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# CANADA

Dept. of External Affairs  
Min. des Affaires extérieures

OCT 25 1990

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## Area

9 970 610 km<sup>2</sup> Canada is the largest country in the Western hemisphere, second-largest country in the world.

## Capital

Ottawa, Ontario.

## Provinces and Territories

(capitals in brackets)

Alberta (Edmonton); British Columbia (Victoria); Manitoba (Winnipeg); New Brunswick (Fredericton); Newfoundland (St. John's); Northwest Territories (Yellowknife); Nova Scotia (Halifax); Ontario (Toronto); Prince Edward Island (Charlottetown); Quebec (Quebec City); Saskatchewan (Regina); Yukon Territory (Whitehorse).

## Principal Cities

(1986 population for metropolitan areas in brackets)

Toronto (3.4 million); Montreal (2.92 million); Vancouver (1.4 million); Ottawa-Hull national capital region (0.82 million).

## Geography

Canada's territory is diverse, embracing fertile plains that provide excellent farmland. Its terrain also includes great expanses of mountains, rocks, lakes and rivers. In the far north, wilderness forest gives way to Arctic tundra.

## Climate

Highly varied. Permanently frozen ice caps north of the 70th parallel contrast sharply with luxuriant rain forests on the west coast of British Columbia. Most of Canada, particularly the area stretching east-west along the American border, experiences four distinct seasons. In summer, daytime highs can soar to 35°C and winter lows of -25°C are not uncommon. Spring and fall temperatures are more moderate. Most of Canada's land mass is subjected to prevailing westerly winds. Thus, high and low pressure systems generally move from west to east.

## National Parks and Historic Sites

The Canadian government has established over a hundred historic sites to commemorate people, places and

events that are of major significance to the country. A total of 34 national parks are located across the country. (Provincial governments also designate their own parks.) The oldest federal park, Banff National Park, was founded in 1885. It is located in Alberta on the east slope of the Rocky Mountains. One of the newest parks, on Ellesmere Island in the Northwest Territories, was established in 1986.

## Mountain Ranges

In the east, Torngat, Appalachians, Laurentians; in the west, Rockies, Coast, Mackenzie; in the north, St. Elias, Pelly. The highest mountain, the Yukon Territory's Mount Logan, is 6 050 m.

## Principal Lakes

(in order of size based on square kilometres within Canada)

Huron\*, Great Bear, Superior\*, Great Slave, Winnipeg, Erie\*, Ontario\*. The largest lake entirely within Canada is the Northwest Territories' Great Bear Lake at 31 326 km<sup>2</sup>.

\*Great Lakes whose waters lie partly in the United States.

## Principal Rivers

The St. Lawrence at 3 058 km long carries ships from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes system. Other rivers include the Yukon\*, Nelson, Columbia\*, Saskatchewan, Peace, Churchill. The longest river, the Northwest Territories' Mackenzie, is 4 241 km long.

\*Rivers that flow partly in the United States.

## Time Zones

There are six zones. Most easterly is Newfoundland Standard Time, three hours, 30 minutes behind Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC). Most westerly is Pacific Standard Time, eight hours behind UTC. From east to west, the remaining time zones are called Atlantic, Eastern, Central and Mountain. Between the first Sunday in April and last Sunday in October, all provinces (except most of Saskatchewan) adopt Daylight Saving Time, whereby clocks are set one hour earlier than Standard Time.

## System of Government

Canada is a constitutional monarchy and a federal state with democratic parliamentary representation. The Parliament of Canada, located in Ottawa, Ontario, consists of the House of Commons (elected) and the Senate (appointed). Elections are held every four years on average.

## National Emblem

Canada's national emblem is the maple leaf. The provinces and territories each have their own emblems.

## National Anthem

*O Canada.*

## Currency

The Canadian dollar (100 cents).

## Population

25.4 million (June 1986 census).



### **Family Size**

The average family size is 3.1 (1986 census). The average number of children per family is 1.3.

### **Urban/Rural**

Canada's population is 76.7 per cent urban, 23.3 per cent rural. About 30 per cent of Canada's population (7.7 million Canadians) lives in the three largest cities of Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver (June 1986 census).

### **Life Expectancy**

(at birth, based on 1984-86 data)

Canadian women can expect to live for almost 80 years. Men's life expectancy is 73.

### **Standard of Living**

(based on 1987 data)

Canadians have one of the world's highest standards of living. For example, in 62.3 per cent of all Canadian households the occupant owns the dwelling. Some 78.3 per cent of Canadian households own one automobile; 24.6 have two. About 94.4 per cent of households own a colour television and 43.2 per cent have a microwave oven.

### **Health Care and Social Security Benefits**

All Canadians have free access to health care, except for dental services. As well, welfare recipients and seniors (those over the age of 65) receive most prescription drugs free of charge. Canada also has an extensive network of social security benefits such as the Old Age Security pension, the Family Allowances program, unemployment insurance and welfare benefits.

### **Aboriginal Peoples**

(based on the 1986 census)

A total of 711 725 individuals identify themselves as aboriginal peoples. Those who claim single origins include 286 230 North American Indians, 59 745 Métis (people of mixed aboriginal and non-aboriginal stock) and 27 290 Inuit (formerly called Eskimos). In addition, 338 460 people of multiple origins are counted as aboriginal peoples. The highest concentration (167 375) of aboriginal peoples lives in Ontario. Proportionally, however, the Northwest Territories (N.W.T.) has the highest number, with more than 60 per cent of the population (30 530 of a total N.W.T. population of 52 238) claiming aboriginal ancestry. Only 160 115 Canadian native people live

on Indian reserves or settlements.

Languages spoken by Canadian aboriginal peoples include Cree (57 654), Ojibway (16 380) and Inuktitut (21 050).

### **Religion**

Christianity is the major religion. Roman Catholics form the largest group (11 402 605), followed by Protestant adherents (9 914 580). Non-Christian religions include Judaism (296 425), Islam (98 160), Hinduism (69 500), Sikhism (67 710) and Buddhism (51 955).

### **Official Languages**

(based on 1986 census)

English, spoken as a mother tongue by 15.3 million Canadians and French, spoken by 6.12 million as a mother tongue, are Canada's two official languages. Other mother tongues, in descending order, are Italian, German, Chinese, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Dutch, Polish and Greek.

### **Ethnic Origin**

(based on 1986 census)

The percentage of Canadians — including aboriginal peoples — who claim origins other than British or French (but sometimes in addition to British or French) is 37.5 per cent (9.38 million). Among the larger groups are German, Italian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Scandinavian, Polish, North American Indian, Chinese, Jewish, Indo-Pakistani, African/Caribbean, Hungarian, Greek, Yugoslav, Spanish, Filipino and Russian.

### **Culture**

Aboriginal peoples are the only Canadians with an indigenous culture. All others have immigrated to Canada, beginning around 1600, bringing with them particular clothing styles, food preferences and customs. In the twentieth century, Canada opened its doors to people from all over the world. In 1988, the country's multicultural nature was officially acknowledged with the passage of the Canadian Multiculturalism Act, which enshrines and upholds the values of a multicultural state in federal law.

### **Education**

The school system consists of eight years of primary school, four or five years of secondary school and three to four years of higher education. Based on a 1986 census of Canadians 15 years and older, 19.6 million Canadians have had primary school education; 5.3 million have had

secondary school without receiving a diploma or certificate; 2.5 million have earned a secondary school diploma or certificate; 4.9 million have a trades certificate or other non-university diploma; and 1.9 million hold a university degree.

### **Sports**

Swimming, ice skating, tennis, golf, ice hockey, skiing and curling are the most common participatory sports. The most common spectator sports are ice hockey, Canadian football and baseball.

### **Major Natural Resources**

Natural gas, crude oil, coal, gold, iron ore, silver, molybdenum, uranium, zinc, forests and water.

### **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**

GDP in 1988 was worth C\$601.5 billion.

### **Principal Industries**

Motor vehicle production, pulp and paper manufacture, iron and steel milling, machinery and equipment manufacturing, mining, extraction of mineral fuels, fishing, forestry and agriculture.

### **Major Exports**

Motor vehicles and parts, machinery and equipment, high-technology products, petroleum, natural gas, metal ore and fabricated metals, forestry and agricultural products.

### **Major Imports**

Industrial machinery and equipment (including communications and electronic equipment), motor vehicles and parts, industrial materials (including metals in ores, iron and steel, precious metals, chemicals and plastics, cotton, wool and textiles), manufactured and consumer goods, and foodstuffs.



# THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES

**T**he easternmost part of Canada consists of four provinces — New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island (known collectively as the “Maritimes”) and the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Prince Edward Island is known as the “Cradle of Confederation” because it was the site of the 1864 meeting that led to the formation of the Canadian nation. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were two of the original provinces of Confederation, and Newfoundland became the newest province in Canada when it joined the country in 1949.

The past is very much in evidence in Atlantic Canada, but the region has a vital modern aspect as well. It is perhaps best appreciated on the renovated waterfronts of the harbour cities, in the busy shopping districts, restaurants and pubs, and in the centres of high-tech industry and research. Entertainment and the arts are thriving on the east coast, home to such well-known artists as Alex Colville and Mary and Christopher Pratt, and to award-winning novelists Antonine Maillet and David Adams Richards. The region has classical music, rock, folk and jazz, theatre, dance, comedy, and French- and English-language film industries.

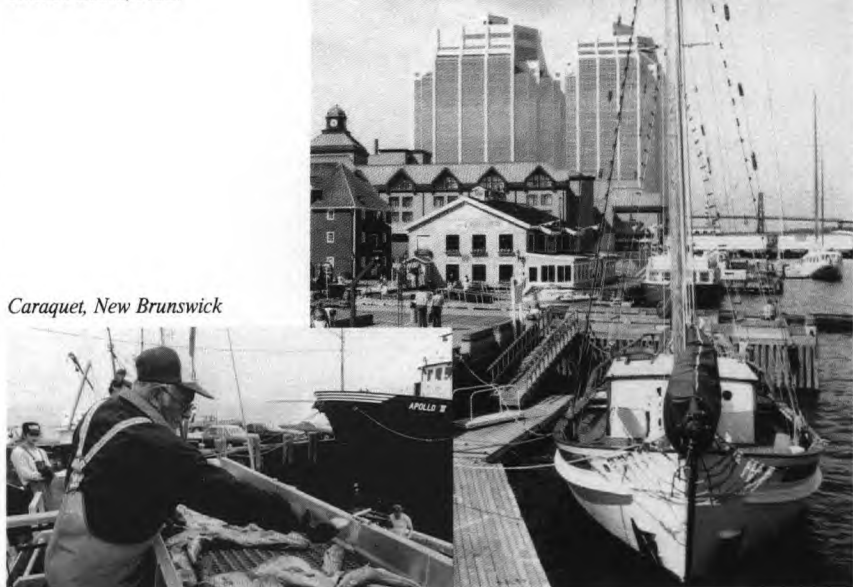
## Geography

The largest of the Atlantic provinces is Newfoundland and Labrador, with an area of 405 720 km<sup>2</sup>. The mainland, Labrador, is bordered by northeastern Quebec and is separated from the island of Newfoundland by the Strait of Belle Isle. Newfoundland is the most easterly part of North America and is as close to Ireland as it is to Saskatchewan. The terrain of Newfoundland and Labrador varies from boreal forests, glacial valleys and mountains to fiords and Arctic tundra.

The second-largest Atlantic province is New Brunswick, with an area of 73 440 km<sup>2</sup>. Although the



*Rustico Beach, P.E.I.*



SSC

*Caraquet, New Brunswick*

*Halifax, Nova Scotia*

ISTC

Halifax Tourist Bureau

province borders on Nova Scotia, Quebec and the state of Maine (U.S.), its geography is such that it is bounded on the north, east and south mainly by water. Productive forest covers 85 per cent of the land surface, the remainder comprising farmland, rivers and lakes.

Bordering New Brunswick on the southeast is the province of Nova Scotia, which is made up of a 580-km-long peninsula and the island of Cape Breton. Nova Scotia is 55 490 km<sup>2</sup> in area and is surrounded by more than 3 800 coastal islands. The tides of the province's Minas Basin rise 17 m — the highest in the world.

Canada's smallest province, Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.), is crescent-shaped and measures 224 km from tip to tip. It ranges from 6 to 64 km wide. Because over half the island is

farmland, it has been called the “million acre farm.” The province is known for its bright red soil, high sand dunes and 800 km of first-class beaches.

Population density is approximately 1.4 persons per square kilometre for Newfoundland, 9.7 for New Brunswick, 15.7 for Nova Scotia and 22.4 for Prince Edward Island. In real terms, though, P.E.I. has the smallest population: 126 646. Next is Newfoundland with 568 349, New Brunswick with 709 445 and Nova Scotia, 873 180.

## People and History

The Atlantic region was inhabited as early as 10 000 years ago by aboriginal populations such as the Maritime

Archaic people, who followed the retreating glaciers into Newfoundland. The Vikings landed in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia in about A.D. 1000, and left behind the earliest known European buildings in North America. The settlement, on Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula, is now designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Nearly 500 years later, explorers sailing under the flags of Britain and France "discovered" the region anew and set off a struggle for dominance that would endure until the mid-eighteenth century, when Britain emerged as the victorious colonial power. In the process the Acadians — the French-speaking people of the Maritime provinces — were deported en masse to the United States and other locations, an exile that lasted eight years.

New Brunswick currently has the highest proportion of Francophones (33.6 per cent) outside Quebec and is Canada's first and only officially bilingual province. The English-speaking population is made up largely of descendants of Irish immigrants, and United Empire Loyalists who fled the United States in the wake of the American Revolution. Other ethnic groups include Germans, Scandinavians, Asians and over 7 000 aboriginal people, mostly Micmacs and Maliseets. The population of P.E.I. is 80 per cent British in origin, and most of these could be more properly described as Scots. There is a significant Irish contingent as well. Around 17 per cent are of French descent.

Seventy-eight per cent of Nova Scotians are of British, mainly Scottish origin; there are many of Irish descent; and just over 10 per cent are Acadian. There is a large black population; other groups include Micmacs, Germans, Dutch, Greeks, Italians and Lebanese. Newfoundlanders are of mainly Irish, English and Scottish descent, with several thousand Inuit and other aboriginal peoples in Labrador and on the island.

## Government

Atlantic Canadians take their politics seriously. Prince Edward Island has the highest voter turnout rate at over 80 per cent with the other Atlantic provinces close behind. These provinces have often known long periods of dominance by one or the other of the two main political parties, the Liberals and Progressive

Conservatives. The New Democratic Party has had some success periodically, especially in Cape Breton. Each of the four provinces has a single-chamber legislature, and all but P.E.I. have single-member constituencies. P.E.I. elects two members in each seat.

## Resources and Economy

Traditionally, the economy of the Atlantic provinces was based on the region's abundant natural resources. They remain important, but service industries have become the biggest employers in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. One of the main elements of this sector is tourism, which ranks second to agriculture in P.E.I.

Overall, tourism is a billion-dollar industry in the region. Vacationers can surf in the breakers off Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast, or enjoy a more leisurely swim in the Northumberland Strait, which boasts the warmest salt water north of the Carolinas in the United States. Visitors can fish for salmon in New Brunswick's Miramichi and the rivers of Newfoundland, keep a lookout for whales in the Bay of Fundy, cruise Halifax Harbour on the schooner *Bluenose II* or go fishing for tuna off P.E.I. Western Newfoundland, northern New Brunswick and Nova Scotia offer alpine skiing in the winter. Historical sites and top-flight convention facilities draw people year-round.

The provinces are surrounded by some of the richest fishing grounds in the world, including the continental shelf, which makes the fishery a primary component of Newfoundland's economy. However, this resource must be managed wisely lest fish stocks decline even further than the low levels recently recorded.

Lobster, scallops, cod and other fish make up a third of Nova Scotia's exports and the province accounts for 26 per cent of the seafood exports of the entire country. Over 50 species of fish and shellfish are caught in New Brunswick, and the town of Shediac bills itself as the "Lobster Capital of the World." Lobster is the most important species in P.E.I., accounting for more than half the total fishery income.

The abundance of forest land is a major source of wealth, especially in New Brunswick where one of every seven jobs is based on forestry. In the days of wooden sailing ships, New Brunswick was a leader in shipbuilding. The resource is now

used primarily for pulp and paper, an important part of the Nova Scotia and Newfoundland economies as well. Mining is also a crucial component of the Atlantic economy and brings in more revenue in Newfoundland than fishing. The area around Labrador City provides 55 per cent of the country's iron ore. Nova Scotia is a major coal producer and is the source of 70 per cent of Canada's gypsum, and New Brunswick has a mining sector worth over half a billion dollars a year. Agriculture, too, is important in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and especially P.E.I., where potatoes are the island's major source of farm income.

Manufacturing is a significant sector of the economy, with products ranging from chocolates (St. Stephen, N.B., is the birthplace of the chocolate bar) to steel, aerospace equipment, and airplane and automobile parts. Other important economic sectors include hydroelectric power, offshore oil and gas exploration, transportation and shipping. The east coast is of obvious strategic importance, Halifax being known as the "Warden of the North," and the federal department of National Defence is a major employer in the region.

## Education

With fewer than a million people, Nova Scotia has 14 universities and colleges whose curriculums include everything from art and design to robotics and world-renowned medical research. New Brunswick has the only French-language common law school in the world at l'Université de Moncton; Prince Edward Island, in addition to the University of P.E.I. and Holland College, has a veterinary college and a police academy; and Newfoundland's Memorial University has a number of facilities specializing in earth and ocean sciences and technology.

In a society based more and more on information, the Atlantic provinces may be on their way to an increasingly bright future. In terms of quality of life, many Atlantic Canadians will declare that they have already arrived.



# QUEBEC

**Q**uebec, Canada's largest province, is a land of fascinating contrasts. It is the principal French-language enclave in North America, preserving its linguistic and cultural identity, despite the predominance of the English language around it.

Resolutely North American, Quebec is rooted in a past that is both French and Anglo-Saxon. While its main social, legal and community institutions are the fruit of the French regime (for example, its legal system is governed by the Civil Code rather than English Common Law), Quebec owes most of its political institutions as well as its democratic tradition to England. European settlement began a mere 450 years ago. Today, Quebec is a modern, dynamic society — but one that is also steeped in history and tradition.

## Geography

Bordered by the provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick and Newfoundland, and by the American states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York, Quebec occupies 1 540 680 km<sup>2</sup> — an area three times the size of France and seven times that of Great Britain. The province is almost entirely surrounded by water: by the Hudson Strait to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the St. Lawrence River and Gulf to the south, and James Bay to the west.

Its most important geographic feature, the St. Lawrence River, allows navigation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes. The Quebec landscape is dotted with more than a million lakes and streams. Its forests cover a surface equal to the combined areas of Norway and Sweden.

The Canadian Shield, the world's oldest rock formation (Precambrian), covers about 60 per cent of Quebec's landmass and runs from the St. Lawrence Plain to the Hudson Strait, more than 2 000 km north of Montreal. On Quebec's southern border lie the foothills of the Appalachians, which separate the province from the United States.



Montreal



Village of Trois Pistoles



Quebec City  
Winter Carnival

Almost 80 per cent of Quebecers live in urban areas, most of which are located along the St. Lawrence River. Montreal is the province's largest city, with over one million inhabitants. Quebec, the provincial capital, is the third-largest city (after Laval) and has a population of more than 160 000.

## People

A majority of Quebecers (roughly 5.1 million) claim French origin. Quebecers of British origin (about 488 000) form the next largest group. About 82 000 Amerindians (Mohawk, Cree, Montagnais, Algonkian, Attikamek, Micmac, Huron, Abenaki and Naskapi) and Inuit also live in Quebec.

Since the end of World War II, more than 500 000 immigrants from more than 80 countries have made Quebec (particularly Montreal) their

home. Eastern Europeans and Italians were traditionally the most important ethnic groups. Since 1960, they have been joined by Portuguese, Haitians and Southeast Asians.

A vast majority of Quebecers (81.9 per cent) cite French as their mother tongue. About 16 per cent of the population is English-speaking.

## History

The early recorded history of Quebec, where French explorer Jacques Cartier landed in 1534, is characterized by the establishment of a thriving fur trade, relatively friendly relations with local Indian bands and a continuous rivalry between French settlers and the English colonies.

British colonization in Quebec occurred after a British expeditionary force took Quebec City in 1759. It was not until the Quebec Act of 1774 that



the British granted official recognition to French civil laws and guaranteed religious freedom. In 1791, the province was divided in two to satisfy immigrants from the United States who, after the American War of Independence, wished to remain under British rule. Upper Canada (today's Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec) were created. The Act of Union (1840) formed the two into the United Province of Canada with English as its sole official language.

In 1867, Quebec joined the new federal nation of Canada and thus regained official and full control over its language and political institutions.

Initially, the province's mainly rural roots and institutional domination by the Roman Catholic Church made it a traditional society. With the advent of a second industrial revolution between 1920 and 1940, urbanization and higher standards of living came to Quebec.

It was during the Quiet Revolution, which began in 1960, that Quebec really came into its own. This important period of transition was marked by rapid economic expansion, a revamping of government institutions to meet the needs of contemporary society, and a surge in cultural pride.

Clashes between Quebec and the federal government had occurred in the past. But continued tensions during this period and the 1970 bombings and political kidnappings by the Front de libération du Québec brought the issue of Quebec's status within Canada into sharp relief.

In 1976, Quebecers elected the separatist Parti Québécois (PQ). The PQ passed a law rendering French the province's sole official language but lost a 1980 referendum on sovereignty (separation from Canada). In 1985, the Liberal Party won the provincial election.

Throughout Quebec's history, the survival of the "French fact" in Canada as well as in Quebec has been central to the political and cultural life of Quebecers. It has produced — and still produces — tensions between Francophones and Anglophones in Quebec and in the rest of Canada. Yet it is this very aspect that assures Quebec a distinct place in Canadian Confederation and gives Canada a bilingual character and cultural richness unique in the world.

## Culture

Once characterized by rural and folk traditions, Quebec's cultural life now has a reputation for innovation and dynamism. At the same time, it retains a distinctly made-in-Quebec stamp, born from its artists' passion for the province.

Quebec is home to several symphony orchestras, including those of Montreal and Quebec City; an opera company; more than 150 theatre troupes; thriving dance, literature, visual arts and film communities; and international film and jazz festivals. In addition, its television and graphic arts industries are considered among the best.

Quebec's artists have distinguished themselves at home and abroad in almost every cultural field. Songwriters and singers Gilles Vigneault, Félix Leclerc, Robert Charlebois, Louis Quilico, Raoul Jobin, Monique Leyrac, Diane Dufresne and Pauline Julien have long been recognized outside the province, as have, among others, writers Gabrielle Roy (originally from Manitoba), Anne Hébert and Mordecai Richler; filmmakers Claude Jutra, Denys Arcand and Gilles Carle; and artists Jean-Paul Riopelle, Paul-Émile Borduas and Alfred Pellan.

Recently, they have been joined by a new generation of talented artists in the forefront of new trends, such as singers Michel Rivard and Daniel Lavoie (originally from Manitoba), artist Françoise Sullivan, and impersonator André-Philippe Gagnon. Bold innovators such as Michel Lemieux, La La La Human Steps and Le Cirque du Soleil, who produce dazzling performances, have helped make Quebec a leader in theatrical improvisation, dance, music, mime and the circus.

## Economy

Highly industrialized and quite diversified, Quebec's economy is strong and full of promise. The province has abundant natural resources and energy, along with well-developed manufacturing, agricultural and service sectors. Its citizens rank ninth in the world in terms of their standard of living.

Quebec's entrepreneurs have been quick to seize on the economic potential of their province. Enthusiastic and aggressive, they have developed a wide variety of top quality products for export, such as air traffic control equipment, computer diskettes, subway trains,

helicopters, compact discs, children's construction blocks and air purifiers.

Montreal, the province's commercial capital, has developed competitive space and aeronautics (Canadair, Spar Aerospace), telecommunications (Northern Telecom, Bell Canada), energy (Hydro-Quebec) and transportation (Bombardier) industries.

