

Chapter Seven

Canadian– American Relations

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Expectations

Overall Expectations:

By the end of this chapter, you will be able to

- describe how individual Canadians have contributed to the development of Canada and its sense of identity
- describe major local, national, and global events that have influenced Canada's policies and identity since 1914

Specific Expectations:

By the end of this chapter, you will be able to

- summarize Canada's changing relationship with the United States
- identify some of the ways in which the United States has influenced Canadian foreign policy
- assess the advantages and disadvantages of American participation in the Canadian economy
- identify major effects of freer trade and globalization (e.g., creation of the North American Free Trade Agreement)
- explain how American culture and lifestyles (e.g., music, dance, clothing, speech, movies, television, Internet) have influenced Canada
- describe how the work of selected individuals has reflected Canadian identity
- identify how the federal government has used the media to promote a common Canadian identity

Word List

Acid rain

CRTC

Free trade

Icon

International Joint

Commission

Split run magazine

Trade sanctions

Auto Pact

Embassy

Global warming

International Boundary

Commission

NAFTA

Suez Crisis

Advance Organizer

1945

1950

1956



1 Canada's closest neighbour is the United States.



The two countries are partners on many levels.

Still, the people of the two countries do not know one another well. Many old and wrong ideas persist.



2 The United States greatly affects Canada's entertainment industry. Canadians find this a constant challenge.

Canada has several organizations that work hard to develop and preserve Canadian culture.



SCTV cast



3 The United States is Canada's most important trading partner. They share many economic interests. The two nations are friends and allies. They also deal with divisive issues.



Canadian fishers blockaded an American ferry during the salmon wars.

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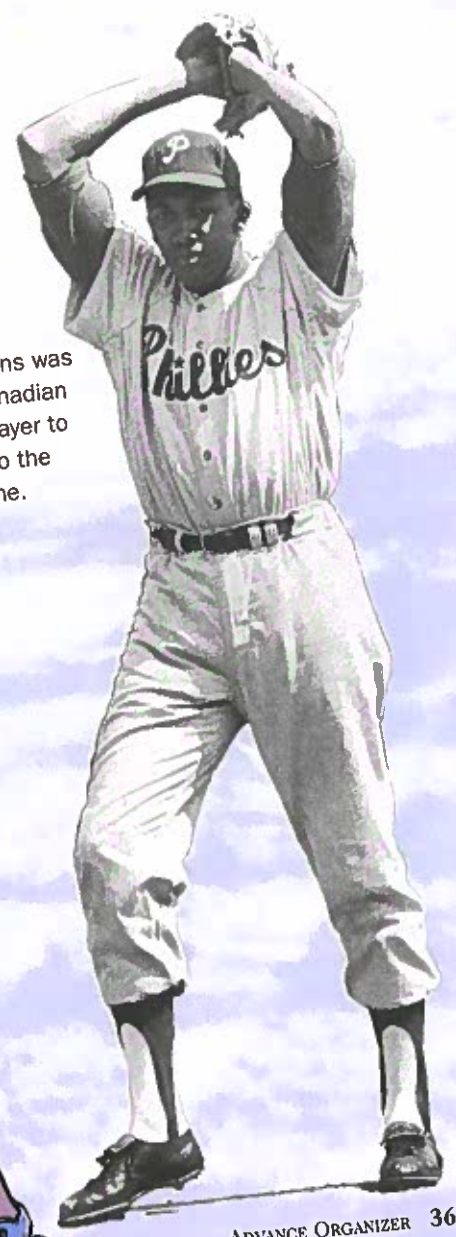
1 2 3 4 5

4 Canada and the United States have shared the world's longest undefended border. The border was almost invisible until 2001. After the World Trade Center bombing, though, security was tightened.



Waterton Glacier International Peace Park spans the U.S.-Canada international border between Montana and Alberta.

Fergie Jenkins was the first Canadian baseball player to make it into the Hall of Fame.



5 Hockey, football, baseball, and basketball are played across the continent. United States citizens can play on Canadian teams. Canadians can play on American teams. The Olympic Games are an exception.

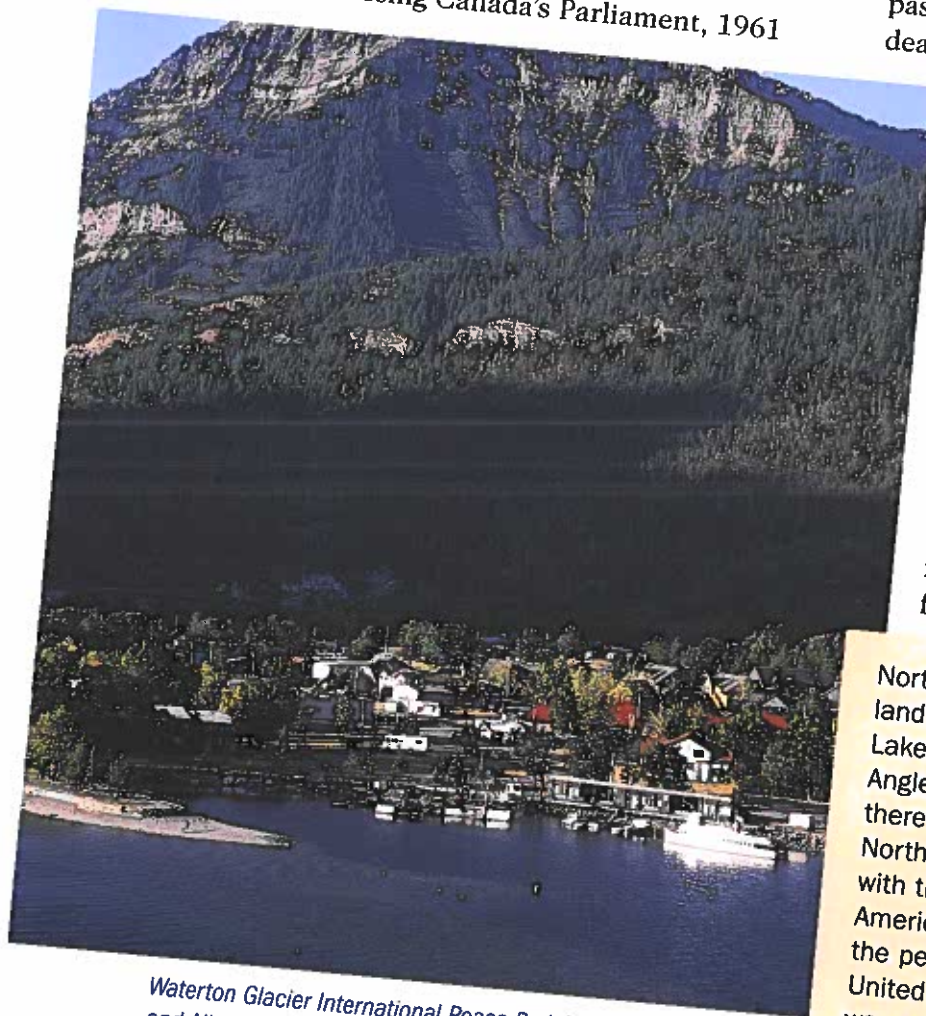


Canada's Gold medal-winning Olympic Hockey team, 2006

The Geographic Link

*"Geography has made us neighbors.
History has made us friends. Economics
has made us partners. And necessity
has made us allies."*

U.S. President John F. Kennedy
addressing Canada's Parliament, 1961



*Waterton Glacier International Peace Park is in both Montana
and Alberta. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage site.*

Canada and the United States share the world's longest border. It is 9000 km long. We have similar immigration patterns, settlement histories, and livelihoods. Often in the past, we have acted in the same way when dealing with the rest of the world. Americans and Canadians have worked together since Canada became a country in 1867. Our two nations have closer economic, social, and political ties than any other two nations in the Western world. Canada's population is only one-tenth that of the United States, though. Canadians must work hard to preserve a special character. Close association with the United States enriches Canada; however, it is important that it not swallow us up. Canadians have always wanted to resist the American presence, yet gain from it at the same time.

Northwest Angle is a small corner of land in Minnesota. It borders Manitoba's Lake of the Woods. Visitors to Northwest Angle must travel through Canada to get there—unless they come by boat. Northwest Angle's citizens were unhappy with the condition of their roads and with American fishing regulations. In 1998, the people said they wanted to leave the United States and join Canada. There was no Canadian response.

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BORDER CROSSINGS

Most of the Can–Am border is unfenced. We rely on lakes, rivers, and roadways to define where one country ends and the other begins. There are 140 land crossings along the Can–Am border. Fifty of these are in remote areas. Often, these are not even staffed at night. Some border crossings are busy, though. These include the Ambassador Bridge linking Windsor, Ontario, with Detroit, Michigan; the Peace Bridge connecting Fort Erie, Ontario, with Buffalo, New York; and the Blue Water Bridge linking Sarnia, Ontario, with Port Huron, Michigan. More than 300 000 Canadians and Americans cross the border every day for business and pleasure.

