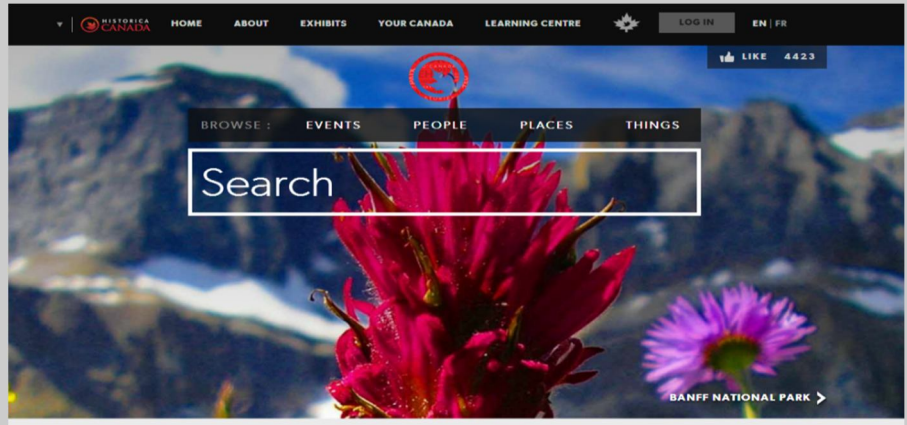


Home Page



Logo



URL

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/>

Subject

Canada-Encyclopedias

Accessibility

Free

Language

Bilingual (English and French)

Publisher

HistoricaCanada

Brief History

The first edition of the printed Canadian Encyclopedia was published in three volumes in 1985. In 1995, McClelland & Stewart published the first digital CD-ROM edition.

The move to digital, made in 2001, means the encyclopedia is available free to anyone with Internet access. This version of The Canadian Encyclopedia, released in enhanced digital interactive form in October 2013.

The encyclopedia belongs, in a sense, to all Canadians. Nevertheless, its enduring success is particularly due to several people and institutions, including: its publisher, Mel Hurtig; the generosity and commitment of Avie Bennett; the editorial leadership of James Marsh until his March 2013 retirement (he is now editor emeritus); the Alberta government of Peter Lougheed, which provided financial backing for the first edition; and the present support of the federal Canadian Heritage department, now led by Minister Mélanie Joly. Enhanced features and content in the present edition are the work of staff and contributors led by Managing Editor Davida Aronovitch, and Web and New Media Strategist Chantal Gagnon. The copyright of the website belongs to Historica Canada.

Scope and Coverage

Canadian Encyclopedia plays an essential role in providing Canadians and others with accurate, updated information about the “Events”, “People”, “Places”, “Things” related to Canada. Sub categories within the above mentioned main categories, like Athletic, Awards, Commemorations, Commissions & Reports, Competitions, Festivals, Historical, Holidays, Law & Policy, Military Engagements, Performances, Political, Doctors & Health Administrators, Educators & Public Servants, Environmentalists, Explorers, French Canadians, Gamers, Historical, Figures, Inventors & Innovators, Lawyers, Judges & Criminals, Leaders & Activists, Military Figures, Musicians, Other, Politicians, Scientists Technologists, Women, Writers & Academics etc. carry with them a lot of articles.

The encyclopedia provides 19,410 articles on the above mentioned subcategories. The numbers are growing very fast (about 60 articles are revised or created every month). The list of more than 4,400 contributors includes David Suzuki, Margaret Atwood, Piers Handling, Daniel Latouche, the late Pierre Berton and Marc Laurendeau.

It was made digital in 2001. It now receives more than six million unique visitors annually for 9.5 million page views. The encyclopedia contains more than 30,000 multimedia items including images, maps, games, audio and video. Multimedia is augmented through acquisition and partnerships with Maclean’s magazine and The Canadian Press. The new interactive features include curated content exhibits, interactive timelines, immediate updates of important events and a user-generated content map that invites Canadians to share their stories.

Kind of Information

The Canadian Encyclopedia includes articles on numerous subjects including history, popular culture, events, people, places, politics, arts, first nations, sports and science and others. The articles include photographs, videos, maps where applicable along with the list of suggested reading, related articles and links, published date and last edited date.

At the end of the article, the encyclopedia provides list of recommended readings and a list of readings which are read by others.

As for example, under the subcategory “Agriculture” (under category “Thing”), there is an article named “Wheat”. This article actually belongs within the sub sub category named “Cereal Crops” of “Agriculture”. The article includes writings on “Production”, “History”, “Protection” and makes links with other articles in this encyclopedia and to other sites. Also it provides the recommended readings, suggested readings, related articles. See also references to other similar crops are also found. The encyclopedia provides option to share the article through Facebook, Twitter, email etc. It also provides the users to save the article, to make a citation, to take a print. The article also includes black and white photograph.

