

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Establishing Mitochondrial DNA Signatures of Early Immigrant Mothers: Successes and Cautions

10:00 am to 11:30 am

The Chamber, Ben Franklin Place 101 Centrepointe Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

Your family tree may trace back to several Immigrant Mothers, but only one of them passed on her mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), virtually unchanged, to you. You use her mtDNA each time you need energy to move or think, because mitochondria are your energy factories. In this presentation, you will learn about:

- How to trace the source of your mtDNA in a matriline to your Immigrant Mother.
- How to convey the story of your matriline ancestors to your descendants.
- mtDNA tests and triangulation methods that Group Projects use to establish ancestral mtDNA signatures of early North American Immigrant Mothers.
- Successes and cautions in using mtDNA to find our Immigrant Mothers.

About the speaker

Annette Cormier O'Connor MScN (Nursing) PhD (Medical Science) is a retired professor and passionate genealogist. Her passion was ignited 10 years ago, during Lesley Anderson's "Rattle Them Bones" course and subsequent courses at the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. During a quest to find the Immigrant Mother who passed on her mtDNA to her, she completed NIGS courses in genetic genealogy and joined several of Family Tree DNA's mtDNA Immigrant projects, whose lead experts shared their knowledge generously. She was so moved by this experience that she now serves as a volunteer educator at Cornwall's Genealogy Centre to help members learn how to use mtDNA to find their Immigrant Mothers.