



# Eight Fun Facts About Canada

Canada and the United States have one of the closest relationships of any two countries in the world. Yet, there are still many things about Canada that our neighbours may be surprised to learn.

Here are eight “fun facts” you may not have known about Canada.

## 1. Nearly 43% of NHL players are Canadian

Okay—this one may not be all that surprising. The most Canadian team in the NHL for the 2020-2021 season is the [Montréal Canadiens with 17 Canadians](#) on the roster.

## 2. Canadians eat more Kraft Macaroni and Cheese per capita than any other nation in the world

Kraft Macaroni and Cheese may not be a Canadian innovation, but that hasn’t stopped us from making it a de facto national dish. Called “Kraft Dinner” in Canada (or simply “KD”), the iconic dish is beloved by [kids and former Prime Ministers alike](#). Last March alone, Canadians bought an [estimated 15 million boxes of Kraft Dinner](#)—prompting the Montreal factory that produces approximately 90% of Canada’s supply to [start running 24/7](#).

## 3. Canada is one of the world’s largest exporters of energy

Most people wouldn’t be surprised to learn that [Canada produces most of the world’s maple syrup](#)—71%, or more than 12.5 million gallons per year. But Canada’s most valuable export is [energy products](#), totalling more than C\$111 billion in 2018 alone. Canada is the world’s third largest [exporter of electricity](#).

## 4. Canada is home to five of North America’s fastest-growing cities

In 2020, Toronto surpassed Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington to become [the fastest-growing metropolitan area in North America](#). Four other Canadian cities made the top 20, with Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton ranking 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, respectively.



## **5. Canada still has a King**

Though Canada has been fully politically independent from the United Kingdom since 1982, it is still a constitutional monarchy, with King Charles III as its Head of State. Represented in Canada by the Governor General (who is currently former diplomat Mary Simon), the King's role in Canada is, for practical purposes, largely symbolic. Still, all bills passed by Parliament must receive Royal Assent in order to be enacted into law.

## **6. Canada has one of the most highly-educated workforces in the world**

Nearly 60% of Canadian adults aged 25-64 have completed some form of tertiary education—a higher percentage than any other OECD country.

## **7. Toronto has more cranes in the sky than any other city in North America**

The RLB Crane Index tracks the number of operating tower cranes in 14 major North American cities as a barometer for investment activity and development. [Toronto currently accounts for nearly one-third of all cranes operating in North America](#), with 124 in operation as of October 2020.

## **8. You might have heard of “toonies”—but “dubloonies”?**

When Canada's two dollar coin entered circulation back in 1996, its introduction raised a matter of great public concern: what would the coin be called? Most suggestions used the name of the one dollar coin—the “loonie”—for inspiration. Possibilities included the “bearie” (after the polar bear on the coin's reverse) and the “doubloonie” (both a portmanteau of “double loonie” and a play on “doubloon”). In the end, “toonie” won out.

## Contact



**Fiona Brown**

Partner

T 416.865.3078

E [fbrown@airdberlis.com](mailto:fbrown@airdberlis.com)

Fiona has extensive experience advising international businesses entering the Canadian market. To date, she has advised more than 100 companies expanding into Canada. Fiona advises clients in this space all day, every day. She has been practising for more than a decade and is a regular speaker and writer on market expansion matters. Fiona is proud to have been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in Canada*, *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* and *Benchmark Canada*.

A proactive and comprehensive approach is required to succeed in a new market. Fiona manages teams of other lawyers and patent agents to provide her clients with a full range of legal services to help their businesses grow. She acts as project manager to ensure her clients receive seamless legal services in all relevant areas.

Fiona takes great care to understand her clients' businesses and deliver advice that is tailored to meeting their specific needs. Her responsiveness, dedication to clear communication and hands-on approach show that she is personally invested in the success of her clients.

**Amelia McLeod**, a student at Aird & Berlis LLP, contributed to this article.