When seen from the air, the border in wooded areas looks like a 6 m–wide strip of clear-cut. To cross the border from Detroit to Windsor, people drive due south into Canada. The border passes between two small islands in the Thousand Islands in the St. Lawrence River near Gananoque, Ontario—the very short bridge that connects them is the world’s shortest international bridge. Sometimes, the border runs through the middle of a town. Sometimes, it runs through the middle of a house. It even cuts through the main reading room of the Haskell Library in Derby Line, Vermont.

Many Canadians and Americans are used to crossing the border without fuss. During the Vietnam War, 20 000 American draft-dodgers entered Canada. The United States was not pleased.

Not all border crossings are routine. In 1985, well-known Canadian author and naturalist Farley Mowat was not allowed into the United States. He was going there to give a series of lectures. He was popular, but outspoken in his views, so had been put on an American list of “undesirables.” American officials turned him back at the border. Canadians were outraged. Mowat’s rejection was later overturned, but he refused to travel to the United States again. *My Discovery of America* is his account of the event.



Farley Mowat

The terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 have increased security at Can–Am border crossings. Border alerts have sometimes caused long backups. Now, Canadian and American immigration officials check citizens’ papers. In 2005, the United States said that Canadians would likely need passports for entry. The border is now more guarded and defended. The targets are international terrorists, *not* Canadians and Americans.



International Peace Arch at Douglas, B.C., and Blaine, Washington.

The border is a visible sign that separates Canada and the United States. It also plays a symbolic role. Peter C. Newman, a Canadian author, said: "The boundary is the most important fact about this country. It defines not only our citizenship but also how we behave collectively and what we think individually. It determines who we are."

A 1999 *Maclean's* magazine survey suggested that a borderless North America was only a matter of time. The survey showed that most Canadians wanted to remain different. About 25 percent said that they would become Americans. A similar *Maclean's* poll in 2002 showed that the desire for American citizenship had dropped.

There was also less support for a common North American form of money. Only 38 percent of Canadians thought that both countries shared a common set of values and beliefs.

TIMELINE

- 1783** The Treaty of Paris established the border from the Atlantic to the Prairies, along a series of rivers and what is now the St. Lawrence system, and the 49th parallel.
- 1842** The Webster-Ashburton Treaty added more precise definition, especially in the Maritimes.
- 1846** The Oregon Treaty continued the border along the 49th parallel from the Prairies to the Pacific, and through the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca.
- 1908** The International Boundary Commission was established. This commission, with one commissioner from each country, looks after the border and any related issues.



At the Canadian–American border between British Columbia and Washington State: Besides the two markers, a long line of clear-cut vegetation marks this portion of the world's longest, undefended border.

FOCUS

- 1. What are some concerns that Canadians feel about living so close to the United States?**
- 2. Do you think that eventually Canada and the United States will become one nation? Explain.**

The Political Link

Canada and the United States usually have a warm and friendly relationship. In 1938, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt received an honorary degree from Queen's University, Kingston. In sharing his "Good Neighbour Policy," he noted that Canadians and Ameri-

tary and political alliances. These include APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), OAS (Organization of American States), and NORAD (North American Aerospace Defence Command). Meetings and telephone conver-

sations between the two leaders are quite common. The United States has an embassy in Ottawa and consulates across Canada. Canada has an embassy in Washington and consulates in several American cities.

In 1956, Prime Minister Lester Pearson worked closely with the United States to end the Suez Crisis. Neither country wanted the Soviet Union to become part of the Arab-Israeli hostilities. In 1991, both countries took part in the Gulf War. The United



Canadian troops receive medals for their work in the Afghanistan campaign in 2005.

Nations did not see one another as "foreigners." He promised that the people of the United States "would not stand idly by" if Canadian soil were threatened by another nation.

Foreign Affairs

Canada and the United States often agree on how issues with other countries should be handled. The two neighbours share many interests. They have many "friends" in common. They belong to many of the same mili-

Nations sponsored the military action because Iraq had invaded oil-rich Kuwait. In 1999, both Canada and the United States served NATO forces in Kosovo, Yugoslavia, to prevent mass slaughter.

From time to time, the two nations disagree about how to handle a situation. Moments of tension arise. Canada did not approve of American policy towards Cuba, the Vietnam War, and the 2003 Iraq War. The United States did not want Canada to

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establish diplomatic relations with communist governments in Cuba and China.

Sometimes, friendship develops between the leaders. A highlight was the 1985 Shamrock Summit. “Irishmen” President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney got along well.

Sometimes, though, the two leaders hold different opinions. During the Vietnam War, Prime Minister Lester Pearson called for a suspension of air strikes against North Vietnam. He hoped to restore peace talks—U.S. President Johnson was furious. Earlier, the United States disapproved of John Diefenbaker’s nationalist policies. The Americans were displeased when Canada exported wheat to communist China. In 2005, Prime Minister Paul Martin openly disagreed with President George W. Bush. He did not like his policies about global warming and softwood lumber exports to the United States.

A FRIEND IN NEED

In 1979, the staff of the American embassy in Iran was taken hostage.

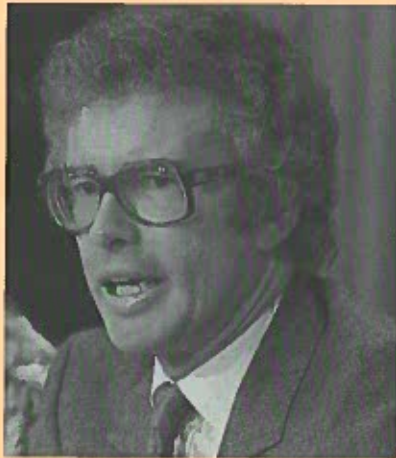
Six American diplomats escaped. They hid in the homes of Canadian embassy officials. No one knew the Americans were even alive. Two months later, in January 1980, the Americans left Iran secretly.

They got out by using fake Canadian passports. The Royal Canadian

Mounted Police and the American Central Intelligence Agency worked

together to prepare the documents. Overnight, Canadian ambassador Ken Taylor became a hero. The wives of the Canadian officials also showed courage. They lived in fear that the Iranians would discover their “guests.” It was up

to these women to act as if everything was normal at home. They did.



U.S. law forbids American companies from selling goods to “enemy” countries. Canadians protest when an American parent company forces its Canadian branch to cancel a sale.

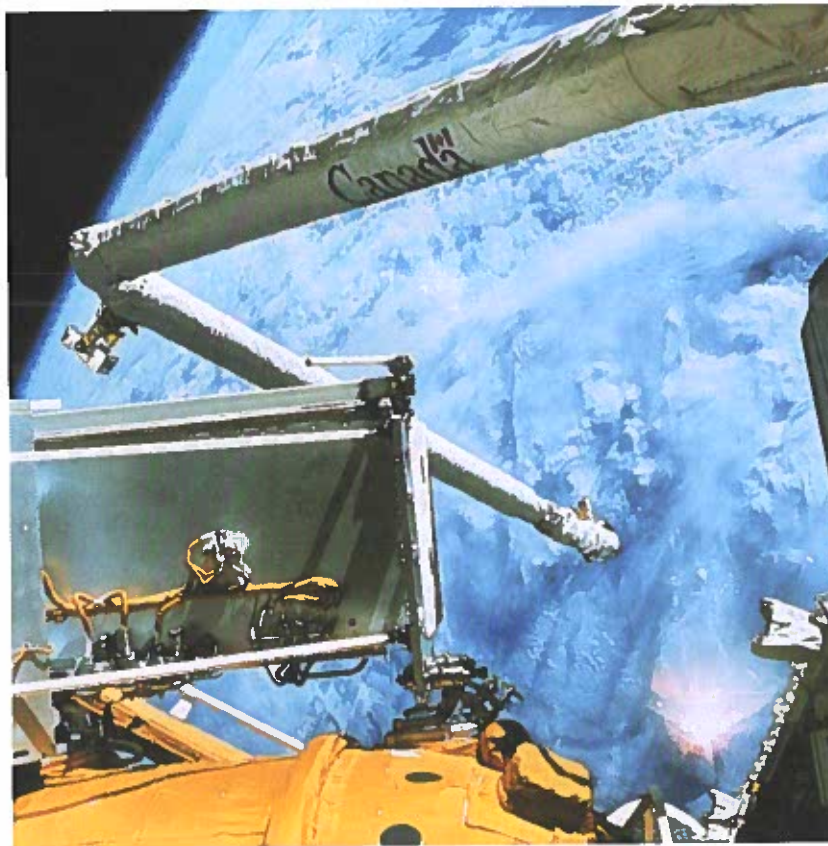
FOCUS

1. What are some of the international organizations and alliances that Canada and the United States both belong to?
2. What are some common interests between the countries?
3. What disagreements have existed between Canada and the United States?
4. Who is Ken Taylor? How did he become a hero?

