

# GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN SASKATCHEWAN

ALAN B. ANDERSON



Saskatchewan German Council Inc.

TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE CULTURE, LANGUAGE, CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS,  
AND INTERESTS OF SASKATCHEWAN PEOPLE OF GERMAN-SPEAKING BACKGROUNDS

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## Preface

This publication is a Centennial 2005 revision of Alan Anderson's popular 1990 German settlement monograph. It has been enhanced by Barbara Stehwien's revised German settlement map, which illustrates Dr. Anderson's data in a remarkably clear and attractive manner. The combination of text and map renders the book very useful and easy to use for scholars, genealogists and anyone interested in researching their German heritage in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan German Council is grateful for the enabling financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage and Saskatchewan Lotteries.

The "Lebensbaum" or "Tree of Life" cover motif is an original scissor-cut by Saskatoon artist Waltraude Stehwien, the mother of the map-maker Barbara Stehwien. The cut attempts to express the essence of Saskatchewan's German Canadians in the following manner: the pairs in various costumes represent Germans of diverse backgrounds living in the province; the blossoms, foliage and stems reflect the harmonious and supportive relationship between the land and the people; the root system centered in the heart represents loyalty and belonging; and the couples holding hands represent idyllic conjoined relationships leading to families and communities.

The map *German Settlements and Communities in Saskatchewan* (originally by Helmar Heimann and included here in a revised form by Barbara Stehwien) is a welcome and very useful companion addition to this publication. The map clearly shows the large area of German settlement communities in their Christian diversity. The pie charts reflect recent census numbers of inhabitants reporting full or partial German ancestry and indicate, in many cases, demographic changes that have occurred within the original block settlements. The enhanced map also illustrates the connection between the settlements and the road, rail and river systems of Saskatchewan. In addition, the map shows how the German colonization of Saskatchewan has strongly influenced the naming of many communities. The map's golden background is an official provincial colour and represents the trademark wheat fields of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Brian McKinstry, SGC Executive Director

### The Author

Dr. Alan B. Anderson has been a member of the Department of Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan since 1968. He has been President of the Canadian Ethnic Studies Association and Vice President of the Central and East European Studies Association of Canada. The author of many publications on ethnic settlements in Saskatchewan, most recently he has contributed the Ethnic Bloc Settlements section to the *Atlas of Saskatchewan* (1999) and has served as the editorial board member for the numerous population and ethnic settlements entries in the *Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan* (2005).

**The Scherenschnitt illustration on the front cover is taken from an original by Waltraude Stehwien, courtesy of the artist. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.**  
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