Quebec now exports 40 per cent of its total production, mainly from three sectors: the forest industry (printing, paper, lumber); the mining industry (aluminum, iron ore); and transportation equipment. Quebec also exports electricity, engineering know-how, electronic products and telecommunications equipment. (Vidéotron, the sixth-largest cable company in North America, is internationally recognized for its technology.)

## Exciting Future

Quebec is a province that defies easy description. At once desirous of preserving its history, it is also driven to keep moving forward. Indeed, modern Quebec boasts an impressive technological sector, and some of the most progressive social programs and environmental legislation in North America, along with strong government support for cultural and historical exploration and protection.

Quebec takes profound pride in its French roots and character. At the same time, it retains a deep feeling for its North American heritage. It is this co-existence of contrasts that makes Quebec such a special province and one whose development will undoubtedly continue to prove exciting and challenging.



# ONTARIO

**F**lip through a handful of tourist postcards from Ontario, Canada's most populous province.

Images from the south appear: Toronto's gleaming high-rise skyline; the mist and thunder of Niagara Falls; the blossoming fruit orchards of Niagara; Shakespearian actors on the Stratford Festival stage; a resort, nestled between lake and fairway, near Collingwood; Ottawa's bikepaths winding along the historic Rideau Canal.

To the north, a different set of images emerges: a float plane soaring above a carpet of green forest dotted with thousands of silver lakes; a cloud of white vapour hanging in the frozen stillness of sub-arctic winter above the gold-mining town of Hemlo; a lone angler landing a thrashing 15-kg muskelunge, a legendary adversary; the enormous grain elevators at Thunder Bay, the lakehead port where much of Canada's prairie grain sets sail for world markets.

Ontario is two distinct realities — the urban, industrialized south and the sparsely populated, resource-based north. A range of climatic, vegetational, geological and other factors distinguish these regions and their differing economies, landscapes and lifestyles.

## Land and Water

"Ontario" is an Iroquoian word meaning "beautiful water." Bordered on the south by the freshwater inland seas of the Great Lakes, and on the north by the frigid salt waters of Hudson Bay, Ontario's terrain is covered by some 177 390 km<sup>2</sup> of rivers, streams and lakes — one-sixth of the province's total area.

Two main geological regions make up Ontario: the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Lowlands and the Canadian Shield. The Shield sweeps north from Lake Superior to the remote Hudson Bay Lowlands. Beneath the thin soils of the northern forest, the Shield's ancient rocks contain one of the world's great storehouses of mineral wealth.

*Algonquin Provincial Park*



*Toronto skyline*

Northern Ontario, with 90 per cent of Ontario's 1 068 580 km<sup>2</sup> of territory, is home to only 10 per cent of the population. Northern Ontario's towns were built because of the railroad and today, rails and roads carry the fruits of the mines and mills southward. North of these ribbons of steel and concrete, travel is often limited to the air and the water.

The extremes of the northern climate are a fact of life here. At Winisk, near Hudson Bay, mean daily temperatures in July reach only 12 to 15°C, while in January mean temperatures dip to -25°C.

The land is one of Ontario's great resources. Many natural and wilderness areas throughout the province are protected through a network of 220 provincial parks. The oldest of these is Algonquin Park, established in 1893, with 7 600 km<sup>2</sup> of land offering 1 600 km of lake and river canoe routes.

The Lowlands include the Windsor-Lake Simcoe-Thousand Islands triangle and the St. Lawrence-Ottawa

Valley region. By Canadian standards, the climate is temperate. Winter weather is more severe and stormy to the east of the Great Lakes, milder in their lee to the west. Mean annual summer temperatures reach 22°C in the Lowlands' more southerly areas.

The temperate climate and fertile soils of southern Ontario nurture a major agricultural industry. This small area lays claim to just over 50 per cent of Canada's most productive farmland. Overall, Ontario's farmers produce half the nation's food on one-fifth of Canada's total available farmland.

One in two Ontarians lives in or around the cities and towns of the "golden horseshoe." This area, wrapped around the western end of Lake Ontario from Niagara Falls through Metropolitan Toronto to Oshawa, is a semi-circle of Canada's most valuable agricultural and commercial real estate.

Toronto, Ontario's capital and Canada's largest city, with a regional population approaching four million, is a thriving multicultural metropolis

with a reputation as a city that works. Toronto produces the lion's share of Canada's manufactured goods, acts as administrative home to a majority of Canadian corporations and is the core of English Canada's arts and cultural industries. Toronto's Bay Street is the centre of the Canadian financial system. The head offices of most of Canada's major chartered banks, brokerage houses and insurance firms are located here.

Ottawa, Canada's bilingual, bicultural national capital, sits at the junction of the Gatineau, Rideau and Ottawa rivers. The city's public architecture ranges from the Gothic charm of the Parliament Buildings to the modern magnificence of the new National Gallery. With its variety of cultural attractions and abundance of green spaces, this park-like government city is a favourite tourist destination.

## History

Ontario's first immigrants arrived about 10 000 years ago, during the last ice age. Their descendants created the Algonquian and Iroquoian cultures first encountered by European explorers in the seventeenth century. Ontario's modern history runs parallel to the charting and development of its waterways. From the beginning of the fur and timber trades to the advent of hydro-electrical power, water has been Ontario's route to economic prosperity.

Large-scale European settlement of Ontario began during the American Revolution, when the United Empire Loyalists, colonists loyal to the British Crown, went north to seek new homes in friendly territory. By the time of the War of 1812, approximately 80 per cent of the 100 000 settlers in the province were of North American birth. With their respect for the traditions of British common law, strong belief in representative government and practical experience in colonial enterprise, the loyalists formed the basis for the Ontario that exists today.

## People

From 1779 on, waves of English, Scottish and Irish immigrant-settlers followed one another, moving up the St. Lawrence River, populating the townships. Today, immigration continues to be an important factor in Ontario life. Ontarians of many ethnic backgrounds find their languages and cultural traditions welcomed in this once almost exclusively British province. Although English remains the province's

only official language, Franco-Ontarians — Ontarians of French origin — are Ontario's largest non-English-speaking linguistic minority and play a vital role in the cultural life of the province. The provincial government offers French-language services in areas of the province with concentrations of Francophones.

## Economy

Ontario is Canada's producer province, generating some 52 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product. Manufacturing is the province's top industry, turning out \$45.2 billion dollars' worth of product in 1986. The province also leads Canada in finance, insurance and real estate, tourism, transportation, communications, public administration and construction.

Among Ontario's competitive advantages are its natural resources, a sophisticated and efficient transportation system, a large, well-educated labour force, reliable and relatively inexpensive electrical power, and proximity to key American markets.

Less than a day's drive puts Ontario's products within reach of over 120 million American consumers. The St. Lawrence Seaway system allows Great Lakes ports to handle ocean-going traffic throughout the warm seasons.

In Canada's urban and industrial heartland the car is king. Automobiles are Ontario's major manufacturing industry and largest export. Automotive production employs 125 000 people and creates 26 per cent of Canada's total exports.

Mining has played an important role in the development of Ontario's economy and remains a multi-billion dollar business in the province, headed by gold, nickel, copper, uranium and zinc production.

Many Ontario towns have at least one industry connected to the province's forest reserves. Fully 87 per cent of the forest land is owned by the provincial government, which licenses logging rights. The forest industry employs 70 000 and accounts for 5.8 per cent of Ontario's exports.

Financial industries play a substantial role in the life of the province. Toronto is the world's fourth-largest capital market, with the Toronto Stock Exchange being North America's second-largest exchange by volume, third-largest by value traded.

Tourism is also important to the Ontario economy. In 1987, tourist spending of over \$9 billion generated about \$14 billion in gross domestic product and more than 470 000 person-years of employment.

## Arts and Culture

From the avant garde to the traditional, drama to dance, poetry to pottery, a vibrant community of artists, performers and craftspeople make culture one of Ontario's greatest assets.

Toronto is English-speaking Canada's arts showcase — the centre of Canada's publishing industry, English-language electronic media, film production and advertising industries. Accordingly, Toronto's words and images play a prominent role in the national consciousness.

Painters, musicians, sculptors, dancers, photographers, and installation and performance artists are drawn to the city's vibrant contemporary arts scene. Toronto has Canada's largest concentration of galleries, theatres and concert halls.

Ontario's artistic tradition is known to the world through the works of artists such as The Group of Seven and Michael Snow, dancer Karen Kain and the inimitable recordings of pianist Glenn Gould. Writers Stephen Leacock, Robertson Davies, Margaret Atwood and Alice Munro have brought a distinctive Ontario literary perspective to the international scene.

## Tomorrow's Ontario

There is every indication that Ontario will continue to grow in the years ahead. Forecasters expect the Toronto region's population to top five million before the turn of the century, and similar growth is foreseen in many other areas of the province.

However, this growth is not without its hazards. Ontario recognizes that the enhancement and preservation of the province's environmental resources is as much a priority as the technological development needed to maintain industrial leadership. Integrating environmental concern into economic, social and political decision-making is a challenge that Ontario is ready and willing to meet.





# THE PRAIRIES

**C**anada's three Prairie provinces — Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta — make up the country's western heartland. For many decades, they shared a similar history and common economic concerns. The modern Prairie provinces, however, have developed complex economies and cosmopolitan populations and are distinct entities within the Canadian confederation.

## The Land

The three provinces cover 1 963 470 km<sup>2</sup> extending from the 49th parallel in the south to the 60th in the north and from the Rocky Mountains in the west almost to Lake Superior in the east.

With some local variations, they share a continental climate: cold winters, warm summers and low precipitation. A short growing season is a limitation to the variety of agriculture.

The word *prairie* (French for meadow) creates an image for this region of an expanse of treeless plains. The fertile "grain belt" that spans the southern half of the region fits this description, but the Precambrian rock formation of the Canadian Shield underlies the north, making it much less uniform geographically.

Manitoba is known as the "land of 100 000 lakes," a legacy of the enormous Lake Agassiz that covered much of the province after the glaciers retreated. The major rivers of western Canada flow into the lowland region of Manitoba (giving Manitoba 90 per cent of the hydroelectric potential of the prairie region). The northern topography is heavily glaciated and covered in forest, dominated by pine, hemlock and birch.

Saskatchewan has the largest share of Canada's grain belt, the fertile, rolling plains region that supports Canada's role as a major grain supplier to the world. Two-thirds of the province is covered by this plain, contrasting sharply with the many lakes, thin soils and rugged, wooded landscape of the north.



*Wheat field,  
Saskatchewan*



*Morris Stampede,  
Manitoba*



*Saddledome stadium,  
Calgary, Alberta*

The Rocky Mountains form the southern part of Alberta's western boundary and contain the internationally known Banff and Jasper national parks. Mountains and foothills make up a relatively small part of Alberta, however. The plain rises gradually from the Saskatchewan border in the east, with dry treeless prairie in the south, a central region of aspen forest (largely cleared for agriculture) and a much wetter mixed boreal forest to the north. The semi-desert badlands areas along the river valleys of southern Alberta are marked

by deep gullies and dramatic eroded rock formations called hoodoos.

## Resources

Arable soils and water are still fundamental resources of this region, but since the 1940s oil, natural gas, coal, potash, uranium and other minerals have helped to diversify economies that had been heavily dependent on agriculture.

One of Manitoba's principal resources is fresh water. The network of streams and lakes so important for transportation in the early days of



European settlement are now a source of developed and potential hydroelectric power. Metals (nickel, copper, zinc, tantalum and gold) are also an important resource. The city of Thompson, Manitoba, is one of the world's chief centres of nickel production.

In addition to its rich grasslands resource, Saskatchewan contains the world's largest uranium and potash resources (total recoverable potash reserves are estimated at 107 billion t) and ranks second in Canada in crude oil reserves (estimated at 107.8 million m<sup>3</sup>). It also has significant deposits of gold and natural gas.

The province's largest renewable natural resource is its forests, which cover 350 000 km<sup>2</sup> of northern Saskatchewan. There are also substantial forest reserves and a growing forest products industry in Alberta.

Canada's most abundant energy resources are found in Alberta. The 1986 estimates of proven remaining recoverable reserves included:

- 600 million m<sup>3</sup> of conventional crude oil;
- 4.2 billion m<sup>3</sup> of synthetic crude oil;
- 1 768 billion m<sup>3</sup> of natural gas;
- 316 million m<sup>3</sup> of liquid natural gas; and
- 21.7 billion t of coal.

The vast resources of synthetic crude oil are recoverable from the oil sands and heavy oil deposits that underlie large areas of northern Alberta. (These are also found in Saskatchewan.) However, depressed oil prices in the 1980s have slowed development of these reserves, which require expensive extraction and refining technology.

Agriculture, mining and other resource development have had environmental consequences, but throughout the Prairie provinces a strong conservation movement has developed, especially in defence of vanishing wildlife habitats. Such groups as Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited and smaller conservation organizations have worked to reclaim streambeds and wetland nesting grounds for migrating waterfowl, in an atmosphere of growing public sympathy and political support. Winnipeg, Manitoba, has been designated as the site of an international centre for the promotion of environmentally sustainable development.

## The Economy

In 1682, the first post was established on the north coast of Manitoba to trade with native hunters and trappers for furs destined for the European market. The fur trade flourished and pushed exploration westward, but it wasn't until 1812, when the first European settlers came to the Red River area of southern Manitoba, that the grasslands' great potential for agriculture was tapped.

Agriculture and food processing dominated the Prairie provinces until the 1950s when the discovery of natural gas, petroleum and other minerals led to a shift in the traditional rural economy.

Agriculture is still a major force in all three provinces, and fluctuations in the price of grain and other food commodities have a great impact throughout the region. Within agriculture, however, there have been changes. Small farms are being consolidated into ever larger and more mechanized operations.

Fluctuations in the price of resource commodities also affect the region and have led to efforts by all three provinces to protect themselves from economic swings. The main thrust has been to diversify their economies in such areas as heavy oil, paper, food and potash fertilizer production, and high technology.

Agriculture ranks second to manufacturing in the Manitoba economy, which is the most diversified in the region, thanks to a well-established sector that includes food processing, distilling and farm machinery manufacturing. Transportation and transportation service industries play a big role in the Manitoba economy as well, reflecting its position as a gateway to the west and south to the important manufacturing regions of the American midwest.

Wheat production has climbed steadily in Saskatchewan. Over 8 million ha of wheat are planted each year, yielding 12 710 t in 1986. The province is also an important producer of canola, rye, oats, barley, flax, cattle and hogs.

Saskatchewan shared some of the prosperity brought by the high oil prices of the 1970s, but Alberta's economy felt the greatest impact. The province has undergone a series of economic "booms" tied to energy-resource development since oil was first discovered in 1947, the latest of which occurred during the 1970s when oil prices reached record high levels.

With their lakes, rivers, beautiful northern regions and the uniqueness of their prairie lands, Saskatchewan and Manitoba have excellent tourist attractions. But tourism is more important in Alberta than in the other provinces because of the added attraction of the mountain parks, the badlands and the Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology, which showcases the extensive dinosaur finds in southern Alberta.

## The People

The population of Manitoba (1986 Census) is 1 063 016; Saskatchewan, 1 009 613; Alberta 2 365 825.

Settlement of the Prairie provinces occurred in five major stages:

- Migration from Asia 20 000 to 40 000 years ago brought the aboriginal peoples, which had reached a population of less than 50 000 by 1640.
- Several thousand European and Canadian fur traders and missionaries worked throughout the territories during the next two centuries, followed in the mid-1800s by the first wave of European settlers intent on farming.
- For the next 50 years, Canadians of British heritage moved west from Ontario.
- The largest wave of immigration occurred from the late 1890s until 1929, with people from many nations taking up homesteads following completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the country.
- With the drought and depression of the 1930s and World War II that followed, immigration slowed, and since the late 1940s immigration has fluctuated with the economy.

Today, 72.1 per cent of Manitobans live in urban centres, as do 61.5 per cent in Saskatchewan and 77.3 per cent in Alberta.

The social fabric of the Prairie provinces is greatly influenced by the cosmopolitan mix of cultures created by immigration from many different countries, dominated by western and eastern Europeans. But regardless of descent, the people who live in the Prairie provinces are proud to be called "Westerners."



# BRITISH COLUMBIA

**P**icture a land rich in natural resources and natural beauty, its inhabitants independent-minded and non-traditional. The pace of life and work is undeniably less hectic than in major eastern Canadian cities such as Toronto and Montreal. At the same time, there is a feeling of excitement and restlessness, as people continually strive to reshape their political, social and economic lives.

This is British Columbia (B.C.), Canada's westernmost province and its gateway to the Pacific and Asia. Sometimes categorized simply as part of Canada's "West," the province in reality is a distinct region both geographically and culturally.

## The History

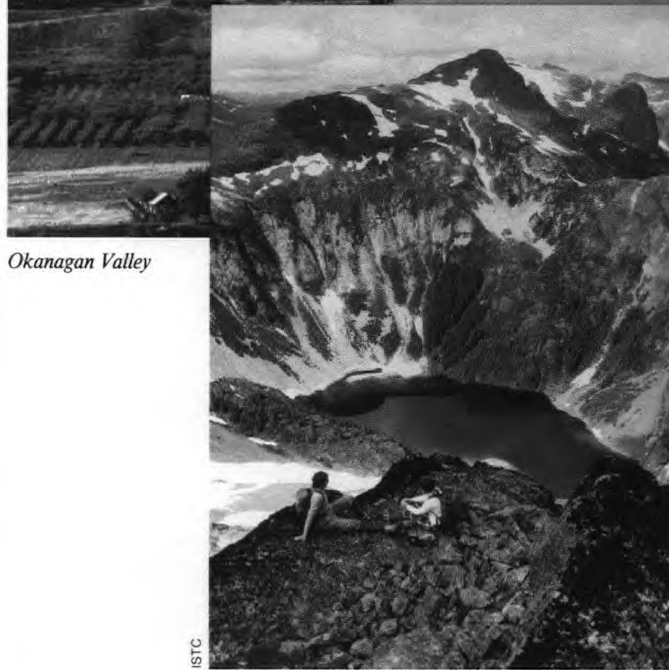
The original inhabitants of British Columbia, particularly in the coastal region, developed one of the richest and most complex aboriginal cultures north of Mexico. The coastal people were noted for their genius in wood-carving, exemplified in their totem poles and carried on by world-famous contemporary B.C. artists such as Bill Reid. They were also famous for their skill and courage in whaling, and their fascinating social system, with its potlaches — ceremonial occasions marked by the giving of gifts to guests — and theatrical displays.

In 1774, the first Europeans, under the flag of Spain, visited what is now British Columbia. Four years later, Captain James Cook explored the region for Great Britain. The first permanent settlement, in present-day Victoria, was established by that country in 1843 — almost 250 years after the founding of the first Canadian city, Quebec.

Europeans were initially drawn to the province in pursuit of the fur trade. A gold rush brought more settlers in 1858. In 1871, with promises of a railway connecting them to the east, the people of British Columbia joined the newly formed Canadian Confederation. That continental railway was



Vancouver



Okanagan Valley

Comox Glacier,  
Strathcona  
Provincial Park

completed in 1886, and British Columbia entered a long period, not yet over, in which the province thrived on selling the products of its new logging industry to the cities of the east, and to countries around the world.

Politics has been pursued with exceptional vigour since the province's entry into Canadian Confederation. Voters have responded to colourful personalities and political parties with a heavily populist bent. The two dominant parties are the Social Credit Party, with strong free enterprise principles, and the New Democratic Party, with equally strong social democratic and trade union principles.

## The People

A majority of British Columbians came originally from Britain, but the population is enriched by immigrants,

and the descendants of immigrants, from every part of the globe. Around 1880, for example, thousands of Chinese arrived to work on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Today, more than 100 000 British Columbians are of Chinese descent, and Vancouver's Chinatown forms the second-largest Chinese community in North America. More than 60 000 British Columbians are of East Indian descent; 16 000 are of Japanese descent.

British Columbians of Asian heritage have contributed disproportionately to the province's economic and cultural vitality. For example, one of the finest classical Chinese gardens in the world, the Sun Yat Sen Gardens, is found in Vancouver's Chinese Cultural Centre. And, by employing ancient Japanese techniques, Vancouver artist Masatada Funo has made ceramics a high art form.

From other parts of Canada and from all over the world people continue to gravitate to British Columbia. More than 40 000 settle in the province each year, and its population now slightly exceeds three million — close to 12 per cent of the total Canadian population. Nearly 60 per cent live in the Victoria (capital of the province) and the Vancouver areas. Vancouver, the largest dry cargo port on the Pacific coast of North America, together with its suburbs, is home to more than 1.3 million people.

### The Land

The most striking aspect of British Columbia is its landscape. Although its 947 800 km<sup>2</sup> remain overall the most mountainous area of North America, the province is marked by extreme divergence in topography. At the edge of the Pacific Ocean, the land rises in a chain of islands, large and small, running northwest to southeast. Many of the smaller islands nestle just off the mainland of the province, opposite fiords indenting what appears to be a wall of mountains.

These are the Coast Mountains, which, in parts of the northern end of the range, rise more than 4 000 m above sea level. Beyond this range, to the east, lies a rolling upland of forests and natural grasslands dotted with lakes — the interior plateau of British Columbia. At the other end of this plateau, running parallel to the Coast Mountains, are the Rockies. These mountains form the eastern boundary of the province, except in the north, where a corner of the province is occupied by the Great Plains.

The province's climate equals its topography for variety. For example, the coast region has abundant rainfall — from 130 to 380 cm a year — and a mild climate. Other parts of the province can be almost desert-like, with hot summers followed by cold winters.

### The Economy

The economy is based on the province's great natural resources, primarily its vast, productive forests of coniferous trees, which cover 56 per cent of its total area. Trees from these forests are converted into lumber, newsprint, pulp and paper products, shingles and shakes — about half the total softwood inventory of Canada.

Tourism is the next most important economic sector. Every year about 15 million people visit or tour British Columbia. With over 5 million ha of park-

land, the Rocky Mountains remain the biggest attraction. Coastal B.C., with its beaches, hiking trails, artists' colonies, wildlife preserves, whale-sighting locales and other attractions, is not far behind.

Of increasing attraction to visitors are the southern Queen Charlotte Islands; large parts of which have recently been set aside as parkland. The area contains virtually untouched wilderness, unique species of flora and fauna, and an abandoned Indian village, so historically and culturally valuable it has been designated a world heritage site by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

In 1986, tourism received a substantial boost when the people of British Columbia mounted the highly successful EXPO 86 in Vancouver. Visitors were often surprised by the cosmopolitan nature of Vancouver, with its model inner-city residential areas, its highly varied ethnic mix, and its numerous striking examples of advanced architecture.

Mining is the province's third most important economic sector. Copper, gold and zinc are, respectively, the leading British Columbia metals, and sulphur and asbestos the leading industrial minerals. The most valuable resources extracted from the soil of British Columbia, however, are coal, petroleum and natural gas.

Other vital components of the B.C. economy include agriculture, marked by the most productive dairy herds in Canada, and the fisheries, based largely on salmon. The valleys of the southern interior, principally the Okanagan Valley, are famous for cultivation of tree fruits and grapes, the latter a staple of the province's burgeoning wine industry. The cooler, wetter climate of the lower Fraser Valley produces rich crops of berries and vegetables.

Manufacturing in British Columbia is still largely resource-based but is being gradually diversified by high-tech and computer-based industries related to telecommunications and the aerospace and sub-sea industries. British Columbia has the most balanced export market of all Canada's provinces, with the United States and Japan as the two largest markets, at 43 and 27 per cent respectively, and significant exports to the European Community (14 per cent) and other Pacific Rim countries (11 per cent).

### The Arts

British Columbia is a province of publishers, writers and readers. Surveys indicate that British Columbians lead the rest of Canada in books purchased per capita. The provincial libraries also have the highest per capita book lending rate — almost twice that of the rest of the nation. Approximately 50 book publishers in British Columbia help meet the needs of this readership. Sixty-five periodicals are also published in the province, including over a dozen well-respected literary magazines.