Environmental Links

The Space Link

Canada and the United States have worked closely together in the area of space exploration. In 1962, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) helped Canada launch Canadian satellites into the earth's



In 1982, NASA contracted with Canadian scientists to develop and purchase the remote manipulation device, Canadarm. It has proved invaluable during NASA's manned space flights. New remote manipulation devices are a major Canadian contribution to space exploration. Here, the Canadarm is installing a docking module.

outer atmosphere. By 1976, Canada, working with NASA, launched a telecommunications satellite. It broadcast radio and TV programs directly into Canadian homes. Several Canadian astronauts, such as Marc Garneau, have taken part in NASA-sponsored space flights.

The co-operative effort between Canada and the United States to explore and use the space environment is long-standing and ongoing.

The Water Link

In 1909, Canada and the United States set up the **International Joint Commission (IJC)**. Three representatives from each country serve on it. The IJC's role is to protect lakes and river systems along the border. When communities or industries pollute these waters, both countries suffer. The IJC investigates pollution problems. The Commission also considers applications for dams or canals in these waters. If it approves a project, it can set conditions limiting water levels and water flow. It may also monitor how the structure is run. Shore properties, wetlands, and the interests of farmers, shippers, and others must be protected.

The Great Lakes— A Chemical Hot Spot

Over 360 chemical compounds have been identified in the Great Lakes.

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Many, such as lead, DDT, and mercury, are dangerous to humans and aquatic ecosystems. For example, various species of fish now suffer from tumours. Their capacity to reproduce is decreasing. Populations of fish-eating birds and mammals also seem to be on the decline. Of the 10 most highly valued species of fish in Lake Ontario, 7 have now almost vanished. As of 1987, both governments were required to report publicly to the IJC on how well they were cleaning up the Great Lakes.



Canadian fishers blockaded an American ferry during the salmon wars.

Salmon Quotas

Proper management of Pacific salmon has long been a matter of concern. In 1985, after many years of negotiation, the Pacific Salmon Treaty set long-term goals for the benefit of the salmon and the two countries. The treaty set up equal distribution of the Pacific salmon catch. Each country would limit its catch to specific quotas. By 1993, it was obvious that the treaty was not working.

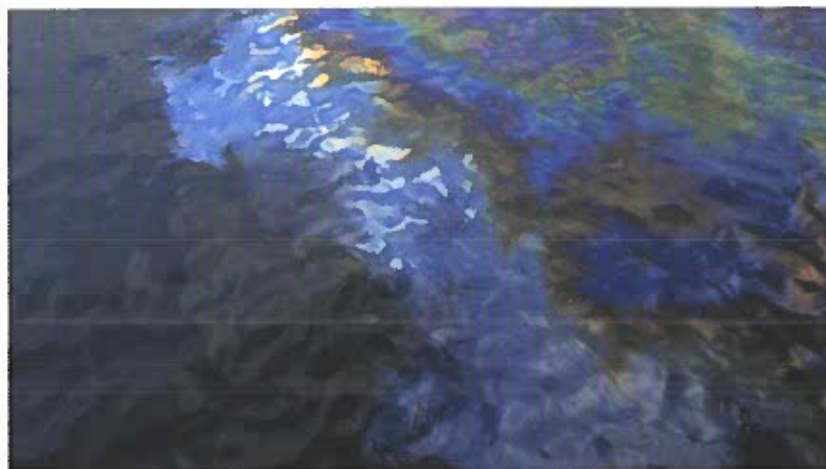
Canadian fishers felt that the Americans were catching too many fish. The salmon population was declining. The dispute dragged on. In 1997, Canadians blockaded an Alaskan ferry off the coast of British Columbia. It was not until June 1999 that Canada and the United States signed a new treaty setting salmon quotas. These quotas are in effect until 2009.

FOCUS

1. What is the purpose of the International Joint Commission?
2. How is the Great Lakes a chemical hot spot?
3. How did Canada and the United States resolve the salmon war?

Environmental Issues

The environment is a source of friction between Canada and the United States. Areas include acid rain, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and waste management. Various groups have brought pressure on both governments to resolve environmental con-



Unlike the obvious effects of oil pollution, acid rain makes water clear.

cerns. Greenpeace is one of them. Independently funded, it works to protect the environment. Members have done things like climb smokestacks around the world to focus attention on air pollution.

Acid Rain

In 1979, the first major report on acid rain in Canada stated that acid rain came not only from smokestacks, but from cars and trucks. Canadian politicians realized sooner than Americans that acid rain was becoming a serious problem to address.

During the 1980s, acid rain affected much of eastern Canada. Many of the water and soil systems in the region lost the ability to neutralize acid. They soon lost all plant and fish life. The clearness of the water often meant that lakes were in serious trouble.

Many lakes died. The salmon habitat in the Maritimes is gone. Large forests in eastern Canada have been damaged. Quebec's maple syrup production has dropped greatly.

In 1991, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and President George Bush signed an Air Quality Agreement. This ended a 10-year cross-border struggle about acid rain. Each country must now provide reports to prove that it is living up to the clean air legislation. One example of this is the vehicle emissions test every two years. Between 1980 and 1996, American emissions

dropped 27 percent. It is projected that by 2010 they will be down by 40 percent. In Canada, sulphur emissions were 54 percent lower in 1994 than they were in 1980. The struggle over acid rain continues.

Waste Management

One problem is the hauling of Ontario garbage to landfill sites in Michigan. Local landfill sites have filled up in recent years. Environmentalists and residents in Canada have been fighting the opening of new local garbage sites.

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The situation became critical in the Toronto area in 2002. Its primary landfill site closed and nearby Ontario sites were unavailable. A deal to allow Ontario garbage to be shipped to sites near Detroit was made. Up to 200 large trucks haul garbage every day from Ontario to Michigan. This makes up about 12 percent of Michigan's annual waste total.

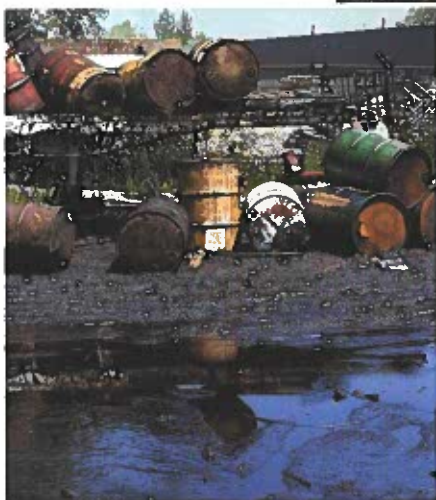
Americans are unhappy about Canadian garbage coming into their country.

Global Warming

In 1997, Canada and more than 160 countries met in Kyoto, Japan, to discuss global warming. In



Canadian garbage is being dumped at a Michigan site.



Example of industrial pollution.

2001, President George W. Bush stated, "Kyoto is dead." He feared that this agreement would hurt the American economy. The United States is responsible for 25 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. The Kyoto Accord was officially ratified in 2002. Countries pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The United States was not one of them. In 2005, Canada hosted the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

FOCUS

1. What is Greenpeace? What role does it play in environmental issues?
2. How have Canada and the United States differed on environmental issues?
3. Do you think Canada has done enough to deal with acid rain, waste management, and global warming? Explain.

The Economic Link

Canada lives next door to the world's largest economic power. The American economy produces nearly \$2 trillion of wealth a year. Canadians and Americans are joined together in a deep economic relationship. This relationship supports more than two million jobs

Nearly 70 percent of our imports come from the United States (\$250 billion in 2004). The United States sells twice as many goods to Canada's market of 32.5 million people than it does to its next biggest trading partner, Japan, which has 130 million people. Canada

buys more American goods than do all 15 countries in the European Union combined.

Canada and the United States are not equal economic partners, however. The American population is about 10 times greater.

Many Canadians feel that Canada is tied too tightly to the United States. Our economic well-being tends to rise and fall with decisions made south of the border. This makes it difficult for Canada to act independently of the United States.



Much trade flows across the Ambassador Bridge between Windsor and Detroit.

in each country. Two-way trade more than doubled from 1990 to 2005. We are each other's largest trading partner—more than \$1.5 billion crosses the border each day. More than 81 percent of Canadian exports go to the United States (\$350 billion in 2004).

The Question of Ownership

Foreigners own more than half of Canada's 500 largest corporations. Some people say Canadians are tenants rather than landlords in their own country.

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American-owned companies such as these now have a strong presence in Canada.

Millions of dollars in profits and resources leave Canada each year for the United States. Many multinationals have branch plants or stores throughout Canada. These include General Motors, IBM, Coca-Cola, Microsoft, Allstate Insurance, and McDonald's. Although they have stores in Canada, their head offices are in the United States.

