

# Celebrating Canada 2022

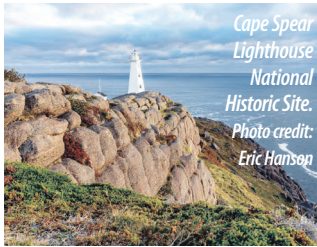


## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CANADA

There's a lot to know about Canada. The following are some interesting facts to consider as we celebrate the country's 155 birthday.

Did you know....

• **Cape Spear Lighthouse** is the oldest surviving lighthouse in Newfoundland and Labrador and is the most easterly point in North America. Cape Spear, which served as a gun battery during the Second World War, was officially opened to the public in 1983 by the Prince and Princess of Wales, Charles and Diana.



Cape Spear Lighthouse National Historic Site. Photo credit: Eric Hanson

• Located 720 km from the North Pole, **Ellesmere Island** is the northernmost populated place in Canada, the world's 10th largest island and Canada's third largest island. According to the Canadian Encyclopedia, the sea ice around Ellesmere Island has diminished significantly in the past 25-50 years. As global warming continues, climatologists believe that the ice will keep shrinking.

• **Fort Edmonton Park** the largest living history museum in Canada. It began as a Canada Centennial project in 1967 to reconstruct the old Fort Edmonton, but now includes the 1846 Hudson's Bay Fort as well as the Streets of 1885,

1905 and 1920, depicting the evolution of Edmonton's early history.

• **Fort York** was designated Toronto's first National Historic Site in 1923. Between 1932 and 1934, the City of Toronto restored Fort York to celebrate the centennial of the incorporation of the city in 1834. The fort is home to Canada's largest collection of original War of 1812 buildings and 1813 battle site.

• **Anne of Green Gables: The Musical** was performed every summer beginning in 1965, at Prince Edward Island's Charlottetown Festival making it Canada's longest-running mainstage musical. At the dawn of its 50th season, in 2014, it was announced that this production of *Anne of Green Gables: The Musical* had been named by Guinness World Records as the "longest-running annual musical theatre production" in the world. Its 2500th performance took place on August 23, 2017.



AJ Bridel, played Anne in Anne of Green Gables - The Musical in 2017. Photo credit Confederation Centre of the Arts

• An island along the Pacific Ocean, **Haida**

**Gwaii**, formerly known as the Queen Charlotte Islands, was renamed in 2010 by the Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act. The coastal rainforests, wetlands, sand dunes, beaches, rugged mountains, streams and lakes of Haida Gwaii nurture an extensive population of plants and animals that exist nowhere else on earth. Due to the unique nature of their life forms, the islands are referred to as Canada's Galapagos.

• **Whitehorse** has made history over the years as the largest city in northern Canada and declared the city with the least air pollution in the world by Guinness World Records. It was established as the capital city of the Yukon in 1953.

• A major Winnipeg attraction is the **Royal Canadian Mint**, which produces every single Canadian coin. The Winnipeg location creates billions of coins each year for more than 75 countries around the world. Visitors can take a guided tour of

the high-tech facility, browse through interactive coin displays and learn how the coins are made.

• **Manitoulin Island**, located on Georgian Bay in Lake Huron, is the largest freshwater island in the world. The island town of Manitowaning was the first European settlement, while Wikwemikong remains the only unceded Indian Reserve in Canada. Indigenous heritage can be explored by taking a guided tour of the Great Spirit Circle Trail hosted by the island's Indigenous people.



• Known as the "University of the Hills" the **Banff Park Museum** houses more than 5,000 historic botanical and zoological specimens in the circa 1903 log building, the oldest surviving federal building in any Canadian national park.

• The world-renowned **Royal Tyrrell Museum** in Alberta's Midland Provincial Park is the only museum in Canada devoted exclusively to the science of palaeontology, and has one of the biggest displays of dinosaur skeletons in the world.

**Happy Canada Day**  
**Have a Great Long Weekend!**

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