

150 ways Newfoundland & Labrador makes Canada RICHER

(You're welcome 😊)

As the country marks its 150th birthday July 1, we look at all the ways Newfoundland and Labrador has contributed to the national mosaic and what it means to be proudly Canadian. It was hard keeping it to just 150, and we invite readers to contact us with your suggestions.

1-12 Historical Events & Achievements



Ship Harbour, Placentia Bay, provided a secret mooring spot where US President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter on August 14, 1941, a policy that was adopted by WWII Allies and inspired the founding goals of the United Nations.



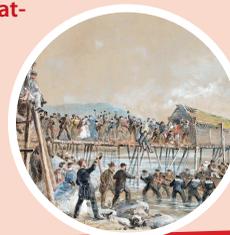
Terry Fox started his cross-Canada Marathon of Hope on April 12, 1980, by dipping his foot in St. John's harbour.

The final Canadian leg of Rick Hansen's worldwide Man in Motion wheelchair marathon began at Cape Spear in 1986.

Civilian aviation in North America began with the first such airport built in Harbour Grace in 1927. That airstrip was instrumental in Amelia Earhart's record-setting solo flight.

First evidence of European presence in the New World exists at L'Anse aux Meadows, NL, where Norse Vikings landed around 1,000 AD.

Telegraph communication between Europe and North America was made possible by a transatlantic cable landed at Hearts Content, NL in 1866, which relayed messages from the Old World to the New World.



Cupids was the first year-round settlement in North America and its success led to the eventual settlement of Europeans across Canada.

Dr. J.M. Olds introduced the idea of group medical coverage to the continent when he instituted the "blanket contract" to residents of the Twillingate area in the 1930s. People paid 44 cents per year for membership in return for free hospital services when needed.

Wireless communication across continents began at Signal Hill, St. John's, in 1901.



The world's first nonstop transatlantic flight got liftoff from Lester's Field in St. John's in 1919.

The Royal Newfoundland Regiment brought its world-renowned history of bravery and sacrifice to the esteem of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Gander was the location of the highly classified Ferry Command during WWII, which enabled the faster, safer delivery of military aircraft from factories in North America to the front lines in Europe. In addition to Gander, Goose Bay, Stephenville and St. John's have historically been key locations for Britain, Canada and our Allies.

13-30 Arts and Literature

NL writers, and writers inspired by NL, who've made an impact on the Canadian literary scene include (but are not limited to) Michael Crummey, Kathleen Winter, Michael Winter, Lisa Moore, Wayne Johnston, Donna Morrissey, Cassie Brown, Ray Guy, Bernice Mogan, Ed Kavanagh, Kevin Major, Kenneth Harvey and Robert Chafe.

Artists from this province who've received accolades nationwide and beyond include Christopher Pratt (and his ex-wife Mary Pratt, who is "from away" but has been inspired by her NL experience), Gerald Squires and David Blackwood (inset).



Sculptor Morgan MacDonald beautifully captures the spirit of his subjects, immortalizing their impact on the world. His work is showing up across Canada, from The Rower at Quidi Vidi; to the Sealers Monument in Elliston and several provincial war memorials; to the slain Mounties in New Brunswick and, his current project, a solemn reminder of the Fort McMurray wildfire.

31-34 Music

There aren't enough pages in this issue to list all the incredible musical talent from Newfoundland and Labrador, from long established artists to rising stars. But here are a few who are known across Canada.

Great Big Sea – Alan Doyle, Sean McCann and Bob Hallett – beat a path across Canada and back many times, performing sold out shows to expatriate NLers and fans who just love the party atmosphere and their genuine, downhome sound.



April Wine drummer Jerry Mercer (1973-84, 1992-2008), known for his long drum solos, was born in Newfoundland and Labrador. He was the first Canadian to be honoured with a Legends Award at the Cape Breton International Drum Festival (2010).

He's a hometown hero, but the late Ron Hynes was also an inspiration and a mentor to other Canadian songwriters.



Singer/songwriter Terry Kelly of St. John's, blind almost since birth, produced the world's first music album featuring liner notes in Braille. The next year he was appointed to the Order of Canada.

