



# Canadian Identity and the Social Welfare State

Socials 11 Exam Presentation 8



# What makes Canada unique?

- What do you think is special about Canada?



# What makes Canada different from US?

- Gun control/violence: Canada has 30 guns/100 people. US has 88 guns/100 people. Higher violent crime rate in the US.
- Death penalty: Not allowed in Canada, allowed in US
- Healthcare: Public system in Canada, Private in the US
- Military: In 2014 US spent \$581 billion (about 4% of GDP) on military, Canada spent 22 Billion (about 1% of GDP)



# Canada's differences

- Canada has 30 million people. US has 300 million.
- Canada has legalized same-sex marriage, while this is still very controversial in the US.
- Canada's most popular sport is hockey. The US's is football.
- Can you think of other differences?



# Protecting Canadian Culture

- 1949: Massey commission investigated state of Canadian culture and suggested that Canadian culture needed to be protected from US influences.
- 1957: Canada council was established to award funding grants to Canadian artists, writers, and theaters.
- CBC (Television) started in 1952 to use television for spreading Canadian culture.
- NFB (National Film Board) funds and distributes Canadian-made movies.
- Despite this, Canadians watched more US TV shows and listened to more US music: was drowning out Canadian content.



# 1968: Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

- Regulates the amount of foreign material allowed in Canadian media.
- Example: most Canadian radio stations have to play 35-40% Canadian content (music by Canadian artists).
- For Canadian TV stations, 50-60% of content must be of Canadian origin.



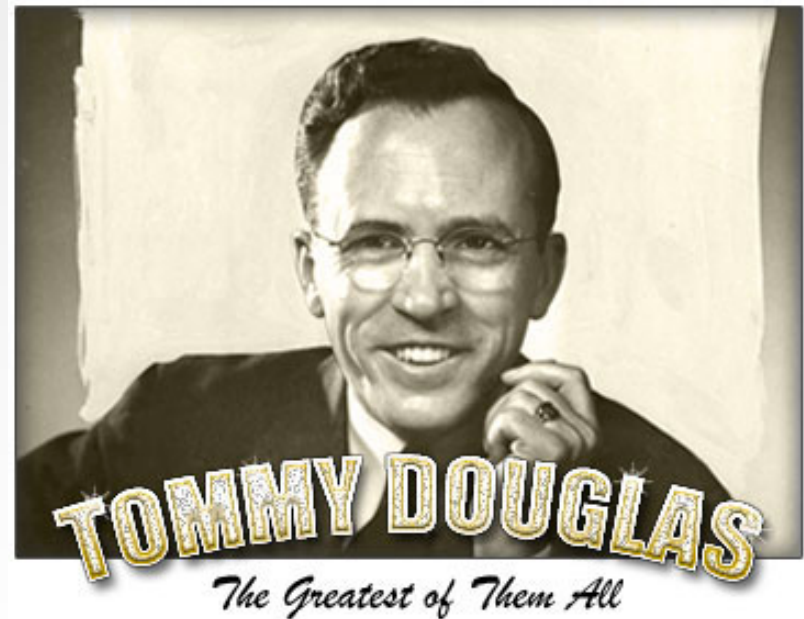
# Social Programs in Canada

- Developed between 1930 and 1960 as a result of the Great Depression.
- Before these programs, people in need were supported by private or religious charities.
- People who fell on hard times (getting sick, losing a job) had no safety net.
- Based on the belief that all citizens deserve to have their needs met (for housing, healthcare, income) at a basic level.
- People pay into various plans and then they can draw from them at a later date.



# National Healthcare

- Struggle for government-funded healthcare started in Saskatchewan.
- If a person got seriously ill they could lose their entire savings and had to depend on charity.
- In 1962, SK Premier Tommy Douglas introduced a complete medicare program that allowed all people access to medical care.
- In 1966, medicare became national with the “Medical Care Act”







## Other aspects of social welfare:

- Canada Pension Plan (1966): Working people contribute to this plan, and then they get a pension from the government when they retire
- Employment Insurance (1940): Working people contribute and if they lose their job they can get paid EI for a period of time. Also includes maternity and paternity pay.
- Family Allowance/Baby Bonus (1944): Government gives extra money to people with young children.
- Canada Assistance Plan: Helps people living in poverty by providing welfare/social assistance.



