

# did you know? know

... for more interesting facts about Canada, visit:  
[canadaeuropa.gc.ca](http://canadaeuropa.gc.ca)



... that Canada was the 1st country to adopt an official Multiculturalism Policy in 1971? Today, Canada's approach to diversity is supported by a number of laws from its Charter of Rights & Freedoms to its Human Rights, Employment Equity, Official Languages & Pay Equity acts. Canada also supports many conventions protecting diversity around the world.

Source: Government of Canada



... that Canada is home to several critical medical inventions? From the invention of insulin, cardiac stimulators and cobalt radiotherapy, to the development of vaccines for infantile meningitis and the test for determining bone marrow compatibility - Canada has been (and continues to be!) an important centre for health research and innovation.

Source: National Research Council Canada



... that Canada's contributions to world peace & human security not only include the work of Canadian peacekeepers & the ratification of the land mines treaty, but the establishment of the International War Crimes Tribunal? Canada's long peacekeeping traditions & the fact that it is regularly asked to bring a voice of mediation to the world is a great source of pride for Canada.

Source: Government of Canada



... that Canada is one of the world's most urban countries? Despite being home to vast areas of natural wilderness, nearly 80% of the population lives in one of Canada's 25 main metropolitan regions. In addition, nearly 60% of Canadians live within a narrow strip of geography near the country's southern border (less than 2.2% of Canada's landmass!)

Source: Statistics Canada & Government of Canada



... that aside from being one of the world's most cost-competitive countries, Canada is also one of the best countries with which to do business? A 2003 survey ranked Canada best business partner because of its high-quality infrastructure, openness to foreign trade & market opportunities. In 2002, Canada was named world leader in cost-competitiveness.

Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit & KPMG



... that Canada is home to over 200 ethnic groups? From thousands of years of First Nations ancestry, 400 years of French & British foundation, 100 years of European immigration - including German, Italian, Ukrainian, Dutch & Polish - to modern global waves of immigration, Canada represents one of the world's most unique cultural & ethnic mosaics today.

Source: Statistics Canada



... that at 243,791 kilometres, Canada's coast line on 3 different oceans is the longest in the world? Canada is also home to the world's largest freshwater system (9.2% of world supply, & nearly one-tenth of the nation's landmass!), longest inland waterway & greatest tidal range. Canadian waters link people across vast regions & remain a major source of livelihood & inspiration - A Mari usque ad Mare!

Source: Over Canada



... that after Australia, Canada has the largest percentage of its population - 18% - born outside the country? Today, Canada's immigrants - nearly 230,000 of whom are drawn to the country's high standard of living each year - form an important part of the nation's cultural & political fabric. In 2003, 16% of Canada's parliament was born outside the country.

Source: Statistics Canada & Parliament of Canada



... that Canada is the world's 5th largest producer of energy? Hydroelectricity is among Canada's top energy products - in fact, Québec's James Bay Hydroelectric Project is the largest subterranean station in the world! Canada's contributions to world innovations in energy include new hydroelectric control systems that result in less maintenance & impact on the environment.

Source: Natural Resources Canada



... that Canada was the first country in the world to connect all its schools & public libraries to the Internet? While Canada remains one of the world's most connected countries, Canadians, who have historically used technology as a means to conquer vast distances & some of the world's roughest terrains, continue to be among the world's most technically-trained populations.

Source: Government of Canada & Innovation Nation

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