Some of Canada's most respected companies have been sold to the Americans. Lumber giant MacMillan Bloedel, for example, went to Weyerhaeuser in 1999. Gulf Canada and Future Shop were bought out by American companies in 2001. The Molson Brewing Company, which was established in 1786, merged with Coors, a larger American company, in early 2005.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

And in 2006, even the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) was sold to American investors. HBC has been an icon in Canadian history and business. Founded in 1670, it was Canada's largest department store retailer. Its stores included The Bay, Zellers, and Home Outfitters. About 70 000 people worked for it at over 500 locations across Canada. The company had roots in the fur trade and in the travels of explorers. Two centuries before Confederation, King Charles II of England granted the company the lands of the Hudson Bay watershed. For some, the sale of such an important part of Canadian history is troubling. **Do you think it matters that Canadian companies are being sold to foreign interests? Explain.**

In an annual survey conducted by *Maclean's* magazine, 83 percent of Canadians felt that greater Canadian control of

FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW AGENCY AND INVESTMENT CANADA

In 1974, the Liberals under Pierre Trudeau introduced the Foreign Investment Review Agency (FIRA). FIRA's job was to screen the efforts of foreign companies to purchase Canadian companies. The purpose was to slow down U.S. control of Canadian industries and natural resources. FIRA was to act as a "watchdog" to protect Canada's best economic interests. Some Canadian business owners worried it might take away their right to control their own companies. The United States saw FIRA as so unfriendly that it considered economic sanctions against Canada.

From 1971 to 1981, American ownership of Canadian corporations remained at about 25 percent. By 1982, FIRA appeared to be little more than a "paper tiger." It approved 9 out of every 10 applications for foreign takeovers.

Shortly after taking office in 1984, Brian Mulroney replaced FIRA with Investment Canada. His government wanted to increase prosperity and create jobs through industrial growth—it did not worry about the source of investment in Canada. **Are you worried about the source of investment in Canada? Explain.**

businesses operating in Canada was important. They felt control was needed to maintain a strong Canadian identity in the 21st century. Yet between 1997 and 2002, foreign (non-American) companies bought 345 Canadian companies, worth \$144 billion; Canadian companies purchased 447 foreign companies, including American ones. The value was \$124 billion.

Many economists state that American money has helped Canada grow strong and wealthy. Canadians have benefited from American technology. American

investments have created thousands of jobs here. The close economic link has helped strengthen political and military relations, too.



British Columbia forest.

Economic Disputes Since 2000

By 2000, nearly 60 percent of American wood and paper imports came from Canada. In 2002, the U.S. put a 27 percent tax on imports of Canadian spruce, pine, and fir. A long dispute erupted. As of 2006, dispute resolution committees for NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) decided twice in Canada's favour. Negotiations continue.

Another source of conflict was the so-called “mad cow” issue. In May 2003, the United States stopped importing Canadian beef. A single Alberta cow had the “mad cow” virus. Canada’s 90 000 beef producers lost \$11 million a day. More than 5000 jobs were lost. In July 2005, the United States began to ease the ban.



A CLOSER LOOK AT THE AUTO PACT

In 1904, Henry Ford built a car plant in Windsor, Ontario. Over the next 60 years, American branch plants for Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors were set up in Canada. Still, most car manufacturing occurred in the United States. By the early 1960s, Canada had a huge auto-trade deficit with the United States. On 16 January 1965, the Canada–U.S. Automotive Products Agreement (the **Auto Pact**) was signed. Its purpose was to deal with that problem.

The Auto Pact removed tariffs on cars, trucks, buses, tires, and automotive parts. A single North American manufacturing market was created. Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors could form a single integrated production and marketing system. Larger, more efficient car plants were built in both countries. Higher levels of integration and better access to the world’s largest auto market helped Canada. Canada was able to develop an internationally competitive auto industry.

The agreement stated that for every car sold in Canada, one had to be built in Canada. Each vehicle built in Canada also had to have at least 60 percent Canadian content in both parts and labour. Tariffs were applied if these conditions were not met.

In 1970, Canada registered a small auto trade surplus with the United States for the first time. Between 1965 and 2002, the number of people employed in the automobile industry rose from 75 000 to 491 000. Also, the number of vehicles made in Canada jumped from 846 000 to over 2.6 million.

In 2000, however, the World Trade Organization, which governs world international trade, ruled that the Auto Pact was unfair to foreign dealers. In 2001, the Pact was formally dissolved. As a direct result, Canada, which had been the world’s 4th largest auto producer in 1999, slipped to 8th place by 2005.

FOCUS

1. Why do many Canadians think that Canada is too dependent on the American economy?
2. What is FIRA and why did Trudeau introduce it?
3. What effects did the Auto Pact have on Canada’s automotive industry?
4. What are some current Canadian–American economic issues?

The Free Trade Agreement

During the early 1980s, the American and Canadian economies suffered a hard recession. Many Canadian business people wanted to sell their products and resources duty-free to the huge American market. They felt Canada should have a free trade agreement with the United States. That would give Americans greater access to Canadian markets and resources, too.

Canadians and Americans watched as European nations forged a successful economic union, the “Common Market.” Brian Mulroney, now prime minister, and his Conservatives began to support free trade. Mulroney worried that U.S. duties and tariffs would slow the flow of Canadian goods and services to the United States. Free trade would allow unrestricted passage of goods across the border. It seemed like the answer.

Not all Canadians wanted free trade—many spoke out against it. In 1988, Mulroney called an election. He asked Canadian voters to decide the issue.

Mulroney and his Progressive Conservatives won the election, so Canada began to negotiate with the United States. The Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States came into effect in January 1989. President Ronald Reagan called the FTA a new economic constitution for North America.

The FTA gave Canada and the United States access to each other’s markets for most goods. From 1989 to 2004, Canadian exports to the United States increased from \$101 billion to \$350 billion plus. About 25 percent of this growth was due to free trade.

In 1994, the FTA was expanded to

THE FREE TRADE DEBATE

Supporters of free trade said that it would benefit Canada because

- Canadian producers would gain access to a market 10 times larger than Canada’s
- increased Canadian exports would allow Canadian companies to make longer and more economical production runs
- more Canadian jobs would be created
- foreign investors would be attracted to Canada
- consumers would pay lower prices
- economic prosperity would mean that Canadians could spend more on research and development

Opponents of free trade said that it would hurt Canada because

- the nation would lose its political sovereignty
- the poorer areas of the country would get poorer
- Canadians would become more Americanized
- unemployment would increase
- Canada would send too many natural resources out of the country
- Canada’s service industries would be threatened by their larger American competitors

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include Mexico. It was renamed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). NAFTA links 440 million people in three countries. About 30 percent of the world's wealth lies in one trade region, the world's largest free trade bloc. Canadian companies now compete with Mexican companies, though. As a general rule, Mexican workers receive lower wages and fewer benefits than Canadian workers.

In 1999, *The Toronto Star* assessed free trade in this way: "In a decade in which the U.S. has been the primary engine of world economic growth, hitching our wagon to the 50 American stars appears to make a great deal of sense. If the U.S. economy falters, though, we may come to regret just how dependent we have become on a single export market."

Canada is becoming deeply integrated into the American economy. This reality may

THE CANADIAN AUTO WORKERS



Many labour leaders still claim that free trade was not good for Canadian workers. Certainly, it was not something that Canadian auto workers

favoured. Bob White, first president of the Canadian Auto Workers, was outspoken in his criticism of free trade. Four years before the FTA, in 1985, White led the Canadian workers at Ford, GM, and Chrysler plants out of the American United Auto Workers and into an independent Canadian union. That meant Canadian workers could negotiate with the Big 3 on their own terms. White served three terms as president. In 1992, he stepped down to become president of the Canadian Labour Congress.

have enormous political, cultural, and economic effects. Will there be a common currency, a customs union, the creation of common institutions? Canada has been walking a tightrope with the United States for at least half a century. The key question seems to be—what price are Canadians willing to pay for Canadian distinctiveness?

FOCUS

1. What is free trade?
2. What are its advantages and disadvantages for Canada?
3. Define the word "tariff."
4. Why did some Canadians feel free trade was important to Canada's economy?

The Cultural Divide

How well do Americans and Canadians really know one another? Are they neighbours or strangers? Are they friends or foes?

Canadians think they know a lot about Americans. They get information about the United States from American movies, television, magazines, music, and sports. Many Canadian students study American history, literature, or geography in school.

Americans receive little, if any, information about Canada in school. As a columnist for *The Boston Globe* wrote: "Canada is like Belgium or Ecuador—a nice enough place, but not very important."

Americans near the border see Canadians when they come to Canada for their vaca-

tions or purchase cottages here. There are also many cross-border shoppers on both sides. Some Americans meet "snowbirds." Snowbirds are retired Canadians who spend winters in warmer Florida and in other southern states. Some American movie fans are familiar with Canadian talent. The American music industry has a sincere appreciation for the songs of Shania Twain, Avril Lavigne, and Céline Dion.

When Canadians travel to Europe or Asia, a strange thing happens. They don't like to be mistaken for Americans. They put Canadian flags on their bags or lapels so people see that they are Canadian. Suddenly, they are proud of their country and their heritage.

