Weekly

Climatic Perspectives

February 27 to March 5, 1995 **A weekly review of Canadian climate and water** Vol. 17 No. 10

IMPORTANT NOTICE

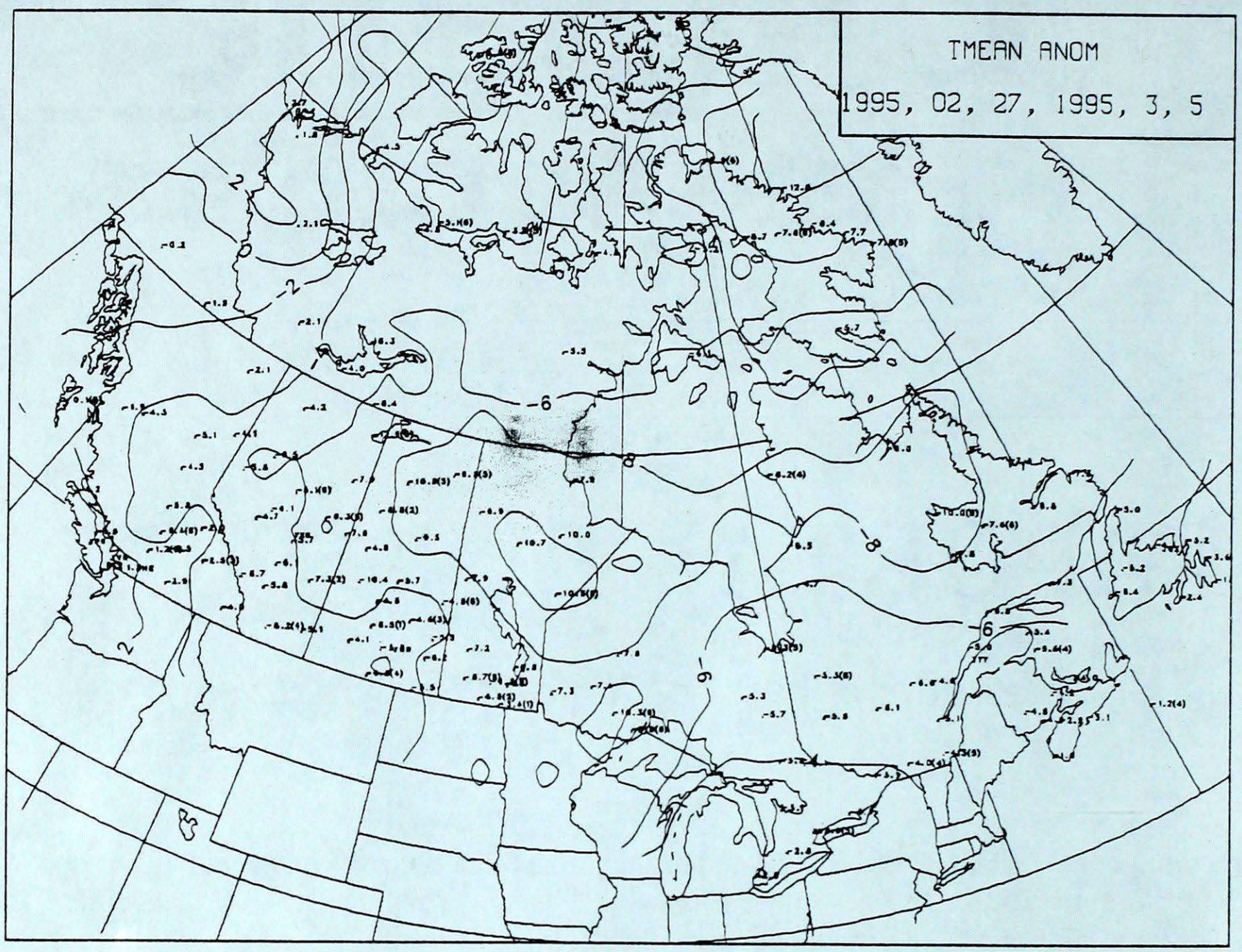
To all subscribers to *Climatic Perspectives*

As a result of the recent Federal Budget and forthcoming reductions within the Public Service, we will be making significant changes to the *Climatic Perspectives* publication. The availability and format of the weekly and monthly publications will change significantly. The weekly publication will cease while the monthly will continue with very limited articles. This will be your last free mailing of the weekly *Climatic Perspectives*. Our remaining operations will become automated, where practical, and costs will be recovered where possible. In order to provide an orderly transition, we must reallocate our remaining staff's time and resources in this effort.

