

Cimatic Perspectives

anuary 30 to February 5, 1995

A weekly review of Canadian climate and water

Vol. 17 No. 6

East Coast storm leaves Ontario cold

The brunt of the February 4-5 storm was felt in eastern Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces where winds to 161 km/h combined with heavy snowfalls. It drew bitterly cold air and gale-force winds into Ontario.

After slightly-above normal temperatures, Ontario completed the week with bone-chilling temperatures and wind. Temperatures fell to the -20's in the south and -30's in the north, February 5. Local snowfalls and blowing snow closed sections of major highways in central and southern Ontario. The cold was good news for ice fishermen as the larger lakes froze over. Ottawa's winter festival, Winterlude, was grateful for the cold (-25.4°C, February 5): the full 7.8 km length of the Rideau Canal skating rink was finally in shape to open on the weekend, after a winter including rain and mild temperatures.

From late on the 4th through the 5th, record snowfalls disrupted travel in the East. Winds exceeding 90 km/h piled snow as high as rooftops, on the Gaspé Peninsula. Gaspé recorded 63 cm of snow and Sept-Îles, 55 cm. Saguenay/Lac St. Jean recorded 34 cm and a record-low maximum of -22.9°C, February 5 (old record -22.8°C, 1972). In the Atlantic Provinces, northern and western New Brunswick recorded 30 cm of snow with this system while Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, recorded 36.3 mm of rain. Winds gusted to 161 km/h at Grand Etang, Nova Scotia. Power lines were damaged and trees downed. Powerful waves at

Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, swept two people off the rocks and only one survived. In most of Newfoundland, five to ten centimetres of snow fell but on the Avalon Peninsula, snow and freezing precipitation was recorded. Winds at Port aux Basques gusted to 155 km/h. Previous to the weekend storm, Stephenville, Newfoundland, received 17 cm of snow January 31 and the south coast and Avalon Peninsula received 10 to 15 cm of snow, February 2-3. A disturbance spread into Labrador, February 5, giving 22 cm of snow to Nain and 36 cm to Wabush.

Mild in the west and northwest

Mild weather continued along the B.C. coast. Record-daily maximums near 14°C, January 30/31, were recorded in Port Hardy and in Victoria where many trees are in bloom and flowers are weeks ahead of normal. With cloud for the last two days of January, Prince George recorded a total of A Look Ahead... only 7.6 hours of sunshine for the month of January (old record 21.7 hours, 1992). In contrast, February started with sunshine. Logging in the north intensified as the mild weather in the south brought trucks north, looking for work.

Pacific disturbances brought mild air to the southern Yukon midweek and again at the end of the week. After cold temperatures for most of the week, central and northern areas were also influenced by the mild Pacific air, at the end of the week. In the

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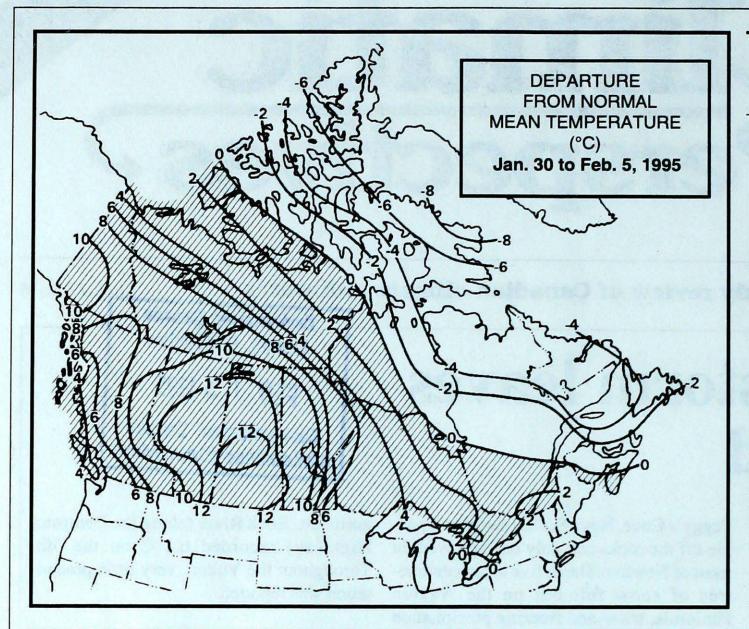
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northeast, Rock River (along the Dempster Highway) recorded 6.1°C on the 5th. Throughout the Yukon, very little precipitation was reported.

Mild temperatures continued to cover the Districts of Mackenzie and Keewatin. The southern Mackenzie was mainly cloudy while the north was clear. Inuvik warmed to -3.5°C, February 5, a far cry from southern Ontario where Toronto's maximum was -17.6°C. The High Arctic was mostly clear and cold - Eureka's average minimum temperature was -45.9°C.

Temperatures were up to 16 degrees above normal in the Prairie Provinces. On January 30-31, 10 to 20 cm of snow fell in northern Manitoba. Whereas the western Prairies stayed in the mild air all week, cold arctic air made its way into Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan on the weekend.

