



Fun Facts about CANADA



Immigration

Migration of nationals from one country to another for the purpose of resettlement have significantly shaped our nation and is central to Canadian history.

A Bit of History on

IMMIGRATION

Canada Day —what a great time of year!

The sun is shining, the winter's a distant memory, and we're looking forward to a weekend at the cabin. Sounds pretty good, eh? The only thing better is to have some reading material for your leisurely lounging at the lake, so we've put together this year's selection of "Fun Facts about Canada"! We are very proud to be a 100% Canadian company, which is why we want to share these with you — they offer up bits and pieces of information that you may or may not have known about our wonderful country. You can also find the brochures on our website, as they become available.

Go to www.greggdistributors.ca and click on the button "Fun Facts About Canada".

Time Line of some significant events that have created the rich diversity within Canada.



Image: Riviera Theater

1815

the Underground Railroad

Canada's reputation as a safe haven for Blacks grew substantially during and after the War of 1812. Between 1815, tens of thousands of African Americans sought refuge in Upper and Lower Canada via the legendary Underground Railroad.

SECRET CODE

of the Underground Railway
A secret language based on railroad terminology kept the operation quiet.

- Baggage:** Fugitive slaves carried by Underground Railroad workers.
 - Conductor:** Person who directly transported slaves
 - French Leave:** Sudden departure
 - Freedom Train:** The Underground Railroad
 - Heaven:** Canada, freedom
 - Parcel:** Fugitives that were expected
- Terms sourced from Harriet Tubman Historical Society

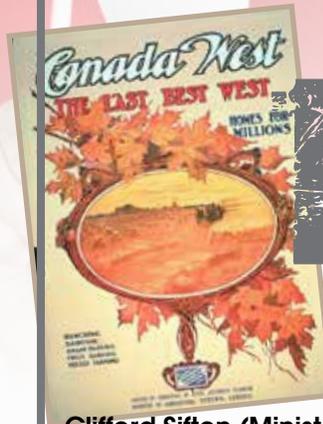
1885

Chinese Head Tax

Chinese migrants were obligated to pay a \$50.00 "entry" or "head" tax before being admitted into Canada. The Chinese were the only ethnic group required to pay a tax to enter Canada. By 1930, the head tax was increased to \$500.00; the number of Chinese who paid the fee in the first fiscal year dropped from 4719 to 8.



Photo Credits: Government of Canada/Library and Archives Canada/R1206/-178-X-E



1896

"The Last, Best West"

Clifford Sifton (Minister of the Interior) removed red tape, broadened the selection of potential immigrants and offered incentives to those who would come to settle the Canadian West, "the last, best West." The result was an influx of immigrants from eastern and southern Europe that changed the composition of the Canadian population forever.

1928

Gateway of Hope

Pier 21 opened in Halifax, NS. The point of entry for some one million immigrants into Canada — and the point of departure for nearly 500,000 soldiers in the Second World War — it has often been called the "Gateway of Hope." Today it is a national historic site and museum.



Photo Credit: CBC.CA

1946

War Brides

As noted above, Pier 21 was taken over by the Department of National Defence, becoming a departure point for roughly 500,000 Canadian servicemen and women bound for the Second World War. After the war, when the soldiers came home through Pier 21, a tide of war brides would return with them. The ship Mauritania docked in Halifax in February, 1946. It was carrying 943 war brides and children from England.



Photo Credit: Library and Archives Canada/PA-008179

Photo Credit: Wartime Canada.ca

1962

Fairclough Dismantles Discriminatory Policy

During her term as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Ellen Fairclough oversaw improvements to the Canadian Immigration Service, but her most significant accomplishment was the radical reform of the government's "White Canada" immigration policy. Regulations tabled in 1962 helped to eliminate racial discrimination in Canada's immigration policy.

1967

Points System

Prior to 1967, the immigration system relied largely on immigration officers' judgment to determine who should be eligible to enter Canada. Deputy Minister of Immigration Tom Kent established a points system, which assigned points in nine categories, to determine eligibility.