Effective immediately:

- The weekly publication of *Climatic Perspectives* will cease.
- The monthly/seasonal version of *Climatic Perspectives* will be reduced in scope, after the February 1995 issue, for both the printed and E-mail forms. We are looking at a possible charge for this product.
- Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks will no longer be published, but will be made available through E-mail, Internet and by fax, at a cost.
- **Further details will follow.**

Andrej Saulesleja
Managing Editor
Climatic Perspectives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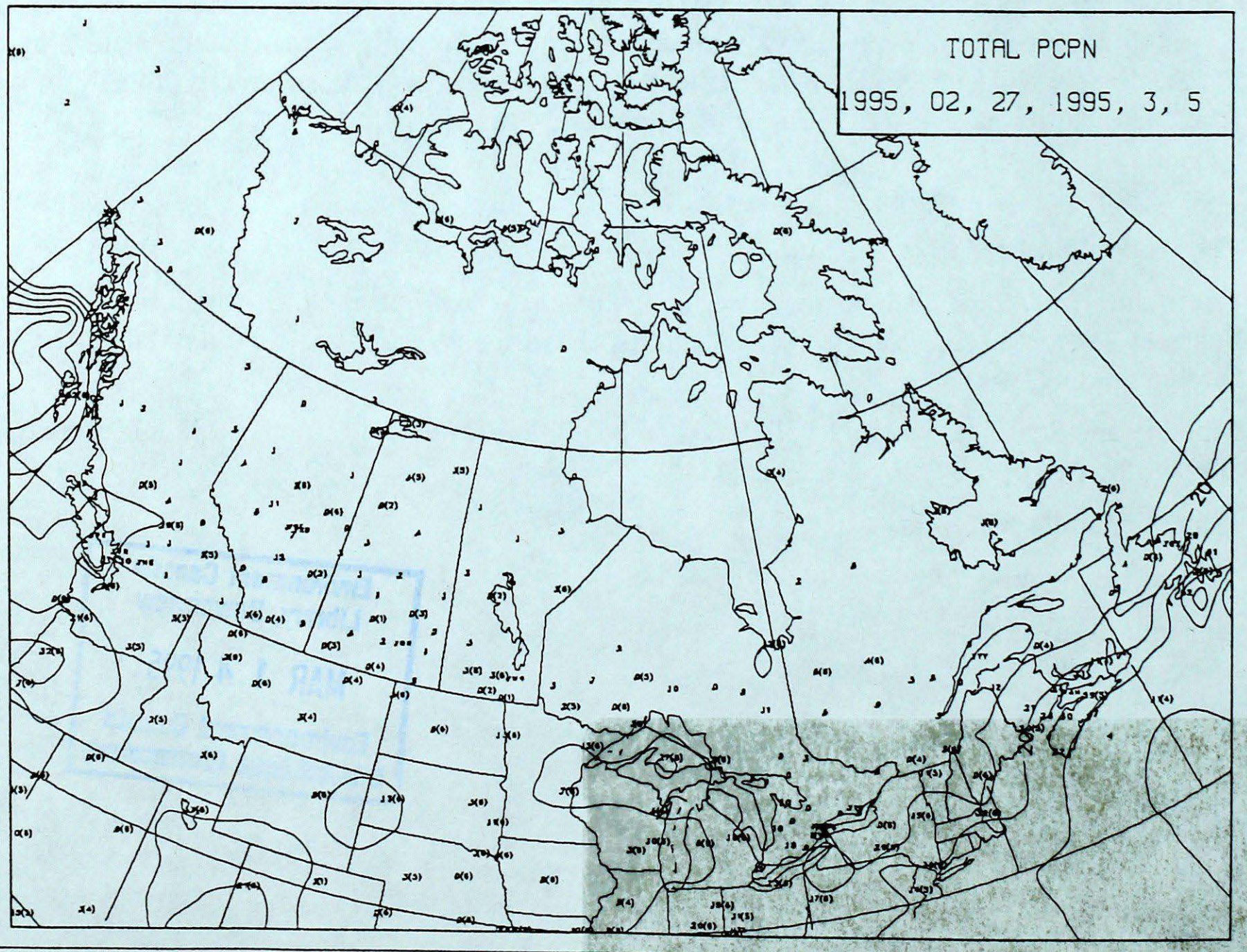
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We would like to thank all Environment Canada regional Climate Centres for their regular contributions to **Climatic Perspectives**. We would also like to thank weather offices in British Columbia, the Yellowknife and Iqaluit weather offices and the weather centres in the Yukon and Newfoundland for their submissions.

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The purpose of the publication is to make topical information available to the public concerning the Canadian climate and its socio-economic impact.

The data in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Information concerning climatic impacts is gathered from AES contacts with the public and from the media. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of Atmospheric Environment Service.

