number

Date

Feature delineation

Approved name

Feature type

Location

Status

Background



### Wesley Island

Island/Ile(2300); Wood (geographic township); Gravenhurst (municipality); District Municipality of Muskoka; Morrison Lake; approximate centre at 44°52'05" - 79°27'58" – UTM = 17 621175 4969221(datum = NAD27); record status = A1; unique name key = FETDO


MNR recommended form of name for use in French text applications - île Wesley

Name in well-established current local usage since the 1960's. After early owners including the late George and Ida Wesley who were among the original cottagers and pioneering families on Morrison Lake.





# Decisão do Conselho – Ontário, Canadá

	The Ontario Geographic Names Board / La Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario	Name of Geographic Feature / Nom d'entité géographique	Serial Number / No de série	Meeting Date / Date de la réunion
Ontario	MNR District / District du MRN	Provincial Map / Carte provinciale	Federal Map / Carte fédérale	Decision Date / Date de décision
	<b>Parry Sound</b>	<b>10 17 6200 49650</b>	<b>31D14</b>	<b>March 5 2004 (115th)</b>

The following name of a geographic feature has been considered by the Ontario Geographic Names Board and pursuant to Section 3(8) of the Ontario Geographic Names Board Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.16 is recommended to the Minister for approval under Section 4 of the above Act / Le nom d'entité géographique qui suit a été pris en considération par la Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario et, en vertu du paragraphe 3 (8) de la Loi sur la Commission de toponymie de l'Ontario, L.R.O. 1990, chap. O.16, est recommandé au ministre pour approbation selon l'article 4 de la loi sus-mentionnée

Número de referência

Número da folha do mapa

Data

Delineamento do acidente

Nome aprovado

Tipo de acidente

Localização

Status

Histórico



### Wesley Island

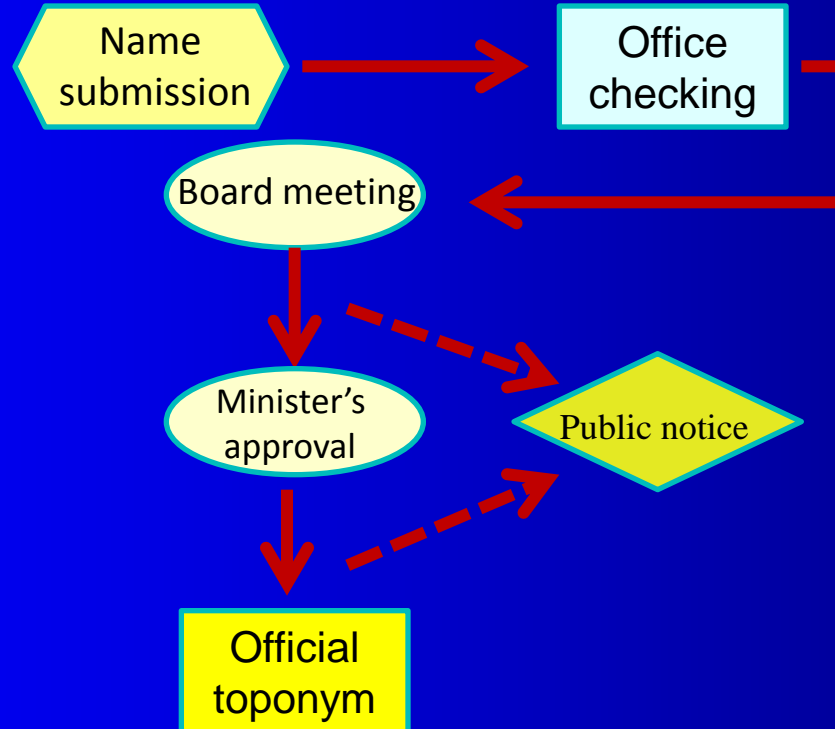
Island/Ile(2300); Wood (geographic township); Gravenhurst (municipality); District Municipality of Muskoka; Morrison Lake; approximate centre at 44°52'05" - 79°27'58" – UTM = 17 621175 4969221(datum = NAD27); record status = A1; unique name key = FETDO

MNR recommended form of name for use in French text applications - Ile Wesley

Name in well-established current local usage since the 1960's. After early owners including the late George and Ida Wesley who were among the original cottagers and pioneering families on Morrison Lake.



