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What Public Ownership of Forests Means in Canada

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Crown lands, including timber lands, in Canada are administered in most cases by the provinces in which they are situated provinces ated In the three prairie provinces (Manical Alberta), Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta), in the railway belt (a strip twenty miles on each side of the Canadian Pacific Railway side of the Canadian Pacific Col-Railway's main line through British Colunbia) and in the Peace River block in horthern British Columbia the crown lands are administered by the Dominion Government. In this area there are few privately owned timber lands other than farmers, woodlots. Rights to cut timber are granted but the title of the land remains in the Crown. In Nova Scotia the greater part of the timber land has passed into private ownership. In New Brunswick over seven thousand square

miles of forest land is owned outright by railway companies and other private concerns or individuals. In Quebec about six million acres have been so disposed of and in Ontario about five million acres. The policy of retaining the title to all timber lands has been largely followed in the Province of British Columbia in the area under provincial control as well as in the federal areas. About 2,000 square miles of timber land is in private ownership.

The ownership of forests by towns and communities, so common in Europe, is almost unknown in Canada, although efforts are being made to encourage the establishment and maintenance of forests of this nature.