Weekly normal temperatures (°C)

	max.	min.
Whitehorse A	-5.9	-17.3
Iqaluit A	-20.2	-29.5
Yellowknife A	-17.3	-27.7
Vancouver Int'l A	7.5	0.5
Victoria Int'l A	7.7	0.3
Calgary Int'l A	-3.0	-14.6
Edmonton Int'l A	-5.3	-18.0
Regina A	-7.9	-19.5
Saskatoon A	-9.1	-20.3
Winnipeg Int'l A	-7.9	-18.8
Ottawa Int'l A	-1.2	-9.5
Toronto Int'l A	1.0	-6.7
Montréal Int'l A	-0.9	-9.0
Québec A	-2.5	-11.4
Fredericton A	0.3	-10.3
Saint John A	0.1	-9.2
Halifax (Shearwater)	1.4	-6.2
Charlottetown A	-1.3	-8.8
Goose A	-6.1	-16.8
St John's A	0.0	-6.5

Weekly temperature and precipitation extremes

	Maximum temperature (°C)		Minimum temperature (°C)		Greatest precipitation (mm)	
British Columbia	McInnes Island	13	Puntzi Mountain (aut)	-34	Sandspit A	52
Yukon Territory	Haines Junction	3	Old crow	-41	Whitehorse A	3
Northwest Territories	Fort Simpson	-2	Eureka	-51	Cambridge Bay A	9
Alberta	Pincher Creek A	5	Fort Chipewyan A	-44	Red Deer A	12
Saskatchewan	Moose Jaw A	3	Cree Lake	-48	Estevan A	6
Manitoba	Portage La Prairie A	-4	Thompson A	-45	Dauphin A	4
Ontario	Windsor A	4	Big Trout Lake	-43	Toronto Int'l A	20
Quebec	Sherbrooke A	3	La Grande IV A	-44	Québec A	9
New Brunswick	St Stephen (aut)	4	St Leonard A	-28	Moncton A	24
Nova Scotia	Sable Island	9	Truro	-20	Truro	59
Prince Edward Island	Charlottetown A	-1	Charlottetown A	-20	Charlottetown A	21
Newfoundland and Labrador	St John's A	8	Wabush Lake A	-41	St Lawrence	62

Across The Country...

Highest Mean Temperature	Abbotsford A (B.C.)	5
Lowest Mean Temperature	Eureka (N.W.T.)	-45

95/02/27-95/03/05

STATION	temperature mean	anom	max	min	precip. ptot	st	wind max dir	vel
British Columbia								
Blue River A	-7	-2	4	-18	0	***		X
Comox A	2	-2	11	-4	7	***	320	39
Cranbrook A	-7	-4	4	-16	1	***	040	33
Fort Nelson A	-16	-2	3	-32	5	***	040	46
Fort St John A	-15	-4	-1	-28	3	***	010	37
Kamloops A	-3	-3	6	-12	1	***	270	63
Penticton A	-2	-3	5	-10	1	***	330	43
Port Hardy A	2	-1	10	-4	17	***	110	33
Prince George A	-11	-5	1	-23	1	***	020	52
Prince Rupert A	***	***	***	***	***	***		X
Smithers A	-10	-4	2	-21	2	***		X
Vancouver Int'l A	3	-1	10	-3	16	***	290	35
Victoria Int'l A	4	0	11	-3	5	***		X
Williams Lake A	-10	-6	3	-26	4	4	330	43
Yukon Territory								
Teslin (aut)	-15	***	-2	-28	0	***		X
Watson Lake A	-18	-2	-2	-38	3	***	110	41
Whitehorse A	-12	0	-3	-27	3	***		X
Northwest Territories								
Alert	-37	-3	-30	-42	1	***		X
Baker Lake A	-36	-6	-27	-42	0	***	340	67
Cambridge Bay A	-37P	-4P	-29P	-43P	9P	***		X
Clyde A	-40	-13	-34	-47	1	***		X
Coppermine A	-32	-5	-26	-39	2	***	300	59
Coral Harbour A	-33	-6	-26	-41	1	***	320	46
Eureka	-45	-6	-32	-51	0	***		X
Fort Smith A	-26	-6	-11	-41	2	***	310	39
Hall Beach A	-34	-3	-26	-44	0	40	300	76
Inuvik A	-23	2	-11	-40	8	***		X
Iqaluit A	-31	-6	-24	-38	2	***	320	50
Mould Bay A	-38P	-4P	-34P	-43P	0P	***		X
Norman Wells A	-20	2	-4	-39	9	63	310	33
Resolute A	-38	-5	-30	-45	1	***	060	56
Yellowknife A	-29	-6	-16	-43	1	***	350	33
Alberta								
Calgary Int'l A	-15	-6	4	-30	8	***	320	52
Cold Lake A	-20	-8	-2	-30	0	***	350	37
Edmonton Namao A	***	***	-2	***	***	***		X
Fort McMurray A	-22	-8	-4	-41	1	***	320	41
Grande Prairie A	-18	-6	-2	-35	4	***	050	46
High Level A	-22	-4	0	-40	0	41	330	37
Lethbridge A	-16P	-8P	5P	-27P	0P	***		X
Medicine Hat A	-14	-5	3	-25	5	***	080	43
Peace River A	-20	-7	1	-34	1	31	010	37
Saskatchewan								
Estevan A	-17	-6	0	-26	6	***	340	48
La Ronge A	-25	-10	-9	-42	4	***	260	46
Regina A	-17	-3	1	-26	2	***	360	57
Saskatoon A	-19	-5	0	-29	1	***	010	56
Swift Current A	-15	-4	3	-25	4	***	280	48
Yorkton A	-21	-6	-4	-31	5	***	350	56
Manitoba								
Brandon A	-23P	-9P	-6P	-33P	3P	***	050	41
Churchill A	-32	-8	-21	-39	0	***	300	61
Lynn Lake A	-28	-10	-14	-40	1	35	310	37
The Pas A	-24	-8	-10	-38	3	***	250	56
Thompson A	-29	-11	-14	-45	1	48	290	37
Winnipeg Int'l A	-21	-8	-6	-32	0	***	330	54