The spectacular vistas of British Columbia have inspired some of Canada's best painters. Emily Carr (1871-1945) is gaining increasing international recognition for her bold and highly energized paintings. Jack Shadbolt is a contemporary B.C. artist whose work and teaching have influenced artists all across Canada.

Music, theatre and dance also flourish in the province. The most notable figure in the performing arts is the dancer and choreographer Anna Wyman, who founded the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre in Vancouver. Also gathering increasing critical acclaim is the province's more classical dance group, Ballet B.C.

Life in British Columbia is invigorated by the sense that the province is on the verge of a cultural and economic explosion. Change is most evident in the city of Vancouver, which is becoming more and more integrated into the dynamic economies of the Pacific Rim. Combined with the conspicuously pleasant conditions of life in British Columbia, this integration promises an exciting future for the province.



# THE NORTH

**C**anada's North is a land that breeds legend — a rugged, little-known giant whose geography inspires visions of icebound vastness. The Yukon and the Northwest Territories occupy 40 per cent of Canada's total land area. Modern northern society owes its special character to a recent past created by explorers, traders and miners, coupled with its aboriginal peoples working to keep old traditions alive through the creation of unique governments and institutions.

## The Yukon

The Yukon Territory in Canada's north-west covers 483 450 km<sup>2</sup>. It is bounded by Alaska to the west, British Columbia to the south and the Northwest Territories to the east.

The Yukon has a sub-arctic climate. Its summers are mild with sunny days averaging 20 to 24 hours of sunlight. The winters are cold with long nights between November and February.

## History

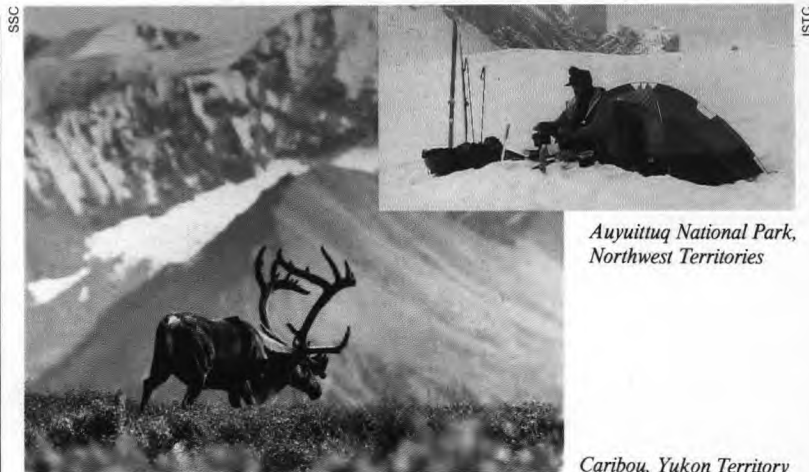
Anthropologists believe Indian ancestors may have inhabited the Yukon 10 000 to 25 000 years ago when they migrated from Asia across a Bering Sea land bridge.

The first modern European visitors were Russian explorers who travelled along the coast in the eighteenth century and traded with the area's Indians. Sir John Franklin anchored off the Yukon's Arctic coastline in 1825, and the Hudson's Bay Company moved into the interior in the 1840s.

American traders arrived after the 1867 Russian sale of Alaska to the United States. The discovery of gold near Dawson City in 1896 started the Klondike Gold Rush. In 1898, the Yukon Territory was officially established to ensure Canadian jurisdiction.

Some 40 years later, the United States built the Alaska Highway, creating a new overland transportation route.

The 1970s saw the emergence of the Yukon Indian land claims negotiations, leading to the signing of an



*Auyuituq National Park,  
Northwest Territories*

*Caribou, Yukon Territory*

agreement in principle between the Yukon aborigines and the federal government in 1989.

## Aboriginal Peoples

The Yukon's vast interior forests were occupied by the Athapaskans, whose cultural and linguistic traditions go back more than 1 000 years. Today, there are six distinct groups of Athapaskan Indians: Kutchin, Han, Tutchone, Inland Tlingit, Kaska and Tagish.

The Tlingit migrated into southern Yukon from the Alaskan coast during the last century. The Inuit have occupied the north coast of the Yukon for most of the past 5 000 years.

## Government

As a territory, the Yukon does not have full provincial status, although it achieved a style of government similar to provincial jurisdictions in 1979.

The Canadian government retains administrative control over land and the development of all non-renewable resources (minerals, oil and gas) and one renewable resource (forestry). However, a 1988 agreement in principle was reached to negotiate a northern energy accord that will lead to territorial control of onshore oil and gas and shared responsibility with the federal government for offshore. Also, the administration of the freshwater fishery was transferred to the Yukon government in 1989.

The federal government also operates nursing stations in all main communities and hospitals in the

larger centres. All other government programs — police services, health and human resource programs, justice and the courts, and education — are administered by the Yukon government.

## Economy

Mining, the Yukon's largest industry, accounts for more than 40 per cent of the economy.

Tourism, offering a modern wilderness experience in a unique and relatively unspoiled environment, provides a further base for jobs and services.

To reduce reliance on these two industries and on government, recent efforts have been aimed at promoting sectors such as the forest industry.

The fur trade is important for about 3 per cent of the population. A small fishing industry operates in Dawson City to export salmon, and other commercial fisheries supply local consumers.

Agriculture — expensive by North American standards — is a small but expanding industry. Although growth is limited by climate and the availability of productive land, new research programs hold promise for the future.

## Culture

Much of today's Yukon culture is based on Western concepts of music, drama, writing, painting, sculpture and dance. Indian dance groups, native



folk singers, carvers and painters strive, with increasing success, to preserve and enhance their people's cultural heritage.

The annual Frostbite Music Festival in Whitehorse draws an eclectic mix of folk, rock and country musicians. The city also boasts seven different performing theatre groups and organizations that bring in visiting performers and musicians. The annual Dawson City Drama Festival in May draws performers from around the Yukon and parts of Alaska. Several communities hold winter carnivals.

## **The Northwest Territories (N.W.T.)**

The N.W.T. includes all of Canada north of the 60th parallel, excepting the Yukon and portions of Quebec and Newfoundland. The territory, covering 3 426 320 km<sup>2</sup>, includes the islands in Hudson, James and Ungava bays.

There are two major climate zones in the N.W.T.: sub-arctic and arctic. Average temperatures in January are -23°C (sub-arctic) and -26 to -33°C (arctic), and in July 21°C (sub-arctic) and 10°C (arctic). As in the Yukon, the varying amounts of daylight over the year are an important influence on the climate: between 20 and 24 hours of daylight in June and up to 24 hours of darkness in December.

### **History**

The ancestors of the Dene Indian people lived along the Mackenzie Valley in the N.W.T. 10 000 years ago. The first Inuit are believed to have crossed the Bering Strait about 5 000 years ago, spreading east along the Arctic coast.

With the arrival of the fur traders in the late 1700s and the whalers in the 1800s, life began to change substantially. The Europeans reshaped the North, bringing with them a new economy and way of life. Communities grew around trading posts, mission schools and Royal Canadian Mounted Police stations with the arrival of fur traders, missionaries and government officials.

By World War II, mineral exploration and the military were playing a role in northern development and prompting a more active interest in the N.W.T. by the rest of Canada.

### **Aboriginal Peoples**

The N.W.T. is the only place in Canada where most of the population are aboriginal peoples (30 525 out of 52 238). Most of them live in smaller communities.

The largest native group is the Inuit, which means "the people" in Inuktitut. Inuit communities are often a mixture of people from different cultural and linguistic areas. Most communities, however, have characteristic dialects. In general, the Inuit language is highly viable, and most Inuit children learn Inuktitut as their mother tongue.

In the western Arctic, the Dene have inhabited the forests and barrens for the past 2 500 years. Once nomads, today they live in communities, many still using traditional skills of hunting, trapping and fishing. There are four major Dene cultural and linguistic groups: Chipewyan, Dogrib, Slavey (south and north) and Loucheux.

### **Government**

Like the Yukon, the N.W.T. has responsibility for many provincial government matters such as taxation, municipal bodies, education, wildlife, housing, social services and economic development. It lacks jurisdiction over land and resource administration, including control over the pace and scale of resource development, and subsurface and water rights. A 1988 agreement to negotiate a northern energy accord, however, will lead to territorial management and control of onshore oil and gas and shared responsibility with the federal government for offshore renewable resources.

The N.W.T. has a federally appointed commissioner as its chief executive officer, but elected members are assuming increasing responsibilities.

The N.W.T. has developed a distinctive form of government based on consensus. Candidates for the two N.W.T. seats in the federal Parliament represent traditional Canadian political parties. There are, however, no political parties in the territorial legislature. The 24 elected members meet to choose the Cabinet and government leader.

### **Economy**

Mining, with mineral production valued at over \$800 million, is by far the largest private sector of the N.W.T. economy.

Oil and gas exploration and development are also important, but the industry is open to wide fluctuations in world markets.

The aboriginal peoples' traditional subsistence activities — fishing, hunting and trapping — also have an impact on

the N.W.T. economy. Sports fishing and big-game hunting also play a small role. Commercial fishery development in the N.W.T. — freshwater and saltwater — is being encouraged. Fur harvesting continues to be very important, supplementing the income of many native families.

Inuit arts and crafts distribute a greater amount of income more widely than any other economic activity. One in 14 people of working age in the N.W.T. earns some income by this means.

Recently, tourism has become increasingly important. The N.W.T. offers attractions of great and varied natural beauty, fishing, wildlife and frontier lifestyles. Visitors spend more than \$10 million annually in the territory.

### **Culture**

The territory has a rich cultural life known predominantly for its native traditions and arts and crafts. The N.W.T. also inspires poets, writers, photographers, filmmakers, visual artists and sculptors.

Recreational activities — fishing, canoeing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and dog sledding — are part of the territorial lifestyle. About 1 000 athletes from the N.W.T., Yukon and Alaska participate in the Arctic Winter Games, held every two years, in standard and traditional Arctic sports which originated among the Dene and Inuit as a means to while away the long winter nights.

### **The Future**

The opening up of Canada's North involves many challenges and responsibilities. Development, which is welcome and necessary for economic prosperity, must be managed so as not to threaten the fragile arctic ecosystem and the traditional lifestyles of the northern peoples.



# HISTORY

**C**anada is a relatively young nation whose recorded history goes back less than 500 years. Originally, the country was populated by Indians and Inuit who are thought to have arrived from Asia 30 000 years ago by way of a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. First contact with the native peoples by Europeans probably occurred about 1 000 years ago when Icelandic Norsemen settled for a brief time in Newfoundland. But it would be another 600 years before European exploration began in earnest.

## First Colonial Outposts

Seeking a better route to the rich commercial markets of the Far East, French and English explorers plied the waters of North America and later constructed a number of posts — the French mostly along the St. Lawrence River, the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River; the English around Hudson Bay and along the Atlantic coast (now the New England region of the United States). Although explorers such as Cabot, Cartier and Champlain never found a route to China and India, they found something just as valuable — rich fishing grounds and teeming populations of fur-bearing mammals.

Permanent French and English settlement began in the early 1600s and increased throughout the century. With settlement came economic activity. But the North American colonies of New France and New England remained economically dependent on the fur trade and politically and militarily dependent on their mother countries.

Inevitably, North America became the focal point for the bitter rivalry between England and France. In 1759, the French lost the Battle of the Plains of Abraham to the English at Quebec City. The Treaty of Paris (1763) assigned all French territory east of the Mississippi to England (except for the islands of St.-Pierre and Miquelon off Newfoundland).



*National War Memorial,  
Ottawa, Ontario*

*Reconstruction of old French  
fortress of Louisbourg,  
Cape Breton, Nova Scotia*



*Fathers of Confederation, 1864*

Now under British rule, the 65 000 French-speaking inhabitants of Canada had a single aim — to retain their traditions, language and culture. Their determination and growing disturbances coming from the southern colonies in New England led Britain to pass the Quebec Act (1774), which granted official recognition to French civil laws and guaranteed religious freedoms.

The British government did little to attract settlers to Canada at this time. However, large numbers of English-

speaking colonists, called United Empire Loyalists, sought refuge in Canada after the United States of America won its independence in 1776. They settled mainly in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and along the Great Lakes. In 1791, the "old province of Quebec" was divided into Upper Canada (now Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec). Both were granted their own representative governing institutions.

Short-lived rebellions in Upper and Lower Canada in 1837 and 1838 prompted the British three years later

to join the two colonies, forming the united province of Canada with Canada East (Quebec) and Canada West (Ontario). In 1848 the joint colony was granted responsible government except in matters of foreign affairs. Thus Canada gained a further measure of autonomy but remained part of the British Empire.

## **A Country Is Born**

Britain's North American colonies — Canada (Canada East and West), Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland — grew and prospered independently. But with the emergence of a more powerful United States after the American Civil War, some felt a union of the British colonies was the only way to fend off eventual annexation. On July 1, 1867, Canada East, Canada West, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick joined together under the terms of the British North America Act to become the Dominion of Canada.

The government of the new country was based on the British parliamentary system, with a governor general (the Crown's representative) and a Parliament consisting of the House of Commons and the Senate. Parliament received the power to legislate over matters of national interest (such as taxes and national defence) while the provinces were given legislative powers over matters of particular interest (such as property, civil rights and education).

## **Westward Expansion**

Soon after Confederation, Rupert's Land — a vast area extending south and west for hundreds of kilometres from Hudson Bay — was purchased by Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company, which had been granted it by King Charles of England in 1670. Some of Canada's present-day provinces were carved from these territories: Manitoba in 1870; and Alberta and Saskatchewan in 1905. After 1905, the residual land became the Northwest Territories. In 1898, the Yukon Territory was officially established to ensure Canadian jurisdiction over that area during the gold rush. British Columbia (already a Crown colony since 1858) decided to join the Confederation in 1871 on the promise of a rail link with the rest of the country. Prince Edward Island followed suit in 1873. Newfoundland preferred to remain a colony until 1949 when it became Canada's 10th province.

Westward expansion did not happen without stresses. Louis Riel led the Métis (offspring of interbreeding between Indian women and French and English trappers) in an uprising in 1869 in an attempt to defend their ancestral rights to the land. A compromise was reached and a new province, Manitoba, created.

But the westward expansion continued and, in 1885, Louis Riel brought Métis and Indians from the North West Territories (today's Saskatchewan and Alberta) and led them in a rebellion which was suppressed once more. Even more settlement followed.

Indeed, immigration to Canada, and particularly to the West, increased to a high of 400 000 in 1913. During that period, Canada profited from the prosperous world economy and established itself as an industrial as well as an agricultural power.

## **A Nation Matures**

Canada's substantial role in the First World War won it representation distinct from Britain in the League of Nations after the war. Its independent voice became more and more pronounced as the British Empire weakened and, by 1931, Canada had gained virtually complete constitutional autonomy from Britain with the passing of the Statute of Westminster.

In Canada as elsewhere, the Great Depression brought hardship. As many as one out of four workers was without a job and the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba were laid waste by drought.

Ironically, it was the need to supply the Allied armies during the Second World War that boosted Canada out of the Depression. The country emerged from the war as the fourth-largest industrialized power.

Since World War II, Canada's economy has continued to expand. This growth, combined with governmental social programs such as family allowances, old-age security, universal medicare and unemployment insurance has given Canada a high standard of living and desirable quality of life.

Noticeable changes have occurred in Canada's immigration trends. Before World War II, most immigrants came from the British Isles or Eastern Europe. Since the war, increasing numbers of southern Europeans, Asians, South

Americans and people from the Caribbean islands have enriched Canada's multicultural mosaic of peoples.

On the international scene, as the nation has developed and matured, so has its reputation and influence. Canada has participated in the United Nations since its inception and is the only nation to have taken part in all of the UN's major peace-keeping operations. It is also a member of the Commonwealth, la Francophonie, the Group of Seven industrialized nations and the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) and NORAD (North American Aerospace Defence Command Agreement) defence pacts.

## **A New Federation in the Making**

The last quarter century has seen Canadians grapple once more with fundamental questions of national identity. Discontent among many French-speaking Quebecers led to a referendum in that province in 1980 on whether or not Quebec should become more politically autonomous from Canada, but a majority voted to maintain the status quo.

In 1982, the process toward major constitutional reform culminated in the signing of the Constitution Act. Under this Act, the British North America Act of 1867 and its various amendments became the Constitution Acts, 1867-1975. The Constitution, its Charter of Rights and Freedoms and its general amending formula, and an amendment called the Meech Lake Accord (signed in 1987 but yet to be enacted) are redefining the functions and powers of the federal and provincial governments and further establishing the rights of individuals and minority groups.

Founded by two historically opposed peoples, enriched by various cultures, languages and religions, and marked by a geography itself diversified, Canada could not help but be a land of compromise. This spirit of moderation and tolerance characterizes the Canadian federation and assures its survival. Unity in diversity is the Canadian goal. It is this ideal that Canada, with its increasingly important international role, seeks to promote around the world.



# THE GOVERNMENT

**W**hen Canada adopted the federal system of government in 1867, the country consisted of only 4 provinces; today there are 10. In 1867, Canada was just a colony with internal autonomy; since 1931, it has been an independent state in the world community.

Canada's Constitution is actually a British statute, the British North America Act, 1867, which has been amended more than 20 times since its inception. Since 1982 when the Constitution was "patriated" — that is, since Canadians obtained the right to amend the Constitution in Canada — this founding statute has been known as the Constitution Act, 1867.

## The Constitutional Framework

Canada is a constitutional monarchy, a federal state and parliamentary democracy with two systems of law and two official languages. Since 1982, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms has been entrenched in the Constitution.

## The Monarchy

From the days of the French regime (1608-1763) and British rule (1763-1931) to today's self-government, Canadians have lived under a monarchy. Independence was established in 1931 by the Statute of Westminster. Elizabeth II, Queen of England, is also Canada's queen, and sovereign of a number of realms. In her capacity as queen, she has delegated her powers to the governor general. Canada is thus a constitutional monarchy: the Queen rules but does not govern.

The real executive authority is in the hands of the Cabinet under the direction of the prime minister who exercises both executive and legislative authority and is vested with extensive powers. In general, it is the prime minister who chooses the ministers from among the members of Parliament in the governing party. In addition to forming the Cabinet and re-



*Canadian Parliament Buildings, Ottawa*

lated committees, the prime minister has the power to appoint officials such as the chairperson of Crown corporations. Strictly speaking, the prime minister and Cabinet are the advisers of the monarch. De facto power, however, lies with the Cabinet, and the head of state (the governor general) usually acts on its advice. Cabinet develops government policy and is responsible to the House of Commons. The Government of Canada, headed by some 40 ministers, performs its duties through the intermediary of the federal departments, special boards, commissions and Crown corporations.

In the provinces, the sovereign of Canada is represented by a lieutenant-governor. Each province has a premier and cabinet, who are also responsible for departments, commissions and Crown corporations.

Both federally and provincially, the prime minister and premiers are, in principle, the leaders of the party with the largest number of seats in the legislature.

## The Federal Government

Canada looked to the U.S. model when it adopted the federal form of government in 1867. The 33 Fathers of Confederation divided legislative power between two houses of government: the Senate and the Commons.

The responsibilities of the central or federal Parliament include national

defence, trade other than on the local level, shipping, the federal public service, the banking and monetary system, criminal law and fisheries. Parliament also has residual powers under which are included aeronautics, radio, nuclear energy, offshore mineral rights and the national capital, Ottawa.

The provincial legislatures are responsible for education, property and civil rights, the administration of justice, the hospital system, natural resources within their borders, social security, health and municipal institutions.

## The Parliamentary System

From Great Britain, Canada has retained the British parliamentary system. The Canadian Parliament is tripartite, consisting of the sovereign of Canada, the Senate and the House of Commons.

The House of Commons, or Lower House, contains 295 members elected by universal suffrage on the principle of representation by population. As in the United Kingdom and the United States, Canadians elect a single member per electoral district in one round of balloting.

The Parliament operates on the principle of responsible government. That is, to remain in power, it must have the confidence of the Commons.



If defeated in a vote of non-confidence, the government must resign or ask the governor general to dissolve Parliament.

The Senate, also called the Upper House, is patterned after the British House of Lords. Its 104 members are appointed, not elected, and are divided essentially among Canada's four main regions of Ontario, Quebec, the West and the Maritimes.

The Senate has the same powers as the House of Commons, with three exceptions: the government is not responsible to the Senate — there is no such thing as a vote of confidence; public spending bills must originate in the House of Commons; and finally, in matters of constitutional amendments, the Senate may not veto, only suspend such amendments for 180 days.

Bills are given three readings in each of the two houses, and are tabled for royal assent in the Senate.

Over the years, the single-house legislature has become the rule among provincial parliaments. The upper chambers, where they existed, have been abolished.

### Official Languages

English and French are the two official languages at the federal level. Institutional bilingualism has existed in Quebec since 1867, in Manitoba since 1870 and in New Brunswick since 1982. Instruction in both official languages where numbers justify has been protected by the Constitution throughout Canada since 1982.

### The Charter of Rights and Freedoms

For the protection of rights and freedoms, the Fathers of Confederation took the Westminster model as their guide. In 1867, they chose to rely on the safeguards established by the courts and by the *Magna Carta* and other great documents, and made them part of Canada's Constitution.

On April 17, 1982, the Constitution Act established a Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Charter protects the basic traditional human rights, the most important of which include:

- freedom of association and assembly;
- freedom of thought, conscience and religion;
- freedom of the press;
- the right to vote in federal and provincial elections;

- mobility rights;
- right of residence;
- legal guarantees such as the right to legal counsel, the right to a fair and impartial trial, the presumption of innocence, and the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual punishment;
- language rights; and
- equality rights.

Special provisions are made to protect native rights.

### The Judiciary

Because Canada is a federal state, its judicial system is shared between the two levels of government. There are, therefore, federal as well as provincial courts.

Since 1948, the Supreme Court of Canada, a general court of appeal established in 1875, has stood at the head of the Canadian judicial system and acted as a court of final appeal. This court, made up of nine judges of whom three must be trained in Quebec civil law, controls the constitutionality of Canadian law. The court is one of the most rigorous forms of control in existence.

The principle of constitutionality holds for all federal and provincial courts. Every federal law must comply with the division of powers outlined in the Constitution of 1867. Moreover, as of 1982, laws must conform to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Each province has a court of appeal, a general court of first instance and lower courts. The courts rule on conflicts and litigation between individuals and between individuals and the government.

### Political Development

Canada rose from the status of a colony in 1867 to that of an independent state after its participation in the First World War. In 1931, the Statute of Westminster enshrined in law what already existed in fact.

The Constitution of 1867 had one serious flaw: it contained no general formula for constitutional amendment. It was necessary to address the Parliament in London each time the founding statute needed change. An amending formula should have been included in the Constitution when independence was achieved in 1931, but it was not until November 1981, after numerous attempts, that the federal government and nine provinces (except Quebec) agreed to the

amending formula that is now part of the Constitution Act, 1982. The British Parliament passed one last act, the Canada Act, in response to Canada's request to declare that it would no longer legislate for Canada. Since that time, the Canadian Constitution can be amended only in Canada.

Quebec had advanced a number of conditions to rejoin the Canadian political "fold." The Meech Lake Agreement of 1987, achieved by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his provincial counterparts, meets the five constitutional conditions set out by Quebec.

The conditions centre on five points:

- provincial participation in the appointment of Supreme Court judges and of senators;
- the Constitution's amending formula;
- increased powers for the provinces in immigration matters;
- some reduction in federal spending powers; and
- a constitutional declaration that Quebec is a distinct society.

To date, the Agreement has been adopted by 8 of 10 provincial legislatures as well as by the House of Commons. To be proclaimed as law, the Meech Lake amendments must be adopted by the remaining provinces by June 23, 1990.

### A Flexible System

The Canadian constitutional system has been changed over the years, sometimes quite extensively, but always peacefully and gradually.

