Climatic Vission Constant Cons

anuary 23 to 29, 1995

A weekly review of Canadian climate and water

Vol. 17 No. 5

Snowy week in Newfoundland

For the second week in a row, Gander and Deer Lake had record-daily snowfalls.

Snow began in western Newfoundland on the 23rd and moved slowly eastwards. Another intense disturbance moved up from the south on the 25th, giving more than 30 cm of snow to eastern areas. Daily snowfall records of 18 to 34 cm were set at Deer Lake, January 23; St. John's, January 23/24 and Gander, January 24/25. Snowfall totals, January 23-25, were 78 cm at Gander, 59 cm at La Scie and 56 cm at St. John's. Under an area of high pressure, Labrador was cold at the beginning of the week but moderated by midweek. An onshore flow in northern Labrador gave 20 cm of snow to Nain, on the 26th.

Change to cold in Maritimes

The week began mild in the Maritimes but turned cold on the 25th. Near-record cold on the 27th included -26.5°C at Bathurst, New Brunswick. Weekly precipitation totals were as low as 0.8 mm at Westernend of the week giving coastal areas 10 to 20 cm of snow and blizzard conditions to the far north.

Temperatures under generally cloudy skies, averaged 10 to 15 degrees above normal in the southern Mackenzie, extending the milder-than-normal weather to seven weeks. The Mackenzie Delta was three degrees above normal. Mild air extended through the District of Keewatin and Baffin Island. Blizzard warnings in the Territories were infrequent - only being issued on the 24th, along the west coast of Hudson Bay.

Mild conditions encouraged trees to bud in Victoria: 13.1°C was recorded on the 29th (old record 12.2°C, 1960). A series of frontal systems over the weekend gave periods of rain to Port Hardy (41.6 mm, January 29). The central and southern interior continued cloudy. To the 29th, Prince George had recorded only 7.1 hours of sun for the month (record monthly low 21.7 hours, 1992). Localised flooding occurred throughout Kamloops on the 29th due to a temperature of 10.1°C which caused a quick Cold arctic air over Saskatchewan and Manitoba was replaced by mild conditions, midweek. Eastern areas that started the week at -30 to -20°C came close to 0°C by the weekend. Several sites in the north set new daily-high minimum temperature records as thermometers stayed above -15°C.

Southern Ontario finally saw the sun on the 27th, after 17 days of cloud. Temperatures were slightly above normal in southern and northeastern Ontario but six to eight degrees above normal along the Manitoba border. The mild winter and January rain have made for dangerous ice conditions on lakes and rivers in central areas of the province. Several snowmobilers have died as a result of crashing through thin ice.

Temperatures were above normal in most of Quebec. Slightly-below normal temperatures were recorded in the Eastern Townships, Gaspé Peninsula and the lower North Shore. Gaspé received 14.6 cm of snow on the 23rd, but sunshine returned for a weekly total of 31.7 hours.

head, Nova Scotia. Influenced by the Gulf snow melt. of St. Lawrence, Charlottetown, P.E.I., recorded 32 cm of snow. Aridge of the statement o

Mostly mild

24

After a clear start, the southern Yukon experienced cloudy conditions and temperatures near ten degrees above normal. In the west and far north, clear and cold conditions dominated. However, a major Pacific storm moved over the Yukon at the

A ridge of high pressure provided mainly sunny skies over southern and central Alberta, but the north was cloudy. Temperatures ranged from five degrees above normal, in the southeast, to 15 degrees above normal in the northeast. Chinook winds pushed temperatures into the teens in the south on the 29th. Skiers were disheartened by the mild weather and the fact that almost no snow has fallen over the last two weeks.

