

FASHION

Distinctively Canadian contributions to modern wear are derived from native Indian and Eskimo dress. The Indian moccasin is the basis of many shoe and slipper designs. The Kul-i-tuk is the modern version of the Eskimo parka, which was formerly made of seal-skin trimmed with wolf fur, and today is usually made of acrylic pile with a polyester-cotton shell. The coastal Indians have contributed the Cowichan sweater, which is made of natural wool and is noted for its insulating and water shedding qualities.

With the increasing appreciation of winter leisure activities, Canadian fashion design has become more internationally known. Canadian ski wear forms the basis of a flourishing industry. The new winter sport of snowmobiling has led to innovation in the design of insulated suits and protective boots, gloves and headgear.

Lumberjacks, wearing thick, checked shirts and high boots, have been the basis of many variations in the area of practical, rather than ornamental fashion.

In modern fashions, Canadian designers of clothing for all seasons are gaining international recognition. Montreal and Toronto are taking their place with New York, Paris and Rome as centres of fashion design. Three top Canadian fashion designers are John Warden and Leo Chevalier of Montreal and Pat McDonagh of Toronto.