It can truly be said that the parliamentary system is the form of government that is the choice of Canadians, and that federalism, with the sharing of powers it entails, is the one formula that can take into account not only Canada's geographical realities, but also — and above all — the diversity of its cultural communities as well as its two-fold legal and linguistic heritage.



# THE LEGAL SYSTEM

**C**anada is a young country, but it has a legal system rich in tradition. The principles of common law used in most Canadian provinces were first developed in medieval England. The principles of Quebec's Civil Code date back even further, through France to the ancient Roman Empire. Both traditions reflect a fundamental belief in the rule of law, which states that all citizens — and even the government itself — are subject to and equal before the law.

These traditions form the base of Canada's legal heritage, but they have also been adapted to meet Canadian needs. As these needs change, legislators amend old laws and enact new ones. The courts ensure that the law is interpreted and enforced in a way that reflects current conditions. Law reform commissions monitor the legal system as a whole, to ensure that it can meet the future needs of a modern growing society.

## The Canadian Constitution

Canada's Constitution establishes the basic framework for the country's system of law and justice. It defines the nature of the federal and provincial governments, how these governments are elected, and the powers of each. Equally important, the Constitution sets out the basic rights and liberties of each citizen that must be respected by all governments.

The Constitution defines a federal system of government for Canada. This means the authority to make laws is divided between the Parliament of Canada and the provincial legislatures. The provincial governments have the authority to make laws concerning such matters as education, property rights, the administration of justice, hospitals, municipalities and other matters of a local or private nature. In addition, the provinces may create local or municipal governments that can then make by-laws dealing with matters such as parking regulations or local building standards.

SSC



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The federal government deals with matters that affect all of Canada, such as trade and commerce, national defence, immigration and criminal law.

At the federal level, the executive branch of government is called the Cabinet. The Cabinet consists of the prime minister and ministers who are all answerable to Parliament for various government activities. Individual ministers are responsible for specific government departments, such as Justice Canada or Revenue Canada. Similar arrangements apply to the provincial governments.

## The Charter of Rights and Freedoms

In 1982, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms became a fundamental part of the Canadian Constitution. The Charter sets out the basic rights of persons who are in Canada. Anyone in Canada may appeal to the courts if he or she believes that these rights have been

violated. The courts may declare any federal or provincial law invalid if it is not consistent with the Charter.

The Charter protects basic rights in the following areas:

- fundamental freedoms — including the freedom of expression, religion, association and peaceful assembly;
- democratic rights — the right to vote in elections and run for public office;
- mobility rights — the right to travel, live and seek work anywhere in Canada;
- language rights — the right to receive services from the federal government in either English or French, Canada's two official languages;
- equality rights — guaranteeing protection against discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, religion, colour, sex, age, or mental or physical disability; and
- legal rights — including the right to life, liberty and security of the person;

to consult a lawyer if arrested; to stand trial within a reasonable period of time; to be presumed innocent until proven guilty; and to be protected against unreasonable searches, arbitrary imprisonment and cruel punishment.

### **Legislation and Regulation**

Within the limits set out by the Constitution, laws can be made or changed by means of written statutes enacted by Parliament or a provincial or territorial legislature. Statute laws automatically take the place of any conflicting unwritten, common law precedents dealing with the same subject.

Any member of Parliament or a legislature may propose a new law, but most new laws are first put forward by the government in power. A proposed law must be presented for consideration by all members, who study and debate it. The proposal becomes a statute law only if it is approved by the majority in the Parliament or legislature.

In many cases, statute laws deal only with general principles, without addressing the details that may arise when the statute is applied. In these cases, Parliament or the legislature may authorize public officials or government bodies to create more detailed regulations. These regulations must reflect the intention or purpose of the statute law.

### **Common Law and *Le Droit Civil***

Statute laws do not make up all the laws in Canada. There are many unwritten laws that are based on common law traditions. This is especially true in the area of civil law, which deals with private matters between individuals, such as property ownership, family responsibilities and business transactions.

Civil law in 9 of Canada's 10 provinces is based on common law. Common law is a system based on precedent. Whenever a judge makes a decision that is legally enforced, this decision becomes a precedent — a rule that will guide other judges when they are considering similar cases in the future. Many of Canada's laws are made up of these precedents and customary practices which have developed over the years.

Civil law in Quebec, however, is based on a written code (*le Code civil*), which contains a general, comprehensive list of rules for different types of cases. Unlike common law, when a case is considered under *le droit civil*, the judge first looks to this written code for guidance and then to the precedents set by earlier decisions.

Although the procedures used in common law are different from those used in *le droit civil*, the results often are not. Decisions made in similar cases using the two systems are usually much the same.

### **The Courts**

Canadian laws are interpreted and applied by the courts. Each province is responsible for its own courts, which deal with both federal and provincial laws. In addition, there are several courts established by the federal Parliament.

The provinces divide their court system into two or three levels. At the first level are the Provincial Court, which deals with most criminal offences, and Small Claims Court, which deals with private disputes that do not involve large sums of money. This level may also include specialized Youth and Family courts. Judges at this level are appointed by the provincial governments.

District or County courts are at the next level. These handle some criminal cases, appeals from lower courts and private disputes involving larger sums of money. Judges at this level are appointed by the federal government. (Most of the provinces have merged their District or County courts with their Superior courts.)

At the highest level in a province is the Superior Court. Superior Court judges are also appointed by the federal government. They deal with the most serious cases. A division of this court (or a separate Court of Appeal) also hears appeals from all the lower courts.

The highest court in the country is the Supreme Court of Canada which is established by federal statute and whose judges are appointed. This court hears appeals from the provincial Superior courts, and its decision is always final.

The federal Parliament also established the Federal Court, which deals with claims made against the government, as well as matters such as patents, copyrights and maritime law. The third federally established court is the Tax Court.

In addition to the courts, there are a number of boards and tribunals that deal with administrative rules and regulations in such areas as broadcasting licences, safety standards and labour relations.

### **Law Enforcement**

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), maintained by the federal government, is Canada's national police force. The RCMP enforces many federal statutes, with the greatest emphasis on criminal and narcotics laws.

The RCMP is the sole police force in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. In addition, eight provinces employ the RCMP to carry out provincial policing responsibilities within their borders, such as highway patrol and assisting municipal police forces in the investigation of serious crimes.

Municipal police forces provide general policing services in a local area. If no municipal force exists, these services are provided by either the federal or provincial police force.

### **Legal Advice**

The legal profession is regulated by the provincial law societies, which determine standards for admission into practice in each province.

All provinces operate publicly funded legal aid programs. The programs provide legal advice at little or no cost for persons of limited means. The specific requirements for using these programs differ from province to province, but in each case their purpose is the same: to ensure that everyone can have proper legal representation when necessary, regardless of financial circumstances.



# ECONOMY AND TRADE

The Canadian economy is among the world's soundest. Fully integrated into the global system, Canada is the seventh-largest trading nation among the industrialized market economies and an active partner in international investment. Between 1984 and 1988, Canada's gross domestic product (GDP) grew at an annual average rate of 4.7 per cent — faster than any of the other economies of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Although growth slowed in the first half of 1989, GDP still continued to expand at rates of 3.6 per cent in the first half and 2.3 per cent in the third quarter of 1989.

Canada is a trading nation. About 26 per cent of the country's total output of goods and services (GDP) is exported — mostly to the United States, which is by far the country's biggest market, taking 73 per cent of Canada's exports in 1988, and supplying 66 per cent of its imports. In fact, Canada and the United States are each other's most important trading partner.

## Evolution of the Canadian Economy

Although Canada is known worldwide as a rich source of raw materials and primary products such as wheat, oil, lumber and minerals, in recent years the structure of the Canadian economy has changed. Over the past quarter-century, resource exports have become a less important part of Canada's trade mix, representing just over one-fifth of Canadian exports now, compared with 40 per cent in 1963. Fewer than 13 per cent of Canadian workers are now employed in primary industries, compared with 29 per cent in 1946. A similar trend has been occurring in manufacturing.

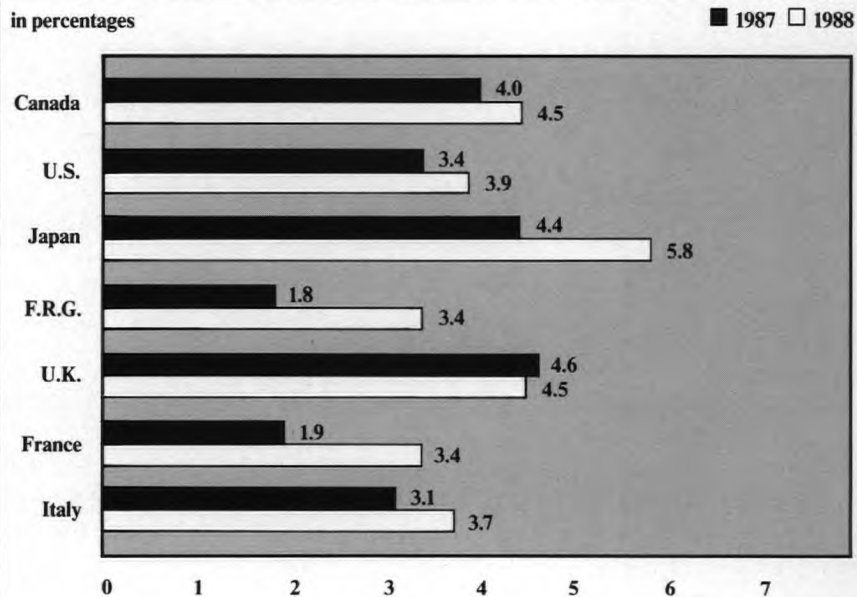
The services sector (community, business and personal) is now paramount, employing over 70 per cent of the Canadian work force. It has created major demands for new skills and for reallocation of capital. The growing

## Gross Domestic Product by Industry in Canada (in percentages)

	1963	1975	1987	1988
<b>Goods</b>				
Utilities	1.7	2.6	3.1	3.0
Construction	8.8	7.2	7.0	7.1
Manufacturing	19.4	19.6	19.5	19.7
Mining	8.4	7.4	5.8	6.0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.7	4.4	3.9	3.4
<b>Total goods output</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>39.3</b>
<b>Services</b>				
Transportation and communications	6.1	7.3	7.8	8.0
Wholesale and retail trade	10.4	11.4	12.0	12.2
Finance, insurance and real estate	11.6	12.5	14.5	14.6
Community, business and personal service	17.4	20.1	19.9	19.7
Public administration	8.1	7.4	6.2	6.0
<b>Total services output</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>60.5</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (figures used have been rounded off).

## Growth of Real GNP/GDP in 1987 and 1988



role of knowledge-based activity, either within existing industry or as self-sustaining business, is forcing re-examination of educational priorities and retraining programs.

## Investment

Government policies such as privatization and deregulation are changing the structure of the Canadian economy and are seen by many as a positive response to a more competitive environment. Major defensive mechanisms against foreign investment have been removed and a program to encourage investment

has been active since 1985. Thus, Canada has become an increasingly attractive location for foreign direct investment. With this new, liberal investment landscape, the book value of direct investments has increased from \$62 billion to \$110 billion between 1980 and 1988. Besides providing an infusion of funds into the economy, investment into Canada is bringing with it new technology, new capacities in research, new kinds of jobs, and new technical and managerial abilities.



## The Labour Force

Since the beginning of the 1980s, Canada has had the fastest-growing labour force of any of the G-7 (Group of Seven Finance Ministers) countries, despite the major recession which Canada, in common with other major industrialized countries, experienced in 1981-82. On average, the workforce has expanded by about 2 per cent a year, compared with an average 1.7 per cent a year in the United States and a rate of 1 per cent or less in the other G-7 countries.

Employment has expanded rapidly since the beginning of the decade, but increasing numbers of jobs are part-time. After increasing sharply because of the recession, the unemployment rate has been declining since 1983. However, 7.7 per cent of the workforce is without work, a number that is still slightly higher than the 7.5 per cent unemployment rate of 1980, just before the economy went into recession.

Changing demographics as Canada copes with population aging and the shift to a service-based economy will present challenges for the future. As well, science and technology must be given priority in Canada's efforts to maintain its position as one of the world's stronger economies.

## Canada's Trade Strategy — Going Global

### The Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement

The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States, which came into effect at the beginning of 1988, is acknowledged to be the largest and most comprehensive trade agreement ever negotiated between sovereign nations. The FTA will, over the next 10 years, remove most of the trade barriers between the two countries, com-

pletely eliminating tariffs. The agreement also includes a commitment to develop bilateral rules for trade remedies.

The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement is sending a signal in favour of trade liberalization to the rest of the world. It will also provide additional momentum to the round of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) multilateral trade negotiations now under way.

### General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

With many of the market access issues settled with the United States, Canada can now work ever more actively through the Uruguay Round of negotiations under the GATT to secure access to significant foreign markets such as the European Community, Japan and the newly industrialized countries of the Third World. With major ports and transportation infrastructure on both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, the opportunities in these major markets are key to Canadian business success.

### Europe 1992

With the European Community becoming a single market in 1992 (Europe 1992), protecting Canadian interests in trade with Europe and increasing Canadian exports to the Community will be priority items in Canada's trade strategy. Western Europe has been Canada's fastest-growing market, but imports from Europe have also increased rapidly, and Canada has not recorded a trade surplus with the European Community since 1983.

## Asia-Pacific

Canada hopes to increase trade with the Asia-Pacific region by improving its information flow, cultural links and language capabilities. As well, it seeks to preserve and increase Canada's market share in agricultural and resource-based commodities; to increase the value of Canadian exports by moving into more highly processed goods; and to expand opportunities for manufactured goods. Some of the principal markets in this region are Japan, Australia, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.

## The Future

Canada is keen to become even more competitive in the aggressive global economy and to encourage the trend towards a more open and mutually beneficial international trading system. Through its embassies and consulates, Canada pursues trading opportunities with many countries and regions around the world.

In Canada, the positive result of internationalization is greater prosperity for the 1990s — via increased employment, profits, investment opportunities and new technology.

## Principal Canadian Exports and Imports: All Countries (1988)

Exports			Imports		
Rank	Commodity Descriptions	Percentage Value of Total Exports	Rank	Commodity Descriptions	Percentage Value of Total Imports
1	Passenger automobiles and chassis	12.7	1	Motor vehicle parts, except engines	11.0
2	Motor vehicle parts, except engines	5.9	2	Passenger automobiles and chassis	9.3
3	Newsprint paper	5.4	3	Electronic computers	4.4
4	Trucks, truck tractors and chassis	5.4	4	Other telecommunications and related equipment	2.4
5	Wood pulp and similar pulp	4.8	5	Trucks, truck tractors and chassis	2.3
6	Lumber, softwood	3.9	6	Crude petroleum	2.2
7	Wheat	3.3	7	Special transactions, trade	2.0
8	Crude petroleum	3.0	8	Motor vehicle engines	2.0
9	Aluminium, including alloys	2.6	9	Aircraft, complete with engines	2.0
10	Natural gas	2.2	10	Electronic tubes and semi-conductors	1.6
<b>Total Domestic Exports (All Countries)</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>Total Domestic Imports (All Countries)</b>		<b>100.0</b>

Note: customs basis; "special transactions, trade" consists of small value goods and all other transactions suppressed because of confidentiality.

Source: Statistics Canada.



# EDUCATION

**E**ducation in Canada comprises 10 provincial public and 2 territorial systems, nearly as many "separate" school systems, private schools of every type, and a variety of federal educational institutions.

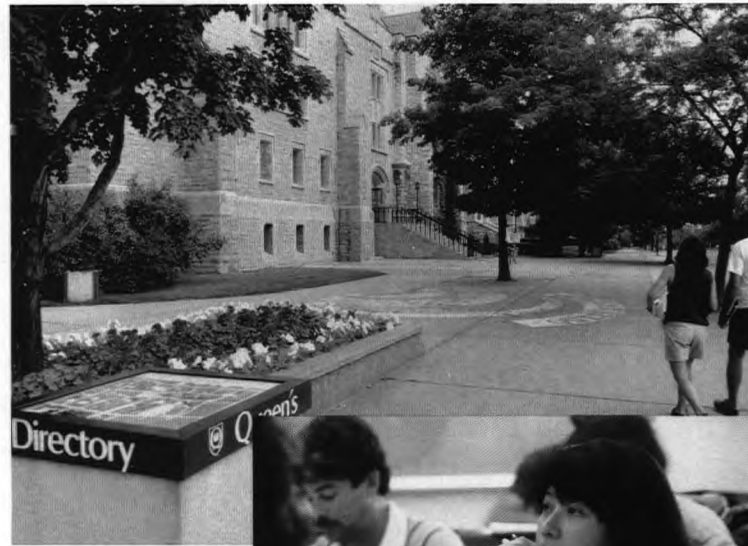
In coming together to build their country, Canadians from many cultural backgrounds discovered that tolerance and flexibility were necessary in order to unite so many different and often divergent elements. The education systems which evolved were designed to accommodate this diversity and build on differences of history, geographic location and ethnic origin.

Education has always been an important part of Canadian life and the system now in place is highly respected and admired worldwide. Public education in Canada is co-educational and free up to and including secondary school. The law requires children to attend school from age of 6 or 7 until they are 15 or 16 years old. In Quebec, free education is extended to include attendance at the general and vocational colleges (CEGEPs). The student pays tuition for most other post-secondary education.

Canada spends approximately 7.1 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product on education. For the 1987/88 fiscal year, total expenditures on elementary, secondary, post-secondary and vocational education came to nearly \$39 billion.

## Provincial Responsibility

Responsibility for education in Canada is vested in the provincial legislatures rather than the federal government. Each provincial system, while similar to the others, reflects its specific regional concerns and its historical and cultural heritage. The provincial departments of education — headed by an elected minister — set standards, draw up curricula and give grants to educational institutions. Responsibility for the administration of elementary



Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario



and secondary (or high) schools is delegated to local (often municipal) elected school boards. The boards set local budgets, hire and negotiate with teachers, and shape school curricula within provincial guidelines.

The federal government has indirect involvement in education. It provides financial support for post-secondary education, adult occupational training and the teaching of official languages (especially second-language training and cultural activities) to ensure equality of access. In addition, it is responsible for the education of aboriginal Canadians, armed forces personnel

and their dependants, and inmates of federal penal institutions. Finally, it provides loans to full-time post-secondary students under its Canada Student Loans Plan.

## Elementary and Secondary Schools

About five million children in Canada received a free education during the 1987-88 school year. Children can enter kindergarten at the age of four or five before starting the elementary grades at six. General and fundamental, the elementary curriculum emphasizes the basic subjects of

language, math, social studies, introductory arts and science. Some provinces require religious instruction and second-language training. Enriched or accelerated programs are available for academically gifted children. Slow learners and disabled students can be placed in special programs, classes or institutions. Increasingly, however, some disabled students are being integrated into the regular system in an effort to help them overcome their disabilities without being made to feel different from other children.

In general, high school programs consist of two streams. The first prepares students for university, the second for an occupation or post-secondary education at a community college or institute of technology. Students from the university stream sometimes elect to attend community college. There are also special programs for students unable to complete the regular programs.

Most provinces have abolished centrally administered graduation examinations in order to make high school graduation more universally accessible. Individual schools now set, conduct and mark their own examinations. University entrance thus depends on high school course selection and marks. Requirements vary from province to province.

### Other Schools

For parents seeking alternatives to the public system, there are separate as well as private schools. Provincial legislation permits the establishment of separate schools by religious groups and allows taxpayers to specify that their municipal taxes be used to support these schools. The schools also receive provincial government grants, but not at the same level as the non-denominational public system. Mostly Roman Catholic, separate schools offer a complete parochial curriculum from kindergarten through the secondary level in some provinces.

Private or independent schools offer a great variety of curriculum options based on religion, language and social or academic status. They are financed through a combination of tuition fees, private and church endowments, as well as some conditional provincial funding.

### Teacher Training

Canada's elementary and secondary education systems employed 271 000 full-time teachers in 1987-88. Their professional training includes at least four or five years of study combining a university B.A. degree with at least one year to complete the B.Ed. degree. Teachers are licensed by the provincial departments of education.

### Post-Secondary Education

Until the mid-1960's, post-secondary education in Canada was provided almost exclusively by its 68 universities. These were mainly private institutions, many with a religious affiliation. During the 1960s, however, as the demand for greater opportunity and variety in post-secondary education rose sharply and enrolment mushroomed, systems of publicly operated post-secondary non-university institutions began to develop. As well, universities became increasingly dependent on government support.

Today, post-secondary education is almost totally subsidized by the provincial and federal governments. For example, even allowing for variations by province and program, university student fees account for an average of only 12.6 per cent of operating revenues of \$7.8 billion.

The post-secondary non-university institutions are known under a variety of names, including CEGEPS, institutes of technology or community colleges. They are funded by the provinces (some fully) and offer training in para-professional, technical and business occupations to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Not all their programs are post-secondary, since some do not require high school graduation. For example, training in the trades, such as carpentry, plumbing or bricklaying (also offered at provincial trade schools, private business colleges and on-the-job training programs), which takes one year to complete, is financed by the federal government and requires completion of Grade 10 for admission. Other trades programs provided either by a college, industry or a combination of the two, include apprenticeship programs and training-in-industry.

Virtually all these institutions, including the universities, offer both full- and part-time adult education. Their flexibility, as well as their timely fulfilment of employers' needs, have translated into a

total Canada-wide community college enrolment of 320 000 in 1987-88 — 40 per cent of all Canadian post-secondary students. At a total cost of about \$3 billion to the provinces, the community college contribution of specialized workers to the Canadian labour market has to be considered a bargain.

Nevertheless, Canada's universities have remained the first choice of most students seeking post-secondary education, with a 1987-88 enrolment of 487 300.

It is worth noting that adult education at all levels, from university to trades, has been the fastest-growing sector in Canadian education over the past 10 years. In 1983, for example, 3.2 million adults — 20 per cent of Canadians 17 and older — were taking part-time courses.

### Highly Rated System

Canada has developed a comprehensive, diversified system of education, designed to be universally accessible and to respond to the bilingual and multicultural character of Canadian society. The quality of Canadian education is widely respected internationally. Graduates of this country's educational institutions have been recognized by the world's most prestigious organizations and in all areas of academic endeavour. These same graduates have contributed immeasurably to the development of Canada, and they have helped make it one of the world's most industrialized and technologically sophisticated countries.



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# WOMEN

**W**omen have a long history of active involvement in all aspects of Canadian life. In 1921, after a long struggle, they won the right to vote. In 1929, they overturned a previous court ruling that barred women from key government positions on the grounds that they were not "persons" within the meaning of the law.

There have been remarkable changes to society and the lives of Canadian women since then. When the 1929 "Persons Case" was decided, less than 4 per cent of married women worked outside their homes; in 1988, more than 59 per cent were in the labour force. That trend alone has meant considerable changes in family life.

## The Family

The past 25 years have seen the demise of the "traditional" family, with father the only breadwinner and mother working unpaid in the home, looking after the children and shouldering the responsibility for household tasks.

Many families find they can no longer manage on one income. By the time of the 1986 Census, only 12 per cent of all Canadian families were husband-and-wife families supported by the income of the husband alone.

The predominant family type is now the two-earner couple, with or without children. And there are now more single-parent families — most of them headed by women — than there are "traditional" families.

Separation or divorce is still the main reason women are left alone with their children, but almost one-quarter of younger women who are single parents have never been in any kind of marriage or common-law relationship.

Perhaps the most remarkable change in recent years has been the increased number of mothers who have young children and work outside their homes. A record 61 per cent of mothers in two-parent families with children under three, where the father is employed, are now in the paid labour force. And, contrary to public



perception, most mothers who work outside their homes when their children are very young have full-time jobs.

Not surprisingly, these rapid changes in family life have focused attention on child care and leave for workers with family responsibilities. All jurisdictions in Canada give women a statutory right to take maternity leave without penalty — usually for a period of 17 weeks. An additional period of 24 weeks' parental leave, which may be taken by either parent, is available to the 10 per cent of workers who fall under federal jurisdiction — mostly in banks, transportation and communications companies, as well as the federal public service.