STATION	temperature mean	anom	max	min	precip. ptot	st	wind max dir	vel
Ontario								
Geraldton A	-21	***	-6	-35	10	***	220	57
Gore Bay A	-9	-2	3	-21	6	***	220	52
Kapuskasing A	-18	-5	-3	-30	9	***	220	57
Kenora A	-19	-7	-8	-31	3	***	190	44
London A	-6	-3	4	-16	18	***	080	46
North Bay A	-11	-3	-1	-21	3	***	240	44
Ottawa Int'l A	-8	-3	1	-20	8	***	080	48
Pickle Lake	-23	-8	-11	-35	2	***	230	54
Red Lake A	***	***	-9	***	***	***	210	44
Sioux Lookout A	-20	-7	-8	-34	7	***	220	41
Sudbury A	-12	-4	-4	-22	9	***	220	50
Thunder Bay A	-15P	-6P	-2P	-30P	1P	***	270	46
Timmins A	-15	-4	-3	-29	11	***	240	52
Toronto (Pearson Int'l A)	-5	-2	3	-13	20	***	260	39
Trenton A	-7	-3	3	-16	13	***	280	44
Wiarton A	-8	-3	1	-20	10	***	210	48
Windsor A	-4	-3	4	-11	11	***	350	37
Québec								
Bagotville A	-14	-5	-3	-31	8	***	110	63
Baie Comeau A	-14	-5	-3	-31	6	***	070	48
Blanc Sablon A	-17	***	-7	-25	2	***	080	50
Gaspé A	-13	-5	0	-26	4	***	350	39
Kuujjuaq A	-28	-8	-20	-35	4	***	270	76
Kuujjuarapik A	-29	-9	-18	-40	2	***	150	43
La Grande Rivière A	-25	-5	-12	-38	2	***	260	37
Mont Joli A	-12	-5	-3	-25	4	***	060	46
Montréal Int'l A	-10P	-5P	-1P	-23P	11P	***	020	32
Natashquan A	-16	-7	-6	-26	5	***	270	57
Québec A	-12	-5	-2	-28	9	***	070	72
Schefferville A	-28P	-10P	-12P	-41P	1P	***	280	35
Sept-Îles A	-16	-7	-5	-31	6	***	280	44
Sherbrooke A	-11P	-4P	3P	-28P	6P	***		X
Val-d'Or A	-16	-6	-4	-31	6	***	220	39
New Brunswick								
Fredericton A	-10	-5	3	-26	21	***	060	50
Miscou Island (aut)	-12P	-6P	-4P	-20P	0P	***		X
Moncton A	-9	-4	3	-23	24	***	050	48
Saint John A	-10	-5	4	-25	23	***	350	39
St Leonard A	-13	***	-1	-28	12	***	320	37
Nova Scotia								
Greenwood A	-6	-3	3	-18	30	***	070	41
Shearwater A	-6	-3	2	-15	47	***	100	33
Sydney A	***	***	-1	***	***	***	040	37
Yarmouth A	-3	-2	7	-14	32	***	090	41
Prince Edward Island								
Charlottetown A	-9	-4	-1	-20	21	***	030	37
East Point (auto)	-11P	***	-5P	-16P	11P	***		X
Newfoundland and Labrador								
Cartwright	-18	-7	-5	-27	7	***	280	46
Churchill Falls A	-25P	-8P	-8P	-38P	1P	***	310	44
Gander Int'l A	-10	-5	0	-17	13	***	290	44
Goose A	-18	-7	-3	-29	2	***	280	32
Stephenville A	-11	-6	-2	-21	9	***	260	48
St John's A	-7	-4	8	-16	61	***	030	59
St Lawrence	-5	-2	3	-12	62	***		X
Wabush Lake A	-25	-8	-9	-41	4	***	240	37

