

Contact Information

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Canadian Churches Cooperating

Canadian National Baptist Convention

We are churches in covenant giving ourselves away to advance the Kingdom of God

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Welcome to Canada...

Temperatures (Approximate):

40° =	104° F	5° =	40° F
35° =	95° F	0° =	32° F
30° =	86° F	-10° =	10° F
25° =	77° F	-20° =	-8° F
20° =	68° F	-30° =	-22° F
15° =	60° F	-40° =	-40° F
10° =	50° F		

Distances (Approx):

1 m =	1 yard	1000 m =	1 km
30 km =	20 miles		
50 km =	31 miles		
80 km =	50 miles		
110 km =	70 miles		

Weights & Measures (Approx):

1 litre =	1 quart		
4 litres =	1 gallon		
1 kg. =	2.2 pounds	1000 grams =	1 kg

Canadian & Ontario Holidays

January 1	=	New Year's Day
March/April	=	Good Friday
		Easter Sunday
		Easter Monday (observed)
May (3 rd or 4 th Monday)	=	Victoria Day
May	=	Mother's Day (observed)
June	=	Father's Day (observed)
July 1	=	Canada Day
August (1 st Monday)	=	Civic Holiday (Ontario)
September (1 st Monday)	=	Labour Day
October (2 nd Monday)	=	Thanksgiving Day
November 11	=	Remembrance Day
December 25	=	Christmas Day
December 26	=	Boxing Day

Language:

Loonie	=	One dollar coin
Toonie	=	Two dollar coin
First Nation	=	Native Canadian (Aboriginal Canadian)
Inuit	=	Native Canadians in the far northern regions (“Eskimo” is generally considered derogatory)
Crown	=	Representing the government (i.e. Crown land)
Click	=	Kilometre (i.e. Go five clicks down the road...)
K	=	Kilometre (i.e. I went on a 5K run)
Tea	=	Hot Tea
Iced Tea	=	Lipton crystal style iced tea
Pop	=	Soft drink, soda pop
Toque	=	Knitted winter hat (“toque” rhymes with “Luke”)
Toboggan	=	Like a sled
Grade 12	=	High School Senior (Grades are usually given in year)
1 st Yr University	=	College Freshman (also, 2 nd , 3 rd , & 4 th Year)
Catholic	=	Catholic – practicing or maybe just cultural connection
Anglican	=	Church of England (Episcopal)
United Church	=	Denomination combining Methodist, Congregational, and some Presbyterian churches
Conservative (Tories)	=	Political Party
Liberal (Grits)	=	Political Party
New Democratic Party (NDP)	=	Political Party
RCMP	=	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Mounties	=	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
OPP	=	Ontario Provincial Police
Yankee	=	General term that can be used to refer to all of the United States, not just the northern states. The term can be used in a derogatory manner, but just as easily can be used with no ill intent.
eh	=	Usually used as a rhetorical question assuming a positive response... “Great weather we’re having, eh?” Only use it yourself if it comes out naturally.

Geography of Canada:

- **Three Oceans**
- **5 ½ Time Zones**
- **Canada's 3 largest cities** (in order)
 - Toronto, ON (7 million in metro area)
 - Montréal, QC (4 million in metro area)
 - Vancouver, BC (3 million in metro area)

Population of Canada:

Canada's population of approx. 33,000,000 is spread out over its vast geography.

- 60% of Canada's population lives between the Detroit/ Windsor border and Québec City (including Toronto & Montréal).
- 10% of Canada's population lives in the city of Vancouver.
- 10% of Canada's population lives in the province of Alberta (especially in the two cities of Calgary & Edmonton).
- The remaining 20% of the population is spread out over thousands of kilometres.

Spiritual:

"The winters of my childhood were long, long seasons. We lived in three places - the school, the church, and the skating rink - but our real life was on the skating rink."

Quote from: Canadian \$5.00 Bill

- Canada is a "post-Christian" or "non-Christian" culture – varies regionally.
 - The average Canadian does not have a working knowledge of the Bible
 - Do not assume that an individual has the same understanding of concepts such as sin, heaven, judgement, and even Jesus.
 - The average Canadian may know some of the gospel message, but not enough yet to be able to respond.
 - The average Canadian is "spiritual" – but not necessarily Christian
- "Pastor" is not necessarily a respected position in the community

Social:

- Canadians are generally friendly, but may be slow to go "deep"
- Most interaction and visiting is done on neutral turf.
 - Neighbours will visit on the sidewalk or over the fence.
 - At church, Christians will visit long in the foyer or common area.
 - Friends will commonly visit at Tim Horton's or Starbucks.
- Polite, reserved, non-confrontational
- Trust is earned.

Some other stuff

Exchange Rates:

Local Banks:

US cash can be changed into Canadian Dollars at any local bank. One form of identification is required. This is the best option for exchange.

Airport:

Generally, the rate at the airport is much higher than at a local bank.

Stores:

Most merchants accept US dollars, but you generally are getting a very poor exchange rate.

Do's this week (& Some Don't's)...

Do be prepared to meet each individual wherever he/she is on his/her spiritual journey.

Don't feel the need to "close the deal"

- If ministering with a local church, they will follow through.
- If exploring where there is no church – your church or someone else will come back later to follow up or continue to the next step.
- A good impression of your team will go a long way in building trust with individuals in the community.

Do take your shoes off if you are invited into someone's home

Suggestion - If you are wearing sandals, keep a pair of socks in your vehicle.

- If you are invited to someone's home, it is huge! Especially in the cities, most polite interaction will happen on the street. An invitation to a person's home (or even to share a meal at any location) is not a normal custom of hospitality, but rather an extension of friendship.

Do tip well at a sit-down restaurant (15% is common)

Don't leave a tract without building a relationship, having a positive spiritual discussion, and asking permission.

- You may be the first "Christian" this person has met or identified.
- To help build relationships, consider eating at the same restaurant regularly and buying at the same store as often as possible.

Do recycle

Canadians value caring for the environment - recycling facilities are easily accessible in most communities.

- Bottles, cans, and tetra packs (pop, water, juice) receive a refund when returned to a bottle depot. In public places, take them away with you. If you leave them beside the garbage can in your hotel room, cleaning staff will recycle for you.

Do remember that most Canadians have not heard the full gospel

Say, "We are here with the Canadian National Baptist Convention..."

Don't feel the need to mention "Southern Baptist" - Baptist is Baptist

- What is Baptist? - Very similar to Alliance Church.
- What do Baptists believe? - Focus on Christ
- What is the difference between Catholic & Baptist? - "I can tell you what we believe..." and then focus on the Christ.

Do focus on similarities, not differences

Don't needlessly focus on differences between Canada & USA

- i.e. colour of money, dates of Thanksgiving, the pronunciation of words like "about", etc.
- Relationships are built on common ground.

Do look for, and expect, God's activity wherever you are.