

Representatives from the departments of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Human Resources and Industry were present.

Geographic names and areas

A generic geographic name that is part of a proper name must be capitalized.

the Ottawa River
the Canadian Shield
the Rocky Mountains

Where grouping has occurred, capitalization is optional (but be consistent).

lakes Michigan and Superior **or** Lakes Michigan and Superior

Generic terms are capitalized if they are used in a corporate or legal sense.

The city of Windsor is located in Ontario **but** Hargrave v. the City of Windsor.

Capitalize geographic terms when using them specifically but not when using them generically as an adjective.

the Antarctic	Antarctic tourism	but	antarctic weather
the Prairie provinces	Prairie wheat farmers	but	prairie wildflowers

Compass directions

Capitalize compass directions only when the term is used to denote a discrete geographic area or a political bloc.

southern Asia, **but** South Asia (i.e. the Indian subcontinent)
eastern Africa, **but** East Africa
the western U.S., **but** the West
northern hemisphere, southern hemisphere

New Zealand is considered to be a Northern country.
He briefly abandoned Western dress and wore a sarong.
I travelled south for three days.