While these rights are for unpaid leave, the Unemployment Insurance Program provides 15 weeks of maternity benefits for mothers, and, in limited circumstances, fathers. The government has announced it intends to provide 10 weeks of parental benefits for natural and adoptive parents.

Child-care services have not kept pace with the rapidly increasing demand for them. Most families whose children need non-parental care must rely on informal arrangements, perhaps with a friend or neighbour. Less than 20 per cent of all families needing child care have access to services in child-care centres or in private homes licensed by provincial governments and required to meet certain standards for health, safety, group size and child-staff ratios. Governments at all levels are trying to develop policies and programs to deal with this problem.

## The Labour Force

Women now account for 44 per cent of the Canadian labour force. But they still tend to be concentrated in occupations often labelled "women's work": clerical, sales, service, teaching and nursing.

A wage gap persists between women and men in the labour force.



Women who worked full-time for a full year in 1987 earned on average 66 per cent of what men with full-time jobs earned. Most Canadian workers are subject to provincial jurisdiction, and several provinces are now trying to address the wage gap through pay equity legislation, providing for equal pay for work of equal value. The laws are based on job evaluation that takes into account the skill, effort and responsibility required to do a job, and the conditions under which the work is performed. Equal pay for work of equal value laws have been in place at the federal level for more than a decade. In all jurisdictions, effective enforcement of the laws is the key to progress.

The federal government has also implemented a program of employment equity for employers with more than 100 employees who fall under federal jurisdiction and for those who want to do business with the federal government. Employers are required to report annually on their progress in integrating women and other target groups (visible minorities, aboriginal people and people with disabilities) into their work forces at all levels.

About one-quarter of employed women work part-time, and the percentage has not changed much over the past seven years. But many women are taking on part-time jobs only because they have been unable to find full-time work. The situation reflects a growing trend to part-time work in the Canadian economy — particularly in the service sector, where the overwhelming majority of women work.

### **Women and Poverty**

Increasingly, the poor in Canada, as elsewhere, tend to be women. This "feminization of poverty" particularly affects female single parents and their children, as well as elderly women.

Women who head single-parent families are now among the poorest of the poor. Poverty rates among the elderly have been declining, thanks to government programs such as the Old Age Security benefit and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, an income-tested federal program designed to help senior citizens with low incomes. It is still elderly women, however, especially those who have not been in the labour force, who are disproportionately disadvantaged.

### **Women and Government**

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, part of Canada's Constitution, guarantees (since 1985) equal rights between women and men as well as special measures to correct past discrimination on the basis of sex. Discrimination is prohibited as well in the human rights acts of the federal government and all 10 provinces.

Canada is also committed to several international agreements, especially the 1985 United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies. Gender equality is also being sought through work with other international organizations such as the Commonwealth and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Canadian governments address women's concerns through several mechanisms. The federal government, 10 provinces and 2 territories each have a cabinet minister responsible for the status of women and supporting women's offices in the public service. Most jurisdictions also have advisory councils.

There is ongoing co-operation among levels of government with different responsibilities. For example, addressing violence against women could involve police intervention and income support (provincial), criminal law (federal) and health care (joint provincial/federal).

Women are increasingly becoming active in politics. In the 1988 federal election, 40 women were elected to the 295-seat Parliament — the highest number in Canada's history. Women are also members of provincial governments and have been elected party leaders in several provinces. They have extensive representation at the municipal level on city councils and school boards.

### **Women as Activists**

The achievement of basic political rights in the earlier part of this century set the stage for the much larger, more organized women's movement of today. In the 1960s, individual women and women's organizations convinced the federal government to establish the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission's landmark report, published in 1970, was a blueprint for policy and legislation to ensure equality for women.

The National Action Committee on the Status of Women, a non-governmental grass roots organization, was originally established to make sure the Royal Commission's recommendations were implemented. It now acts as an umbrella organization for more than 560 women's groups, representing more than three million women.

Intense lobbying by women ensured the inclusion of the equality clauses in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Women's organizations are now identifying laws they feel contravene the Charter and pursuing them through the courts. One test case argues that a mandatory retirement age discriminates against women, who live longer than men and are more likely to be poor in old age.

The influence of the women's movement can also be seen in education and training institutions. Efforts are being made to eliminate sex-stereotyping in school curricula, text books and career counselling. And most colleges and universities offer women's studies courses and/or degree programs.

### **Ongoing Role**

Progress has been made. But true equality for women has yet to be achieved. Improved policies to help women as well as men combine their paid employment with family responsibilities and measures to address the needs of single-parent families are priority issues. For Canadian women the task ahead is clear: to continue initiating change and ensure that governments and policy makers at all levels maintain their efforts to advance the situation of women on both a national and international level.



# GEOGRAPHY

**V**ast, diverse — these are the words that come to mind when you try to describe Canada. It has been said that while some countries have too much history, Canada has too much geography. This abundance is a source of endless delight to travellers exploring the country. It also creates unique challenges for transportation and communications, and for Canada's political leaders who have to govern the widely scattered population.

## From Sea to Sea to Sea

Occupying the northern half of the North American continent, Canada has a landmass of 9 970 610 km<sup>2</sup>, making it the second-largest country in the world after the Soviet Union. From east to west, Canada encompasses six time zones.

Canada's motto, "From Sea to Sea," is geographically inaccurate. In addition to its long coastlines on the Atlantic and Pacific, Canada has a third sea coast on the Arctic Ocean, giving it the longest coastline of any country.

To the south, Canada shares an 8 892-km boundary with the United States. To the north, the Arctic islands come within 800 km of the North Pole. Canada's neighbour across the frozen Arctic Ocean is the Soviet Union.

## A Long Thin Band

Because of the harsh northern climate, only 12 per cent of the land is suitable for agriculture. Thus, most of the population of 26 million live in cities within a few hundred kilometres of the southern border — where the climate is milder — in a long thin band stretching between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans.

## Numberless Lakes and Great Rivers

It has been estimated that Canada has one-seventh of the world's fresh water. If you fly over Manitoba or northern Ontario in summer, you will see more water than land — lakes, big and

*Qu'Appelle Valley,  
Saskatchewan*



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*Gros Morne National Park,  
Newfoundland*



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small, so many they could not possibly be counted. In addition to sharing the Great Lakes with the United States, Canada has many other freshwater seas and mighty rivers.

## The Regions

Canada is divided into seven regions, each with a very different landscape and climate.

### The Pacific Coast

Bathed by warm, moist Pacific air currents, the British Columbia coast, indented by deep fiords and shielded from the Pacific by Vancouver Island, has the most moderate climate of Canada's regions.

Vancouver Island's west coast receives an exceptional amount of rain, giving it a temperate rain forest climate. Although it does not contain the diversity of species of a tropical rain forest, it does have the oldest and tallest trees in Canada — Western red cedars 1 300 years old and Douglas fir 90 m high.

### The Cordillera

From British Columbia to just east of the Alberta border the land is young,

with rugged mountains and high plateaus. Signs of geologically recent volcanic activity can be seen in Garibaldi Provincial Park near Vancouver and at Mt. Edziza in northern British Columbia.

The Rocky Mountains, the Coast Mountains and other ranges, running north to south, posed major engineering problems for the builders of the transcontinental railways and highways.

Canada's highest peaks, however, are not in the Rockies, but in the St. Elias Mountains, an extension of the Cordillera stretching north into the Yukon and Alaska. The highest point in Canada, Mt. Logan (6 050 m) rises amid a huge icefield in the southwest corner of the Yukon, the largest icecap south of the Arctic Circle.

The British Columbia interior varies from alpine snowfields to deep valleys where desert-like conditions can prevail. On the leeward side of the mountains, for example, a rain-shadow effect is created, forcing Okanagan Valley farmers to irrigate their crops of peaches, apples and grapes.

## **The Prairies**

To drive the Trans-Canada Highway across the flat, rolling Prairies is to see endless fields of wheat and canola (rapeseed) ripening under a sky that seems to go on forever. The plains of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba are among the richest grain-producing regions in the world.

Yet even here are surprises. If you leave the Trans-Canada at Brooks, Alberta, and drive north, you descend into the Red Deer River valley. Here, in desert-like conditions, water and wind have created strange shapes in the sandstone called "hoodoos". The same forces of erosion have uncovered some of the largest concentrations of dinosaur fossils, examples of which are displayed in museums in Canada and around the world.

Alberta is Canada's leading producer of petroleum. The sedimentary rocks underlying the Prairies have important deposits of oil, gas and potash.

## **The Canadian Shield**

Look at a map of Canada and you will see a huge inland sea called Hudson Bay extending into the heart of Canada. Wrapped around this bay like a horseshoe is a rocky region called the Canadian Shield. Canada's largest geographical feature, it stretches east to Labrador, south to Kingston on Lake Ontario and curves northwest as far as the Arctic Ocean. The Shield is considered to be the nucleus of the North American continent and is made up of the roots of ancient mountains. Its gneiss and granite rocks are 3.5 billion years old, three-quarters the age of the Earth. Scraped and gouged by the advance and retreat of glaciers, the Shield has only a thin layer of soil that supports a boreal forest of spruce, fir, tamarack and pine.

The region is a storehouse of minerals, including gold, silver, zinc, copper and uranium, and Canada's great mining towns are located here — Sudbury and Timmins in Ontario, Val d'Or in Quebec, and Flin Flon and Thompson in Manitoba.

## **Great Lakes —**

### **St. Lawrence Lowlands**

Southern Quebec and Ontario, the industrial heartland of Canada, contain Canada's two largest cities, Montreal and Toronto. In this small region, 50 per cent of Canadians live and 70 per cent of Canada's manufactured goods are produced.

The region also has prime agricultural land, which can result in land-use conflicts. Should new housing subdivisions be built or should irreplaceable farmland be preserved? The Niagara Peninsula, for example, has some of the best farmland in Canada. The large expanses of lakes Erie and Ontario extend the number of frost-free days, permitting the cultivation of grapes, peaches, pears and other soft fruits. This same moderate climate makes Niagara an attractive place to live.

The region is sugar maple tree country. In the autumn, the tree's leaves — Canada's national symbol — are ablaze in red, orange and gold. The sap is collected in spring and evaporated to make maple syrup and sugar, a culinary delicacy first used by the aboriginal North American peoples.

## **Atlantic Provinces — Appalachian Region**

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are the smallest Canadian provinces, and the first to be settled by Europeans. Evidence of contact as far back as AD 1000 has been found at a Norse settlement at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland, now a world heritage site.

The Grand Banks have been called the "wheat fields" of Newfoundland. This shallow continental shelf extends 400 km off the east coast where the mixing of ocean currents has created one of the richest fishing grounds in the world. Once thought to contain a virtually inexhaustible supply of fish, the Banks are now considered a vulnerable resource that must be wisely managed.

The Atlantic provinces are a north-eastern extension of the Appalachians, an ancient mountain range once as lofty as the Rockies. Today, much of the region has low, rugged hills and plateaus, and deeply indented coasts. Agriculture flourishes in the fertile valleys, such as the Saint John River Valley, New Brunswick, and the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia.

Prince Edward Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence has a gently rolling landscape with rich red soil and is famous for its potatoes. This fertile island is Canada's smallest province, making up a mere 0.1 per cent of Canada's landmass.

## **The Arctic**

North of the tree-line is a land of harsh beauty. During the short summer, when daylight is nearly continuous and a profusion of flowers blooms on the tundra, the temperature can reach 30°C. Yet the winters are long, bitterly cold, dark and unforgiving.

The Arctic is no longer an inaccessible frontier. Inuvik in the Mackenzie Delta can be reached by road, and every community is served by scheduled air service. Most have electricity, stores and health services.

North of the mainland is a maze of islands separated by convoluted straits and sounds, the most famous of which link together to form the fabled Northwest Passage, the route to the Orient sought by so many explorers.

Reflecting a growing confidence and autonomy, the Arctic Inuit (formerly known as Eskimos) are gradually changing place names into their language, Inuktitut. For example, the people of what had been known as Frobisher Bay on Baffin Island voted to rename their community Iqaluit, which means "place of fish."

## **Living Museums**

It is much better to explore first hand the geography of Canada than to read about it. The country's national and provincial parks represent every landform and preserve the wildlife native to those regions: from the bird watchers' paradise of Point Pelee, a stopping-off point for migratory birds crossing Lake Erie, to the glaciers and fiords of Auyuittuq ("the land that never melts") on Baffin Island in the Arctic; from the Pacific Rim's rain forest on Vancouver Island to the stark cliffs and highlands of Gros Morne in western Newfoundland.

Whether tiny or enormous, Canadian parks are living museums, as diverse, vast and fascinating as Canada itself.





# THE ENVIRONMENT

**F**or many people, to think of Canada is to summon up a vision of an immense country of vast plains and dense forests where men and women from around the world have come to build themselves a future with limitless possibilities. Certainly this picture mirrors reality in some ways — Canada's natural milieu offers a variety and an abundance of which Canadians are proud.

But the environment remains nonetheless fragile. The many pressures exerted on it by growth are compromising its delicate balance and threatening the quality of life Canadians have come to expect. The threat has galvanized Canadian citizens, together with governments, environmental defence groups, the scientific world and economic interests, into action. This mobilization is aimed at preserving Canada's rich natural heritage, its source of prosperity and well-being.

## Sharing Authority

Under Canada's federal system, responsibility for the environment is shared by federal, provincial and municipal governments, depending on their respective jurisdictions. Inter-provincial or international issues, for example, are under the jurisdiction of the federal government; natural resources are the responsibility of the provinces. Collaboration between the various levels of government, therefore, is vital.

Measures to protect the environment must be based on data that are trustworthy and as accurate as possible. Because nature does not respect borders, Environment Canada, the federal department responsible for environmental concerns, has divided the country into 15 "ecozones" to facilitate study and management. Each one has relatively uniform environmental characteristics of topography, vegetation, fauna, etc.



## Air

Air and the pollutants released into it circulate around the planet at the mercy of the winds. Canada is interested in promoting international co-operation in the fight against air pollution by hosting international conferences, taking an active part in preparing conventions and treaties on the atmosphere, and encouraging scientific exchange.

Over the past 10 years, Canada has adopted measures to clean up the atmosphere that include gradual elimination of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and of lead in gasoline, reduction of the amount of sulphur in fuels, and advances in industrial techniques. These efforts have made a distinct improvement in the quality of city air. Now the emphasis is on the international problems of the "greenhouse effect," the thinning of the ozone layer, and acid rain.

The greenhouse effect is a warming of world temperatures caused by gas emissions into the atmosphere — particularly carbon gases produced by fossil fuels. If nothing is done, the greenhouse effect could increase world temperatures by 1.5° to 4.5°C within 50 years. In Canada this would cause

drought on the fertile western Prairies and lower water levels in the Great Lakes, the largest freshwater reservoir in the world.

The Canadian Climate Program has made Canada a leader in the study of a possible worldwide warming effect and placed it in a strong position internationally to participate in United Nations initiatives on the worldwide effects of this problem, (e.g., the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

The ozone layer in the upper atmosphere protects the world from the sun's harmful rays. CFCs, the chemical used widely in aerosol cans, foam insulation, refrigerators, and other products, are destroying this precious layer. Since 1980, Canada has reduced CFC use by 45 per cent. In 1987, Canada, the European Community and 24 other countries signed the Montreal Protocol, which provides for CFC use to be halved. Since then, 32 countries have ratified the agreement; their consumption in 1986 was 80 per cent of the world total. Proud of its citizens' commitment to environmental protection, Canada has set out to eliminate controlled CFCs by 1999.

Canada



Acid rain, affecting central and eastern Canada the most, is the result of the release of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) into the air. The gases are byproducts of industrial processes (power plants, foundries) and automobiles. In the air, they change into sulphuric or nitric acid and cause deterioration and death to lakes and trees when they fall as rain.

Canada has committed itself to reducing SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by half before 1994. But because the United States is the source of half the acid rain which falls on Canada, every effort has been made to negotiate an acid rain accord with the U.S. Recent proposals by the Bush administration for an acid rain control program have given Canada reason for optimism.

### Water

Canada has nearly 9 per cent of the earth's fresh water, and its coastline, the longest in the world, extends over 244 000 km. With the population concentrated in the south and the staggering increase in demand for water over the years, this resource is in danger. This is why Canada has adopted a national water policy to manage this precious resource sensibly. Already, there are drinking water treatment plants for nearly 80 per cent of Canadians. The governments of Canada and Quebec have agreed on a plan to clean up the St. Lawrence River, and Canada and the United States are working together to clean up the Great Lakes.

Canada has already protected almost 30 wetlands under the terms of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Significance. Together with the U.S., Canada has also prepared a North American waterfowl management plan to protect, conserve and restore bird habitats.

Canada is the largest fish exporting nation in the world, and, in 1986, it drew up a national policy on fish habitats, based on conservation and restoration principles. To protect fish resources, annual fishing seasons are being limited and quotas for catches are being fixed.

### Soil

Only a small part of Canada's landmass (5 per cent) is suitable for major crops. Of this land, 90 per cent is within 160 km of large cities.

Canadian soil, as a general rule, is quite productive. A growing number of farmers are using sound soil management methods of crop rotation, preservation of organic matter and biological control agents to counter acidification (acid rain and nitrogen fertilizers), salinization (excessive irrigation), pollution (pesticides) and erosion (poor farming methods).

In fact, the greatest present danger to most farmlands is urbanization. Because of this, more and more provinces are passing legislation to protect the most productive farmlands from pressures of development. The Canadian Land Inventory, one of the most exhaustive studies of its kind, encourages rational land use.

### Parks

Since 1885, Canada has established a network of over 30 national parks. The areas have preserved a number of remarkable ecosystems for present-day enjoyment and as a heritage for generations to come. Park wildlife is protected by the strictest poaching regulations in the world.

### The Fight against Pollution

Canada is exercising ever-closer control on the release and disposal of pollutants. The Environmental Choice Program, for example, allows the Canadian consumer

to choose products bearing a logo indicating that they are "environmentally friendly."

The Environmental Protection Act, adopted in 1988, has as one of its concerns the protection of Canadians against any form of pollution caused by toxic substances. The legislation covers the entire life cycle of the substances from preparation to elimination, including manufacture, transport, use and storage. Offenders are liable to fines of up to a million dollars or five years in prison. Polluters can also be forced to pay for the clean-up. Any Canadian can ask for an investigation of a presumed infraction or can instigate a court action.

To date, Canada has been reacting to ecological problems, but reaction is no longer enough. From now on, Canadians must anticipate, plan and prevent. Canada has embraced the concept of "sustainable development" as outlined by the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission). Canadians will do their utmost to ensure environmental concerns are an integral part of all economic, social and political decisions. They are resolved to take an active part in preserving their rich natural heritage so as to allow future generations to enjoy a healthy and productive environment.

#### *Environmental Choice*

#### *Program logo:*

*The intertwined birds indicate to the Canadian consumer that the product identified poses no risk to the environment.*



*The St. Lawrence belugas are one of the many threatened species that will benefit from the massive St. Lawrence River clean-up plan.*

Robert Michaud, "Gremm"





# CLIMATE

**C**anada's climate can best be described as variable. Temperature and precipitation differ from region to region and from season to season. While it is true that in the extreme north temperatures climb above 0°C for only a few months of the year, most Canadians live within 300 km of the country's southern border where mild springs, hot summers and pleasantly crisp autumns prevail at least 8 months out of 12.

Seasons dictate the look of the land: whether the natural environment is in a state of growth or dormancy and, indeed, whether Canadians are water skiing or alpine skiing. While seasonal change signals fluctuations in temperature and hours of sunshine, the shifting positions of air masses also play a part. The usual moderate air flow from west to east is disrupted in winter when cold, dry Arctic air moves down from the northwest and in summer when warm tropical air moves up from the southeast. Added to these factors are the effects of mountain ranges, plains and large bodies of water.

## The West Coast Climate

The west coast of British Columbia has the most temperate climate in Canada, thanks to warm, moist Pacific Ocean airstreams. The province's most populous cities, Vancouver and Victoria, enjoy cool and relatively dry summers and mild, wet winters. Snow seldom falls here, and when it does, it usually melts the same day.

The Cordilleran mountain system, which includes the Coastal Mountain Range and the Rocky Mountains, effectively blocks warm moist Pacific air from reaching the interior plains of the Prairie provinces. As the moist air is forced to rise over the mountains, it cools and falls on the westward mountain slopes in heavy amounts of precipitation — as rain at lower altitudes and snow at higher ones. The valleys between the mountain ranges receive much less precipitation and experience warm, even arid summers.



## The Prairies

Located in the Canadian section of the vast central plains of North America, the Prairies extend east from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes. Here, cold winters and hot summers are the norm, with relatively light precipitation. For instance, in the dry southern portion of Saskatchewan, annual precipitation averages less than 300 mm. The wettest area of the plains, Manitoba, receives about 500 mm each year.

Spring rains and dry autumn conditions have helped make the Prairies one of the top grain-growing areas of the world. The region also has its share of agricultural hazards, however, such as wind erosion, thunder and hail storms, and unseasonable autumn frosts.

Among the most remarkable features of the prairie winter is the chinook, a warm, usually dry winter

wind that affects much of southern Alberta. The chinook sweeps down from the Rocky Mountains and has been known to raise temperatures as much as 16°C in a single day.

## The Great Lakes/ St. Lawrence Region

More than half the Canadian population lives close to the Great Lakes or along the St. Lawrence River. Here, winter brings heavy snowfalls. Spring can be fleeting: temperatures in the 20-28°C range have been recorded as early as March. On the other hand, temperatures of -17°C have been recorded in April.

Summers tend to be longer and more humid than elsewhere in Canada. The heat is moderated somewhat by frequent rainfalls. Mean daily temperatures reach close to 20°C from mid-June to mid-September with week-long heat waves in the 30s a common occurrence.

## Atlantic Canada

The combined influence of air masses from eastern Canada and the United States with air currents off the ocean give this region one of the most variable climates anywhere in the country. In winter, mean temperatures can vary markedly as Arctic air is replaced by maritime air from passing storms. Snowfall is relatively heavy and fog common in spring and early summer. The warmest month is July, when mean temperatures are in the 16-18°C range.

## The North

Spanning the entire country immediately north of the Prairies and populated Great Lakes/St. Lawrence region is the boreal forest. This area is usually snow-covered more than half the year, with a frost-free period of barely two months. Precipitation is light, except along the coast of Labrador where the influence of Atlantic storms is felt.

Further north, above the tree-line, lies the Arctic. Here, there are only a few weeks of above-freezing temperatures. A few feet below the delicate but tenacious vegetation that grows in summer, the ground remains frozen year-round.

## Adapting to Climatic Change

Over the centuries, Canadians have learned to savour the changing seasons, to adapt to their variable climate and to pay attention to climatic vagaries. Futile attempts to start the car on a -30°C morning, for instance, have imparted a healthy respect for Mother Nature upon the national psyche. Yet the fruits of modern technology — advanced snow removal, heated and air-conditioned shopping centres, indoor recreation facilities and inter-connected office complexes — have brought protection from the extremes of heat and cold. Still, on the whole, Canadians tend to enjoy the variety and beauty that four distinct seasons bring.