35-59 TV and Movies

Actor, writer, director, producer Allan Hawco continues to add to the Canadian movie and television landscape. His TV series "Republic of Doyle" ran five seasons and airs in several countries. His series "Frontier" dramatizes Canada's early fur trading history and the Hudson's Bay Company; and his next project is a series based on NL writer Lisa Moore's award-winning novel, *Caught*.

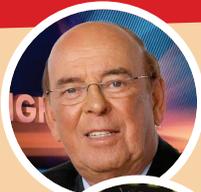


Petrina Bromley is representing Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada in her role with the Broadway hit musical "Come From Away," about Gander and area's heartwarming response to 9/11.

Other NL-born actors who are recognized Canadians in their field of success include Mark O'Brien, Shawn Doyle, Andy Jones, Gordon Pinsent (inset) and Natasha Henstridge.



Ever since Bob Cole ("Hockey Night in Canada"), we can hardly turn on the TV or radio without tuning into a NL native. Linden MacIntyre ("The Fifth Estate"), Gwynne Dyer (global military history & global affairs journalist), Andrew Younghusband ("Canada's Worst Driver" and "Canada's Worst Handyman"), Tom Power (host of "Q"), Tom Harrington ("Marketplace" and "The World This Hour") and Rex Murphy ("The National" and "Cross Country Checkup").



The Newfoundland and Labrador film industry brings together unique locations and a supportive, talented community that helps produce such Canadian films as *Maudie* (2016, starring Sally Hawkins), *The Grand Seduction* (2014, starring Taylor Kitsch), *Rare Birds* (2001, starring William Hurt) and *The Shipping News* (2001, starring Kevin Spacey).

Without Newfoundland and Labrador comedians, would there be anything funny to watch on CBC these past two decades or more? Newfoundland and Labrador spawned these comedians: Mary Walsh, Cathy Jones, Mark Critch, Shaun Majumder, Susan Kent, Rick Mercer and Jonny Harris.



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Politicians & Leaders



We may only have a few seats at the federal table, but we've produced some of the loudest and proudest – and the most entertaining – politicians the country has ever seen.

Topping the list is former premier **Joey Smallwood**, who brought this province to the union and is said to have coined the phrase “Atlantic Provinces”; former federal fisheries minister **Hon. John Crosbie**; and former premier **Danny Williams**, whose spat with Ottawa was heard from coast to coast to coast, and who famously removed the Canadian flag from all provincial buildings in protest.



Gen. William Keir “Bill” Carr was the first commander of the revamped Canadian Forces Air Command in 1975 and is known as the “father of the modern Canadian Air Force.”

Gen. Rick Hillier was the Chief of Defence Staff for the Canadian Forces from 2004 to 2008. Just prior to that posting he commanded the NATO ISAF in Afghanistan, leading a multinational unit fighting the Taliban.

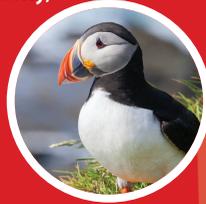


* 65 - 69 *

Animals



Several of Canada's beloved creatures are associated with Newfoundland and Labrador: the Newfoundland dog, the Newfoundland pony, the Labrador Retriever, the Labrador Husky and the Atlantic puffin.



* 70 - 72 *

Culture & Traditions



Local restaurants **Mallard Cottage**, **Raymond's** and **Merchant Tavern** are on this year's Canada's 100 Best Restaurants List.

Mary Brown's (best legs in town) has spread its battered wings from Newfoundland and Labrador across Canada and into the US (two former NL politicians opened a franchise in Florida this spring).



Residents of this province are known the world over for speaking Canada's unofficial third language. We even have our own dictionaries.

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Athletes



Representing Canada at the Olympics, we can count curling gold medalists **Brad Gushue**, **Mark Nicols**, **Jamie Korab** and **Mike Adam** (Torino, 2006). In figure skating, silver medalist **Kaetlyn Osmond** (Sochi, 2014). In paraswimming, gold medalist **Katarina Roxon** (Rio, 2016). And in hockey, silver medalist **Dwayne Norris** (Lillehammer, 1994).



Harry “Moose” Watson of St. John's was captain and lead scorer of the Canadian Olympic hockey team that won gold in France in 1924 – the first year that hockey was added to the Winter Olympics.