Another example is given below for further clarification. Under the category “Places” there is a sub category named “Rivers” and under it there lies “Mackenzie River”. Article named “Mackenzie River” includes the points like “Course”, “Mackenzie River Delta”, “Ecology”, “Environmental Concerns”, “History” about the river along with suggested reading, related articles, links and the provision to share, print, cite and save the article. The article also provides measurement of the drainage area, length and mean drainage area of the river. This article is embellished with the coloured image of the river.

Special Features

- ❖ Direct link to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Blog.
- ❖ The site is linked with <http://www.awwwards.com/> which recognizes the talent and effort of the best web designers in the world.
- ❖ Page translation between English to French and vice versa is available.
- ❖ The encyclopedia makes an exhibition under various titles. On the day of access the title “Southeast Asian Refugees: A Long Journey to Freedom” was found by clicking on the option

“Exhibits”, shown at the top portion of the page.

❖ Under the option “Your Canada”, the history of Canada is also provided on the following points along with the world map:

“Street Art in Canada”

“Black history in Canada”

“Canada’s Haunted Places”

“In the Footsteps of Great Canadians”

“Stories of the Great War”

“Great Canadian Stories” etc.

They all are linked with the Twitter page.

❖ The encyclopedia also provides the learning resources for their users in the form of “Quizzes”, “Timelines”, “Study guides” which are arranged by topic, by alphabets or one can see the all type of resources at a glance.

❖ This encyclopedia also gives the provision to make a comment on the article, to save the article, to print the page, to share it via Twitter, Facebook, Email and provides citation guides (APA 6th ed., MLA 7th ed., Chicago 16th ed., Turabian) to cite this article.

Arrangement Pattern

The encyclopedia divides the articles into four alphabetically arranged main categories like “Events”, “People”, “Places”, “Things”. The subcategories under each main category are arranged alphabetically. As for example, under the main category “Event”, there are alphabetically arranged hyperlinked subcategories like Athletic, Awards, Commemorations, Commissions & Reports, Competitions, Festivals, Firsts, Historical, Holidays, Law & Policy, Military Engagements, Performances, Political, Strikes & Protests, Weather Phenomena.

Under “ People” category alphabetically arranged hyperlinked list of subcategories are found: Aboriginal Peoples, Actors & Broadcasters, Architects, Builders & Planners, Artists, Athletes, Businessmen & Businesswomen, Directors & Producers, Diverse Communities, Doctors & Health Administrators, Educators & Public, Servants, Environmentalists, Explorers, French Canadians, Gamers, Historical, Figures, Inventors & Innovators, Lawyers, Judges & Criminals, Leaders & Activists, Military Figures, Musicians, Other, Politicians, Scientists Technologists, Women, Writers&Academ.

The “Places” category includes sub categories in alphabetic order like Cities, Cities & Populated Places, Coastal Regions, Exploration,

Geography, Halls & Theatres, Historical, Islands, Lakes & Reservoirs, Land, Landmarks & Monuments, Mountains, Museums, Galleries & Archives, Parks & Historic Sites, Parks & National Historic Sites, Passes & Trails, Populated Places, Provinces & Territories, Rivers, Schools & Institutions, Schools & Universities, Water.

Under the “Things” category, there are the following alphabetically arranged subcategories:

Agriculture, Art & Architecture, Awards, Business, Communications, Culture, Education, Entertainment, Environment, Government, History, Innovations & Technology, Law, Literature, Military, Music, Organizations & Movements, Politics, Religion & Philosophy, Science & Medicine, Sociology, Sports, Transportation, Urban Affairs, Zoology.

Under the sub categories the sub sub categories are also found alphabetically arranged in the left hand side of the page.

As for example, the sub sub categories under the sub category named “ Historical” (which is under the main category “ Places”) are arranged in the following alphabetic order:

“ Archeological Sites”
“ Battlefields”
“ Church”
“ Forts”
“ Historic Sites”

By entering each sub sub category, the articles are found.

Remarks

The site is an impeccable source to know about Canada and its history, culture, civilization, agriculture, geography and other topics related to the country. The site also offers a new learning centre for teachers and parents that contains classroom resources, quizzes and themed study guides.

Comparable Tools

- Encyclopedia Iranica (<http://www.iranicaonline.org/>)
- Banglapedia (<http://www.banglapedia.org/>)

- Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)
- Britannica.com (<http://www.britannica.com/>)

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