95/02/27-95/03/05

mean = mean weekly temperature, °C
max = maximum weekly temperature, °C
min = minimum weekly temperature, °C
anom = mean temperature anomaly , °C

ptot = weekly precipitation total in mm
st = snow thickness on the ground in cm
dir = direction of max wind, deg. from north
vel = wind speed in km/h

— Annotations —
X = no observation
P = less than 7 days of data
***** = missing data when going to printing;

Review of February 1995

Temperatures continued to be above normal across the western half of Canada. The greatest departure from normal February temperatures was near five degrees across the western Northwest Territories. The mild weather could be attributed to a strong El-Niño event in the tropical Pacific, which contributed to a persistent ridge of high pressure over western Canada. Areas east of Manitoba experienced near- to below-normal temperatures, due to a northwesterly flow east of the ridge of high pressure. Mostly dry weather continued into February. Precipitation was above normal across the Arctic islands, the District of Mackenzie and the Yukon, due to the northward displacement of storm tracks into these regions, this winter. Above-normal precipitation was also recorded across northern Manitoba, central and northern Ontario, and along the St. Lawrence Valley, due to a few storms.

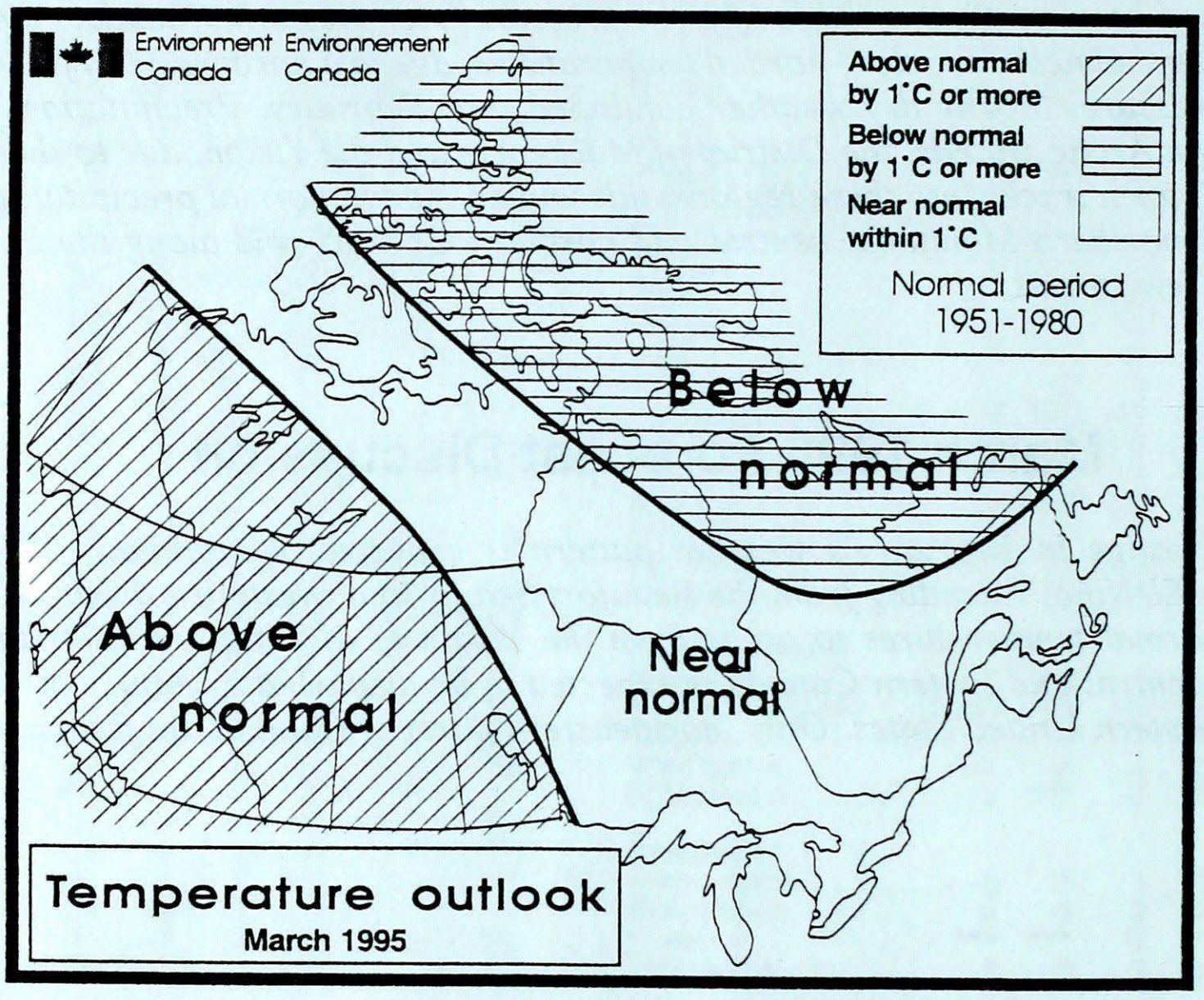