So What's the Difference?

Anyone comparing Canada and the United States will find real differences in these areas:

- the political systems
- the Canadian duality (French and English)
- speech and language patterns
- pronunciation of the English language
- regional accents
- traditions of multiculturalism—the Canadian cultural mosaic is different from the unity of the American melting pot.
- Canada's peaceful separation and continuing ties with Great Britain—these were rejected by the United States.
- Canada's conservative tradition, one in which civil war and revolution have played no part
- attitudes towards social welfare programs—Canadians expect them; Americans do not.

Perhaps the greatest difference between Canadians and Americans is Canada's perpetual quest for a national identity. Americans don't seem to look for one. They always seem to have one.

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Canadian performers enjoy great success both north and south of the border.

Canadian English and American English are not always the same.

Canadian English reflects both British and American patterns of speech. Here are a few examples:

CANADIAN

chesterfield
serviette
blinds
eh?
schedule (pronounced *shed ule*)
highway
z (pronounced *zed*)
(Native) reserve

AMERICAN

sofa
napkin
shades
what?
schedule (pronounced *sked ule*)
interstate
z (pronounced *zee*)
(Native) reservation

What other differences can you think of?

CANADIAN STEREOTYPES OF AMERICANS

- 1 Everyone in the U.S. owns a gun, or would like to.**
- 2 Americans all live in cities in big apartment buildings.**
- 3 Americans just care about money and big business. They have big homes and fast cars.**
- 4 I can name you five thousand times when the Americans raced to the help of other people in trouble. Can you name me even one time when someone else raced to the Americans in trouble?**
—Gordon Sinclair in a 1973 CFRB radio broadcast
- 5 Americans get their foreign policy from John Wayne movies: “Shoot first and ask questions later.”**
- 6 The major threat to Canadian survival today is American control of the Canadian economy.**
- 7 Americans know almost nothing about Canada. What they think they know is usually wrong.**
- 8 Americans are loud and pushy.**



Is Canada just the United States moved north? Is there something about Canadian culture that is unique? In 1999, *Macleans*'s magazine took its annual poll of Canadian attitudes. It discovered that 90 percent of those polled felt that Canada had a unique identity. About 77 percent felt that this identity is based on a strong sense of Canadian history.

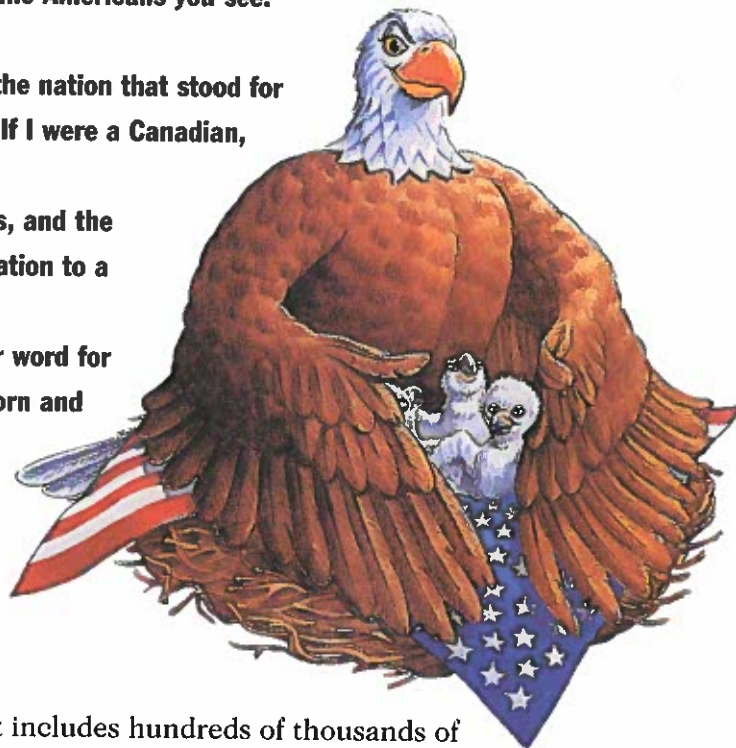
Culture also contributes to identity. The Canadian government believes that strong support of cultural activities strengthens Canadian identity. By 1949, the federal government worried about the impact of American mass media on Canadian culture. It launched a Royal Commission to investigate Canadian culture, education, and communication. Chaired by Vincent Massey, the

Massey-Lévesque Commission released its report in 1951.

The five commissioners noted that their task was “concerned with nothing less than the spiritual foundations of our national life.” Their recommendations led to the creation of the National Library of Canada in 1953 and the Canada Council in 1957. The Commission also recommended federal funding for the arts. The government established the Canada Council for that purpose. Today, some 700 000 Canadians earn their living in the cultural sector. Government assistance to the arts has increased. The Heritage Canada portfolio was created “to insure access to Canadian voices and Canadian spaces, to protect Canada’s heritage and to enhance pride in Canada.”

AMERICAN STEREOTYPES OF CANADIANS

- 1 Mountains. Wilderness. Polar Bears. Snow. Mounties. French speaking.**
- 2 Canadians are healthier than we are because they have to fight the elements to survive.**
- 3 Canadians are nice and polite, not rude and noisy like some Americans you see.**
'Course, I've only met two Canadians I know of.
- 4 Canada will always be remembered by my generation as the nation that stood for peace, whether in the Middle East or Vietnam or Cyprus. If I were a Canadian, I'd rather have that said about me than anything else.**
- 5 Canadians are generally indistinguishable from Americans, and the surest way of telling the two apart is to make this observation to a Canadian.**
- 6 Canadian drivers are crazy. I'm sorry, but there's no other word for it. They put their foot on the gas and their hand on the horn and look out, here I come. I wonder if it's got anything to do with their religion.** —Tour guide, Williamsburg, Virginia
- 7 Canadians don't have any heroes, and not much history.** —History student, U. of Rochester, New York



Pierre Berton, in his book, *Hollywood's Canada*, states that between 1907 and 1975, 575 American motion pictures had their stories set in Canada. These movies showed Canada as a land of mountains, pine trees, and snow! Canada was a wilderness without any cities or towns. "Anybody introduced to Canada entirely through motion pictures—

and that includes hundreds of thousands of people around the world," Berton wrote, "would find it impossible to believe that since the mid-1920s this has been predominantly an urban country." No wonder visitors to Canada bring heavy sweaters in July. They believe Hollywood's image of Canada.

FOCUS

- 1. In your view, how well do Canadians and Americans really know one another?**
- 2. In your opinion, how are Canadians and Americans different? How are they similar?**
- 3. What was the Massey-Lévesque Commission? What did it recommend?**

Canada in the Mirror

Canadian Content

Radio and television have had significant impact on Canadian culture and identity. Canadians spend an average of 22.7 hours a week watching TV. That adds up to 49 days a year. Only about 40 percent of that originates in Canada. Canadian shows such as *Corner Gas* and *Air Farce* are popular. Most of what is watched, though, comes from the United States.

SCTV was one of the most successful comedy shows. Here, the cast, who all achieved success south of the border, are reunited. How many do you recognize?



CANADIAN BROADCASTING REGULATIONS

- 1968** The federal government sets up the Canadian Radio-Television Commission (CRTC) to regulate broadcasting.
- 1970** CRTC content rulings are created.
- 1972** CRTC's Canadian content requirement rises. It becomes 60 percent of prime-time broadcast hours for the CBC and 50 percent for privately owned stations. (The CRTC defines *prime time* as 6 p.m. to 12 p.m.)
- 1976** In response to the way the nature of broadcasting and telecommunications is expanding in Canada, the CRTC develops into the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.
- 2000** CRTC's Canadian Television policy is revised. Canadian content requirements apply to peak time, or 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., for the largest Canadian television groups.

Can you think of a development in what is available on television that would hurt the CRTC's efforts to protect Canadian content?

