

# *Factoids, Civil Canada*

## *element: A business-friendly environment*

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### *message: Canada is a Domestic and International Destination*

Canadian tourism is the 5th largest earner of foreign exchange after automobiles, auto parts, crude petroleum, and newsprint

In 2000, Canada was ranked 2nd in the world's top ten destinations

In Sept. 2000, Banff springs Hotel was ranked 2nd in the best overseas destination spa

In 1999, 145,393 Canadians travelled domestically

### *message: Business in Canada is Convenient and Worthwhile*

Canada operates a market-based, free enterprise economy

Canada enjoys low inflation rates, between 1 to 3% - inflation over the past 5 years has averaged 1.6 to 3.0%

Growth projections for 2001 in Canada averaged 3.8%

Canada is the #1 trading partner to the U.S.

NAFTA has allowed access to the North American trading market

Canada has an excellent transportation system that moves over \$1 billion per day in traded goods

There is direct air service between major Canadian and U.S. cities

Foreign investment in Canada has doubled since 1998

The 2000 federal Budget featured tax cuts averaging 21% by 2004-2005

Canadian labour costs are the lowest in the G7

Electrical costs for industry are 24% lower in Canada than in the U.S.

Building construction costs are 15% lower in Canada than in the U.S.

Land costs (except in BC) are 8% lower than in the U.S.

The cost of doing business in Canada is 40% lower than in Germany, and 36% lower than in the U.S.

Canadian laws preventing unfair competition are the best in the world

Canada provides private companies with research supports, market development, and technology transfer

The Canadian R&D tax is generous, immediate, and offers full write-off for all business expenditures

The Investment Canada Act ensures foreign investment occurs in a way that benefits Canadians

Canada has the lowest cost of living in the G7

Canada ranks better than the U.S. in crime, pollution, environment, and leisure

Quebec's business costs are 18.2% lower than the U.S.