



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

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President's Comment

Happy Canada day to you all. Some Canadian Trivia you Should know.

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a self-governing **dominion** of Great Britain and a federation of four provinces: Nova Scotia; New Brunswick; Ontario; and Quebec. The anniversary of this date was called **Dominion Day** until 1982.

Since 1983, July 1 has been officially known as **Canada Day**.

When was Canada no longer a dominion?

After governance had reverted to direct control from London in 1934, became a province of Canada under the British North America Act 1949 (now the Newfoundland Act) passed in the UK parliament, **31 March 1949**, prior to the London Declaration of **28 April 1949**.

Why does Canada have the Queen on their money and what changes would take place following the coronation of King g Charles III?

The sovereign is the personification of the Canadian state and is Queen of Canada as a matter of constitutional law. The current Canadian monarch and head of state is King Charles the III, who was crowned following the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, who reigned from 6 February 1952 to September 8, 2022. ... However, the Queen, and now the King is the only member of the Royal Family with any constitutional role. The appearance of the Queen on Canadian money will change and replaced with King Charles, or if Canadian Parliament and the Treasury opted to replace with some other symbols.

Why do we cerebrate Canada Day and take pride doing so.

A hundred and six years ago, on June 28, 1914, Bosnian-Serb Gavrillo Princip assassinated the heir to the Austro-Hungarioan Empire, Archduke Ferdinand and his pregnant wife, Sophie, in Sarajevo. Thus, ignited the spark that led to First World War a month later.



There were some interesting tidbits about WWI and some historical events that affected Canada in significant ways. For example, Japan and Italy were both allies, while Turkey and Bulgaria were enemies fighting for the Central Power. Came World War II, both Japan and Italy became the enemy and Bulgaria and Turkey were the friendly force. It just proves that in politics, there are no permanent enemies or allies.

For the kid who whines why should he study history, for one thing, he will know the reason why we have to pay income tax, which was introduced to finance the war effort. Funny thing is that Canada is not at war but income tax has been here to stay since then. And do you know that Newfoundland was not part of the Canada Dominion during WWI? The most significant inference is that Canada matured from a British Colony and eventually became a Dominion due to the efforts and sacrifices of our young men and women. With a population of about 6 million, Canada contributed 600,000 soldiers with almost half died or seriously wounded. And don't forget politicians also contributed to the war effort and their decisions may not seem politically correct today.

So, on Canada Day, when we celebrate this our great nation, thank our forefathers for the contributions they made and ask not what Canada can do for us but what can we do for Canada.

While you are at it, this is specially for the younger Canadians, and Politically correct wokish politicians who find the cerebation of Canada Day "offensive" and "culturally inappropriate". Yes, these were the actual word pf a Calgary City Councilor who voted against any cerebation or fireworks for City Hall. Destroying statues and denying history do not mean historical events did not occur. Whether some of these events are deemed wrong in today's values and standards, all events and people have to be judged by their own merits at the time. Most of our WWII veterans have passed on and cannot personally vouch for the rights or wrongs of war activities. However, we are all aware of the atrocities in the Japanese and German prisoner camps. Today, Japan and Germany are our allies, militarily and economically. All these just prove my point that friend or enemy, right or wrong, depend on how history evolves. Some of you may have seen the movie, "Purged", which describe a society was permitted one night a year to do whatever one wants without any repercussion or police sanction. The end result was utter chaos and horror. We have already seeing some of the lawlessness in some US cities. I hope we Canadians are smarted and not easily swayed by mob mentality.

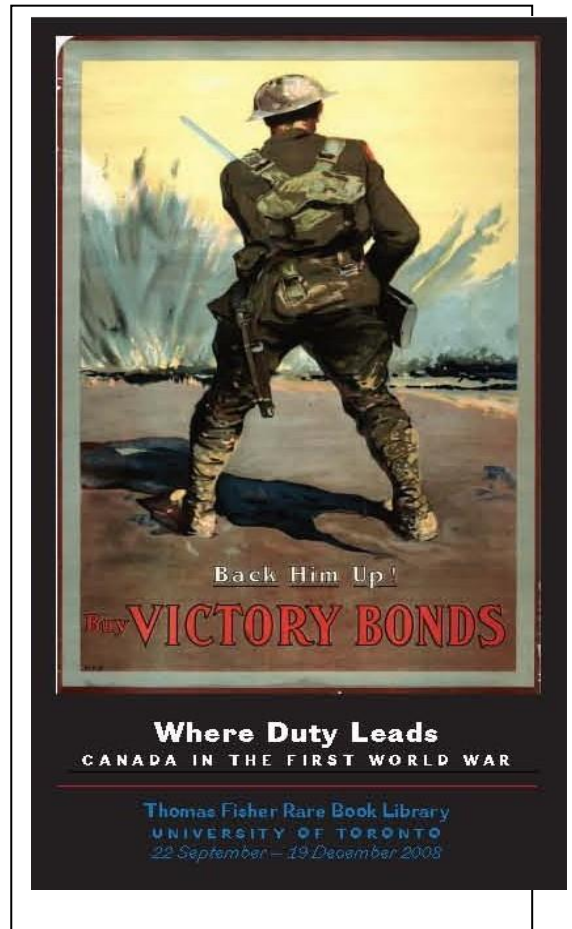
What to eat and drink, and wear on Canada Day?