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A goal of the CRTC is to protect Canadian culture in the broadcasting industry. The

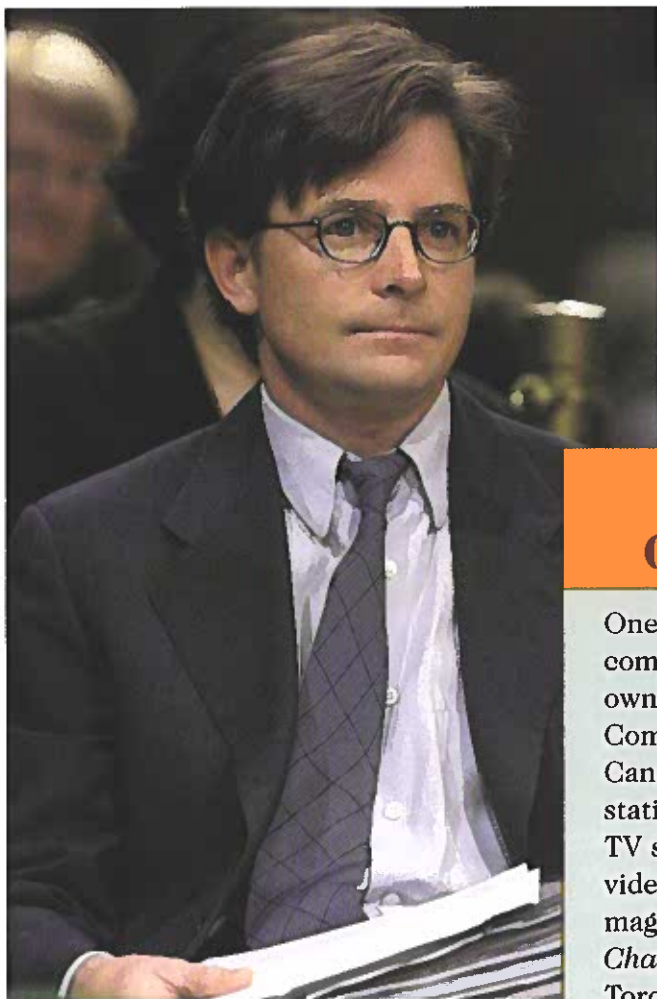
Commission rules that Canadian-owned radio stations play “Canadian” music at least 35 percent of their “on air” time. Canadian content requires that at least two of these three conditions are met:

- The composer or performer is Canadian.
- The song is performed or recorded in Canada.
- The lyrics are by a Canadian.

Canadian-owned television stations must have 60 percent Canadian content overall. Between 6 p.m. and midnight, Canadian content must be 50 percent of all broadcasting.

Some critics call the CRTC’s requirements a form of censorship. However, in a

2004 survey, 84 percent of Canadians felt that content rules were needed to protect Canadian culture and identity. They help make Canadian entertainment available to Canadian audiences.



Michael J. Fox is one of Canada’s best-known actors. Born in British Columbia, Fox became famous as Alex Keating on the successful U.S. sitcom, Family Ties, and went on to star in Spin City and the Back to the Future movies.

ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS

One of the largest cable-television companies in the world is Canadian owned and operated. Rogers Communications made \$4.6 billion Canadian in 2004. It owns 43 radio stations, several TV channels, cable TV stations, and more than 300 video rental stores. It also owns 70 magazines, including *Macleans* and *Chatelaine*. Other assets are the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team and the Rogers Centre in Toronto. Rogers has over 6 million voice and data subscribers and more than 18 000 employees.

Hollywood North

Many American films and TV shows are produced in Canada. Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, and Vancouver have become major film-producing centres. Movie producers take advantage of the lower Canadian dollar. Many films are made in the Toronto area. Some people call it "Hollywood North."

Canadian film-makers often have a hard time competing against the American film industry. Barely one in 20 films on Canadian screens is Canadian. Some Canadian movies have achieved international acclaim, though.



ABOVE: Atom Egoyan, the successful director of *The Sweet Hereafter*, *Ararat* and *Where The Truth Lies*, has remained in Canada despite being pursued by Hollywood studios. TOP RIGHT: Neve Campbell enjoys a successful career in films and movies on both sides of the border.

Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter*, for example, or Bruce Beresford's *Black Robe*, or Thom Fitzgerald's *The Hanging Garden*, are well known. But, for the most part, American-based distributors control about 85 per-



cent of the Canadian film market and movie theatres. Canadians spend some \$180 million going to the movies every year, yet few American distributors are eager to invest in Canadian feature films. As noted Canadian filmmaker Claude Jutra (*Mon Oncle Antoine*) commented, "Not making the films you want to make is awful, but making them and not having them shown is worse."

Promoting Canadian Films

In 1967, the Canadian Film Development Corporation was established to help promote the Canadian feature film industry. It fostered films with significant Canadian creative, artistic, and technical content. This organization was later replaced by Telefilm Canada. This Crown corporation invested \$2 billion in Canada's film industry between 1989 and 2005.

In 2001, the Canada Feature Film Fund (CFFF), under Telefilm Canada, had an annual budget of \$100 million. In 2005–2006, the CFFF financed 12 Canadian feature films. Canadian Norman Jewison is a well-known film director. In 1988, he established the Canadian Centre for Advanced Film Studies in Toronto. Its aim was to further the film careers of Canadians. Jewison envisioned a thriving Canadian film industry.

Canadian films are featured at a variety of film festivals across the country. Many people regard the Toronto International Film Festival as one of the world's most important. Canada has a rich tradition of regional and national film events, too. By 2005, more than 80 000 Canadians were employed in the film industry. While the leading stars are often American, more than 90 percent of the pro-

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD

In 1939, the Canadian government established the National Film Board (NFB). The NFB was to make films that reflected and interpreted Canada's social and cultural life. Since that time, the NFB has created more than 9000 original films. Many have been widely praised. Many have received international awards. In 1989, Hollywood gave an honorary Oscar to the NFB, "in recognition of its 50th anniversary and its dedicated commitment to original artistic, creative and technological activity and excellence in every area of film making." **Why was the NFB created? For more information about current NFB projects, visit www.nfb.ca.**



Mike Myers moved to the United States to make movies. He is well known for his Austin Powers character.

duction crew is Canadian. The film industry is thriving in Canada today. Still, Canadian-made films make up less than 5 percent of the Canadian film market.

FOCUS

1. What is the CRTC?
2. What qualifies as "Canadian content"?
3. Why is Toronto called Hollywood North?
4. What Canadian stars can you name?
5. Why do some Canadian actors go south?

Publishing Voices

Some of the world's great writers are Canadian. Robertson Davies, Margaret Laurence, Austin Clarke, Rohinton Mistry, Nino Ricci, Lisa Moore, Dionne Brand, Anne Hébert, Michael Ondaatje, Margaret Atwood, Mordecai Richler, Carol Shields, Alice Munro, W. O. Mitchell, Roch Carrier, Farley Mowat, Pierre Berton, and Michel Tremblay are just some of them. Our world-class literature is, in part, due to the success of a public policy that supports Canadian publishing.

The Canadian Authors Association was founded in 1921. Its goal was to promote nationalism and to convince Canadians to buy Canadian, rather than American, books. Some critics wanted American magazines banned from Canada. In the 1930s, *Macleans*' magazine promised to print only

Canadian non-fiction writing and to use Canadian spellings. Other Canadian magazines followed suit.

More than 300 book-publishing houses are Canadian owned. They produce 80 percent of new Canadian-authored books. Many are small and have to compete against huge global and U.S. publishers. Canadian books account for 30 percent of the total book market in this country. Many Canadian publishers have close relationships with American, British, and French publishers. They help distribute their books to Canadian readers.

Heritage Canada helps Canadian publishers and gives money for market research and development. The Canada Council for the Arts, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), and provincial

arts councils provide help to publishers and writers.

Canada produces over 1400 different magazines. The total circulation is about 500 million copies. Canadian publishers have about a 30 percent share of the Canadian market. Still, foreign magazines, mainly from the United States, pose an ongoing threat.

Canada's federal and

SPLIT RUN MAGAZINES

In 1993, Time Warner produced a split run version of one issue of *Sports Illustrated*. It printed the regular *Sports Illustrated* and *Sports Illustrated Canada*. To most readers, the American and Canadian editions were the same. The standard for determining whether a magazine was foreign or domestic was based on where it had been printed. Time Warner now argued that its magazine was Canadian. Most of its advertisements were Canadian.

In 1999, a parliamentary task force estimated that more than 100 U.S. magazines might establish split run editions. It predicted that the loss of advertising revenue would force many Canadian periodicals out of business. Since Canadians make up a large part of the market for these magazines, the American government was not pleased. It warned that if the bill passed it would hit back with trade sanctions. This problem was solved when an agreement was reached.

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provincial governments believe that most Canadians want to retain a unique identity. They work to support the arts. The CBC, the National Film Board, the Canada Council, the CRTC, and Telefilm Canada all grew out of the federal government's concern.



Titles by award-winning author Margaret Atwood include A Handmaid's Tale and The Blind Assassin.

Many provinces fund arts councils to support regional and local cultural activities. Also, private corporations sponsor concerts,



Dionne Brand is a poet, novelist, essayist, film-maker, and Black activist.

theatre and dance companies, and art shows. All this allows Canadian artists to be heard and seen in their own country. The real decision about the future of Canadian culture lies with average Canadians. Only they—only we—can decide how much being different from Americans matters. Only Canadians can develop their own authors, publishers, musicians, and more. If it means something special to be Canadian, Canadians must work to discover and preserve that identity.

FOCUS

1. What are split run magazines?
2. What is Heritage Canada, and how does it help Canadian publishers?
3. Name three Canadian books that you have read.

The Sports Link

The United States has had a significant impact on Canadian sports. Television has moved sports off the playing fields and into living rooms around the world.