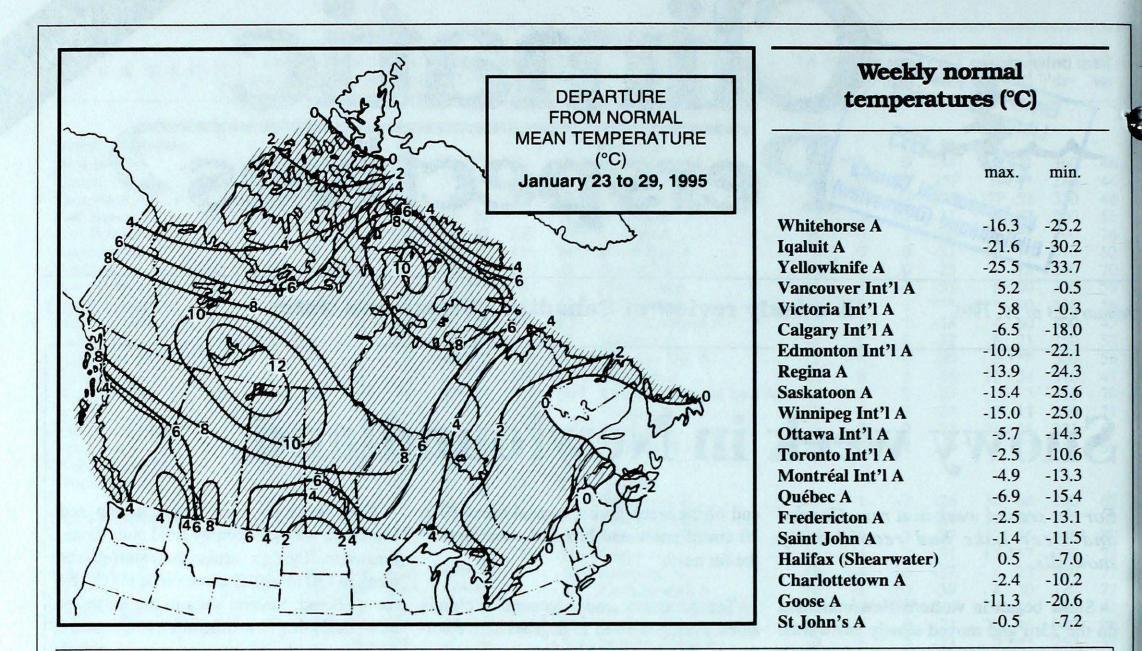
A Look Ahead...

For the week of February 6, above-normal temperatures are expected across the Prairies and the central Northwest Territories. Below-normal temperatures are forecast for coastal British Columbia, northern Quebec and Baffin Island. Elsewhere, temperatures will be near normal. Significant precipitation is expected for southern and coastal B.C. and eastern Newfoundland.



Environment Environnement Canada Canada





Weekly temperature and precipitation extremes

4

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Maximum temperature (°C)

Minimum	
temperature	(°C

- Puntzi Mountain (aut) -27
 - Old Crow -47
 - Eureka -45
 - Grande Prairie A -27
 - Cree Lake -27
 - Norway House A -35
 - Geraldton A -33
 - La Grande IV A -37
 - St Leonard A -22
 - Amherst (aut) -19
 - Charlottetown A -22
 - Churchill Falls A -33

Greatest precipitation (mm)

- Port Alberni A 106 Stewart Crossing 11 Coral Harbour A 9 Calgary Int'l A 1 6 Swift Current A Gillam A 6 10 Gore Bay A Gaspé A 19 Moncton A 17
 - 9 Greenwood A
- Charlottetown A 26
- - Gander Int'l A 90

2

British Columbia Abbotsford A 14 Yukon Territory Drury Creek 6 Northwest Territories Fort Smith A -3 Alberta Calgary Int'l A 11 4 North Battleford A an -2 Manitoba Lynn Lake A Ontario Windsor A 1 Quebec Blanc Sablon A -1 New Brunswick Saint John A 1 Nova Scotia Sable Island Prince Edward Island Charlottetown A 1 Newfoundland and Labrador Burgeo

Across The Country..

Highest Mean Temperature	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Lowest Mean Temperature								

