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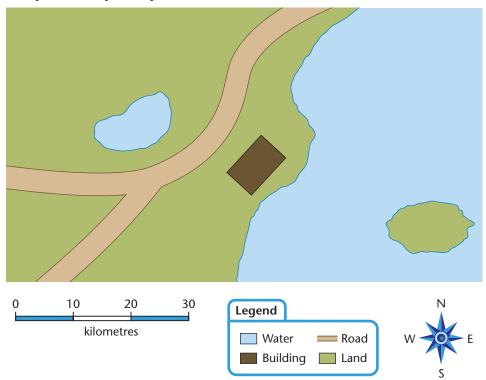
### What Is a Map?

A map is a drawing of the Earth on a flat surface. Maps do not show what the land actually looks like. For that, you need a picture. Instead, maps use symbols and colours to show some of the features of the land. Look at the picture and the map of the same area below. In what other ways is a map different from a picture?

Picture of Mary's Bay



Map of Mary's Bay



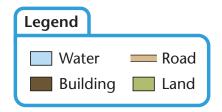


## **Reading a Map**

Map makers add special features to maps to help us understand the maps. Following these steps will help you with your map reading.

**Step 1** Read the title. It tells you what the map is about. Then look at the whole map to get a general idea of the information it gives.

**Step 2** Find the legend for the map. Sometimes a legend is called a key. The legend explains the colours and symbols used on the map.



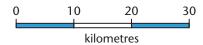
**Step 3** Look for different colours on the map. Colours show different features. Check what the features are by matching the colours to the legend. Remember that blue is used to show water features such as lakes, rivers, and oceans.

**Step 4** Find the compass rose. It will show directions on the map. North is always near the top.



**Step 5** Look at the scale.

It will tell you about distance on the map.



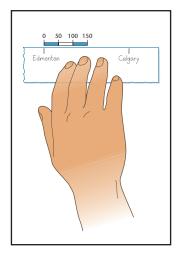


## Using Scale to Measure Distance

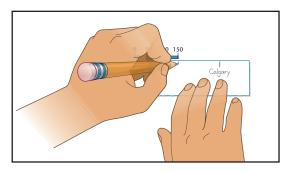
The scale of the map tells you about the actual distance between the places. Follow these steps to use a scale to measure distance between two points on the map. The example below shows the distance between Calgary and Edmonton. Practise the steps by finding the distance between other communities on the map on the opposite page.



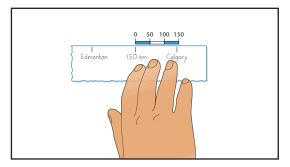
Step 1 Mark the locations of the two places on the edge of a sheet of paper.



Step 2 Place the edge of the paper against the map scale, with the first mark at 0.



**Step 3** Make a mark on your paper at the right end of the scale.



**Step 4** Move your paper so that your mark lines up with 0 on the line scale. Measure the next distance. Now add the distances together to find the total distance.

## Alberta: Major Communities



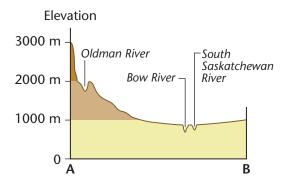


## Reading a Physical Map

A physical map shows the features of the land. Most physical maps use colour to show the height of the land. Mountains, hills, and areas of flat land can be identified.

You can get an idea of what the land looks like by using a "slice" through the land. The diagram below shows a cross-section along the dotted line (from "A" to "B") on the map on the opposite page. How would the slice be different if "A" to "B" was from Jasper to Lake Athabasca?