## Means of Temperature and Precipitation\*

	January	April	July	October	Annual
<b>Vancouver</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	5.2	12.8	21.9	13.6	13.5
Mean daily low	-0.2	4.7	12.6	6.4	6.0
Mean	2.5	8.8	17.3	10.0	9.8
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	130.7	59.3	32.0	114.0	1055.5
Snowfall	25.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	60.4
Total	153.8	59.6	32.0	114.0	1112.6
<b>Regina</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	-12.6	9.4	26.1	11.9	8.5
Mean daily low	-23.2	-2.8	11.7	-1.5	-4.1
Mean	-17.9	3.3	18.9	5.2	2.2
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	0.3	14.3	53.3	11.4	287.2
Snowfall	20.0	10.9	0.0	8.2	115.7
Total	16.6	23.7	53.3	18.8	384.0
<b>Toronto</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	-2.5	11.5	26.8	14.6	12.4
Mean daily low	-10.9	0.8	14.2	3.9	2.1
Mean	-6.7	6.2	20.6	9.3	7.3
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	21.3	61.8	71.4	61.0	637.2
Snowfall	33.4	7.4	0.0	0.9	131.2
Total	50.4	70.0	71.4	61.8	761.5
<b>Montreal</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	-5.7	10.6	26.1	13.3	10.9
Mean daily low	-14.6	0.8	15.6	4.1	1.5
Mean	-10.2	5.7	20.9	8.7	6.2
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	23.7	63.5	90.0	73.8	722.9
Snowfall	52.7	9.7	0.0	1.7	235.1
Total	72.0	74.1	90.0	75.5	946.2
<b>Halifax</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	-0.1	7.9	21.7	13.4	10.7
Mean daily low	-8.1	0.0	13.0	5.5	2.6
Mean	-4.1	4.0	17.4	9.5	6.6
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	97.5	86.1	97.1	119.2	1157.3
Snowfall	45.7	13.0	0.0	1.7	198.6
Total	143.3	100.5	97.1	121.0	1361.4
<b>St. John's</b>					
<i>Temperature (°C)</i>					
Mean daily high	-0.5	4.5	20.2	10.4	8.6
Mean daily low	-7.2	-2.2	10.7	3.4	1.0
Mean	-3.9	1.2	15.5	6.9	4.8
<i>Precipitation (mm)</i>					
Rainfall	77.9	78.1	75.3	140.6	1157.3
Snowfall	81.4	34.6	0.0	4.4	359.4
Total	155.8	115.6	75.3	145.5	1513.6

\*Data from *Principal Station Data*, published by Atmospheric Environment Service, Environment Canada, 1983



# AGRICULTURE

**A**griculture has been a vital force in the Canadian economy for centuries and today remains a major contributor to Canada's trade on international markets.

One of the world's leading food producers, Canada is best known for its excellent grain, oilseeds, vegetables, fine meats and dairy products.

Canadian farming practices, fertilizer and feed technologies, equipment and management techniques all contribute to Canada's abundant production of crops and livestock.

The Canadian agricultural sector consists of about 488 000 farmers who represent about 2 per cent of the country's total 25.4 million (1986) population and 4 per cent of its 11 million workforce. Another 1.5 million Canadians, or 15 per cent of the total labour force, are employed in food processing, food service and related industries in the agri-food system. Together, they generate about 7.5 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product.

## The Farmlands

Canada is a spectacular land of contrasts in climate, geography, soils and growing conditions. It is the second-largest country in the world, stretching 5 500 km from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and from the same latitude as northern Italy to the high Arctic. It is a vast land of more than 9.9 million km<sup>2</sup> of which only 7 per cent, or 70 million ha, are fertile soil. This productive area spans a narrow band along the southern border.

Canada's winter, which brings below-freezing temperatures to much of the country, acts as a powerful biological control because many insects and disease organisms cannot survive the cold. As a result, Canada enjoys an excellent reputation worldwide for the disease-resistant healthy livestock and superior-quality crops it produces.

Canada is divided into four major geographic farmland regions: Atlantic, Central, Prairie and Pacific. The Atlantic region grows some of the



*Kensington Market,  
Toronto*



*Farmers in Riceton,  
Saskatchewan*

finest potatoes in North America. Large modern processing facilities peel the potatoes, cut them into the desired shape and freeze them to serve domestic and export markets. Horticultural crops from fine apples to blueberries are also abundant in the area. Most farmers practise mixed farming and grow cash crops such as fruits, vegetables and forage, as well as raising dairy cattle.

The fertile lowlands of the St. Lawrence River extend through Canada's most populated region. The area is a combination of sophisticated cities and large tracts of rich farmland. Vegetables, tobacco and conventional field crops grow in abundance. The mild climate offers plenty of sun and rainfall and yields excellent harvests of grapes, cherries, peaches and other fruit. Livestock and dairy products are

major staples of farming in the St. Lawrence area, and maple syrup and honey have long been important sidelines.

Most major food processing plants from canning factories to meat packing facilities are found in this central region of Canada because of the large local population, the well-developed industrial base and excellent shipping routes to world markets.

However, 75 per cent of Canada's farmland lies in the interior plains of the Prairie region. The winters are harsh and long, the summers hot and sunny with little rain. In spite of these conditions, modern technology has rehabilitated the southern portion into productive dryland. Only 50 years ago, high winds combined with desert-like summer heat and little rain to raise dust storms that each year stripped the



land of its shallow fertile top soil. By developing a totally new farming technology, Canadians have converted such areas into some of the richest grainfields in the world, producing more than 35 million t annually of wheat, oats, barley, rye, canola and flaxseed. In addition to the production of grain, the interior plains support some of Canada's largest herds of beef and dairy cattle on 20 million ha of rangeland and pasture.

The Pacific farmlands, bathed in a warm, humid climate, yield bumper harvests of fruits and vegetables. As in the Atlantic region, farmers here raise both cash crops and dairy cattle. Honey too is available in abundance.

### **Grain and Oilseeds**

Wheat is Canada's most important field crop and largest agricultural export commodity. Every year, nearly 14 million ha in the Prairie region are planted with wheat to yield a crop of more than 25 million t. About 80 per cent of this crop is exported worldwide.

Canada Western Red Spring wheat, which has excellent milling characteristics, and durum wheat, which has the high gluten content essential for pasta, are two popular Canadian wheat varieties.

Next to wheat, barley is Canada's most important grain crop and major coarse cereal-grain export. Barley, oats, rye and corn produced in Canada are used primarily as feed grains for livestock and poultry.

Canola, derived from rapeseed, is a new oilseed developed by Canadian scientists through genetic engineering. Canola produces a high-quality edible oil used as salad or cooking oil, as shortening or as margarine. The high-protein canola meal, the crushed seed left after oil extraction, is mixed into cattle rations. Canola is gaining popularity on international markets.

### **Livestock**

Canada has large populations of beef cattle, dairy cattle and swine.

The Canadian beef cattle population is about eight million head. It consists mostly of Aberdeen-Angus, Charolais, Hereford, Limousin, Simmental and Shorthorn breeds. Purebred animals make up about 5 per cent of this cattle population.

Canada's beef cattle, raised in one of the healthiest animal environments in the world, are recognized for their efficient growth and reproductive characteristics,

carcass quality and longevity on the range.

Genetic improvement of beef cattle has been accelerated in Canada in recent years through the use of artificial insemination and embryo transfer.

Of the 1.7 million dairy cows in Canada, about 85 per cent are Holstein breed. The average milk production of a mature Holstein dairy cow raised under Canadian management conditions is 7700 kg per year.

Dairy cattle have also benefited genetically from artificial insemination and embryo transfer. About 75 per cent of Canadian dairy cows are bred with frozen semen. As a result, Canadian breeders have developed animals renowned for their milk production and longevity.

The Canadian swine population exceeds 10 million head of which about 1.1 million are breeding stock. Bred for intensive rearing conditions, Canadian swine are noted for their leanness, hardiness and overall quality.

The excellent foundation breeding stocks of Canadian beef cattle, dairy cattle and swine are selected for the improvement of herd populations throughout the world.

The Canadian poultry industry is distributed across Canada in proportion to population concentration. Poultry production and processing are among the most highly mechanized sectors in agriculture.

Poultry is almost entirely produced in indoor facilities with the exception of some heavy turkey production. One person can operate a unit capable of producing over one million dozen eggs per year. A single operator can also handle 350 000 broiler chickens a year to provide 640 t of meat.

### **Equipment**

The Canadian agricultural industry depends on mechanized soil cultivation and harvesting of crops. Canadian farm equipment manufacturers provide a complete range of machinery for land clearing, drainage, irrigation, livestock raising and dairy production, dryland farming, grain handling, storage and processing, as well as equipment for horticultural and specialty crops.

The industry exports over 60 per cent of its production and is considered to be a world leader in dryland farming equipment, large four-wheel-drive

tractors, combines and tobacco harvesting machinery.

In dryland farming, every effort is made to plow, seed and harvest without soil turnover. Canadians pioneered the development of chisel plows, rotary rod weeders, rock pickers, seed drills and other sophisticated equipment enabling farmers to grow grain crops in dryland conditions.

Recent Canadian equipment innovations include the flexible combine header that adjusts to uneven land in crop harvesting, energy-efficient blanchers for fruits and vegetables to prevent spoilage during storage, and mechanical de-boners to cleanly separate meat from bone in a single pass.

### **Research and Development**

Canadian scientists study all relevant aspects of livestock and crop production in a continuing effort to improve livestock breeding, crop varieties and yield.

Research on beef cattle, for example, focuses on producing animals with high growth rates, excellent carcass quality, improved forage conversion, and better cold tolerance and adaptation to the Canadian climate.

Canadian researchers have developed a unique process for freezing liquid and semi-liquid foods into homogeneous pellets. The innovation has produced pelletized eggs which, because they require no water for reconstitution, retain the qualities of farm-fresh eggs. Pelletized eggs are used in institutional kitchens, hotels and restaurants where storage to retain egg freshness is often a problem.

Canada is also playing a major role in the development of safe food irradiation, a technology that destroys bacteria and extends the shelf life of agricultural products, food ingredients and fresh or frozen foods.

The Canadian agricultural industry is thriving. Its efficiency and high productivity are the result of research, breeding technology, farm management, state-of-the-art equipment and comprehensive supporting services to bring the farm product to market.



# ENERGY

**C**anada's spectacular emergence as a leading industrial power has been fuelled by its plentiful supplies of low-cost energy. This country is endowed with abundant, diversified energy resources, including oil, natural gas, coal, uranium and hydro-electric power. Production in the energy sector was worth \$60 billion in 1986, and this sector employed one out of every three Canadian workers in that year. Major Canadian industries, such as pulp and paper, non-metallic minerals, chemicals, smelting and refining depend on the availability of low-cost energy to stay competitive in world markets.

The energy sector certainly plays a major role in the Canadian economy; however, its share of world energy production is a rather modest 4 per cent. This output places Canada second behind the United States among countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

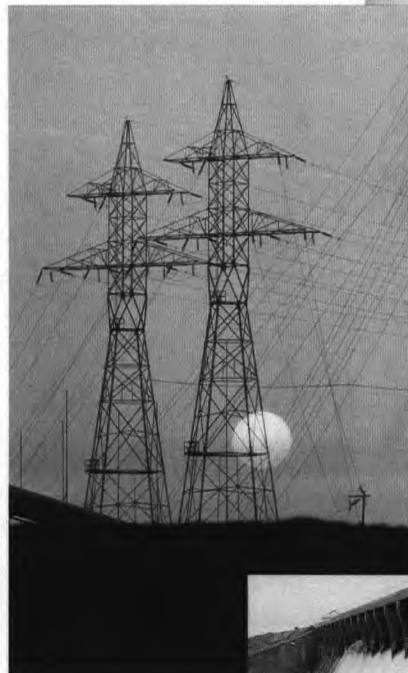
## Energy Trade

Energy is Canada's second-most-important export commodity after automobiles. Energy transactions account for roughly 10 per cent of the country's international trade. A net exporter of energy since 1983, Canada exports all main energy commodities, including petroleum, natural gas, refined petroleum products, coal, uranium and electricity.

## Exports

Canada's major energy exports judged by value are crude oil, especially heavy crude oil (of which only limited quantities can be refined in Canada) and natural gas. The United States is Canada's largest energy trading partner and only market for these commodities. It buys 90 per cent of the heavy crude oil, 20 per cent of the light crude and 25 per cent of the natural gas produced in Canada.

Exports of electrical power to the United States are increasingly significant in Canada's international trade



*Offshore oil rig,  
Newfoundland*

*Bassano Dam,  
Alberta*



ISTC

and accounted for roughly 10 per cent of power generation in 1987. The exports are expected to rise, especially in Quebec and British Columbia, as Canada builds more transmission lines to service the growing U.S. demand for electricity.

The coal industry relies heavily on foreign markets. Canadian coal producers in western Canada export fully one-half of their production every year, most of it to Japanese steelmakers.

Canada is the world's leading uranium exporter. More than 30 per cent of the world's uranium resources are found here. Nearly 85 per cent of Canadian production is sold to other countries, under very stringent government safeguards, to fuel nuclear-power

generators. The United States (which purchases more than one-third of Canadian uranium exports), Japan, and the countries of western Europe are Canada's main markets.

## Imports

Although Canada is a net exporter of energy, it imports crude oil from the North Sea, Venezuela and Nigeria, as well as petroleum products and coal from the United States. This dual role as both exporter and importer reflects the fact that despite an extensive pipeline and transportation system, producers often find it more cost-effective to export these commodities from western Canada to the United States and to import the same commodities for the cities of eastern Canada.

## Crude Oil

The Canadian oil industry is concentrated in western Canada: the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan account for nearly all Canadian crude oil production. But while substantial reserves of oil remain, conventional oil supplies in western Canada are declining. New indigenous oil supplies increasingly will be found only in higher-cost higher-risk projects in the heavy oil, oil sands, frontier and offshore areas. Recognizing that such new oil supplies will be costly to develop and will require new technologies, the federal and provincial governments provide development assistance on a case-by-case basis after reviewing the economic viability of each project.

The oil sands of western Canada contain this country's largest oil reserves by far. Their potential has been estimated as equivalent to the combined reserves of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Two large oil-sand mining and upgrading plants are already in operation, and several new projects are in the planning stages.

Major oil discoveries have also been made in the Beaufort Sea, in the Arctic and off the east-coast province of Newfoundland. Some of these discoveries are being considered for development.

## Natural Gas

The western provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan supply all of Canada's natural gas, with nearly 90 per cent coming from Alberta. In contrast to oil, the availability of gas supplies from conventional fields continues to increase. Major gas discoveries have been made in the frontier and offshore regions, particularly in the Mackenzie Delta and the Beaufort Sea, the Arctic islands, and the east-coast offshore fields. This frontier gas ultimately could make a large contribution to Canadian energy supplies.

## Electricity

Electricity is one of Canada's fastest-growing energy sources. As reserves of conventional oil decline, its role is expected to become even more important.

Worldwide, Canada ranks fifth in total electrical generating capacity. Its needs are met by electricity generated mainly from hydraulic (water) sources, nuclear power and coal. Small amounts of electricity are also generated from oil and natural gas.

## Hydro

Water power, or hydro, is the largest source of electrical energy in Canada, providing nearly two-thirds of the total generated. Canada produces about 15 per cent of the world's hydro-electric power. While hydro resources are more evenly distributed across the country than other energy resources, Quebec accounts for 45 per cent of all Canadian existing hydro capacity. Most of the more accessible and less costly hydro sites in Canada have already been developed, although several other sites in Quebec and British Columbia could also be developed economically.

## Nuclear

Hydro power is likely to remain Canada's largest single source of electricity in the foreseeable future; however, the use of nuclear power for electricity generation is expected to increase from its current level of 15 per cent. This is particularly true in Ontario, Canada's most industrialized province, where about one-half of all electrical energy is produced from nuclear sources in Canadian-designed CANDU reactors using uranium from Ontario and Saskatchewan.

## Coal

Coal is used primarily to generate electrical power, especially in the provinces with substantial coal reserves — Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Ontario also uses coal to generate some of its electricity. The province, however, has no coal supplies of its own and imports coal from western Canada and the United States.

## Renewable Energy Sources

Canadians know that most of the vast energy resources in this country are finite. Once they have been used up, they will be gone forever. With this in mind, Canadians have become more concerned with using fuel efficiently — by insulating their homes and driving smaller cars, for example. In addition, Canada has committed itself to expanding its use of renewable energy sources.

These sources already play an important role in Canada's energy production. They supply about 4 per cent of the country's overall energy demand when hydro power is excluded (the figure rises to 20 per cent if hydro is included). Energy from organic waste (especially

bioenergy from wood waste), solar, wind, small-scale water and geothermal power are the major sources. They provide liquid fuels or electricity or process heat.

Renewable energy use is expected to increase in the future because of growing Canadian concern about the effect of conventional energy sources on the environment. As a result, much research and development is aimed at increasing the economic viability of these energy sources.

## Research and Development (R&D)

Fully 20 per cent of every Canadian R&D dollar is spent in the energy sector. Canadian scientists are developing new approaches to use the country's energy resources as efficiently as possible. They are seeking ways to improve Canada's physical environment, industrial competitiveness, energy security and quality of life.

Some current R&D projects include the development of new technologies for the recovery and processing of oil sands and heavy oil deposits; new ways to expand the use of coal that also meet increasingly stringent environmental regulations; environmentally acceptable means of exploiting frontier resources economically; and alternative fuels for the transportation sector to reduce the country's dependence on oil. Finally, researchers are looking for the best possible combination and variety of energy sources for Canada by encouraging the appropriate development and use of renewable energy sources.

## Energy Consumption in Canada (per cent)

Oil .....	40
Natural gas .....	28
Electricity (hydro, nuclear and coal) .....	28
Renewable energy sources .....	4

Source: Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, 1987 statistics.





# TRANSPORTATION

**T**he history of Canada is closely tied to the history of transportation — and the gradual triumph of transportation over geography.

Canada is the world's second-largest country, but it ranks 28th in population size. Its people are scattered across 9 970 610 km<sup>2</sup> stretching 5 500 km from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. An efficient transportation network is essential to hold Canada together, to allow people and goods to move freely throughout the country and to carry Canadian goods to international markets.

To build and maintain that network, Canadians have overcome enormous natural barriers to transportation. In winter, snow must be constantly cleared from roads, airport runways and railways. In many areas, waterways are open only during the summer. Rugged mountain ranges, vast areas of muskeg and tundra, almost impenetrable forests and extreme temperatures challenge the skills of engineers and builders.

Despite these obstacles, Canada has developed a highly sophisticated transportation system. It has more kilometres of road and railway track per person than most other countries, including the United States. Canada has pioneered the use of long-distance pipelines for transporting oil, gas and other bulk commodities. Inter-modal passenger systems, including subways, buses or commuter rail lines, exist in every major city. Most centres are near modern airports with links to international air services. A specialized marine industry thrives on both coasts and on the Great Lakes.

Canadian scientists and engineers have developed the technologies to make this network possible — and to make Canada a world leader in solving transportation problems.

## Road Transport

Canada's first settlers relied mostly on rivers and lakes for transportation. The first roads they built were usually crude and were used to connect dif-



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Canada Steamship Lines

Air Canada

ferent water routes. Extensive road building did not begin until this century when automobiles became available.

Today there are more than 300 000 km of surfaced roads and 530 000 km of unpaved roads across the country. The Trans-Canada Highway, completed in 1962, is the longest national highway in the world.

The automobile is the most favoured form of personal transportation. Next to the United States, Canada has more automobiles per person than any other country, with at least one automobile on the road for every two Canadians.

Intercity buses offer the most extensive public passenger services in Canada. More than 1 000 operators or carriers offer passenger services (including school bus services). Intercity bus services are available in more than 3 400 Canadian communities.

Roads also provide one of the most highly used forms of freight transportation. In 1986, the trucking industry generated 40 per cent of the total freight revenues in Canada. The industry is by necessity highly versatile, as it has had to overcome natural barriers and tailor itself to moving a large variety of goods. Giant trucks transport logs, coal, construction materials and other bulky cargo. Huge

off-road vehicles move enormous quantities of coal, minerals and logs in the North. And fuel-efficient delivery vehicles negotiate heavy city traffic.

### **Rail Transport**

The railways have played a leading role in Canada's history. The expansion of Canada westward beyond the Great Lakes depended on the railways. And the extension of the rail lines into British Columbia in 1885 made the "national dream" a reality — a united Canada stretching from coast to coast.

The railways are still one of the main forms of freight transportation. The Canadian National Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway operate most national rail freight services, although there are some smaller regional carriers.

Intercity passenger rail services in Canada are provided by VIA Rail Canada Inc., a federal Crown corporation. In 1988, about six million passengers travelled by rail.

### **Marine Transport**

Canada has 59 509 km of coastline, including 3 000 km of inland waterways (excluding island coastlines). Water routes play a dominant role in Canada's transportation network. In 1987, 294.6 million t of cargo were handled by Canadian ports.

Canada has 25 large deep-water ports and about 650 smaller ports. Most of the deep-water ports are on the east and west coasts, and along the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The St. Lawrence Seaway, a triumph of engineering, allows all but the largest ocean vessels to travel deep into the continent. It is the world's longest canal system, stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the western end of Lake Superior. The entire Seaway is navigable about nine months of the year. Since 1970, Canadian Coast Guard icebreakers have kept the Seaway open as far as Montreal year-round.

### **Air Transport**

Canada's aviation industry has expanded dramatically over the past 30 years. The number of registered aircraft increased by 420 per cent between 1960 and 1987; the number of passengers carried per year by

commercial airlines increased by 560 per cent. Canadian airlines carried about 32 million passengers in 1987.

Two major Canadian airlines serve both domestic and international routes. Other airlines offer scheduled jet services in regional markets, including routes between Canada and the United States. In addition, about 1 100 licensed air carriers provide scheduled, specialty and charter services throughout the country.

Air transportation is especially important in Canada's northern communities. Many are inaccessible by other means of transportation, and they depend on air services for basic supplies.

### **Technology**

To meet the need for efficient public transit in crowded cities, Canadians are developing the most automated light-rail and subway vehicles available as well as heavy-haul unit train systems. They are designing new transportation systems accessible to the elderly and the disabled, as well as information and travel planning aids for these groups.

Canadians continue to break new ground with commuter aircraft (turboprop and turbofan), a technology they introduced to the world. They have developed the world's only aircraft that can scoop up 6.6 t of water from a lake in 10 seconds and drop it on a forest fire with pinpoint accuracy. And they are in the forefront of developing high-tech navigational aids such as the microwave landing system.

Canadians lead the way in marine technology, producing freighters that unload themselves, icebreakers with Arctic navigation capability, a diving suit that is five times stronger than steel yet weightless in water, the world's only passenger submarines, and the world's most advanced one-person submarine.

Canada has developed new intercity buses for North American use. Also, alternative fuels are being tested. For example, natural gas transit buses are currently undergoing in-service demonstrations.

Canada became the third nation in space in 1962, with the launch of the Alouette I. Since then, Canada has earned an international reputation in aerospace technology with such developments as the Canadarm designed for the U.S. space

shuttle program. Canada will participate in the U.S. space station program through the new Canadian Space Agency.

Throughout history, Canadians have been challenged to develop an efficient and flexible transportation network, moving goods and people across thousands of kilometres under very demanding conditions. Future conditions will be no less demanding and will call for the same level of skill and imagination that has earned Canada recognition around the world.

### **Key Facts**

- The transportation industry generates more than \$48 billion a year in revenues, and provides direct or indirect employment for more than one million Canadians.
- Every day, 140 000 Canadians travel between cities by bus, rail or air.
- Canadian trains, trucks and ships move more than 2 million t of freight every day.
- The transportation network includes 886 certified aerodromes; 501 ports, harbours and government wharfs; 95 670 km of rail track; and some 840 000 km of highways and roads.
- Canada's 196 000-km pipeline system for transporting oil, gas and water is the second-longest in the world.
- The Trans-Canada Highway is the world's longest national highway (7 699 km).
- The St. Lawrence Seaway is the longest canal system in the world (3 769 km).



# MULTICULTURALISM

**W**alk down the streets of Canadian cities such as Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, and you are greeted by faces from all over the world. When it comes time to eat, the choices are numerous. In a large city, Jamaican, Polish, Chinese, Italian, Greek and Vietnamese restaurants — to name just a few — beckon to visitors and residents alike. And when you turn on a television set or listen to radio in a Canadian city, you can hear programs in Spanish, Hindi or Mandarin, along with French or English. This is the face of Canada today — a multicultural society whose diversity is reflected in almost every facet of life.

