

Canada



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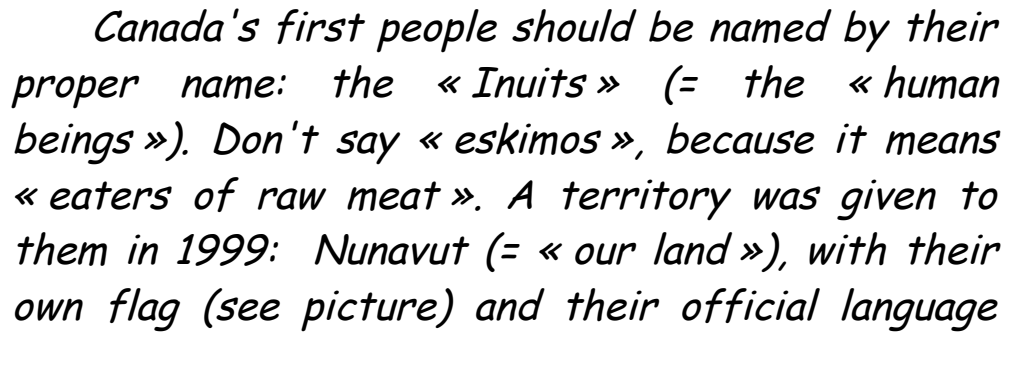


Canada is the second largest country in the world, behind Russia. Like the Republic of Ireland, it is officially a bilingual country (English and French). Most Canadians speak English and only people in the Province of Québec speak French and English. Canada's capital is Ottawa (photo).



The first White people to live in Canada were the Vikings (about 500 years before C. Columbus). French sailor Jacques Cartier re - « discovered » the country in 1534. Cartier met people who had been living here for 26.000 years and who also spread all over the American continent: the native Americans (or: the First Nations). The British conquered the country in 1763 and developped it as a colony of Britain.

A red totem pole with a yellow background. The totem pole is composed of several stacked, rounded, red segments. The top segment is a pointed, triangular shape. The second segment is a horizontal bar. The third segment is a rounded, rectangular shape. The fourth segment is a rounded, rectangular shape. The bottom segment is a rounded, rectangular shape. The totem pole is positioned on the right side of the image, with a yellow background on the left.

[illegible]

Today, the Inuits don't live in igloos any longer. They now live in villages and their life-style is similar to all Canadian people's. Because they find it difficult to fit in with White man 's life-style, many Inuits face problems (alcoholism, suicide, teenage-pregnancy, etc).



The Inuits have kept a little of their age-old ways of living: they go hunting for whales, seals or polar bears like their ancestors used to do. They try to revive their old languages, dances, songs and legends.

A few famous pictures of Canada:



With freezing temperatures well under zero in winter, Canadians have to get used to living in special conditions !



If you go to the border between Canada and the USA, you will perhaps watch the world-famous Niagara Falls.



As an officially bilingual country, Canada shows the two languages on many sign-posts or posters.

Canada: the country where you can enjoy snow in all its forms:



Mushing is one of many activities you can do in Canada.

Canada's national sport is ice -hockey. The Canadian hockey-players are among the best in the world.



In the winter, Canadian people can go ice-skating on canals and rivers in city-centers ! Canadian ice-skaters are also very good in international competitions.

A snowmobile can be very useful to travel over long distances of ice and snow.