Hockey

In May 1994, Parliament declared hockey Canada's national winter sport, and lacrosse Canada's national summer sport. There is little doubt, however, that hockey is our most beloved sport.

The National Hockey League (NHL) was formed in 1917. There were only four teams

then: two in Montreal, and one each in Toronto and Ottawa. Boston was the first American team to join the NHL (1924). In the next two years, teams in Detroit, Chicago, and two teams in New York joined. All the players on these teams were Canadian.

By 2006, the NHL had 30 teams, only 6 Canadian. Canadians make up only 52 percent of the player roster. League headquarters is now in New York City, not Montreal. The NHL president is an American. U.S. TV networks often make up schedules and game times. Nonetheless, Canadians still



Canada's Olympic women's hockey team celebrates its gold medal win in the 2006 winter games.

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dominate the ranks of outstanding hockey players. Think of Gordie Howe, Maurice Richard, Bobby Orr, Wayne Gretzky, Mario Lemieux, and more.

Canada dominated hockey at the Olympic Games for many years. In

HISTOR!CA

Minutes

2006, the Canadian women's team won gold against Sweden in Turin. In 2002,

both the women's and men's teams won Olympic gold. The national women's hockey team has won virtually every world championship open to it. Its success reflects the growth of hockey since the National Women's Hockey League began in Canada in 1989. The League had seven teams by 2005. In Ontario alone, more than 20 000 women now play organized hockey. Hayley Wickenheiser, Cassie Campbell, Danielle Goyette and Gillian Apps are among Canada's women hockey "greats."

Canadian Football

The Canadian Football League (CFL) got its name in 1958, but its roots go back to the Canadian Rugby Football Union in 1884. In 1909, Earl Grey, a popular governor general of Canada, donated the Grey Cup trophy. In the Grey Cup final, two Canadian teams face off against each other. The first time the East and West met in a Grey Cup game was 1921.



The Edmonton Eskimos beat the Montreal Alouettes to win the Grey Cup in overtime at the 2005 game in Vancouver.

The game has been played in snow, fog, wind, and mud.

Although often financially troubled, the League offers an exciting brand of football. It can also claim to be uniquely Canadian. More and more, it has sought to protect Canadian football. In 1936, the League placed a limit of five American players per team. By 1996, "imports" were set at 19 out of 36 players per team.

In 2005, a former CFL commissioner, John Tory, talked about the Grey Cup. "In

our country, hockey has clearly been the most important. But if you look at the one event that draws everyone together, it's the Grey Cup." As of 2006, the CFL had nine teams, with East and West divisions. Although it glories in regional contests, the Grey Cup truly unites the country. As Peter C. Newman wrote in *The Canadian Revolution*, "Confederation worked one day a year—the afternoon of the Grey Cup."

Baseball

This sport has a long tradition in Canada.

Some people suggest it was being played here before it was "invented" by Abner Doubleday in the United States. Babe Ruth hit his first professional home run in Toronto. Jackie Robinson, an African-American, broke the "colour barrier" when he played for the Montreal Royals. The Royals were the Brooklyn Dodgers' top farm team.

Canada now has one team in the major baseball league. The Toronto

Blue Jays are in the American League.

The Montreal

Expos were transferred to Washington

in 2005 due to poor attendance. Many Americans were shocked when Toronto won the World Series in 1992, and again in 1993. It was unthinkable that America's "national pastime" could be dominated by a "foreign" country.

Many Canadians have played in the major leagues. Ferguson Jenkins was from Chatham, Ontario. He pitched for the Chicago Cubs and the Philadelphia Phillies. Throughout the 1990s until his retirement in 2005, Larry Walker of Maple Ridge, B.C., was one of the most dominant players in the game. Canadian

Eric Gagné was the top reliever in 2004.

On the non-professional level, there are many baseball, fastball, and softball leagues for both males and females. Baseball ranks along with soccer as a popular summer sport.

Basketball

A Canadian invented basketball.

James Naismith of Almonte, Ontario, was teaching in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1891 at the time. It was not until 1994, though, that Canada had teams—the Vancouver Grizzlies and the Toronto Raptors—in



Canadian Larry Walker won the Most Valuable Player Award for the National League, 1997.

HISTORICA

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the National Basketball Association (NBA). As new teams in a well-established league, they struggled to win. In 2001, the Vancouver team moved to Memphis.

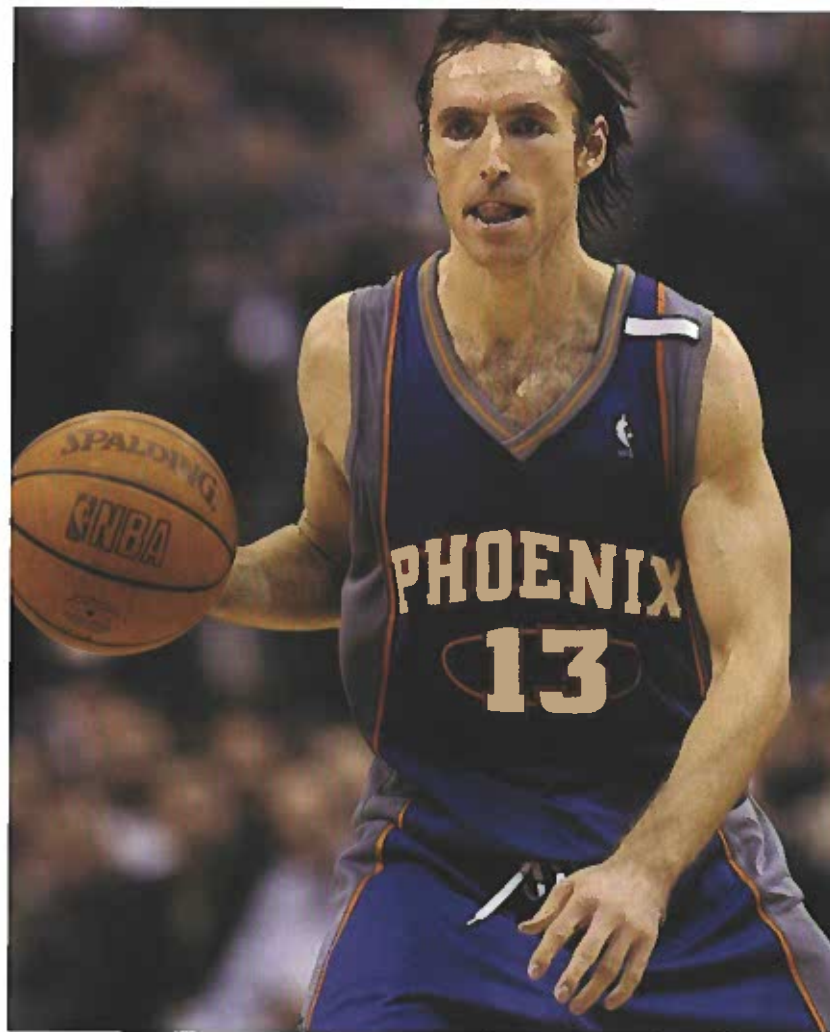
Canadian Steve Nash, a player for the Phoenix Suns, won the NBA's Most Valuable Player Award in 2005.

Seventeen Canadians have played in the NBA. These players include Todd MacCulloch, Jamaal Magloire, Rick Fox, Brian Heaney, and Leo Rautins. Fox won three NBA Championship rings as a member of the Los Angeles Lakers.

Challenges in Professional Sports

Canada has one-tenth the population of the United States. It has achieved much fame, however, in professional sports, especially hockey. Sports scholarships, available throughout American colleges and universities, are not usually allowed in Canada. As a result, many of Canada's best athletes go to the United States for their post-secondary education. That means that the level of Canadian college sports has seriously eroded. The drain probably affects professional sports in Canada, as well.

Strikes, escalating salaries, and drug scandals in sports have affected the public's opinion of professional sports. This reality,



Point guard Steve Nash is the first Canadian and second non-U.S. player to win the NBA's Most Valuable Player Award.

plus the huge influence of the United States, poses a genuine challenge for the preservation of Canadian spectator sports.

FOCUS

- 1. How has the United States influenced Canadian sports?**
- 2. Identify five Canadian sport heroes from different sports.**
- 3. Who is your favourite Canadian sports figure of all time? Why?**

Sharpening Your Skills

Organizing and Making Sense of Research Notes

THE SKILL

Arranging data so that it makes sense and tells an accurate story

THE IMPORTANCE

Accuracy and proper organization are important skills in both the work world and in everyday life.

You have just landed a job as a reporter at a local newspaper. The first day is hardly an hour old when your boss comes bustling into your small cubicle. “Jones,” she reports, “died over the weekend.” She wants you to write his obituary. A paragraph will do, she figures, but it must be finished in time for tomorrow’s edition.

The newspaper’s guidelines state that all such obituaries must

- be free of factual errors
- be written with proper grammar
- give proper emphasis to the more important facts
- support all interpretations and conclusions with reasonable evidence
- indicate what is interpretation and what is fact

A half-day of research reveals the following information.