The word multiculturalism was coined in Canada. As a concept, multiculturalism means that people of diverse origins and communities are free to preserve and enhance their cultural heritage while participating as equal partners in Canadian society.

## History

The groundwork for a multicultural Canada was laid early in the country's history. Aboriginal society was multicultural and multilingual. The first British and French explorers who came to Canada in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries interacted with aboriginal peoples to build a unique Canadian cultural pattern, with new foods, clothing and celebrations.

During the final decades of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth, many eastern and northern European peoples immigrated to Canada in search of land and freedom, lending additional colour and flavour to Canada's traditions.

In recent years, individuals from all over the world have settled in Canada, making it a truly multicultural and multiracial country. In 1981, 31.3 per cent of the population had ethnic roots other than British or French. In 1986, the number of Canadians — including aboriginal peoples — who claimed other origins (sometimes in addition to British or French) rose to 37.5 per cent



*Farmer's Market,  
Hamilton, Ontario*



(9.38 million) of Canada's 25.4 (1986) million population. Among the larger groups are German, Italian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Scandinavian, Polish, North American Indian, Chinese, Jewish, Indo-Pakistani, African/Caribbean, Hungarian, Greek, Yugoslav, Spanish, Filipino and Russian.

## Education

Canada's education system has had to respond creatively to the cultural diversity of its peoples. Over 60 languages are spoken by more than 70 cultural groups across the country. Many schools have students from 20 or more distinct ethnic groups. This diversity is actively encouraged by multicultural education programs and by heritage language instruction. (Heritage languages are languages other than English or French, Canada's two official languages.)

Multicultural education programs are part of many schools' standard curriculum. Their main thrust is cultural

awareness, with the use of games, discussions, research, movies and field trips to help students understand and appreciate other cultures. Heritage language instruction is generally offered outside school hours and, where available within the school system, at no charge. Some ethnocultural community groups also offer language retention and learning programs. With Canadian government support, more than 125 000 students in 8 000 classes are studying 60 heritage languages in community-sponsored programs.

In addition, the government has programs to promote multicultural research, ethnic histories and other documentary resources, the development of multicultural courses and the creation of chairs of study at Canadian universities.



## The Media

Active for more than 80 years, ethnic newspapers flourish across Canada. In Toronto alone there are 112 daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly ethnic-language publications. From coast to coast, more than 40 cultures are represented in Canada's ethnic press. Many are large-scale national publications, such as the *Ukrainian Echo (Homin Ukrainy)*, that has a circulation of more than 13 000.

Since 1958, the Canada Ethnic Press Federation (CEPF) has been the voice of the country's ethnic publications. One of CEPF's primary goals is to contribute to Canadian unity.

Ethnic broadcasting in Canada is also thriving. Eight radio stations in five cities are authorized to broadcast 100 per cent of their weekly program to specific ethnic groups, notably Italian, Ukrainian, German, Greek and Chinese. Toronto has a full-time ethnic television station. British Columbia, Canada's most western province, has a regional ethnic pay-TV network. Two ethnic satellite-to-cable network services are licensed and more than 60 radio stations include ethnic programming in their broadcast schedules.

## Business

In all facets of Canadian society, whether one talks about high technology (Michael Cowpland, innovative high-tech entrepreneur), high fashion (Alfred Sung, renowned designer) or high finance (the Reichmann brothers, real estate and financial moguls), Canadians who came here as immigrants have gained international acclaim in the business world.

Across Canada, ethnic Canadians are 50 per cent more likely to be self-employed than other Canadians. Aware of the impact of multiculturalism, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce interacts with organizations such as the Canada-Arab Business Council, the Canadian East European Trade Council and the Canada-Korea Business Council. The government's Federal Business Development Bank consults regularly with ethnocultural business associations in major centres.

## The Arts

Artists with ethnic origins from all parts of the world now enrich the Canadian cultural scene. For example, more and more of Canada's distinguished writers have origins other than British or French. Over the past several years, writers of Italian, eastern-European and Jewish background have achieved recognition. More recently, the works of West Indian immigrant writers such as Austin Clarke and Cyril Dabydeen and of South American-Canadians such as Ludwig Zeller and Pablo Urbanyi have been published.

## Community Programs

Community-based organizations and coalitions play a major role in the promotion of racial equality, cross-cultural understanding and citizenship participation. Their efforts are supported by the government's multiculturalism programs, which provide financial help and advice to community groups, Canadian institutions and, in some cases, individuals.

Services to new immigrants and citizenship inquiry offices are a large part of many community-based programs. Various institutions, including the police, the media, health and social services, unions and municipal governments, also participate in education programs designed to improve race relations and adapt to cultural diversity.

## Law and Policy

While Canada's history contains examples of heart-breaking injustices toward minority groups, Canada's citizens, institutions and government continue to work toward eliminating discrimination from Canadian life.

To further its goals of equality, diversity and community, Canada has developed concrete, forward-looking programs and laws.

In July 1988, the Government of Canada acknowledged and honoured the changing face of the country in ground-breaking legislation, the Canadian Multiculturalism Act. The Act states that every citizen, regardless of origin, has an

equal chance to participate in and contribute to all aspects of the country's collective life. The legislation is designed to "encourage and assist the social, cultural, economic and political institutions of Canada to be both respectful and inclusive of Canada's multicultural character." The Act also gives the federal government responsibility for promoting multiculturalism throughout its departments and agencies.

The Canadian Multiculturalism Act is the culmination of a series of developments over the past two decades:

- When multiculturalism became official government policy in 1971, a modest grants program was set up to assist community groups, coalitions, immigrant support networks and citizen advocacy groups.
- In 1972, a Minister of State for Multiculturalism was appointed.
- In 1977, the Canadian Human Rights Act provided legal safeguards against discrimination based on race, origin or religion.
- In 1981, the multiculturalism mandate was expanded to include race relations.
- In 1982, equality rights and multiculturalism were enshrined in Canada's Constitution in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- In 1986, employment equity legislation was passed.
- In 1988, the government provided funding to establish a Canadian race relations foundation.
- As well as federal government initiatives, since 1971 most provinces have established formal multiculturalism policies and programs.

## Commitment

Canada's commitment to multiculturalism is more than words on paper or laws in Parliament. Multiculturalism is woven into the very fabric of Canadian life. It is Canada's hope that by recognizing multiculturalism as a fundamental characteristic of the country's society, Canadians of all cultural origins will contribute to the common goals of equality, national unity and social harmony.



# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

- In Bangladesh, poor rural women and people without land receive loans and training to help them form and manage co-operatives.
- In Ghana, villagers participate in water users' committees and learn how to care for and repair their water systems.
- In Colombia, women have set up day nurseries to help improve the living conditions of families in the barrios of Bogota.
- In Senegal, rows of trees have been planted to protect vegetable gardens from the desert's blowing sands.

These are just a few of the thousands of development assistance projects sponsored in whole or in part by Canada each year — projects designed to help people in developing countries improve their lives, now and for the future.

## History

Working to make the world a better and safer place is part of Canada's national heritage; Canadian volunteers have worked actively overseas for many years. Well-known names include Dr. Norman Bethune in China and Père Georges-Henri Lévesque in Rwanda.

The Canadian government has been providing international aid (or official development assistance) since 1950, when it pledged support for the Commonwealth countries' Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in Southeast Asia.

Throughout the 1950s, Canadian aid to Commonwealth countries in Asia consisted largely of food, technical assistance and infrastructure projects. Canada began providing assistance to the Caribbean and Commonwealth Africa in the late 1950s, and to Francophone Africa and Latin America during the 1960s.

In 1968, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was established to manage most of the federal government's aid program. In fact, CIDA now administers about 75 per cent of Canada's official development assistance.

## ASSISTANCE



*Canadian hydro engineer instructs Pakistanis*



*Tanzanian with books provided through Canadian aid*

The remaining 25 per cent is channelled from various international agencies, and through four development organizations with headquarters in Canada. These are the International Development Research Centre, Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation, the International Centre for Ocean Development, and the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development.

## Financial Commitment

Canada is the seventh-largest aid donor in the Western world. In 1987-88, Canada provided over \$2.5 billion (or just over \$100 per Canadian) in assistance to developing countries — about \$0.65 per person in the developing world. This amounts to one-half of 1 per cent of Canada's gross national product (GNP).

Canada emphasizes assistance to the least-developed countries (LDCs), and, over the next five years, even

more attention will be directed to Africa and the LDCs of Asia and the Americas. All Canadian aid is in the form of grants and contributions.

## Policy

Humanitarian concerns are the traditional basis of public support for Canada's aid program. Many Canadians feel that easing of poverty and hunger is the most serious issue facing the world today.

Political concerns are also important. In recent years, there has been increased recognition among Canadians that peace and stability in the world as a whole rest in considerable measure on peace and stability in the developing countries. The encouragement of social and economic development and suitable distribution of the benefits of economic progress can help foster political stability.

Linked with these humanitarian and political concerns is the need to promote and protect human rights. Canada believes that development assistance must not lend legitimacy to repressive regimes. But Canada must also ensure that victims of human rights violations are not doubly penalized by being deprived of needed help in addition to their fundamental rights. In cases where human rights violations are systematic, gross and continuous, and where it is doubtful Canadian assistance will reach the people for whom it is intended, government-to-government aid is reduced or denied, or channelled through grassroots organizations.

In economic terms, Canada believes in supporting the efforts of developing countries to achieve self-sustained growth. The economic interests of all countries and the promotion of world trade require that economies throughout the world develop and expand. All developing countries are therefore eligible for Canadian development assistance. Exceptions are made for political and human rights reasons and if a country has achieved a certain level of economic development.

### **Sharing Our Future**

Canadian aid policy will be guided into the next century by a new development assistance strategy called *Sharing Our Future*. The strategy reflects the growing perception among Canadians that development assistance is an investment in humanity's shared future. Its centrepiece is a charter that establishes four principles for Canadian development co-operation:

- helping the poorest countries and peoples of the world;
- helping people to help themselves;
- emphasizing development priorities such as alleviation of poverty, structural adjustment, participation of women in the development process, environmental concerns, security of food supply and energy availability; and
- fostering partnerships by strengthening the links between Canada's people and institutions and those of the Third World.

### **Program Delivery**

Program delivery must be consistent with the principles and priorities of the aid program. For example, all Canadian development programs must include

impact assessments if a project is likely to involve environmental risks. Projects that improve the environment and restore natural resources receive high priority, as does funding to Third World institutions concerned with gathering environmental data or designing environmentally sound development projects.

Canada believes a country cannot hope to prosper if half its human resources — the women — are neglected. A proposal for a development project must include an analysis of its impact on women. The Canadian government supports projects developed by and for women — especially at the grassroots level. The aim is to empower women to build better lives and to participate in and benefit more fully from the wider development process.

Other measures affecting program delivery include posting more aid officials in the field; a stronger emphasis on human resource development to enable Third World people to take development into their own hands; increased flexibility in the requirement for recipients to purchase Canadian goods and services; food aid policies that are closely connected to agricultural development; measures to ease debt and support structural adjustment; and initiatives to strengthen links between the private sector in Canada and the Third World.

### **National Initiatives**

Under Canada's new strategy for development co-operation, more than half of Canadian aid (over \$1.3 billion) consists of bilateral or government-to-government assistance (including development programs and projects, humanitarian assistance, bilateral food aid, scholarships and training programs). There are over 1000 bilateral projects under way. Efforts are focused on 30 countries or regional groupings, with occasional activity in about 90 other locations.

### **Partnerships**

The remainder of Canadian aid (over \$1.2 billion) supports initiatives and programs shaped by Canadian and international partners, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and institutions, such as universities, labour unions, co-operatives, businesses, international financial institutions, multilateral organizations, and research institutions.

The Canadian government recognizes the important role played by these various partners in international development. For example, the government began providing funding for NGOs in 1968 and for institutions in 1979. Many countries have now followed the Canadian model of mixing public and private resources to further international development aims.

The key element in the participation of the non-government sector is forging links between Canadian people and institutions and their Third World counterparts. Activities range from digging wells and providing basic health care to fostering joint ventures between businesses, to training and educating Third World students in Canada. In 1987-88, the Canadian government provided over \$350 million in support of some 6 500 projects undertaken by NGOs, institutions and businesses.

Partnerships with international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the regional development banks, and with multilateral organizations, such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the World Food Program, enable Canada to share its commitment to world development with other donor countries. By pooling their resources, aid donors can reach more countries and a wider variety of sectors. They can also fund projects too big for any one donor or such global campaigns as the one that eradicated smallpox.

### **Future Co-operation**

The primary purpose of Canada's development assistance is to help the poorest countries and peoples of the world. The way that Canada chooses to meet this goal is to help people help themselves. Humanity's dependence on a clean and vital environment is also at the heart of Canada's aid strategy — a strategy that respects the environment, ensuring that development is long-lasting and sustainable.

As Canada strives to play a significant role in the world community, the hope is that its long and honourable reputation in international development will not only be maintained but enhanced. The key to achieving this goal is a new level of partnership between Canadians and the people of the Third World, sharing skills, technology, resources and life experiences.





# THE ARTS

**I**nnovative," "avant garde," and "original" are terms often used to describe Canadian art. Whether one looks at literature, dance, cinema or any other art form, Canadian artists are distinguishing themselves in a remarkable array of activities, both in Canada and worldwide, that reflect Canada's vibrant and varied cultural landscape.

Canadian artists of the past had already carved out a prominent place on the international scene in all fields of artistic endeavour. Names such as Emily Carr, Félix Leclerc, Jean-Paul Riopelle and many others earned respect and recognition, paving the way for today's generation of artists.

Canadian artists today are actively sought after to participate in major events wherever they are organized. Canadian artistic creativity has become an innovative force to be reckoned with.

## Music

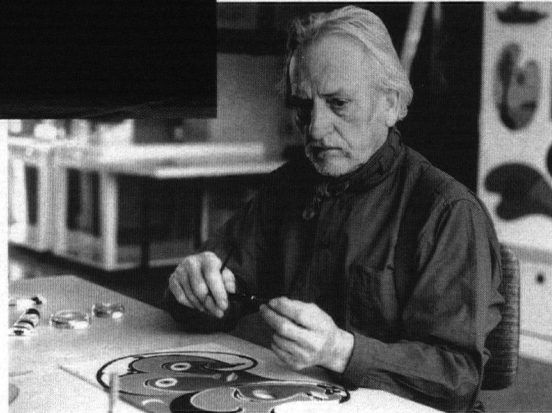
Music has always played a leading role in Canadian culture. In classical music, rock, jazz and opera Canadians are making their mark with music that transcends ethnic, cultural and political barriers. While Bryan Adams and Neil Young are popular with rock fans on all continents, Michel Rivard and Daniel Lavoie have won the hearts of Francophone audiences worldwide.

Every year jazz fans are attuned to Montreal and its annual festival, which in a short time has become one of jazzdom's most prestigious events. Uzeb and other groups are now associated with the great names of jazz. Oscar Peterson, a true legend, is still the leading light, while Lorraine Desmarais, Michel Donato, Karen Young and Ed Bickert are among those who are building a solid reputation.

Classical music is no less appreciated. A number of large Canadian cities have their own symphony orchestra, and many ensembles, such as the Canadian Brass and I Musici of



*Royal Winnipeg Ballet*



*Alfred Pellán, painter*

Montreal are featured regularly at major international festivals.

Of all the Canadian symphony orchestras, Montreal's is no doubt the best-known. Under the baton of Charles Dutoit, it has claimed an impressive and ever-increasing number of prizes and distinctions.

Among the performers of classical music, Glenn Gould merits first mention. His musical genius and innovative approach brought a new dimension and colouration to the genre. But no less worthy of note are the younger artists such as Angela Hewitt, Ofra Harnoy and Louis Lortie. These talents, too, are becoming world-renowned.

Finally, opera lovers are well-served by companies such as the Vancouver Opera Association and the Canadian Opera Company, known both for the originality and quality of their productions, and by performers such as Maureen Forrester, Jon Vickers and Louis Quilico.

## Dance

The popularity of dance has increased considerably since Ludmilla Chiriaeff

founded the first classical dance school in Montreal in the early 1950s. Today, the choreography of Edouard Lock's La La La Human Steps and the Desrosiers Dance Theatre are well-known to devotees of modern dance. These two companies are at the forefront of experimentation in this art form.

Mention must also be made of the three great Canadian ballet companies that regularly perform on the international circuit: the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens of Montreal and Toronto's National Ballet of Canada receive praise wherever they perform.

Every year, a growing number of independent choreographers and dancers perform in Canada and abroad. More than 150 artists work in this field. Margie Gillis, Marie Chouinard, Julie West, Ginette Laurin and Jean-Pierre Perrault are among the many artists developing and propagating a uniquely Canadian approach to dance.

## Literature

The linguistic dualism that characterizes Canadian society is clearly reflected in its literature. English-Canadian and French-Canadian literature are themselves subdivided into regional voices, which in turn mirror the concerns of their own varied communities. Within their literature, Canadians can find a reflection of themselves. Although still young in comparison to some literary traditions, "Canlit" is increasingly read and acclaimed by critics and readers the world over.

Acclaimed Canadian novelists, essayists and poets include Margaret Atwood, Alice Munro, Anne Hébert, Robertson Davies, Jacques Godbout, Hubert Aquin, Gaston Miron, Gabrielle Roy, Northrop Frye, Michael Ondaatje, Mordecai Richler and Jacques Ferron. All have succeeded in expressing something of the essence of their fellow Canadians, within a wide range of experiences and settings.

## Theatre

Since the creation of Montreal's Théâtre du Nouveau Monde (1956), and of Ontario's Stratford (1952) and Shaw (1963) festivals, Canada's dramatic repertory has been greatly expanded, with a multitude of works by Canadian and foreign authors having been added to the standards by Shakespeare and Molière. For instance, French-Canadian theatre, beginning 30 years ago with the works of Michel Tremblay, has grown in popularity both in Canada and abroad.

Canadian theatre is known for its innovative spirit and search for new forms. Troupes such as Carbone 14, Repère and Necessary Angel (Tamara) encourage direct interaction, breaking down the barriers between actor and audience, theatre and life. One example of this creative spirit is the Ligue nationale d'improvisation. Based on a revolutionary concept, it has found an enthusiastic audience in a number of Francophone countries.

Finally, companies such as Green Thumb, La Marmaille and Mermaid channel their creative energies toward younger audiences. These groups have a professionalism and originality that have made them international leaders in this field.

## Cinema

Canadian cinema is still relatively young, yet in a few years has produced works of great richness that have attracted the attention of critics by their quality, their universality and the relevance of their message.

Denys Arcand's *Le déclin de l'empire américain* (*Decline of the American Empire*), Lea Pool's *Anne Trister* and *Un Zoo la nuit* (*Night Zoo*) by Jean-Claude Lauzon have received world acclaim. Claude Jutra's *Mon Oncle Antoine* and Don Shebib's *Goin' Down the Road* have not only mirrored, but become part of Canadian history.

The productions of the National Film Board and in particular Norman McLaren have made Canada a force to be reckoned with in the world of animation. Frederick Back's 1987 Oscar-winning *The Man Who Planted Trees* (*L'homme qui plantait des arbres*) is a brilliant continuation of this tradition.

## The Visual Arts

From the winter landscapes of Kriehoff and the portraits of Théophile Hamel in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, to the multi-disciplinary works of Michael Snow, the visual arts in Canada have undergone numerous metamorphoses which, in turn, attest to the changes experienced by Canadian society.

"Let there be room for magic, room for hope, and room for the imagination," proclaimed French-Canadian painter Paul-Émile Borduas in 1948, introducing his soon-to-be famous *Refus global*. This manifesto, signed by 14 artists, called for the abandonment of academism and the advent of a new social order. Borduas and his group, the Automatists, advocated non-objectivity in art. The paintings of Jean-Paul Lemieux and Alfred Pellon nonetheless featured some figurative allusions, especially when depicting nature.

Yves Gaucher, Guido Molinari and Claude Tousignant tended toward a plastic, often geometrical concept of painting. In Toronto, 11 abstract expressionists, including Jack Bush, Jock MacDonald and William Ronald formed the "Group of Eleven."

Earlier in the century, the Group of Seven focused on Canadian nature for its main themes. The works of Tom Thomson and J.E.H. Macdonald

reproduced the vastness and majesty of Canada's environment.

Today, artists such as Paterson Ewen, "General Idea" and Jeff Wall are creating considerable interest at international events. They use advanced technology, including holography, installations, art video, computers and electronics, and even media communication techniques to relay their message.

Other Canadian visual artists, notably Betty Goodwin, Melvin Charney, Geneviève Cadieux, Irene Whitthone and Roland Poulin, are advocating a new pictorial language.

## Conclusion

Artistic expression in all its forms has long been recognized as an important facet of Canadian society. Cultural activities are strongly supported by the various levels of government — federal, provincial and municipal — and by private enterprise.

Canadian art derives its originality from the geography, climate and vast ethno-cultural diversity of the country. It also reflects a very specific historical reality, that of men and women who have come from all over the world determined to combine their efforts to build a society based on freedom and respect for individual values.



Kaleidoscope Theatre,  
Victoria, B.C.





# SPORTS

**T**hink of sports in Canada and you'll likely think of hockey. Some of the world's best-known hockey players are Canadian. And hockey is by far Canada's favourite spectator sport and one of its most widely played recreational sports.

But ask young Canadians to list their favourite sports activities and a much broader picture emerges. Those aged 13 to 24 cite aerobics, weight training, soccer, the martial arts, racquet sports and swimming as their top choices. They also enjoy baseball, basketball, canoeing, cycling, cross-country skiing and sailing.

Canadians view sport as an integral part of their lives — vital to well-rounded, healthy living. They take pride in their athletes' and teams' successes. And they consider sport a valuable tool for bringing people from different nations together in international competition.

Sport's importance in Canada is underscored by various federal government initiatives. There are programs encouraging Canadians to keep fit, financial and administrative assistance for national sport associations, and athlete assistance for national team competitors.

## Sports on Ice and Snow

More than 150 000 youngsters are in organized hockey leagues and many more play on the outdoor rinks found in nearly every Canadian community. Many dream of joining the National Hockey League (NHL), a professional league comprising 21 North American teams, including 7 Canadian-based teams in Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

Although many teams are located in the United States, the majority of the league players are Canadian. The NHL hockey season runs from October to May and is concluded by a playoff among the top teams for the Stanley Cup, a trophy symbolic of hockey supremacy in North America.



Athlete Information Bureau



ISTC

Canada's national hockey team, made up largely of young players who delay joining professional leagues for the chance to compete in the Olympic Games, is one of the most popular touring teams in the world, drawing large and enthusiastic crowds wherever it plays.

Canada also participates in the popular Canada Cup, a six-team international hockey tournament held every four years with teams from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, the United States and Finland.

Skiing — downhill and cross-country — is a sport that has captured the imagination of Canadians. The country boasts hundreds of ski areas, including world-renowned resorts in Banff, Alberta, and Whistler, British Columbia, as well as an abundance of cross-country ski trails.

In international competition, Canadian skiers have excelled in recent years on the World Cup circuit

and at the Winter Olympic Games. The "Crazy Canucks" were among the best male downhill racers in the late 1970s and early 1980s and, at the 1988 Calgary Olympics, rising star Karen Percy led the new generation of Canadian women skiers with two bronze medals.

Not surprisingly, Canada also excels in figure skating. A vast network of figure-skating clubs throughout the country has produced a long line of world and Olympic medalists — from Barbara Ann Scott and Elizabeth Manley to Toller Cranston and Brian Orser. As a spectator sport, figure skating has steadily increased in popularity over the past decade and at the 1988 Calgary Olympics topped the television ratings in Canada.

Although not practised as widely as figure skating, speed skating has produced Canada's greatest Winter Olympian, Gaétan Boucher, the winner of two gold medals and a bronze at the 1984 Olympics. With the

new indoor oval built for the Calgary Olympics, Canada now has one of the best speed-skating facilities in the world.

A relatively new sport that has attracted a large following in Canada is ringette: more than 50 000 ringette competitors play on about 2 500 teams. Played mostly by women, ringette is similar to hockey, taking place on ice with skates, sticks and a rubber ring.