# Naming authorization can be quite simple

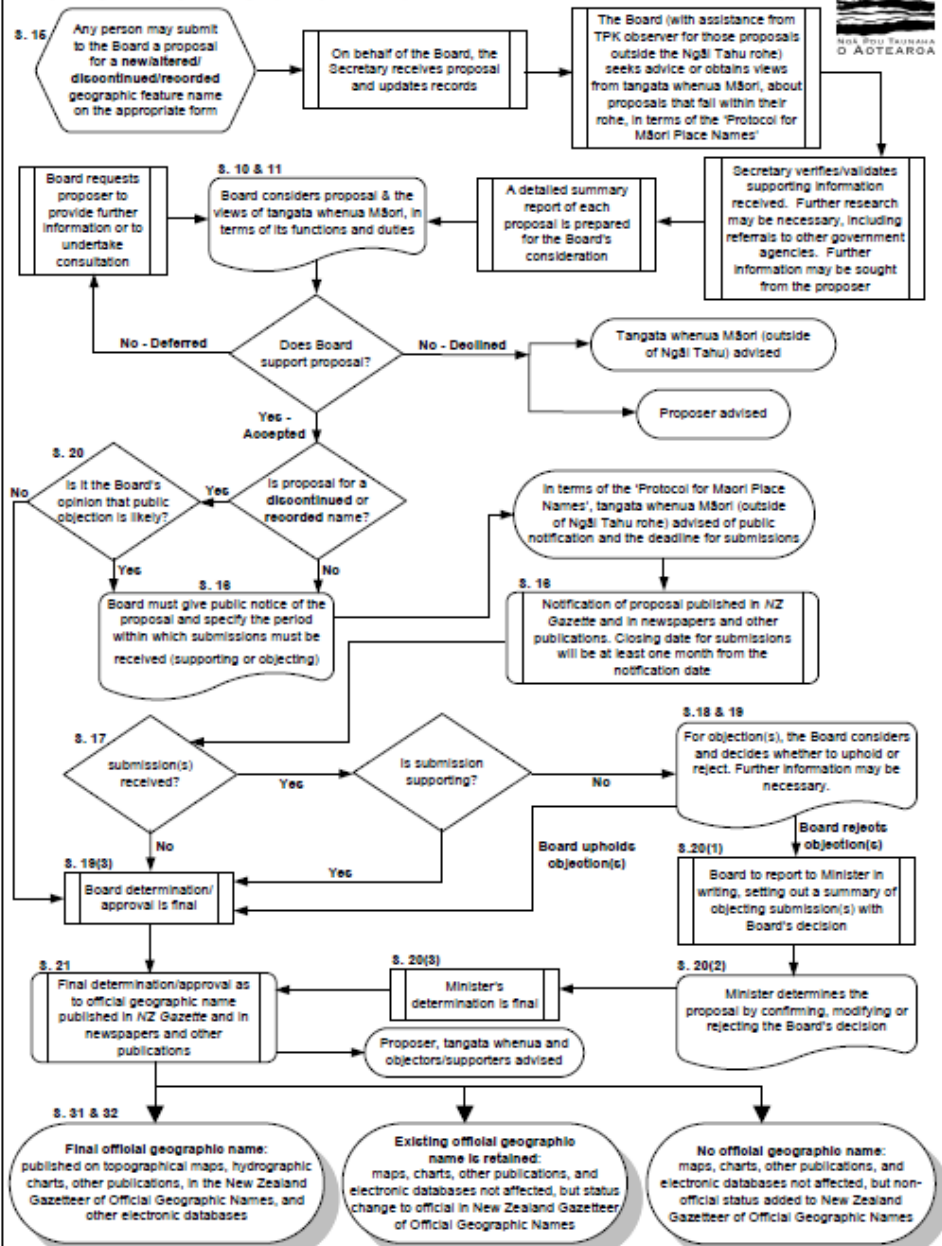
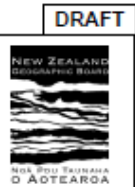


Other steps may be necessary: referral to language specialists, more detailed surveys, considering public objections ...



# NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHIC BOARD (NGA POU TAUNAHA O AOTEAROA) ACT 2008 PROCESS FOR NEW ZEALAND OFFICIAL GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

(excluding local authority districts/regions, Crown protected areas, undersea features outside the NZ 12NM territorial limit and Antarctica)





## In the end

- Emphasis on care and consistency
- Reflection of language, heritage, identity
- Names recorded for the benefit of future generations
- Authorized names should get wide distribution and use
- If more than one name is acceptable, conditions of use should be clear