

50 BEST CANADIAN PLACENAME TRANSPOSITIONS

DARRYL FRANCIS

Frosterley, Bishop Auckland, Durham, England

darrylfrancis@yahoo.co.uk

In previous issues of Word Ways, we've had extensive lists of transpositions of place names: US state names, US place names, British place names, and so on. But what about that other country in North America, Canada? Just to show it's not forgotten, here are our fifty longest (and therefore best) Canadian placename transpositions (province abbreviations in parenthesis).

- 11 L'Assomption (Que) lampoonists
- 11 Laurentides (Que) adulterines, neutralised, reinsulated
- 11 New Carlisle (NewBr) wine-cellars
- 11 Old Perlican (Newf) porcellanid

- 10 Cape Dorset (Nunavut) craspedote, Espectador
- 10 Iron Bridge (Ont) broidering
- 10 Morinville (Alb) vermilion
- 10 Nova Scotia (NovSc) avocations
- 10 Palmerston (Ont) emplastron
- 10 Port Morien (NovSc) premonitor
- 10 Springside (Sask) dispersing
- 10 St-Andre-Est (Que) attendress, sand tester
- 10 St-Augustin (Que) situtungas
- 10 St-Eustache (Que) cathetuses
- 10 Tilsonburg (Ont) troublings

- 9 Armstrong (Alb) Granstrom, strongarm
- 9 Caledonia (Ont) Candelaio, Laodicean
- 9 Creighton (Sask) hectoring, tochering, trichogen
- 9 Deep River (Ont) prederive, redeprive, reprieved
- 9 Doloraine (Man) Donoraile
- 9 Deseronto (Ont) snootered
- 9 Eganville (Ont) villenage
- 9 Englehart (Ont) then-large
- 9 Esquimalt (BritCol) qualmiest
- 9 Geraldton (Ont) Gotlander
- 9 Grand-Mere (Que) germander
- 9 Grenville (Que) revelling
- 9 Ingersoll (Ont) negrillos, Sollinger
- 9 Ingleside (Ont) dieseling
- 9 Inverness (NovSc) nerviness
- 9 Kitchener (Ont) rethicken, thickener
- 9 Lancaster (Ont) ancestral
- 9 Lavaltrie (Que) relatival, Travaille
- 9 Maidstone (Ont, Sask) dominates, misatoned, somniated, staminode
- 9 Milestone (Sask) lemoniast, limestone, melonites, solemnite, stonelime

- 9 Minnedosa (Man) mondaines
- 9 Notre-Dame (NewBr) emendator, ondiameter
- 9 Pinehouse (Sask) euphonies, euphonise
- 9 Placentia (Newf) analeptic, El Capitan
- 9 Port Alice (BritCol) carpolite, ice patrol, Petricola, precoital
- 9 St Antoine (NewBr) estantion, intonates, tantonies
- 9 St Leonard (NewBr) lard stone
- 9 St-Cesaire (Que) creasiest, sectaries
- 9 Ste-Claire (Que) cartelise, cerealist
- 9 St-Laurent (Que) resultant
- 9 St-Leonard (Que) lard stone
- 9 St-Prosper (Que) stroppers
- 9 St-Raphael (Que) asphalter
- 9 Thessalon (Ont) sloathness, Shalstone

Oxymoronica: Paradoxical Wit and Wisdom from History's Greatest Wordsmiths

Word Ways readers may recall that Mardy Grothe published in 1999 *Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You*, a celebration of the rhetorical device known as chiasmus. In March 2004 HarperCollins will publish his second work, a paean to the oxymoron (such as “a yawn is a silent shout”, uttered by G. K. Chesterton). Chapters will look at such topics as Oxymoronic Wit and Humor, Political Oxymoronica, Oxymoronic Advice and Inadvertent Oxymoronica. Don Hauptman writes of the book “The oxymoron that best describes *Oxymoronica* is ‘serious fun’. Quotation guru Mardy Grothe’s remarkable collection is as intellectually rewarding as it is wildly entertaining. The hundreds of paradoxical algorithms he has ferreted out for this rich anthology are profound, witty, hilarious and sad—sometimes all at the same time. Dr. Grothe frames these intriguing quotations with intelligent and literary commentary that expands your understanding and appreciation of them.”