

Yukon



Update: May 14, 2010

I am a Yukon adoptee/birth parent. I want to find my birth family/adult child. What can I do?

1. If you are adopted and at least 19 years old, apply for your original birth registration. Your original birth registrations will provide you with your name at the time of your birth, the name of your birth mother when you were born, and, in some cases, the name of your birth father. You may also apply for the Adoption Order.

If you are a birth mother, apply for your adult child's (aged 19+) amended birth registration and the Adoption Order. The amended birth registration will provide you with the name of your child after adoption. You may also apply for a copy of the original birth registration. Many birth mothers find it healing to receive this document. If you are a birth father and you are named on the original birth registration you may apply for the original birth registration, the Adoption order, and the amended birth registration.

2. Apply for non-identifying information. This is information compiled at the time of the adoption and will provide background information about the adoptee's birth and adoptive families. The adoptee will receive information collected at the time of the adoption that describes his/her birth parents. It may include their interests, occupational skills, appearance, ethnicity, and education. Birth parents will receive similar information about the adoptee's adoptive family. The wait for non-identifying information is about four months
3. Place your name on the government operated registry. Your name will be placed on a list. If your birth relative/adult child has also applied to the register, you will both be notified. If a birth father is named in the file, he may place his name on the registry.
4. Once you have received a copy of the original and/or amended birth registration information, request that the government search for their birth parents/adult child. If the adoptee/birth parent agrees to contact the government will facilitate a reunion. Searches usually begin two years after the Adoption Disclosure Registry receives the application. If a birth father is named on the original birth certificate, was interviewed at the time of

surrender, or signed a declaration of paternity he may apply for a search to be done on his behalf and his adult child may request that a search for him. If he is named in the file, he may place his name on the registry. Adoptees may request a search for a birth parent, birth grandparent, adult birth sibling, or other adult birth relative.

Is there any way that I can be blocked from receiving identifying information about my birth parent/adult child? Is there any way I can be blocked from contacting my birth parent/adult child?

Adoptees (18 and older) and birth parents (named on the original birth registration) can file a disclosure veto. This document will block the government's ability to release any identifying information about the other party. The disclosure veto is in effect until two years after the death of the person who filed it out.

Adopted adults (aged 18 and older) and birth parents (named on the original birth registration) have the option of filing a No-contact Declaration. This document allows the government to release identifying information about the other party but forbids you to contact them. Before the government will give you any information you must sign a document stating that you will not contact and will have no one else contact your birth relative.

When submitting a veto, the applicant is given the opportunity to provide a written statement. In it s/he might provide medical information or explain why s/he feels s/he cannot give you information or meet you at this time.

It is important to recognize that very few people file vetoes. The majority of adoptees and birth parents welcome contact.

I am a relative of an adopted person. How can I find more information about a missing family member?

Relatives of adopted adults may place their name on the registry. If a match occurs, the government will notify both parties and facilitate a reunion.

If the adoptee is deceased, the following people may apply to have a search done for a birth relative: adult child or grandchild of the adoptee, adoptive parents of the adoptee if the adoptee was a minor at the time of his/her death.

If the birth parent is deceased, an adult child of the birth parents may apply for a search for the adult adoptee.

How can I find out more information?

There is no website that describes adoption disclosure in the Yukon.

Call or write them for more information:

Adoption Disclosure Registry
Family & Children Services
Health & Social Services
Government of Yukon
PO Box 2703 H10
Whitehorse YT Y1A 2C6
Telephone: (867) 667-3002
Fax: (867) 393-6204
Toll Free (In Yukon) 1-800-661-0408, ext 3002