Cape St James (B.C.) 8 Eureka (N.W.T.) -38

95/01/23-95/01/29

January 23 to 29, 1995

Climatic Perspectives

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES VOLUME 17

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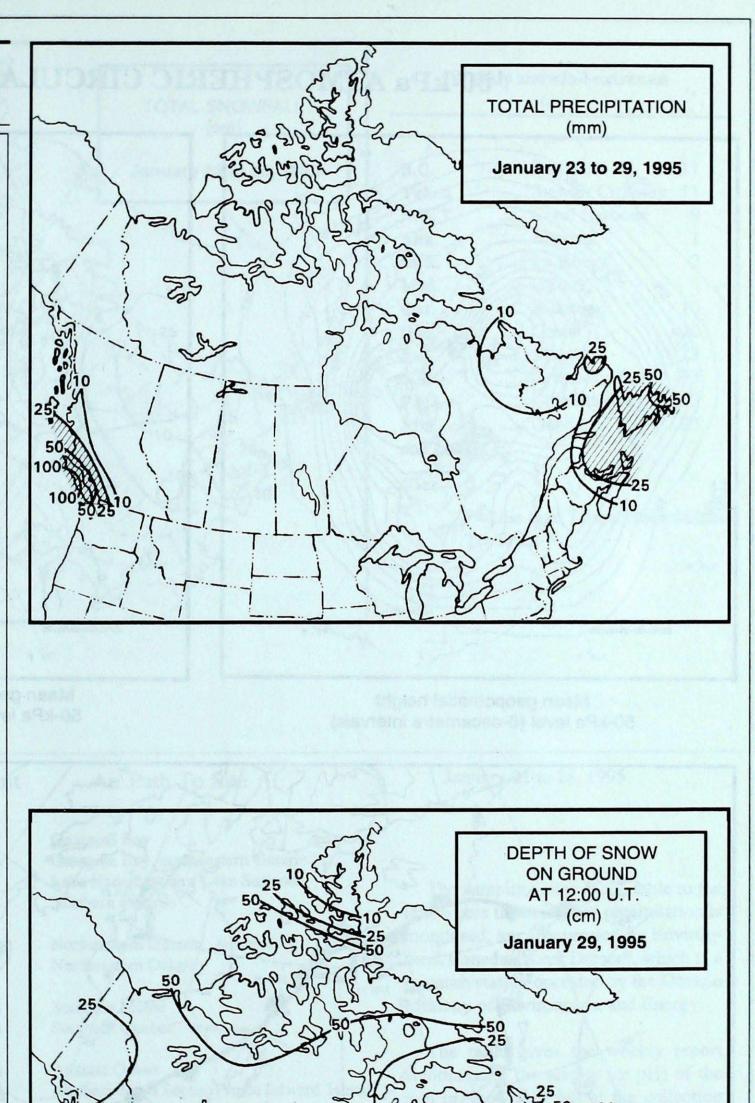
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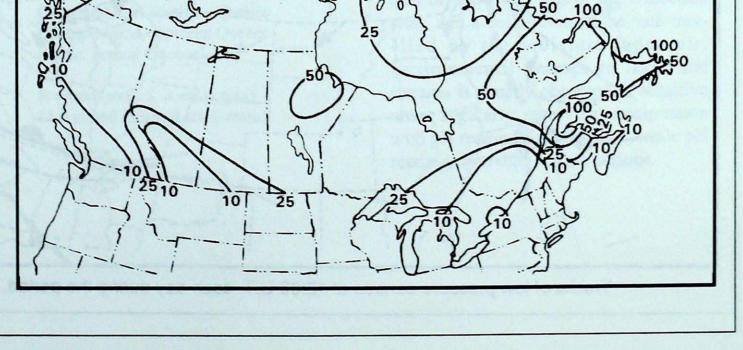
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The purpose of the publication is to make topical information available to the public concerning the Canadian climate and its socio-economic impact.

