

'Keep up with the News in Aboriginal Canada'

Prepared for Anthropology 1160

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There are several sites on the web that collect and distribute news about aboriginal issues and events in Canada. It is possible, of course, to visit each of these sites regularly to see what is happening. It is easier, however, to use a 'feed reader' (also called an aggregator) to 'subscribe' to these sites and have any updates sent to you.

A feed, also called an RSS feed (really simple syndication), is marked on these sites in several ways. Sometimes, a button with RSS on it is provided on a page. In other places, an orange and white logo like the one on the left is given. To subscribe to a feed, click the button. You may need to copy the URL of the page you end up on after clicking the button into your feed reader.



Best of all, using a feed reader keeps the news out of your email inbox.

1) Popular Feed Readers

- Bloglines: www.bloglines.com
- Google Reader: reader.google.com
- My Yahoo: my.yahoo.com

Both of these services require you to sign up for a free account. I use both services and you can see the list of blogs and other sites I track on Bloglines here:

www.bloglines.com/public/TadMcIlwraith

2) News Services about Aboriginal Canada with Feeds

- Native News North: A news site featuring stories from northern Canada

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NatNews-north/>

- Protecting Knowledge: A news site organized by the Union of BC Indian Chiefs in Vancouver featuring stories about British Columbia. It also distributes news related to traditional knowledge and aboriginal resource conflicts around the world.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/protecting_knowledge/

- Nation Talk: News about aboriginal Canada out of Ontario

<http://www.nationtalk.ca/>

3) Other Ways of Keeping Up

In the era of Web 2.0, lots of other kinds of sites have feeds. You can, for example, subscribe to key words in Google News so that every time a news story, blog, or group discussion uses the word, you will be alerted. I use this to track news about the communities in which I work.

Examples:

Google News: Go to news.google.com. Enter a search word. On the left side of the results page you will see an RSS button. Click on it and subscribe to the search in your feed reader.

Yahoo News: works like Google News.

You can also track the work other people put into bookmarking sites on del.icio.us. I use this to watch the sites other people bookmark about aboriginal Canada and British Columbia.

Example:

Del.icio.us: Go to del.icio.us. Enter a search word. At the bottom of the results page you will see an RSS button. Click on it and subscribe to that search in your feed reader.

Finally, there are lots of blogs that can be tracked in this way too.

Examples:

Fieldnotes: My blog has an RSS feed. Go to www.anthroblog.tadmclwraith.com and click on the RSS feed button on the right side.

I have a list of blogs on my public bloglines page. Take a look ... many deal with individual aboriginal communities or topics in anthropology. You can see this list here:

www.bloglines.com/public/TadMcIlwraith

4) Final Note

I am always trying to find new sites to track. If you find something good, let me know. Also, if this tutorial is not specific enough, and you'd like some help setting up this kind of process, see me during office hours or make an appointment and I'll walk you through the steps.