

NAME: SMITH, William Martin    PLACE OF BIRTH: Guelph, Ontario    ENTERED SERVICE: 1 June 1923    DATES: b. 5 May 1888  
d. 1 Dec. 1962

### Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May				
1923, June 1–1924	Clerk	Pine Ridge/Red Lake	Lake Superior	RG3/40C/2; RG3/40A/1
1925	Outpost Manager	Pine Ridge	Lake Superior	A.74/38
1926, June-August	Outpost Manager	Red Lake	Lake Superior	RG3/40C/2; A.74/38
1926, September - 1927, June	Outpost Manager	[Round Lake Outpost]	Lake Superior	RG3/40C/2
1927, 30 June	left service [dismissed]			RG3/40C/2
1962, Dec. 1, died in Winnipeg				<i>Winnipeg Free Press</i> , Dec. 1962

Excerpt from “Annual Report on Lake Superior District,” Outfit 254, October 15, 1924, under Pine Ridge:  
“William Smith, clerk at Outpost and fur buyer, age 36 years. 1 years’ service. Very intelligent, good worker and good tripper. Well liked by Indian hunters. Should make a good and suitable Post Manager in another year. Salary \$50.00 per month, no overdraft for Outfit.”

A.74/53, p. 303

Excerpt from Annual Report on Lake Superior District, Outfit 255, September 15, 1925, under Pine Ridge:  
“William Smith, Outpost Manager and Fur Buyer, age 37 years, 2 years’ service, recent widower, family 6. Very intelligent, good tripper and good and willing worker. Salary \$50.00 per month. No overdraft.”

A.74/54-7 fo. 46

Excerpt from Annual Report on Lake Superior District, 1926:

A.74/41-7 fo. 16

“Mr. Wm. Smith, who was originally outpost and post manager at Red Lake, was, due to his incapability and general inebriation, relegated to the position of outpost manager at Round Lake, at which place he did not prove himself to be any better, and was in consequence dismissed.”

Excerpt from “Annual Report on Lake Superior District, 1927:

A.74/41-7 fo. 13

“Red Lake’s showing to a great extent was attributable to poor management under E[rnest] Renouf, aggravated further by the misdemeanours of the previous post manager, W. Smith, who was retired on account of inebriation.”

### PHOTOGRAPH:

William M. Smith and some of his children at HBC Post at Post Narrows, Red Lake, 1925 (National Archives of Canada, PA 184072)

### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Kiebusinski, Rae. *Yesterday the River: A History of the Ear Falls District*. Altona, MB: D. W. Friesen & Sons, 1973.

Malaher, Gerald W. *The North I Love*. Winnipeg: Hyperion, 1984.

Parrott, Donald Fleming. *The Red Lake Gold Rush*. Steinbach, MB: Derksen Printers, 1964 (rev. 1976).