Marg Davis of Fox Harbour helped Canada win the silver medal in the 1978 World Women's Softball Championships in El Salvador – the best finish Canada has ever had in the event's 52-year history.

Rod Snow of Bonavista had a lengthy rugby career that included playing for team Canada from 1995-2007 and he was one of the first players inducted into the Rugby Canada Hall of Fame.

There have been 28 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians drafted to play with the National Hockey League, doing their part to ensure Canadians are represented in the NHL. Standout stars include Stanley Cup winner **Daniel Cleary** (2008, Detroit Red Wings), Stanley Cup winner **Michael Ryder** (2011, Boston Bruins), **John Slaney** (scored the winning goal for team Canada over Russia in the 1991 IIHF Junior World Championships), and **Alex Faulkner** (inset), the first NL native to ever play in the NHL (first drafted by the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1960).



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Putting Canada on the World Map



Brimstone Head on Fogo Island is internationally recognized as one corner of the earth by the Flat Earth Society.

Canada's quick access to France at St-Pierre-Miquelon begins at Fortune.

The oldest complex fossils found on earth are at Mistaken Point, one of Canada's newest UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Fossils found at Fortune Head are world-renown among geologists, as they illustrate the beginning of increasing biological diversity of life on earth.

Newfoundland's time zone gives Canadians an extra 30 minutes head start on the rest of North America.

Our 17,542 km of rugged coastline is a vast contribution to Canada's total coastline and its title of country with the longest total coastline, at 202,080 km.



There are four national parks – Gros Morne, Terra Nova, Mealy Mountains and Torngats – in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Royal Newfoundland Regiment is the reason for one of only two national memorial parks outside of Canada, at Beaumont-Hamel.

We harbour 46 National Historic Sites.

The Royal St. John's Regatta is the oldest continuous sporting event in North America.

Newfoundland and Labrador makes Canada the unofficial world capital in unique categories you won't find elsewhere:

- Root Cellar Capital – Elliston
- Iceberg Capital – Twillingate or St. Anthony (depending on where your allegiance lies)
- Moose Capital – Roddickton
- Whaling Capital – Red Bay

We're home to Canada's smallest town: Tilt Cove. As of press time, the population stood at four – the mayor, the clerk (his wife), and two councillors (in-laws).

Cape Spear is the most easterly point of land on the North American continent.



St. John's is the oldest city in North America.

Newfoundland and Labrador place-names add flavour to the Canadian map, from Blow-Me-Down to Dildo, and Heart's Delight to Too Good Arm.



The province boasts four of Canada's 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Gros Morne (inset), Mistaken Point, L'Anse aux Meadows and Red Bay.

The world's longest snowmobile endurance race is Cain's Quest through Labrador.

Newfoundland and Labrador offers world-class salmon rivers that bring avid anglers from all over the world and all walks of life – including world leaders. US President George Bush Sr. came here to salmon fish on several occasions.

The Guinness World Record for giant squid goes to one that washed ashore at Glovers Harbour in 1878. It was 18 metres long and weighed about 900 kg.

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Natural Resources

Codfish was the first natural Newfoundland and Labrador resource that every nation, including Canada, wanted. Other natural resources from this province that have benefited Canada include offshore oil, iron ore, nickel, copper, lumber and hydroelectricity.

145-150



Inventions

Memorial University students created Project SucSeed, hydroponic units that offer a low-cost, high-yield way of growing fresh food in any environment. It's been a boon to northern communities where the growing season and/or conditions are limited and imported produce prices are high.

Cluny MacPherson, a Royal Newfoundland Regiment soldier from St. John's, invented the gas mask during the First World War. His invention saved thousands of lives from chemical warfare.



The first unsinkable metal lifeboat was invented by Henry Frederick Coombs of Red Bay in 1886.

Rev. Dr. John Clinch introduced the smallpox vaccine to North America by testing it first on his family in Trinity, NL, in the late 1700s. Once proven effective, the vaccine made its way to Canada and the United States.

Daylight Savings Time was introduced by Newfoundland politician John Anderson in 1917.

William Henry Whiteley revolutionized the cod fishing industry when he invented the cod trap in 1871. 🐟