



Cable television is well advanced in Canada, reaching 30 per cent of Canadian homes through 440 cable systems. Both in the hardware and software departments, the Canadian "cablecasters" are regarded as world leaders.

The Canadian Broadcasting Act of 1968 established the Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission CRTC as an independent body to regulate the broadcasting industry.

Newspapers and magazines

The first newspaper, the weekly *Halifax Gazette*, was published on March 23, 1752, but the *Quebec Gazette*, founded in 1864 and now known as the *Chronicle Telegraph*, has the distinction of being the oldest continuing newspaper in North America.

There are 117 daily newspapers published in Canada (though very few on Sunday); 104 are in the English language, 13 are in the French language. There are approximately 247 foreign language publications among the 825 weekly newspapers and 800 magazines and periodicals.

Ownership of the daily papers is largely concentrated in the hands of four newspaper chains – whereas 60 years ago the 138 newspapers each responded to their own publisher.