Poutine., Alberta beef., Atlantic Canada lobster., Montreal smoked meat., Beaver tail, Cow's ice cream.

Now, Beaver tail is really a candied donut. If you are in Alberta, it is available at Calgary Stempede or Edmonton K-Days.

Beer. Apparently Budweiser is Canada's most popular' brew. May be not Bud Light.

Canadian Ice Wine. Different brands of Ice Wine are available. Some are made in Ontario and some are brewed in BC. In a hot summer day, a glass of chilled Ice Wine with a couple of ice cube, stirred, is just heaven. Go suck an egg, James Bond.



What to wear?

You really only have three wardrobe choices if you want to let your patriotic side shine on Canada Day:

1. Red and white, 2. Plaid and/or flannel, 3. The Canadian tuxedo. It even has our Canadian darling's seal of approval.



July 27 is the Official Korean Veterans Day.

Senator Yonah Martin conceived and authored Bill S-213, which passed both the Senate and House of Commons unanimously, to make July 27 Korean War Veterans Day. The Korean War began June 25, 1950. By the time the Korea Armistice Agreement was signed on July 27, 1953, more than 26,000 Canadians had served in Korea and 516 Canadians had lost their lives in service.

Canada, plus 20 other countries, went to the aid of South Korea and turned back the scourge of communism. About 7,000 Canadians continued to serve in the tense theatre of operations between the signing of the Armistice and the end of 1955, with some Canadian troops remaining until 1957.

2023 marks the 70th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice with events in both Korea and Canada on the Korean War Veterans Day of July 27, in honour of all Canadians who served in the Korean War, and those who served on duties in Korea following the signing of the Military Armistice Agreement that ended the war, on July 27, 1953. Sadly, most of our Korean War veterans have passed and most of the Korean War Veteran Associations ceased to exist. The annual Provincial commemoration that took place in front of the Legislature ended in 2020.

For those who are not aware, Griesbach Barracks in Edmonton was one of the major staging and training centre for troops deploying to Korea. Many of the PMQ.s (private Married Quarters)

were built in a haste to accommodate the soldiers. These quarters were small and poorly insulated, but filled the needs at the time. Many of these PMQs are still in use today.

Well, I for one will celebrate Canada Day and proud to be Canadian. What we were, what we have done, what we have to endure and react to the best of our ability is what made us today. I am not pleased that we even have to justify why we have to celebrate Canada Day. But it has to be said, lest we forget the sacrifice made by our forefathers so that we can enjoy our freedom today, including alluring Canada Day is offensive.



HUMOR – the following is sentiment from LCoL(Ret) GG. McClean.

Just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.

America is a country which produces citizens who will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote.

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that

Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-bye.

You're not fat, you're just... easier to see.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.

I always wondered what the job application is like at Hooters. Do they just give you a bra and say, "Here, fill this out?"

I can't understand why women are okay that JC Penny has an older women's clothing line named, "Sag Harbor."

My 60-year kindergarten reunion is coming up soon and I'm worried about the 175 pounds I've gained since then.

The location of your mailbox shows you how far away from your house you can be in a robe before you start looking like a mental patient.

Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!



War on Ukraine

US GEN PETRAEUS TODAY ON PUTIN and THE REBELLION

1. That a hostile armed column of about 5,000 troops can just drive across Russia for hours to within 200km of Moscow and no one in the MoD, Rosgvardia, MVD or FSB seems willing to stop them.
2. That another armed column of a few thousand troops can just drive into a major Russian city of a million people and take it over without firing a shot.
3. That the Russian Air Force is incapable of achieving air superiority even over a small part of a highway in Russia against a small group of mercenaries...
4. That Lukashenko is braver than Putin and more capable of acting decisively to preserve his hold on power...
5. That during an armed mutiny in Russia, its Defense Minister and Chief of General Staff can't be expected to show up anywhere and lead (still MIA today)...
6. That loyalty to Putin does not run deep. In the crucial 13 hours before Putin's speech, few came out in support of him...