1971

Majority of Immigrants Non-European

The last vestiges of racial discrimination in immigration were gone from Canada's immigration legislation and regulations by the late 1960s. This opened Canada's doors to many of those who would previously have been rejected as "undesirable." In 1971, for the first time in Canadian history, the majority of those immigrating into Canada were of non-European ancestry.



UNHCR/Susan Hopper

1986

a Special Award for Canada

The United Nations awards the people of Canada the Nansen Refugee Award "in recognition of their essential and constant contribution to the cause of refugees within their country and around the world". Between 1979 and 1981, Canada had accepted more than 60,000 refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, many of whom were sponsored by Canadian families and private organizations. It was the first and only time the award was presented to an entire nation.

2006

Chinese Head Tax Apology

Under much community pressure, Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered an apology to the Chinese community for the implementation of the head tax, which had been originally introduced in 1885. An official directive made in Parliament ordered compensation for the head tax of approximately \$20,000.00 to be paid to survivors or their spouses.



Peter Power/Toronto Star File Photo

2015

Journey to Freedom Day Act

The Parliament of Canada passed the *Journey to Freedom Day Act*, establishing April 30th as a national day of commemoration of the exodus of Vietnamese refugees and their acceptance in Canada after the fall of Saigon and the end of the Vietnam War.





COME VISIT US AT ONE OF OUR 24 LOCATIONS!

ALBERTA

Edmonton - Main
Ph. (780) 4-GREGGS or 447-3447
Fax (780) 451-2528

Edmonton - East
Ph. (780) 450-2233 Fax (780) 450-2266

Edmonton - South
Ph. (780) 409-2000 Fax (780) 409-2100

Nisku
Ph. (780) 979-9988 Fax (780) 979-9989

Acheson
Ph. (780) 948-7111 Fax (780) 948-7222

Athabasca
Ph. (780) 675-3110 Fax (780) 675-4774

Calgary - Main
Ph. (403) 253-6463 Fax (403) 253-5926

Calgary - Foothills
Ph. (403) 203-1928 Fax (403) 236-1912

Clairmont
Ph. (780) 567-2238 Fax (780) 567-2239

Drayton Valley
Ph. (780) 621-0056 Fax (780) 621-0057

Fairview
Ph. (780) 835-5115 Fax (780) 835-3535

Fort McMurray
Ph. (780) 715-4000 Fax (780) 743-8833

Grande Prairie
Ph. (780) 513-4000 Fax (780) 513-6000

High Level
Ph. (780) 926-2521 Fax (780) 926-3514

Lethbridge
Ph. (403) 328-7333 Fax (403) 328-7666

Rainbow Lake
Ph. (780) 956-2588 Fax (780) 956-2589

Red Deer - East
Ph. (403) 341-3100 Fax (403) 341-3210

Red Deer - Queens
Ph. (403) 406-6044 Fax: (403) 406-6099

Spirit River
Ph. (780) 864-3333 Fax (780) 864-3330

Strathmore
Ph. (403) 934-3710 Fax (403) 934-5453

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Fort St. John
Ph. (250) 785-8000 Fax (250) 785-8022

Langley
Ph. (604) 888-9588 Fax (604) 888-4688

Nanaimo
Ph. (250) 754-1935 Fax (250) 754-1165

**SASKATCHEWAN
Saskatoon**
Ph. (306) 343-6655 Fax (306) 343-6656



Image: Business Standard

2016

Donald Trump wins US Presidential Election

Republican Party candidate Donald Trump won the United States presidential election, beating Democrat Hillary Clinton in a historic upset. Clinton, vying to be the first woman president, was favoured to win over the controversial billionaire businessman Trump, who divided Republicans throughout his campaign. On election night, as results increasingly pointed to a victory for Trump, Citizenship and Immigration Canada's website crashed due to an overwhelming surge in traffic.

**Fun' Eh
Canadian
Jokes**



What do you call a Canadian teen in the bathroom?

Poutine!