

Canada - A country with strong french ties

## A Short History of Acadia(ns)

Acadia came to designate the present area of Canada's Maritime Provinces. The Acadians are the descendants of the 17th-century French colonists who settled in Acadia.

In 1604, Samuel de Champlain left France and went to Acadia. He and his men established the first European colonies in North America. During the 17th century, many French families were established in Acadia. They developed friendly relationships with the Mi'kmaq (first nation of indigenous people in Canada). Living in a contested borderland region (between French Quebec and British territories) the Acadians often became entangled in the conflict between these two powers.

In 74 years, six wars took place in Acadia. Some Acadians fought to keep the British away from their region, but the Brit-

ish government demanded that Acadians give up their religion and claim allegiance to the England's crown (but this included fighting against the French).

Most of them refused so the British Governor decided to deport them in 1755. Acadians were forcibly removed from their colonies.

The British military destroyed homes (they were burned down). Families were torn

apart and many lost everything. Acadians were dispersed. Many refused to accept this and were sent to Europe. Many were put in jail, and many died at sea. Others ran away to Quebec, and hid with the Mi'kmaq.

This episode is a symbol of deportation and it is known as the 'Expulsion'.

## Language

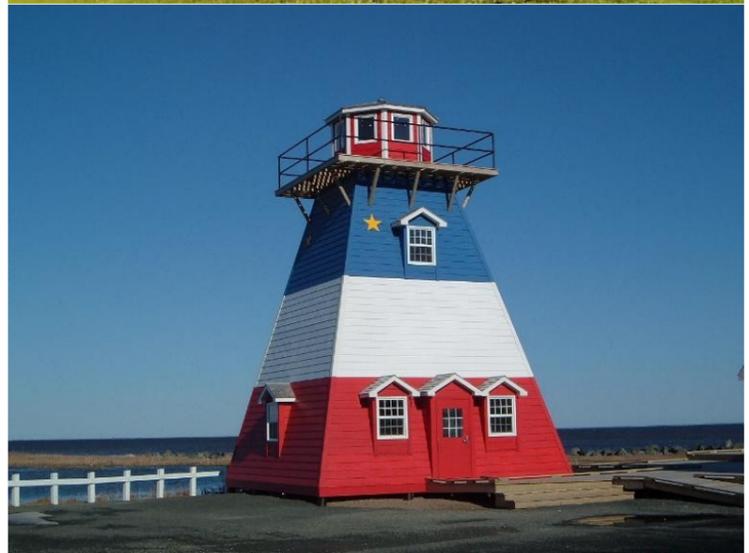
Acadia was a colony of New France. People who live in Acadia, are called Acadians. They are the descendants of French colonists who settled in Acadia in the 17th century. During this century about sixty French families were established in Acadia.

Today most of the Acadians are French speakers. They have developed a slightly different language because their French language didn't evolve, so Acadians continue

to speak a French which dates back to the 17th century.

The deportation of Acadians had scattered Acadians speakers, that's why today, we can find them in the province of New Brunswick, in Quebec's areas, in Nova Scotia, on Prince Edward Island and in the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Adèle Soudey



## Geography

Canada's an incredible country.

In fact we can find many interesting things about its cities, its parks, its landscapes... Canada has the longest coastline of any country in the world (with 243,977 kilometres) and also has the longest fresh water beach in the world! Even if Canada is the second largest country in the world, it has the fourth lowest population density in the world! (with only three people living per square kilometre).

And a funny thing : almost half of the population in Canada was born in other countries (that's why Canada has a great culture). Montreal is the world's second largest French speaking city after Paris and the capital of Canada is Ottawa, the second coldest capital in the world. The country has six time zones. Half of the country is covered with forests, which should come as no surprise considering one-tenth of the world's forests are there.

Known worldwide for untouched landscapes, Canada has many national parks that are protected natural spaces throughout the country.

In 1885, the first park located in Banff was established. Since then, they have never stopped preserving nature and open natural parks. Canada has 42 national parks and 4 national marine conservation areas (with a total 32,187,860 Hectars). When

we are in these areas cutting wood, mining, extracting oil and energy, hunting and trapping are prohibited. Nature is still intact.

Another untouched landscape located between Canada and the USA: Niagara Falls. Renowned for their beauty, the falls are also a huge source of hydroelectric power and their preservation is an ecological challenge. This has been a touristic place for over a century.

Gabrielle Beigle



Banff National Park

## National sports

Sports in Canada consist of a variety of many games. The most common sports are ice hockey, lacrosse, Canadian football, basketball, soccer, curling and baseball. Ice hockey and lacrosse being the two official winter and summer sports.

Canada has good ice hockey teams. Ice hockey is Canada's most prevalent winter sport, its most popular spectator sport, and its most successful sport in international competition (sometimes we can see fights...). More than 50% of professional ice hockey players come from Canada. In terms of spectators, the most popular league is the professional National Hockey League, which has seven teams in Canada : the Calgary Flames, Edmonton Oilers, Montreal Canadiens, Ottawa Senators, Toronto Maple Leafs, Vancouver Canucks, and the Winnipeg Jets. Since 1920, the national hockey team won 23 gold medals at the World Championships and won a total of 15 Olympic medals at the Olympic Games (including Sochi Games this year).

Lacrosse: this sport has been played for over 500 years. Lacrosse was first declared the National Game of Canada in 1859.

Today lacrosse not only remains an integral part of native culture, but is played by thousands of people across Canada.

As a country with a cool and cold climate, Winter Olympics took place in Canada. Major multi-sport events in Canada : Canada games (with only amateur athletes), Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and others which are less known like the 'Jeux de la francophonie canadienne'.

Margot Bellet & Mathilde Guédon

