



Jakob Grad & Eva Eckert,
Germans from South Ukraine

Board Members

President: Tim Grad

Vice-President: Robyn Morales

Secretary: Sharon Wingenbach

Treasurer: Garry Ruhl

Librarian: Ed Retzer

Student Award at Allendale School

Each year we recognize the top student in German Studies at Allendale Junior High School with an award.

University of Alberta Endowment

Prior to 1997, we funded an endowment for a scholarship related to German Studies at the University of Alberta.

AHSGR Edmonton & District Genealogy Library

- Open most Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- More than 500 catalogued items
- Searchable index:
<https://hsgpv.org/library/ahsgr-edmonton-chapter/>
- Contact us via email at ahsgr.edmonton@gmail.com and ask for our Librarian, Ed Retzer.

Meetings

- 2nd Wednesday, September to November & January to May
- 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- In-person at Allendale School, Edmonton, Alberta
- Members may also attend meetings online via Zoom
- Email us for details (below).

Current Annual Dues: \$30

Memberships and Information

president@german-russians.org

Library & Chapter Email Address

ahsgr.edmonton@gmail.com

We are

A Non-Profit Society in Alberta

With a Mission

To discover, collect, preserve and share the history, cultural heritage and genealogical legacy of settlers of Germanic heritage, who settled in the Russian Empire from 1763 through the 1800s.

Chapter Website

<https://www.german-russians.org/home>

AHSGR International

<https://ahsgr.org>

<https://ahsgr.org/about/chapters/edmonton-and-district-chapter/>

**AHSGR
EDMONTON &
DISTRICT
CHAPTER**

*Founded 1979,
Chartered 1983*

Benefits of Membership:

- Access to our genealogy library containing more than 500 items;
- Presentations of research and topics of interest by members and guests;
- Meet others interested in German genealogy;
- See back centre panel for more information.

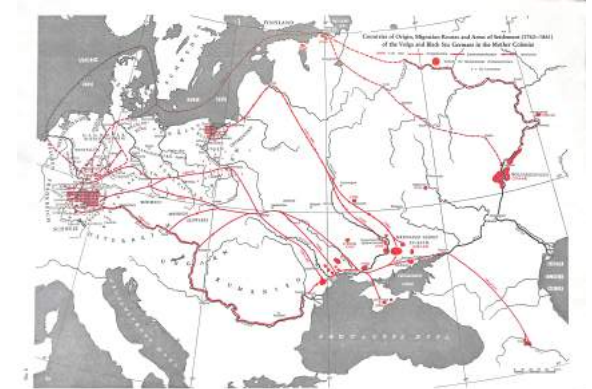
German Emigration to Imperial Russia

- Catherine the Great of Russia (reign: 1762 to 1796) issued a Manifesto in July 1763, that called for settlers.
- Czar Alexander I (reign: 1801 to 1825) called for more migration of settlers to Russia.
- Exemption from military service, religious freedom, tax breaks, etc. were promised.
- From 1763 to 1862, German-speaking people settled in the Volga area, southern Ukraine, Crimea, Bessarabia, Volhynia, and the Caucasus.

- In 1871, after creation of the German Empire, privileges enjoyed by the German settlers in Russia were repealed.
- From 1874: Russification policies triggered the emigration of Germans from Russia to the Americas.

Immigration of Germans from Russia to the Edmonton District

- Settlement in present-day Saskatchewan and Alberta began in earnest after completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the southern prairies in 1885.
- Settlement in Alberta proceeded from South to North, facilitated by development of north-south rail lines.
- Beginning in the 1890s: German Baptists from Volhynia settled in the Leduc district and Wiesenthal.
- The Moravian Brethren founded Bruderheim and New Sarepta, east of Edmonton, and Brüderfeld (now part of the southeast Edmonton community Mill Woods). They also settled in Heimthal, south of Edmonton.



German Emigration to Imperial Russia

- German Lutherans from Galicia in Austria founded Hoffnungsau and Rosenthal near Stony Plain.
- German Reformed from Galicia founded Josephsburg near Fort Saskatchewan.
- German Lutherans from Russia founded Heimthal and Lutherhort south of Edmonton.
- Volga Germans settled in Stony Plain and Glory Hills, west of Edmonton.
- Immigration of Germans from the U.S. began in the 1890s, but was more significant from 1903 to 1910. They settled along the Red Deer-Wetaskiwin-Leduc-Edmonton railway line. Many of their families originated in Russia.
- New waves of German immigrants arrived after WWI and WWII.