March 1995 Forecast Discussion

No significant change in February's weather pattern is expected. A stationary ridge of high pressure, due to El-Niño, extending from the Beaufort Sea to southwestern Alberta will continue to give above-normal temperatures to areas from the Yukon to Manitoba. Cooler-than-normal weather across central and eastern Canada is expected to be displaced by milder air originating from the southwestern United States. Only northeastern parts of Canada are forecast to remain cool.

Outlook

Climatic Perspectives

Monthly Outlook - March 1995



Normal temperatures (°C) mid-March 1995

	Max	Min		Max	Min
Whitehorse	-2	-14	Toronto	1	-7
Yellowknife	-13	-25	Ottawa	3	-5
Iqaluit	-18	-28	Montréal	2	-7
Vancouver	9	2	Québec	0	-9
Victoria	10	2	Halifax	3	-6
Calgary	2	-10	Fredericton	3	-8
Edmonton	-1	-12	Charlottetown	1	-7
Regina	-2	-13	Goose Bay	-3	-14
Winnipeg	-3	-14	St. John's	1	-5

Normal Temperatures (1951-1980)

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Spring 1995 Outlook

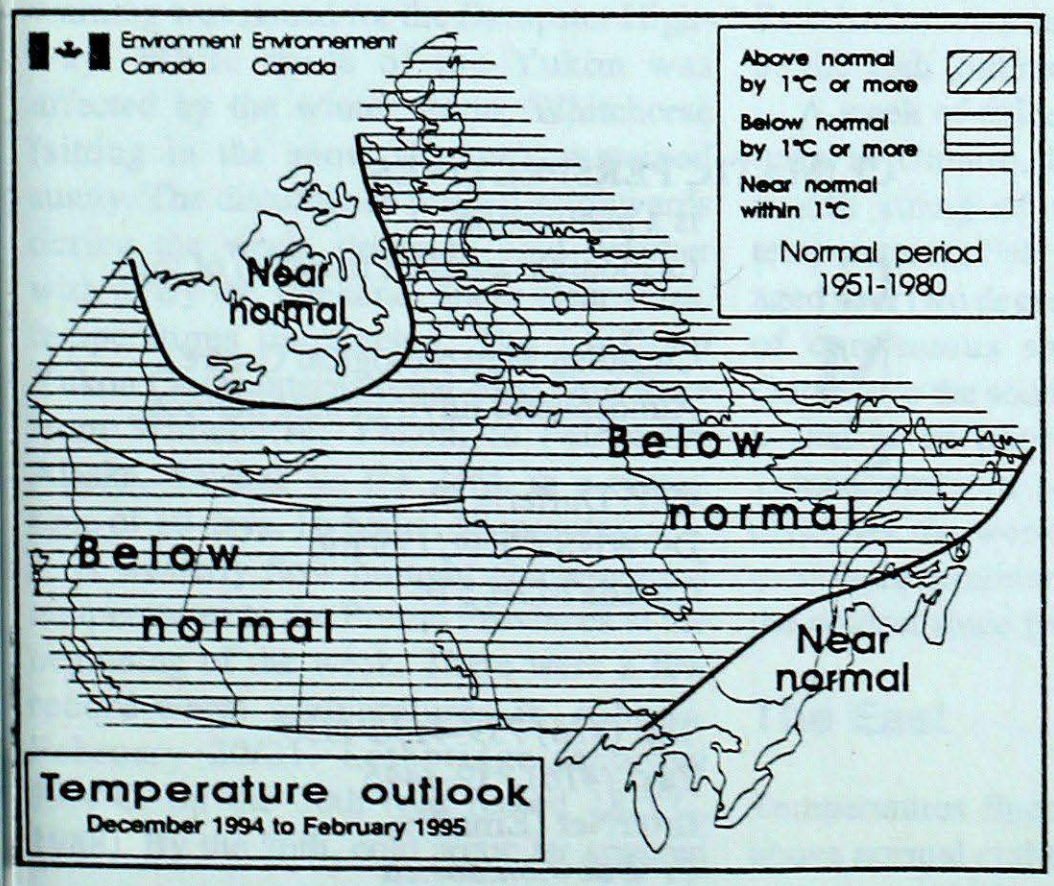
El-Niño appears to be fading, but is expected to continue to be the domimant climate factor for the coming spring, as it was during the winter of 1994-95. El-Niño typically pushes warmer sub-tropical air into North America and produces a ridge of high pressure over western Canada.