### Sports Variety

The myth of Canadians being ice- and snow-bound for most of the year is quickly shattered when one looks at the variety of warm-weather sports played here. These include swimming, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, track and field, tennis, soccer, rugby, field hockey and golf.

Swimming is not only one of the most popular recreational sports in Canada, it is also a powerhouse event for Canadian athletes in international competition. Canadians have won more than 50 Olympic medals since the 1912 Summer Games in Stockholm and have held numerous world records.

Canada has also been a world leader in synchronized swimming since the sport began more than 50 years ago. At the 1988 Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, Korea, Carolyn Waldo capped a remarkable career by winning two gold medals for Canada — one in the solo event and the second in the duet with her partner Michelle Cameron.

In recent years, Canadian riders have made their mark internationally in the sport of show jumping. In 1986, Gail Greenough became the first woman to win a world championship in Aachen, West Germany, and, in 1988, Ian Millar won the 1988 World Cup Final in Goteborg, Sweden. He was also named the number one rider in the world.

Tennis is an activity enjoyed by many Canadians year-round on public courts and at tennis clubs throughout the country. Although not a world power in tennis, Canada has several promising young players on the international circuit.

After years of gradual development, soccer, the world's most popular sport, is now entrenched in Canada with a large base of young competitors and a professional national league. In 1986, Canada achieved a major breakthrough in international competition, qualifying for the World Cup for the first time.

In terms of spectator appeal, professional baseball and football rank with hockey at the top of the list. The Canadian Football League (CFL) has teams in Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Ottawa, Regina, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg. The annual Grey Cup game, with the league's top two teams vying for the league championship, is traditionally one of the most watched sports events in Canada. About 50 per cent of CFL players are Canadian; the rest are American. Feeding the CFL are well-developed football programs at most Canadian high schools and universities.

Although there is only a handful of Canadians playing professional baseball in North America, major league teams in Montreal and Toronto attract millions of spectators every season. Baseball and softball are popular recreational sports in Canada with countless local teams and leagues in operation in the summer and autumn.

### International Role

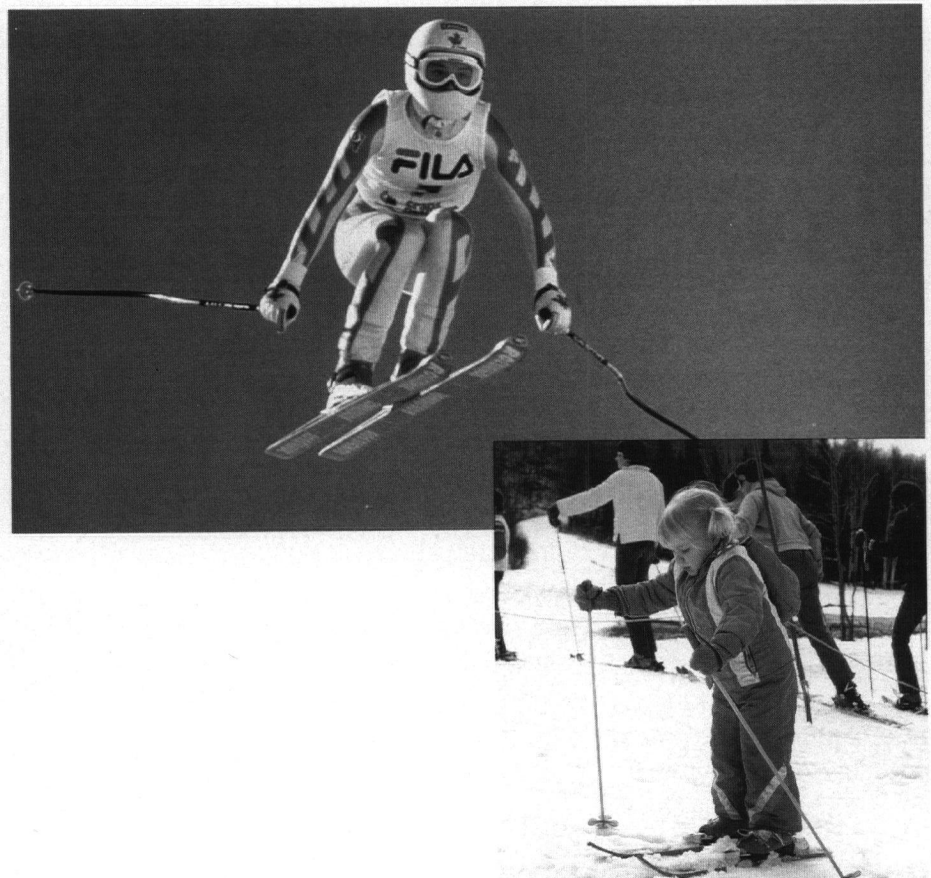
With more than 60 national teams participating in international competition, Canada has a wealth of technical and administrative sports expertise that it shares with other countries through various programs and exchanges.

Canada has hosted almost every major international sport competition: the Summer and Winter Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Pan American Games and the World University Games. In 1994, Canada will again host the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, British Columbia.

The federal government supports sport around the world through financial aid for international competitions held in Canada and through programs promoting international sports relations as a means of strengthening global ties.

### The Future

Sport has always played an important role in the life of Canadians, but only recently has Canada come into its own as a sporting nation, ranking among the top 15 nations. Its first-rate competitors and international sports initiatives, such as participation in the international fight against *apartheid* in sport, have earned the country a sport leadership role. Canada continues to promote the contribution of physical fitness to personal and community well-being at home and international sport endeavours as a means of transcending political, cultural and religious differences abroad.



ISTC





# THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE (RCMP)

**I**mmortalized by Hollywood movies, the red-coated, broad-hatted Mountie has become one of the most widely recognized symbols of Canada. The claim "they always get their man" is known the world over. The colourful RCMP musical ride, an equitation exhibition set to music, is a popular attraction for visitors to Canada and it often tours to enthusiastic response abroad.

But the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is not simply a part of the Canadian mythology, and its activities are not confined to equestrian displays. The RCMP is Canada's national police force, and it has earned an international reputation as one of the most sophisticated law enforcement agencies in the world.

## Origins

The RCMP was established more than a century ago as the North-West Mounted Police, a "temporary" experiment in rural policing.

In the early days of Canada's settlement, there was no major police force. At the time of Canada's Confederation in 1867, even the largest cities of Montreal and Toronto had few full-time constables. Only the small Dominion Police force upheld federal laws. Small towns and rural areas, however, had no police. Laws were enforced by temporary court-appointed constables or soldiers.

In 1870, when Canada bought the land north of the U.S. border between the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains, the Canadian government decided a law enforcement agency was needed. This vast area sparsely populated with fur traders, hunters and trappers would be thrown open to settlement. If not handled properly, the sudden large influx of settlers into traditional Indian lands could lead to violence on an unprecedented scale with the possible loss of many lives.

As well as being costly in terms of lives, the waging of battles against aboriginal tribes a great distance away

from the central government could bankrupt the country. The Canadian government wanted a better way to deal with land settlement and was concerned that the aboriginal peoples should be treated fairly.

The government decided to create a para-military police force to maintain order until the western lands were occupied by settlers who respected traditional institutions. This force, established in 1873, came to be called the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP). It was intended that it be disbanded once the territory was settled peacefully.

At first there were 150 recruits to the force, but this was soon increased to 300. The officers were armed with pistols, carbines and a few small artillery pieces, although they were reluctant to use their weapons. The NWMP officers covered their territory on horseback and wore red tunics that became, for the Indians, a symbol of fairness and justice.



*The RCMP's Musical Ride*

## Transition

Over the years, the NWMP established close relations with the Indians, preparing them for treaty negotiations, and mediating conflicts with the settlers.

The force was increased to 500 in 1883 and given new responsibilities, including the duty of preserving the peace during construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. After the 1885 Métis uprising led by Louis Riel (the Northwest Rebellion), the NWMP increased again to a 1 000-member force.

A full-scale gold rush in the Yukon at the turn of the century carried the potential for violence as prospectors converged from all over the world into the territory. The presence of the NWMP ensured the gold rush was orderly and violence minimal.

When the gold rush ended, the NWMP turned its attention to the eastern and western Arctic, where the force opened detachments aimed at stemming reported abuse of natives and threats by European nations to Canadian sovereignty. By this time, the NWMP was tacitly accepted as a permanent institution.

In 1904, King Edward VII added the term "Royal" to the force's name in recognition of its services. In 1920, the RNWMP became the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and was officially expanded into a national police force. In the same year, its headquarters was moved from Regina, Saskatchewan, to Canada's capital, Ottawa.

In 1928, the RCMP began performing police duties in areas beyond federal jurisdiction on contract with different provinces and municipalities. Canada's Constitution defines law and enforcement as a provincial responsibility. But a majority of provinces decided they could meet this responsibility most effectively through the services of the RCMP. The RCMP continues to provide these services today.

The RCMP's role is essentially that of "keeping the peace," but it has made important contributions to Canada's efforts in times of war. Members have served overseas in the South African War and during both world wars.

## The RCMP Today

Today the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is a highly advanced and technologically sophisticated police force. It is commanded by a commissioner who reports to the federal government through the solicitor general. The commissioner also reports to the attorneys-general of those provinces where the RCMP provides provincial police services.

With more than 13 000 peace officers and about 7 000 civilian employees, the force maintains crime-detection laboratories across Canada, a computerized police-information centre and the Canadian Police College in Ottawa, and a training academy in Regina. The Police College offers advanced courses to members of other police forces in Canada and around the world.

The major responsibilities of the RCMP include the following:

**Municipal policing.** The RCMP acts as the municipal police force in about 200 Canadian cities and towns.

**Provincial policing.** The force has contract agreements to provide police services in the Yukon and Northwest Territories and 8 of Canada's 10 provinces (Ontario and Quebec are the exceptions).

**Federal law enforcement.** The RCMP enforces about 140 federal laws and statutes dealing with narcotics, commercial crime, immigration and passport control, customs and excise and counterfeiting.

**INTERPOL.** The RCMP represents Canada internationally as a member of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). The force also has liaison officers in 28 countries.

**National security.** In 1984, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) took over the intelligence-gathering responsibilities of the RCMP. The RCMP, however, is still responsible for enforcing national security.

Over the years the RCMP has evolved from a small temporary rural police force to become one of international standing. Yet, throughout its history, it has always emphasized the peaceful settlement of differences, using guns only as a last resort. True to its motto — *Maintiens le Droit* or "Maintain the Right" — the RCMP continues to be a distinctive symbol of Canada not only to Canadians, but to the world.





# THE INDIANS

**W**ith a history that dates back thousands of years, Canadian Indians form an important and distinct part of Canadian society. Christopher Columbus misnamed them "Indians" in 1492 when he thought he had arrived in India. Today Indians are succeeding in reminding Canadians they were once free self-sustaining nations with their own forms of government. Canadian Indians are in a period of transition as they pursue a cultural, social, political and economic revival.

In Canada, there are currently more than 440 000 registered Indians; when "registered," the individual is recognized under federal law as being an Indian, entitled to certain rights, privileges and benefits. About 60 per cent of registered Indians live on specified areas of land, called reserves, set aside through treaties or the Indian Act for their use and benefit. There are over 2 200 reserves across Canada for the 600 bands. Most are in rural areas, many are isolated and some are not inhabited.

## Origins

Most anthropologists agree that the North American Indian migrated over the Bering Sea from Siberia, 10 000 to 30 000 years ago. When the European explorers and settlers arrived, Canada was populated by a diverse range of aboriginal peoples who, depending on environment, lived nomadic or settled lifestyles, were hunters, fishermen or farmers, were warlike or peaceful. They shared — and continue to share — a deep and spiritual relationship with the land and the life forms it supports. Each Indian culture had distinct spiritual beliefs and ceremonies, many of which have been carried down through the generations by Indian elders.

## The Newcomers

No aspect of Indian life remained untouched by European contact, which began in earnest in the 1600s. Initially, several Indian "nations" forged trade and military alliances



Young Indian in native costume

with England and France who were struggling for control of the New World. In return for European goods, Indians provided their military skills, furs and other resources.

The newcomers also brought Christianity and disease to North America: missionaries weakened traditional spiritual beliefs and epidemics devastated aboriginal populations.

## Early Indian Administration

Britain gained control of most of North America in 1760 and, three years later, issued the Royal Proclamation that reserved lands for the Indians and prescribed that only governments could deal with Indians on land matters. This prompted a series of land-cession treaties under which Indians gave up their claims to specified tracts of land in return for lump-sum cash payments and other benefits. From 1830 on, settlement on reserves in parts of what is now eastern Canada began under government guardianship; Indians effectively became wards of the state. Treaty-making continued in northern Ontario and the western provinces until 1923.

## Post-Confederation Period

With Canadian Confederation in 1867, the new federal government was given legislative authority over "Indians and lands reserved for Indians." Passage of the first Indian Act in 1876 gave government great powers to control Indians living on reserves. Many of the restrictive provisions of the 1876 Act are still in place.

Over the next century, efforts to assimilate Indians into the white man's world included a process called "enfranchisement," whereby Indians renounced their aboriginal title to land in return for other rights and benefits, for example, the right to vote.

By the late 1940s and 1950s, it was evident that the Indian infant mortality rate was high and life expectancy was low. Several experiments in educating Indian youth had failed and housing standards on the reserves were poor. Problems associated with alcohol and unemployment were also widespread.

However, by the mid-1960s, there were signs of change in social and economic conditions. Health services were enhanced and Indian children had

greatly improved access to higher education. By the end of the decade, Indians had obtained full political and legal rights. Progress has also been made to ensure people on reserves have adequate shelter.

Although Indians are now represented in most professions, in the arts and at every level of Canadian government, serious economic and social problems remain. Unemployment rates are high compared to non-natives and housing is still inadequate on many reserves. The Government of Canada is working with Indian community leaders to address these and other issues.

### A New Relationship

During the 1970s, Indians acquired more control over their community life and affairs. Through this process of devolution, Indian communities are assuming responsibility for the administration of federally funded programs and services. At the end of the 1980s, Indian communities directly administered about 70 per cent of Indian program expenditures of the federal department, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Canada's Constitution Act, 1982, affirmed existing aboriginal and treaty rights. It established a process for further discussions on self-government and other aboriginal issues through the First Ministers' conferences. In addition, it was committed to including aboriginal leaders in the discussions.

Since 1984, the federal government has followed three main policies in regard to Indian peoples:

- to support Indians in their efforts to become more self-reliant and to take charge of their own communities;
- to maintain and improve the community services available to Indians living on reserves; and
- to settle native land claims.

### Land Claims

There has been a significant increase in native land claim activities over the past two decades. Comprehensive claims are based on aboriginal title arising from traditional use and occupancy of land not covered by treaties or other means. Specific claims arise from the non-fulfilment of Indian treaties or alleged wrongdoing on the part of the Crown related to the administration of Indian land and other assets. Both types of claims

provide an opportunity to establish a land and economic base, and the mechanisms with which Indian communities can pursue self-government.

### Self-Government

The Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act, 1984, set in place the first Indian self-governments in Canada. Along with efforts to arrive at a constitutional amendment on self-government, the federal government authorized community-based negotiations leading to self-government arrangements. For example, the Sechelt Indian Band Self-Government Act, 1986, provides for the Sechelt Band of British Columbia to assume control over its lands, resources, health and social services, education and local taxation.

### Bill C-31

Until the mid-1980s, a registered Indian woman lost her status if she married a person other than a registered Indian. Any woman who married a registered Indian, however, became a registered Indian. This changed with passage of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1985. Notwithstanding opposition from some Indian people, government realization of the need to remedy past discrimination led to an amendment (known as Bill C-31) to the Indian Act. The amendment allowed for the reinstatement or registration for the first time of certain Indian women and their children. More than 65 000 people have obtained registration or had it restored. It is expected this number will reach 90 000 by 1991. Bill C-31 also eliminated all forms of "enfranchisement" (see definition above)

and provides Indian bands with the opportunity to assume control over their own membership rules.

### Culture

Since the 1950s, there has been a remarkable reawakening of Indian culture. Native language, culture and history programs have been instituted in schools. Cultural centres are flourishing, and traditional practices and beliefs are increasingly being used to combat alcoholism and drug problems. Indian elders are once again playing a vital role and linking the generations. Every summer, Indian groups across Canada host "powwows" — spectacular celebrations reminiscent of the annual gatherings held by Indians in earlier times.

### The Future

Indians want recognition of their rights as the original inhabitants of Canada — in effect, the country's "First Nations." There is no consensus, even among Indian and other aboriginal groups, as to how these rights should be defined.

Indian peoples want to be recognized as partners in Canadian society, with access to the same opportunities as other Canadians. They wish to protect and revive their languages and cultures. They are adamantly opposed to assimilation. In addition, Indians are actively seeking settlement of land claims and other long-standing grievances, joint management of resources in regions in close proximity to their lands, and powers to govern their communities according to their own priorities and values.





# THE INUIT

**M**uch has been written about the Inuit peoples of the Arctic, some of it factual, much of it fanciful.

Although they represent the tiniest fraction of the world's five billion people, they are famous far beyond their homeland.

Perhaps this recognition stems from the uniqueness of their traditional lifestyle and culture. Or perhaps it comes from others' fascination with the Inuit's ability to survive and thrive in the harsh and demanding climate of Canada's North.

Canada is home to a quarter of the world's Inuit population. Today, most live in some 40 often small and remote communities along the northern shores of Canada's mainland and in the Arctic islands which span 4 000 km and five time zones.

Modern technology has made life easier for the Inuit — facilitating transportation and communications, and improving health care and protection against the harsh climate. The traditional dog team has largely been replaced by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, cars and trucks. The harpoon has been superseded by the rifle. And the *iglu*, that legendary dome-shaped snow house, has been replaced by buildings with central heating, electricity, appliances and plumbing and is now used only by the hunter out on the land overnight.

But modern life has also brought new problems with it. In common with many aboriginal peoples, Canada's Inuit must grapple with the challenge of adapting to life in an advanced industrial society while maintaining and preserving their traditional social and cultural roots.

## History

The exact origins of the Canadian Inuit are unknown. It is generally believed, however, that their ancestors came to North America from Asia, crossing a land bridge formed between the two continents during the last ice age.



Secretary of State

These ancestors were inland hunters, but as they moved east across the North, they adapted to coastal conditions and began to hunt seal and walrus. The culture that can properly be described as Inuit is considered to have sprung from this adaptation to marine hunting and the use of the kayak.

Hunting remains central to Inuit life. Indeed, their society was ordered around this activity, with the family as the basic unit. Because hunting was essentially a co-operative group venture, several households would form into a group to hunt. Until well into this century, there were some 700 such groups of Inuit scattered across the North.

The Inuit adapted their lifestyle to the conditions they found. On Hudson Bay's western shores, where game was plentiful, the Caribou Inuit were inland hunters who never went to sea. In other areas, marine mammals and fish were the main diet. The food supply, although limited in variety and

often difficult to obtain, was balanced nutritionally.

## Contact with the Outside

For many centuries, the Canadian Inuit lived in nearly total isolation. Despite some brief and limited contact with early explorers, it was not until the advent of the nineteenth-century whaling fleets that the Inuit had any lasting and significant dealings with Europeans.

The growing importance of the fur trade also brought the Inuit into further contact with the outside. Because furs were always a vital part of the Inuit lifestyle, trapping soon became as important an activity as hunting. Although the fur trade subsequently dwindled, hunting and trapping have remained a major source of food and income for many Inuit families.

## A Period of Transition

Interaction between the Inuit and other Canadians accelerated rapidly during and following World War II. Airfields, weather stations and a radar

line across Canada's north were built. Government services, mining exploration and development increased and, more recently, large oil and gas reserve discoveries have brought thousands of southerners into the North.

It was during this latter period that the Canadian government recognized the Inuit as full citizens and began providing health, education and other social services. This led to a greatly increased government presence and presaged the move of the Inuit to a smaller number of larger, more stable communities with schools, churches, government offices and stores.

### **The Inuit Today**

Hunting and fishing still provide many Inuit with fresh protein. Some sealing and trapping activities continue, but anti-sealing and anti-trapping crusades have diminished the value of these once lucrative industries. The practices, however, remain part of Inuit culture, provide most of the food supply and supplement many incomes.

The Inuit's economic base is much more diversified today than in past years. There has been great demand for the internationally renowned Inuit carvings and prints. Generally sold through Inuit co-operatives, they provide a steady source of income to many communities.

Inuit community growth has provided jobs in community services, service and development industries, and government. Some Inuit, particularly in the western Arctic, are finding employment in the oil and gas industry and related service enterprises.

Many communities are too remote to allow the Inuit reasonable access to major labour markets. The problem of further diversifying the economy and providing meaningful employment for the young and growing Inuit population is a major challenge.

### **Political Awakening**

Traditionally, the Canadian Inuit had few formal political structures. They remained largely outside the political systems that were introduced with the modernization of the North. For example, the Inuit had no vote in Canadian elections until 1962.

Concerned with regaining greater control over their lives and their future, the Inuit have become much more politically active. Most communities are now

incorporated and governed by elected councils, similar to those in municipalities across Canada. In the Northwest Territories, where the Inuit and other aboriginal peoples form a majority of the population, Inuit are well represented in the Legislative Assembly and at the territorial ministerial level. In Canada's Parliament, Inuit members now sit in both the House of Commons and the Senate. Notable among the political organizations formed, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada speaks with a united voice on major economic, environmental and political issues of concern to the Inuit.

Canada's Inuit have also joined those of Greenland, Alaska and the Soviet Union to form the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, an international body addressing the key issues and concerns of the entire arctic world.

Discussions, under way for several years, could lead to a new, predominantly Inuit, territory in Canada's North comprising roughly the eastern half of the present Northwest Territories. The new territory would be called Nunavut and would hold the same degree of political and economic sovereignty as the other northern territories.

### **Land Claims**

As the North became more developed, conflicts over land ownership and rights inevitably emerged. Usually, land not privately owned belongs to the Government of Canada. The Inuit believe they have a historic claim to large tracts of land by virtue of their occupancy and use over many centuries.

During the last decade, the government and the Inuit have been involved in negotiations aimed at achieving comprehensive land claims settlements. These settlements involve the exchange of the Inuit's historic claim for more concrete rights and benefits clearly defined in law.

The benefits include title to specific land areas, cash settlements and protection of traditional hunting, fishing and trapping rights. The settlements also provide for greater Inuit participation in decision making relating to economic development and environmental protection in their region.

Claims settlements have been successfully reached with Inuit groups in northern Quebec and in the western Arctic. The Tungavik Federation of Nunavut was formed to negotiate the

claim of Inuit in the eastern and central Arctic, and negotiations are well under way. Negotiations have also begun with the Labrador Inuit.

### **Environmental Protection**

Throughout the modern development of the Canadian North, the Inuit have been leaders in urging caution and concern for the effects of human activity on the arctic environment. They have a deeply rooted tradition of living in harmony with the land and with nature, understanding better than most the northern ecological system's fragility.

Canadians have become aware that the North is no longer a remote, pristine area immune from industrialization's effects. Contaminants caused by activities thousands of kilometres away have shown up in the environment and in the Inuit diet. In the years ahead, climate change and phenomena such as the "greenhouse effect" can profoundly change northern life.

The Inuit of Canada are working with the territorial and national governments to study and better understand developments and seek solutions to the problems posed.


### **Looking Ahead**

Canada's Inuit have shown remarkable resiliency in withstanding, absorbing and adapting to the onslaught of a very different culture without losing either their traditional values or their desire to remain a distinct and self-reliant society.

They have, in recent years, gained a measure of political control. The final settlement of all land claims will provide a more certain base from which they can plan their future.

The transition is not yet complete. As with all cultures, change is evolutionary and many challenges lie ahead. One of the most important of these is to establish a more stable economic base so that the Inuit sense of self-reliance can be maintained. Future generations of young Inuit can then continue to live and lead productive lives in the traditional land of their people.



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