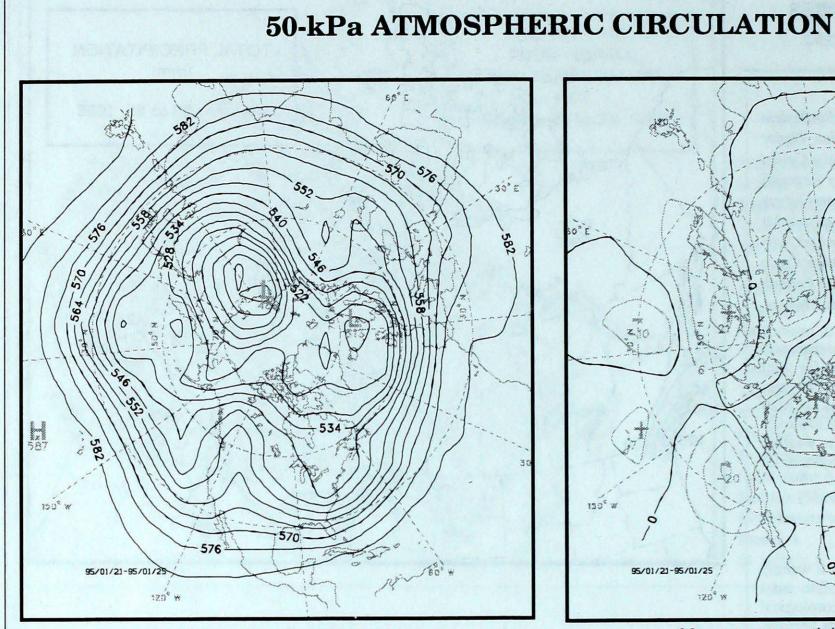
The data in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Information concerning climatic impacts is gathered from AES contacts with the public and from the media. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of Atmospheric Environment Service.

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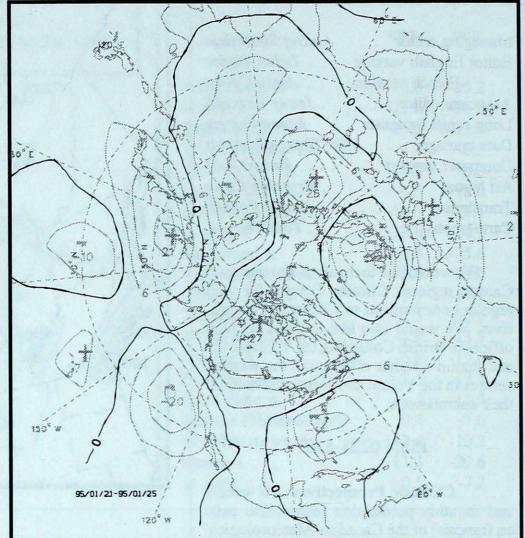


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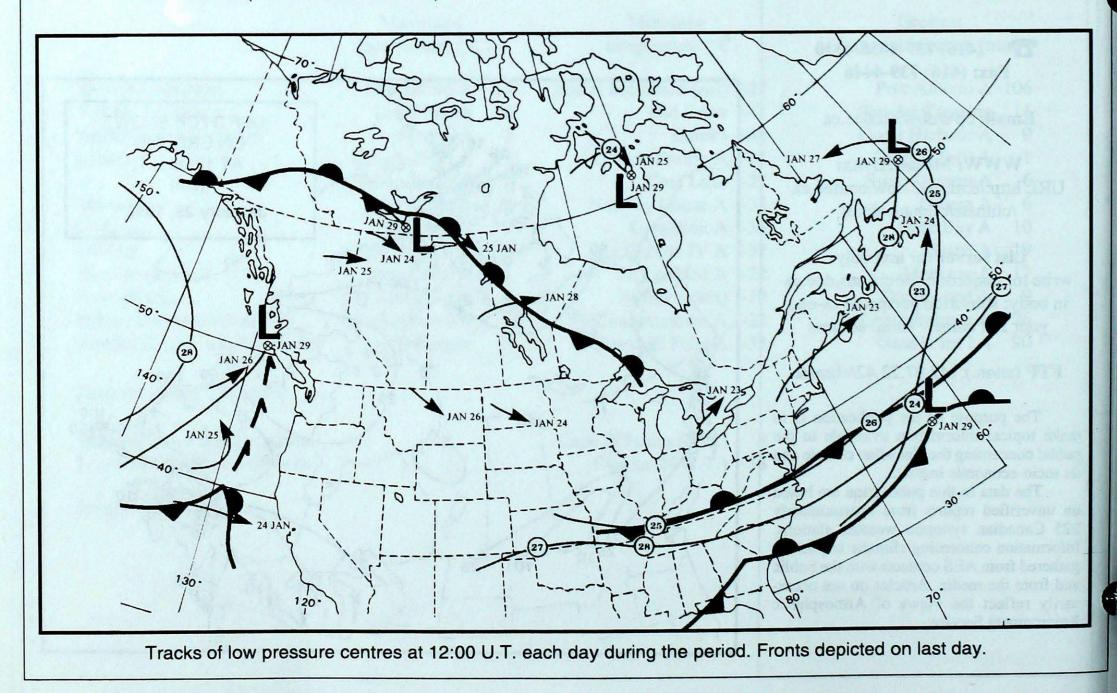
January 23 to 29, 1995