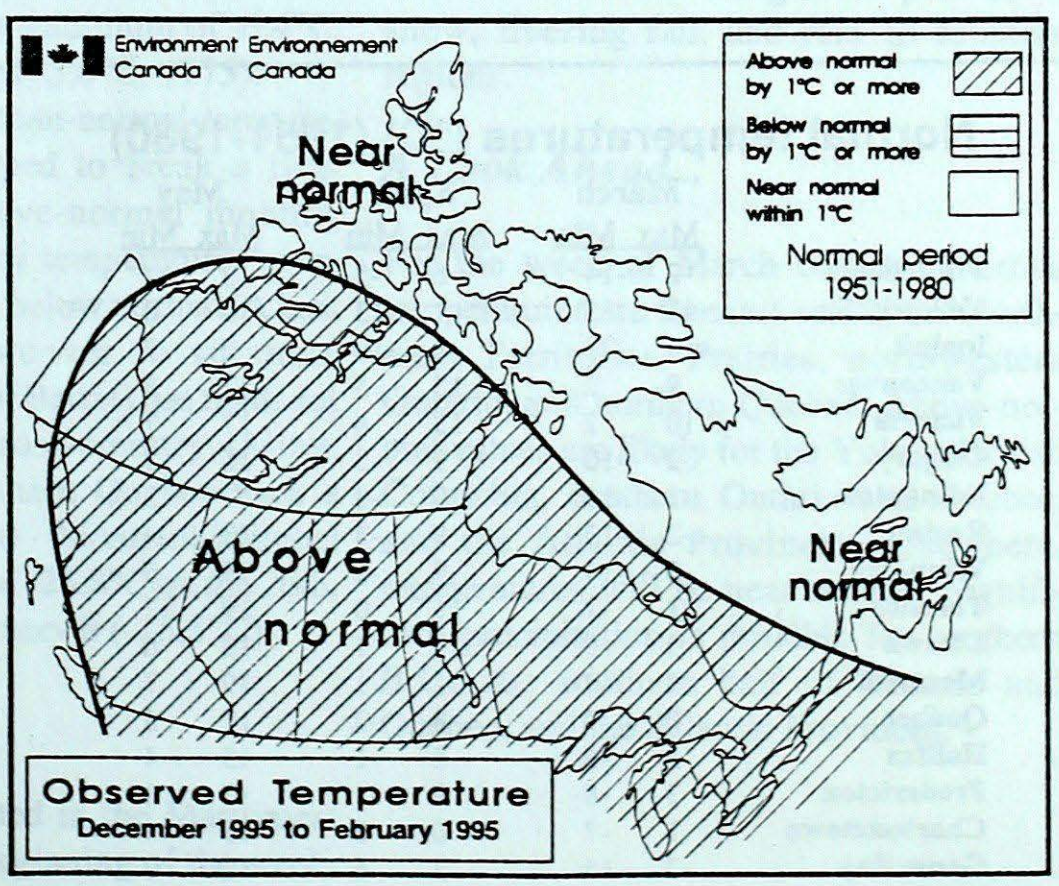
Temperatures are expected to be above normal across the Yukon Territory, British Columbia, the Prairies, and the Atlantic Provinces. Elsewhere, near-normal temperatures are expected. Above-normal precipitation is possible for coastal areas of British Columbia, the Lower Great Lakes Basin, St. Lawrence River Valley and the Atlantic Provinces. Drier-than-normal conditions may exist across British Columbia and the Prairies. Forecast confidence is moderate in western Canada, but low elsewhere, because of the variability of the influence of El-Niño on Canadian springs.

1994-95 Winter In Review

El-Niño redeveloped during the winter and thus, our forecast skill was low. Mild, dry weather dominated most of Canada this winter. The greatest temperature departures from normal occurred across the Northwest Territories and the Prairies.

The mild weather can be attributed to a moderate to strong El-Niño event in the tropical Pacific. This year, El-Niño allowed the milder air to invade central and eastern Canada as well. Precipitation was generally below normal for most of the country as the western ridge effectively blocked Pacific low pressure systems from penetrating western Canada. There was near- to above-normal precipitation at some locations on the West Coast and parts of eastern Canada.