RESEARCH NOTES ON JONES

- a) Court records show that Jones and his spouse were granted a divorce in March 1911.
- b) Several newspaper articles and letters from Liberal Party leaders indicate that during the 1906 election, Jones was regarded as a rising politician.
- c) A letter dated 9 December 1909 from the prime minister to Jones stated that “although the world has not yet had the chance to appreciate your invaluable work, I shall always remember that you, my dear Jones, were the true author of the [two illegible words] Act.”

- d) County records give Jones's date of birth as 20 August 1873.
- e) A letter from Jones to his spouse on 15 November 1909 indicates that Jones was working closely with the prime minister on an Environment Protection Act.
- f) Jones's household records show that over a 15-year period, the household purchased an average of 15 bottles of brandy per week.
- g) Jones's marriage certificate is dated 3 May 1903.
- h) Several history books indicate that Jones never won an election and that he faded out of politics during the First World War.

With the paper's guidelines in mind, you organize your notes, think about Jones, and write the following three obituaries. (See samples 1, 2, and 3.)

As you have been taught, you ask a friend to proofread your work. Based on the newspaper's guidelines, what would be your comments on each obituary? For example: Sample 1 has several factual errors. Jones was not born in 1875, nor was he 30 when he married. We don't know for certain that "he ran for office" in 1906, nor do we know that "personal information" about Jones being an alcoholic was ever revealed. We don't know that he was an alcoholic, nor that his wife "divorced him." Since these were interpretations, not facts, the author should have used such words as "perhaps," "may have," and "it is probable." Finally, Jones's most important contribution to the country has been ignored. There are no grammatical mistakes, and the obituary is chronologically correct.

SAMPLE 1: Jones was born on August 20, 1875. He was 30 when he got married. In 1906, he ran for office and according to the media he was regarded as a rising politician. Unfortunately, personal information about Jones circulated at the time and people found out that he had been an alcoholic for 15 years. He never achieved office. In March 1911 his wife divorced him and during the First World War he was out of politics for good.

SAMPLE 2: Born in 1873, Jones got married at the age of 31. Shortly after his marriage, he was thought to be a very promising politician, and was well-liked by the Canadian Prime Minister. Unfortunately, a drinking problem led to the end of his marriage and the eventual end of his political career.

SAMPLE 3: Jones, according to the Prime Minister, was "the true author of the Act." His household accounts suggest that he was a heavy drinker. In 1906, he was regarded as a rising politician. He was married in 1903 and divorced in 1911. He never achieved office and faded out of politics during the First World War. He was born in 1873.

Application

Write your own accurate obituary for Jones.

Questions & Activities

Match the words in column A with the descriptions in column B.

- | A | B |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Ronald Reagan | a) Canadian film industry |
| 2. Lyndon Johnson | b) Mulroney–Reagan meeting |
| 3. Ken Taylor | c) watchdog on broadcasting |
| 4. Hollywood North | d) talent loss to south |
| 5. Shamrock Summit | e) clash with Lester Pearson |
| 6. Massey–Lévesque Commission | f) watchdog on foreign investment |
| 7. CRTC | g) blockades |
| 8. sports scholarships | h) American president in 1980s |
| 9. FIRA | i) Canadian ambassador in Iran |
| 10. Pacific Salmon Treaty | j) report on Canadian culture |

Identify and state the importance or impact of each of the following:

1. NAFTA
2. Ferguson Jenkins
3. James Naismith
4. “Good Neighbour Policy”
5. IJC
6. NFB
7. Hayley Wickenheiser
8. acid rain
9. Telefilm Canada
10. Investment Canada

Discuss and Debate

1. Hold a debate on this topic: “Canadians are Americans in everything but name.”
2. Draw up two lists showing the positive and negative results of Canada's close relationship with the United States.
3. Is there any value in having a Canadian identity separate from an American one? Explain.
4. What is Canadian culture? American culture? Describe the major similarities and differences.
5. Is Canada a partner or puppet in North American culture and economy? Discuss.
6. What do you feel are the important issues facing Canada in its relationship with the United States?
7. How is your lifestyle set by patterns “born in the U.S.A.”? How much of this influence do you resent? How much do you welcome?
8. What efforts have been made in the cultural and economic fields by the federal government and other agencies to promote a distinctive Canadian culture and economy? How effective have they been? What other steps should be taken, if any?
9. Name as many past and current Canadian musicians, actors, and television programs as you can. Which of these reflect something distinctly Canadian?
10. Listen to your favourite radio station for one hour between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. Write down the title of the song, the performer(s), and the nationality for each song. Determine percentages for Canadian, American, and other. Which do you like most? Should nationality matter?

Do Some Research

1. What roles did each of these prime ministers play in shaping Canadian foreign policy with the United States? (See chapters 4 and 5.)
 - a) Lester Pearson
 - b) Pierre Trudeau
 - c) Brian Mulroney
 - d) Jean Chrétien
 - e) Paul Martin
2. Should foreign ownership of Canadian resources be limited? Explore.
3. What impact has the United States had on each of the following cultural areas in Canada?
 - a) mass media—radio, television, movies
 - b) the arts—music, theatre
 - c) publishing—books, magazines, newspapers
 - d) sports—NHL, CFL, NBA, baseball, amateur sports
 - e) education—textbook authors, nationality of teachers/professors
 - f) the Internet
4. Draw a chart to show areas where Canadians and Americans are both similar and different. Headings might include
 - a) Political Structure
 - b) Geography
 - c) Language Characteristics (e.g., accents, use of certain words)
 - d) Lifestyle and Standard of Living
 - e) Basic Beliefs
 - f) Social Attitudes
5. The International Joint Commission was set up between Canada and the United States to resolve areas of dispute. What have some of these areas been? What are current areas of tension?
6. What are the different views that the Canadian and American governments take on global warming? Which government do you think has the more correct view? Why?

Web Watch

The CBC: www.cbc.ca

The CFL: www.cfl.ca

The CRTC: www.crtc.gc.ca

IJC: <http://www.ijc.org>

Government of Canada: <http://canada.gc.ca>

Government of United States Portal: www.us.gov

Greenpeace Canada: www.greenpeace.ca

NAFTA: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena>

The NFB: www.nfb.ca

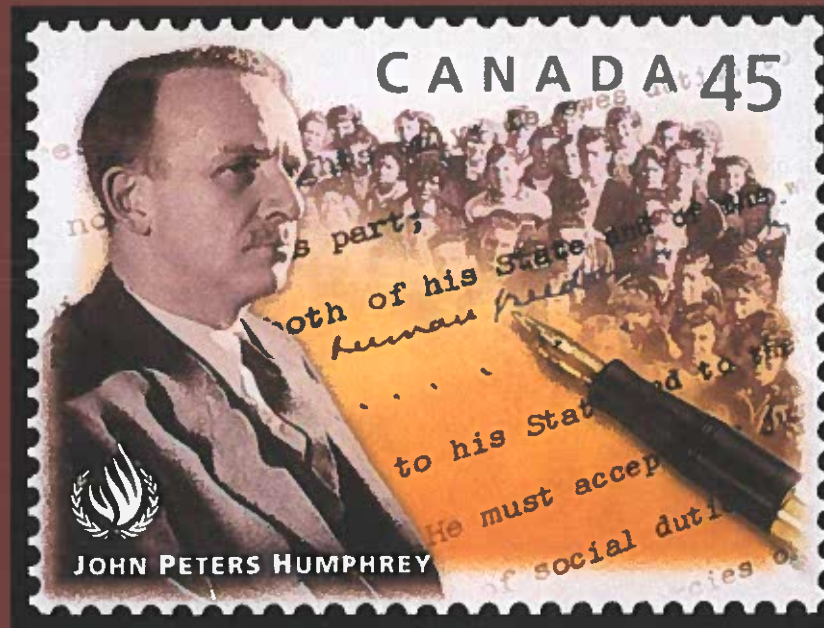
The NHL: www.nhl.com

American President in the Whitehouse: www.whitehouse.gov

Statistics Canada: www.statcan.ca/start.html

The CBC Digital Archives at www.cbc.ca/archives has excellent audiovisual files on themes important to this chapter. For example: "Seeking Sanctuary: Draftdodgers," "Ruling the Airwaves: The CRTC and Canadian Content," "The Auto Pact: En Route to Free Trade," "At Loggerheads: The Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Dispute," "Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement," "The Saint Lawrence Seaway: Gateway to the World," "Acid Rain: Pollution and Politics," "Canadarm: A Technology Star," "Troubled Waters, Pollution in the Great Lakes," and "The Spirit of Hockey."

HUMAN RIGHTS



Here, Canadian lawyer John Peters Humphrey is recognized for his role in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration is a major achievement of the United Nations. Humphrey served as director of human rights for the UN from 1944 to 1966; he consistently worked to protect human rights.



Why do you think the Declaration is considered so important?