Mean geopotential height 50-kPa level (6-decametre intervals)

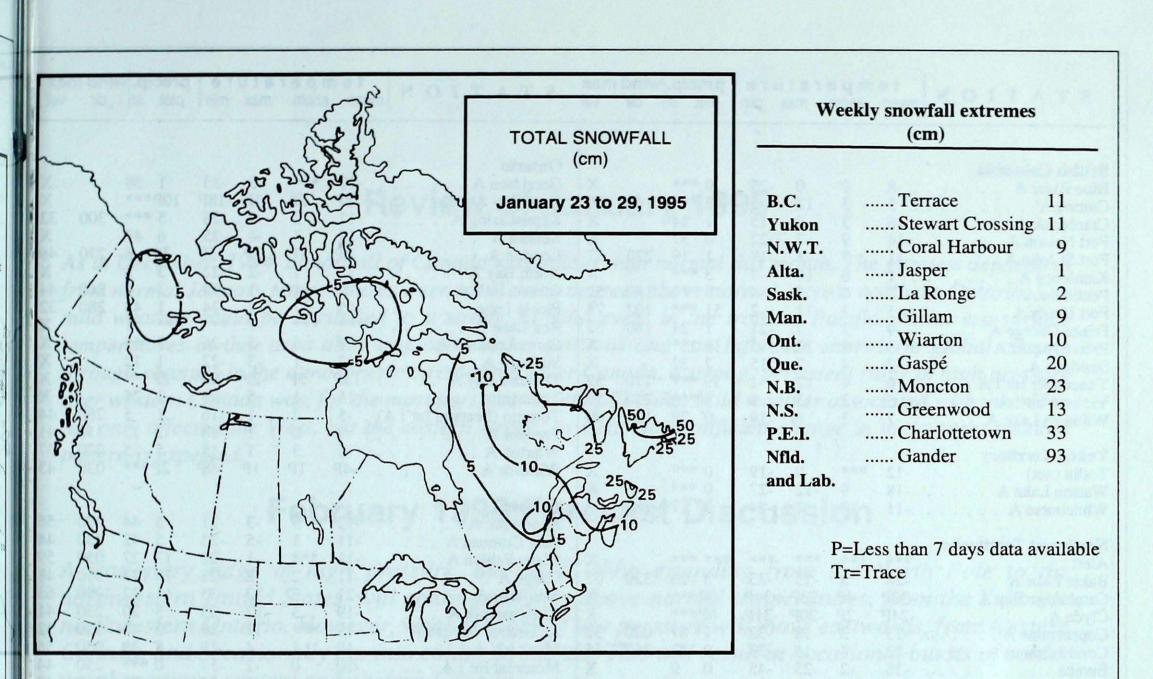


Mean geopotential height anomaly 50-kPa level (6-decametre intervals)



January 23 to 29, 1995

Climatic Perspectives



ACID RAIN REPORT

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Site	Day	pH	Am	ount	Air Path To Site	January 22 to 28, 1995
Egbert, Ont.	22 24 25 26	5.5 4.6 4.6 4.7	1	S S S	Georgian Bay Georgian Bay, northeastern Ontario Lake Huron, eastern Lake Superior Northern Ontario	The sampling sites in the table to the left, where the acidity of precipitation is
Dorset*, Ont.	22 23	4.7 4.3		S S	Northeastern Ontario, northwestern Quebec Northeastern Ontario	monitored, are all operated by Environ- ment Canada except Dorset*, which is a research station operated by the Ontario
Sutton, Que.	22 24	4.7 4.8		S S	Southern Maine Southern Quebec	Ministry of Environment and Energy.
Kejimkujik, N.S	22 24 26	4.5 4.5 4.1	1 1 1	S S S	Atlantic Ocean Northern Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island Central Maine, southern Quebec	The table gives the weekly report summarizing the acidity (or pH) of the rain or snow that fell at the collection sites and a description of the path trav-

27	4.8	10	S
28	4.6	2	S

5

Central Maine, southern Quebec Maine, central Quebec

R = rain (mm) S = snow (cm)M = mixed rain and snow (mm)

sites, and a description of the path travelled by the moisture-laden air. Environmental damage to lakes and streams is usually observed in sensitive areas regularly receiving precipitation with pH readings less than 4.7, while pH readings less than 4.0 are serious.