#### **Cross-section of Alberta**



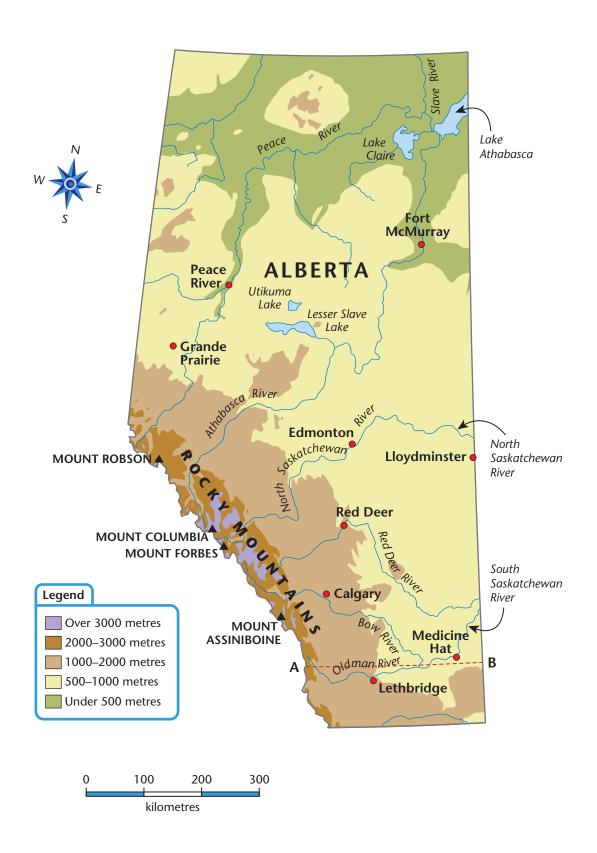
Follow these steps to read a physical map.

**Step 1** Identify any areas that are patterned to show the height or shape of the land.

**Step 2** The legend of a physical map will often tell you the height of the land, in metres. Use the legend to identify which areas are higher and which are lower. Notice that lower land is generally green. Map makers often use green for lower land and brown for higher areas.

**Step 3** A physical map helps you to tell which ways the rivers flow. Rivers flow "down" from higher areas of land to lower areas.

## Alberta: Physical Map



## Alberta: Some Major Tourist Attractions



#### Legend

- 1. Heritage Park
- 2. Jasper Gondola
- 3. Jasper Park Lodge
- 4. Athabasca Falls
- 5. Maligne Lake
- 6. Columbia Icefield
- 7. Devonian Botanic Garden
- 8. Edmonton Art Gallery
- 9. Muttart Conservatory
- 10. West Edmonton Mall

- 11. Telus World of Science
- 12. Ukrainian Easter Egg
- 13. Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum
- 14. Banff Upper Hot Springs
- 15. Banff Springs Hotel
- 16. Banff Gondola
- 17. Kananaskis Country
- 18. Calgary Science Centre

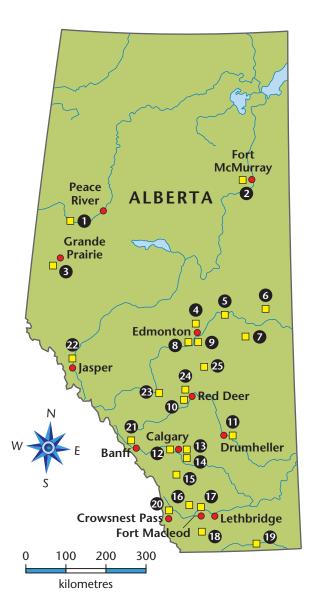
- 19. Calgary Zoo, Botanical Garden, and Prehistoric Park
- 20. Nakoda Institute
- 21. Stampede Park
- 22. Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens
- 23. World's Tallest Teepee
- 24. Royal Tyrrell Museum
- 25. Dinosaur Provincial Park
- National Park

# Alberta: National and Provincial Parks





## Alberta: Historic Sites and Museums



#### Legend

- 1. Historic Dunvegan
- 2. Oil Sands Discovery Centre
- 3. Grande Prairie Museum
- 4. Father Lacombe Chapel
- 5. Victoria Settlement
- 6. Fort George and Buckingham House
- 7. Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village
- 8. Fort Edmonton
- 9. Royal Alberta Museum
- 10. Stephansson House
- 11. Royal Tyrrell Museum
- 12. Canadian Olympic Park
- 13. Glenbow Museum
- 14. Heritage Park Historical Village
- 15. Turner Valley Gas Plant
- 16. Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump
- 17. The Fort—Museum of the North-West Mounted Police
- 18. Stand Off
- 19. Writing-On-Stone Provincial Park
- 20. Frank Slide Interpretive Centre
- 21. Cave and Basin National Historic Site
- 22. Jasper Park Lodge
- 23. Rocky Mountain House
- 24. Fort Normandeau
- 25. Reynolds Alberta Museum
- ☐ Historic Site or Museum