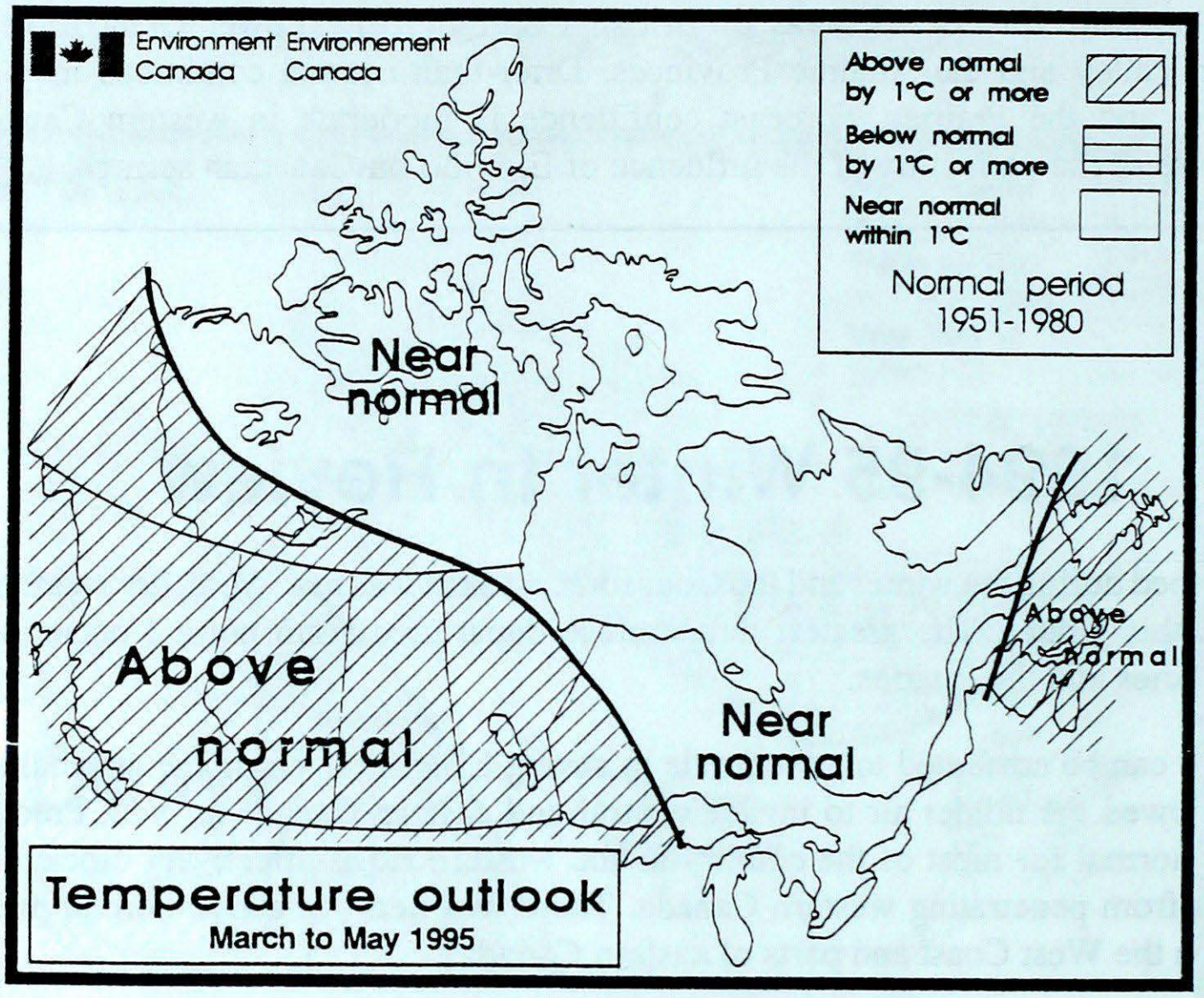




Outlook

Climatic Perspectives

SEASONAL OUTLOOK - SPRING 1995



Normal temperatures (°C) (1951-1980)

	March		April		May	
	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
Whitehorse	-2	-14	6	-5	13	1
Yellowknife	-13	-25	-1	-13	10	0
Iqaluit	-18	-28	-9	-19	0	-7
Vancouver	9	2	13	5	17	8
Victoria	10	2	13	4	17	7
Calgary	2	-10	9	-3	16	3
Edmonton	-1	-12	9	-3	17	3
Regina	-2	-13	9	-3	18	4
Winnipeg	-3	-14	9	-2	18	5
Toronto	1	-7	11	0	19	7
Ottawa	3	-5	12	1	18	6
Montréal	2	-7	11	1	19	7
Québec	0	-9	8	-2	17	5
Halifax	3	-6	8	-1	15	4
Fredericton	3	-8	9	-1	17	4
Charlottetown	1	-7	6	-2	13	4
Goose Bay	-3	-14	3	-6	10	0
St. John's	1	-5	5	-2	10	1

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