And what do we know about the situation now?

1. This episode is far from over. Wagner and Prigozhin did not surrender. They withdrew in an orderly fashion, with all of their equipment and forces in tact (with the support of cheering and hugging crowds).
2. For about 24 hours, Wagner became a banned organization in Russia. Their online presence was blacklisted, offices raided, recruitment posters taken down, online merchandise sales blocked... And now, everything seems to be forgiven...
3. I do not believe anything that comes out of Dmitry Peskov's mouth and so far he is the only source of the comments about Moscow's deal with Prigozhin.
4. Putin is not acting like a person who is capable of swiftly reasserting his power and cracking down on anyone who has sided against him...
5. Prigozhin's name recognition is now one of the highest in Russia. He has challenged the Kremlin and (so far) has gotten away with it. If he survives, he may have created a significant political base for himself in Russian politics.

What does all this mean for the future?

I think Putin has demonstrated exceptional weakness and limited control over the levers of power in Russia. He has also so far not shown that he is capable of reasserting that control.

In a brutal authoritarian system, displays of such weakness are dangerous. It's not that someone might decide to make a move on Putin tomorrow but that his propensity to avoid making tough decisions is likely to cause various actors within the Russian system to start ignoring him.

Putin is in real danger of becoming irrelevant as various clans across the system might follow in Prigozhin's footsteps and start to take actions and pursue their interests without coordination or approval from the Kremlin.

After all, if Prigozhin can get away with mutiny to keep operating his Wagner PMC company, why shouldn't they do what they like as we





Get trained!



Canada, USA, EU and China relationship

China considered the Blinken visit a success and stated they were looking forward to improved relations with the US.

China has been missing its major market in the US because of tensions, however, as mentioned President Biden did call President Xi a dictator at a California fund raiser.

The fallout from that event has yet to really take shape except for the comments of the Foreign Office spokesperson Mao Ning mentioned above.

In order to split the European Union away from the US and other Western countries, China has sent its new Premier, Li Qiang, to Germany, France and Norway on a "charm offensive" to help China's narrative as a peacemaker and to rebuild ties with the continent. He was preceded by Wang Yi, China's top diplomat, who made every attempt to convince key leadership to cooperate in a meaningful way with China. However, the new Envoy to the EU, Fu Cong, stated it would be unfair for Europe to link the war in Ukraine with China-EU relations. One might consider that although Europe would like to have better relations with China, it will not be at any price and certainly not at EU expense. Despite these efforts, it seems unlikely that China will achieve any of its aims with these visits. Circumstances in Europe and the attitude of Europeans to China would have to change.

A fourth Chinese province has entered into the Chinese government equivalent of receivership. Four provinces are currently undergoing supervision for their financial situation including Guizhou, Guangxi, Inner Mongolia and Yunan. It is estimated that up to eight more could be in a similar state in the relatively near future. China's economy is not in good shape overall and soon someone will consider who was responsible. One suspects President Xi is going to have trouble sleeping.

China continues to develop the idea that the BRIC states can dethrone the US dollar as the key reserve currency. At present more than 20 countries have expressed their support. Most have agreed as it allows bill payments in their own currency. This is fraught with difficulties and will take considerable work especially as most of these countries have their own difficulties at present.

China's own economy is not expected to meet its growth targets this year. Even Western investment firms are less than glowing or optimistic about Chinese growth which is already officially 5%, a much lower growth figure than normally expected. The reason is China's actual economic structure is dependent on land sales and subsequent development at the provincial

autonomous city level. This has been failing for years and finally exploded with the fall of the large property management companies set up as almost a Ponzi scheme. This is no longer a viable method of operating and major structural changes are required to fix the basic model used for decades.

China's unemployment of new university graduates now exceeds 20% with little hope of changing the situation in the near term. CCP incompetence attacked the driving force of employment, private enterprise in education and tech. The CCP has placed more control on these industries, virtually eliminating the private education forms and preventing new start-ups from getting bank loans, amongst other issues and challenges. Students have been a source of concern for China's stability as they were the driving force behind Tiananmen Square in 1989. The CCP has always been leery of too much education in the wrong circumstances.

As a final note, nearly half the country's population receive under \$360 per month as pay, so much for ending poverty.



Securitas

Alexander Tsang CD

MAJOR (RETIRED)

PRESIDENT

EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

ALEXANDERHTSANG@HOTMAIL.COM



IT IS TOO LATE TO SHARPEN SWORDS, WHEN THE DRUMS OF WAR ARE BEATING