Climatic Perspectives

January 23 to 29, 1995

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January 23 to 29, 1995

Climatic Perspectives

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Review of January 1995

As in December, 1994, almost all of Canada was milder than normal this month. The greatest departures from normal January temperatures were ten Celsius degrees above normal, across northern Ontario. The mild weather could be attributed to a strong El-Niño event in the tropical Pacific. Warm sea-surface temperatures in that area alter tropical weather patterns and can influence short-term global climate through changes in the atmospheric circulation. Over Canada, a strong, persistent ridge of high pressure over western Canada was, for the most part, the result of El-Niño. Mild weather associated with this ridge not only affected the West, but the eastern Arctic, as well. No significant change in the current weather pattern is expected.

February 1995 Forecast Discussion

A stationary ridge of high pressure, due to El-Niño extending from the North Pole to the northwestern United States, will continue to give above-normal temperatures, from the Yukon to northwestern Ontario. However, weak troughs of low pressure will move eastwards, from western Canada, and occasionally tap into colder Arctic air. This will result in occasional bursts of colder weather across central and eastern Canada.

Only the northeastern parts of Canada will experience below-normal temperatures. An extensive pool of cold air centred over Iceland is the major reason why the northeast will remain cold.

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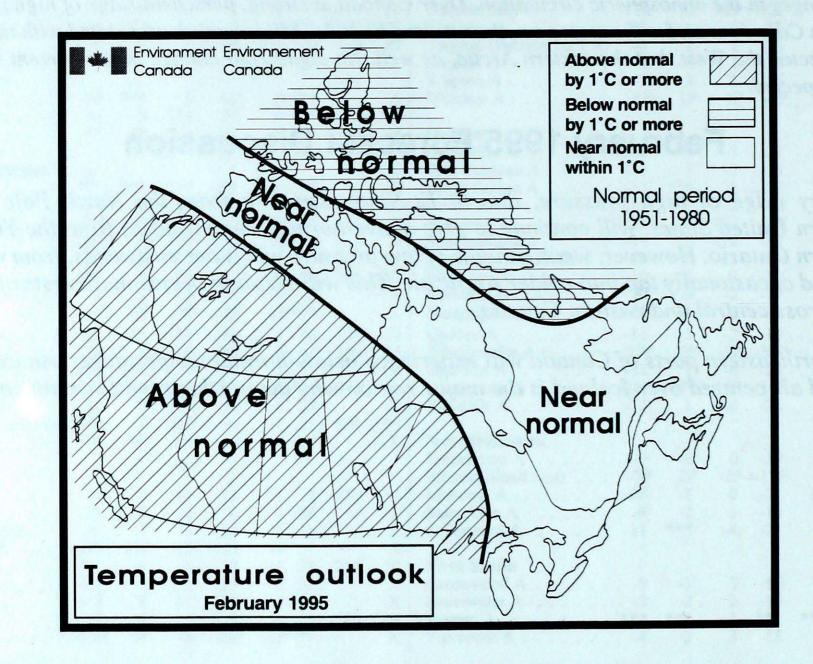
Climatic Perspectives

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January 23 to 29, 1995



Monthly Outlook - February 1995



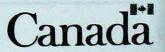
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Iqaluit	-22	-30	Montréal	-4	-14		
Vancouver	8	1	Québec	-6	-16		4905 Dufferin St.
Victoria	8	1	Halifax	-2	-11		DOWNSVIEW, Ontario
Calgary	-2	-13	Fredericton	-3	-14		Canada M3H 5T4
Edmonton	-6	-17	Charlottetown	-3	-12	States and	
Regina	-8	-19	Goose Bay	-9	-20		Tel: (416) 739-4438/4330
Winnipeg	-10	-21	St. John's	0	-8		Fax: (416) 739-4446

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Normal Temperatures (1951-1980)

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