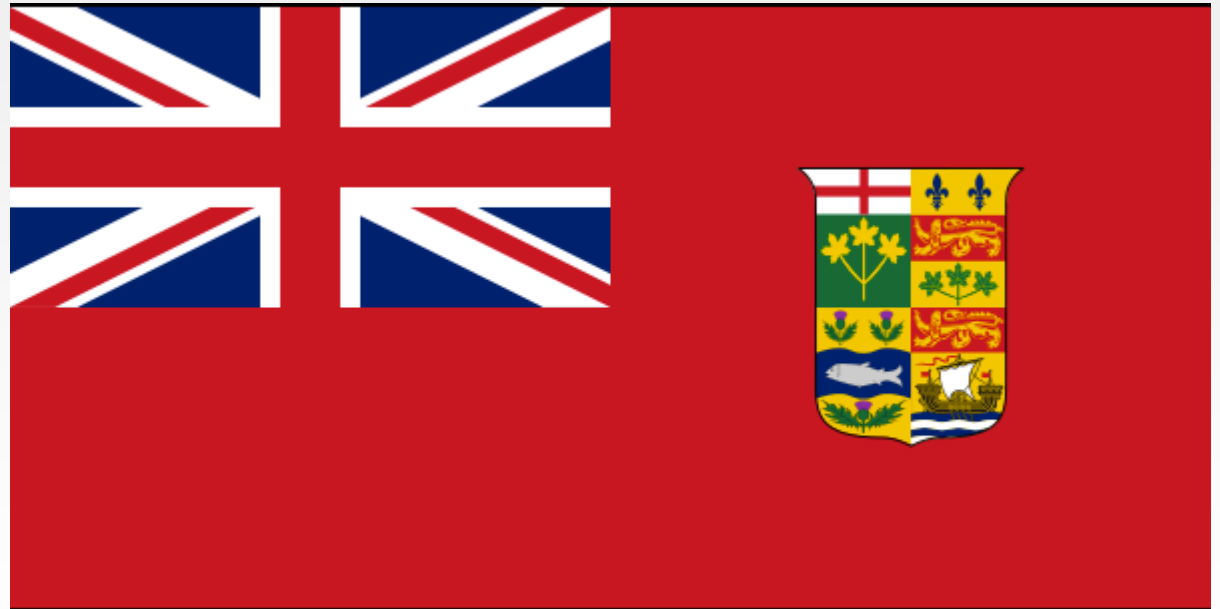
## More Social Welfare...

- Workers Compensation: Helps workers who are injured on the job. Employers pay into a provincial Worker's Compensation fund. If a worker is injured this fund will pay the worker benefits for a certain period of time.
- Childcare subsidies: Families with a certain income level can receive subsidies for childcare for their young children.



# Canadian Flag

- Until 1965  
Canada did not  
have it's own  
flag.
- They used this  
flag: The Red  
Ensign
- Quebec didn't  
like this flag.  
Why?





## The New Flag

- Lester B. Pearson (Prime Minister at the time) wanted a new flag. When he helped negotiate the Suez Canal conflict, some countries saw Canada as linked to England because of flag and believed Canada was on England's side.
- He wanted Canada to have their own flag.
- This sparked a huge debate (especially about Quebec's symbol's/colours)
- The new flag was adopted in 1965.



## Some of the designs considered:



Flag of Canada  
competition 1964



Canada flag competition  
1964



Canada flag competition  
1964



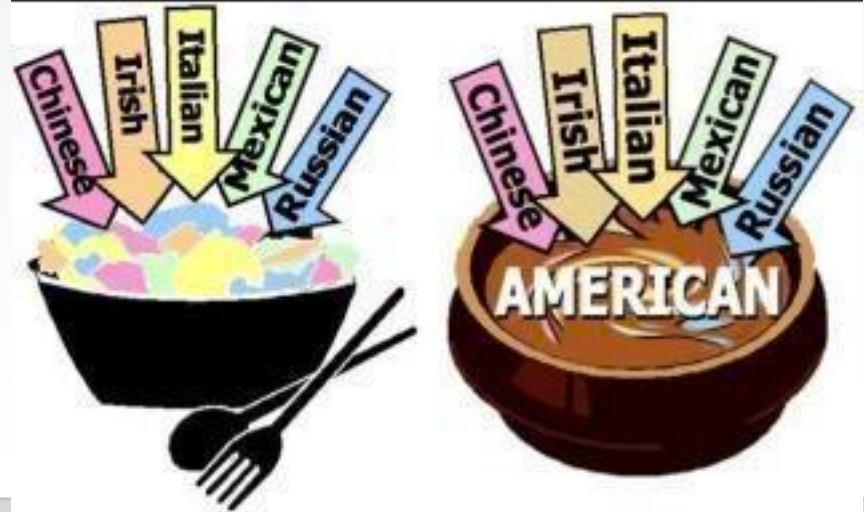
# Canadian Achievements

- Culture/arts: Neil Young, Allanis Morissette, Justin Bieber, Avril Lavigne
- Science/technology: Medical insulin, electronic microscope
- Sports: Wayne Gretsky
- Canadian heroes: Terry Fox, David Suzuki, Romeo Daillaire



# Cultural Diversity

- Multiculturalism: Cultures keep their unique diversity while becoming part of Canada
- Three founding nations acknowledged: First Nations, French, English
- Bilingualism: French and English heritage honored





# Writing: What do you think it means to be Canadian?

- Write of list of 10 things that you think define Canadians