Royal Alberta Museum

## **Alberta: Facts and Figures**

**Area** 661 190 square kilometres

**Highest point** Mount Columbia: 3747 metres

**Lowest point** Slave River: 152 metres

**Largest lakes** Lake Claire, Lake Athabasca

**Longest rivers** Peace River and Athabasca River

**Annual precipitation** Lowest Medicine Hat (335 mm)

Highest Jasper (620 mm)

**Average temperature** Lowest Fort Smith (–24°C in January)

Highest Medicine Hat (19°C in July)

**Population** 3 223 400 in 2005

**Oil and gas** Ninth-largest oil producer and third-largest natural gas

producer in the world

**Agriculture** Over 20 million hectares

**Forestry** Forests cover over half of the province

**National parks** Banff, Elk Island, Jasper, Waterton Lakes, and Wood Buffalo

World Heritage

**Sites** 

Wood Buffalo National Park, Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks (includes Banff and Jasper), Waterton Lakes National Park, Dinosaur Provincial Park, and Head-Smashed-In

Buffalo Jump



Pelican Rapids, Slave River

## Alberta: Symbols

Flag



Coat of Arms



Motto: Strong and Free

Provincial flower: Wild rose



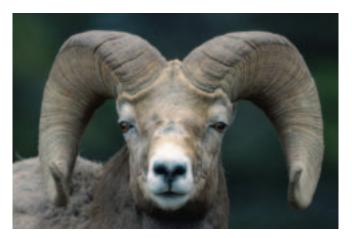
Provincial tree: Lodgepole pine



Provincial grass: Rough fescue



Provincial mammal: Provincial fish: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep Bull trout

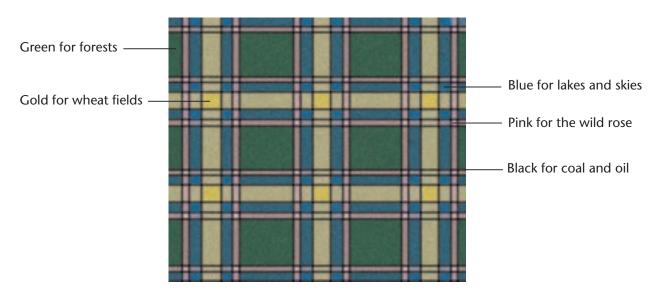




Provincial stone: Petrified wood

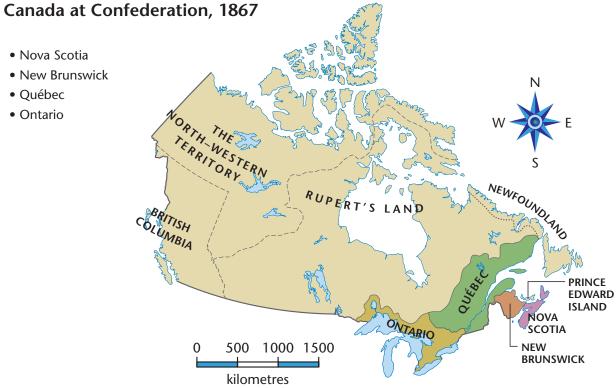


### Provincial tartan (cloth)



## Canada: Historical Maps

- Nova Scotia
- New Brunswick
- Québec
- Ontario

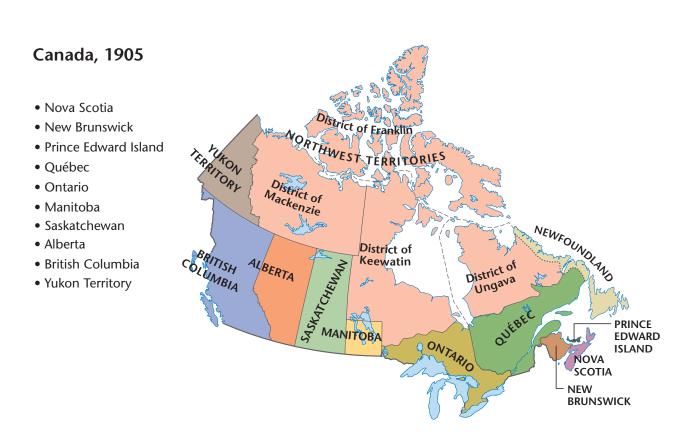


#### Canada, 1876

- Nova Scotia
- New Brunswick
- Prince Edward Island
- Québec
- Ontario
- Manitoba
- British Columbia







### Canada





### The World



