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**Abstract:** The article presents information on the geography and land of Canada. Canada is made up of ten provinces and two territories. Canada also has a number of islands within its boundaries. These islands include Ellesmere Island, Victoria Island, Baffin Island, Vancouver Island, and the Queen Charlotte Islands. Canada also has the Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake, Lake Winnipeg, Lake Athabasca and Reindeer Lake. The United States and Canada share the Great Lakes of Superior, Ontario, Huron, Erie, and Michigan. The United States and Canada also share the Niagara Falls. The rivers of Canada are the Mackenzie, Yukon, Fraser, Peace, Columbia, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Nelson, St. Lawrence, and the St. John river. Canada has areas known as the lowlands and the highlands. Hudson Bay is also situated in Canada.

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**Canada Geography/Land**

Canada is made up of ten provinces and two territories. Canada also has a number of islands within its boundaries. These islands include Ellesmere Island, Victoria Island, Baffin Island, Vancouver Island, and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Canada also possesses a vast number of lakes and rivers. The lakes are the Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake, Lake Winnipeg, Lake Athabasca and Reindeer Lake. The United States and Canada share the Great Lakes of Superior, Ontario, Huron, Erie, and Michigan. Another area that the United States and Canada share is Niagara Falls. The rivers of Canada are the Mackenzie, Yukon, Fraser, Peace, Columbia, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Nelson, St. Lawrence, and the St. John river.

Canada has areas known as the lowlands and the highlands. The highlands include the Laurentian and the Appalachian. Along with the highlands there are three mountain ranges within Canada's borders. First, there are the Coast Mountains, then there are the Rocky Mountains, which also are found in the United States and the Mackenzie Mountains.

On the border of Alaska and Canada you can find Mt. Logan. Next, the lowlands include the Hudson Bay lowland, the Canadian Shield, St. Lawrence lowland and the Great Lakes lowland.

Also, within Canada there are a number of seas, straits, capes , peninsulas, and gulfs. First, there is the Labrador Sea and the Beaufort Sea. Next is the Ungava Peninsula and the Alexander archipelago (a large group of islands). There are a number of straits in Canada.

There is the Hudson, the Davis, and the Nares, which separates Ellesmere Island from Greenland. One of Canada's biggest claims to fame is Hudson Bay. Canada also has two capes: Cape Sable and Cape Race. Last, but not least, Canada is home to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

### **The Canadian Inuit: Natives of the North**

The Inuit or Eskimo (a Cree word meaning "eaters of raw meat") span the northern reaches of Canada's landmass from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Just as the area which became the United States contained a large number of Native inhabitants before the arrival of European settlers, there were an estimated 22,000 Inuit living in what is now Canada by the time the Europeans came there.

On April 1, 1999 the Canadian government established their newest territory, Nunavut (pronounced Noo-na-voot). Now Inuit can govern themselves in an effort to preserve their culture and language, Inuktitut.

Nunavut means "our land" in Inuktitut and takes up one-fifth of Canada's total size. It also spans three time zones: Eastern, Central, and Mountain.

Now, as a self-governing body, Inuit can make important educational, economic, and political decisions for themselves.

Today, the Inuit are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain their own distinct culture, as more and more Inuit are assimilated (absorbed into mainstream Canadian culture).

For instance, Inuit children who choose to go to school are taught either French or English instead of their native language.

MAP

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