For the week of February 13, below-normal temperatures are expected for most of the country. Near- to above-normal values are forecast across the northern Yukon, Arctic islands and northern Quebec. Significant precipitation is expected for southern and northeastern B.C., the Yukon, western parts of the Northwest Territories, Alberta, Saskatchewan, in the vicinity of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Valley and over the Atlantic Provinces.



Weekly normal temperatures (°C)

	max.	min.
Whitehorse A	-11.8	-22.0
Iqaluit A	-22.8	-31.0
Yellowknife A	-22.9	-31.9
Vancouver Int'l A	6.8	0.7
Victoria Int'l A	7.3	0.8
Calgary Int'l A	-2.3	-14.5
Edmonton Int'l A	-8.9	-20.4
Regina A	-10.3	-21.0
Saskatoon A	-11.1	-21.8
Winnipeg Int'l A	-12.6	-23.2
Ottawa Int'l A	-7.2	-17.1
Toronto Int'l A	-3.5	-12.5
Montréal Int'l A	-6.7	-16.1
Québec A	-8.1	-17.9
Fredericton A	-4.3	-16.2
Saint John A	-3.7	-14.4
Halifax (Shearwater)		-10.0
Charlottetown A	-4.4	-13.2
Goose A	-11.1	-21.4
St John's A	-1.4	-8.8

Weekly temperature and precipitation extremes

	Maximum temperature (°C	2)	Minimum temperature (°C)	Greatest precipitation (m.	m)	
British Columbia	. Prince Rupert A	15	Fort Nelson A	-25	Prince Rupert A	78	
Yukon Territory	Teslin (aut)	6	Shingle Point A	-39	Haines Junction	4	
Northwest Territories	Inuvik A	-3	Eureka	-49	Yellowknife A	9	
Alberta	. Medicine Hat A	13	Fort Chipewyan A	-27	High Level A	6	
Saskatchewan Ea	astend Cypress (aut)	9	Cree Lake	-28	Estevan A	10	
Manitoba	Portage La Prairie A	5	Thompson A	-41	Gillam A	18	
Ontario	Windsor A	4	Sioux Lookout A	-38	Wiarton A	21	
Quebec	. Montréal Int'l A	2	Schefferville A	-40	Mont Joli A	70	
New Brunswick	Saint John A	4	St Leonard A	-27	St Leonard A	43	
Nova Scotia	Sable Island	8	Amherst (aut)	-24	Truro	49	
Prince Edward Island	. Charlottetown A	4	Charlottetown A	-21	Charlottetown A	27	
Newfoundland and Labrado	r . Stephenville A	3	Wabush Lake A	-38	Wabush Lake A	30	
Across The Country							
Highest Mean Temperature			Victoria Int'l A (B.C.)	9			
Lowest Mean Temperature			Eureka (N.W.T.)	-44			
95/01/30-95/02/05							

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES VOLUME 17

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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.

ISSN 0225-5707

Climatic Perspectives is a weekly and monthly publication (disponible aussi en français) of the Canadian Meteorological Centre, Atmospheric Environment Service, 4905 Dufferin St., DOWNSVIEW, Ontario, Canada M3H 5T4

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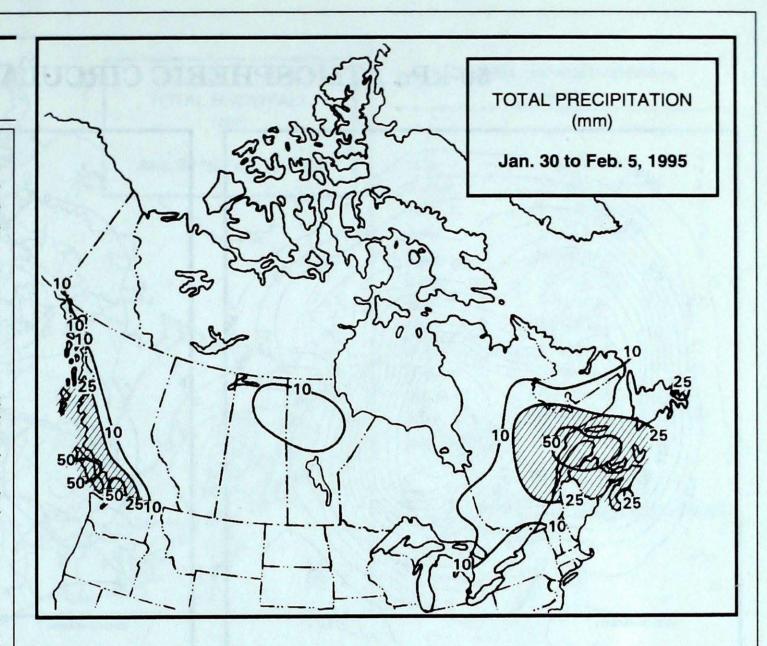
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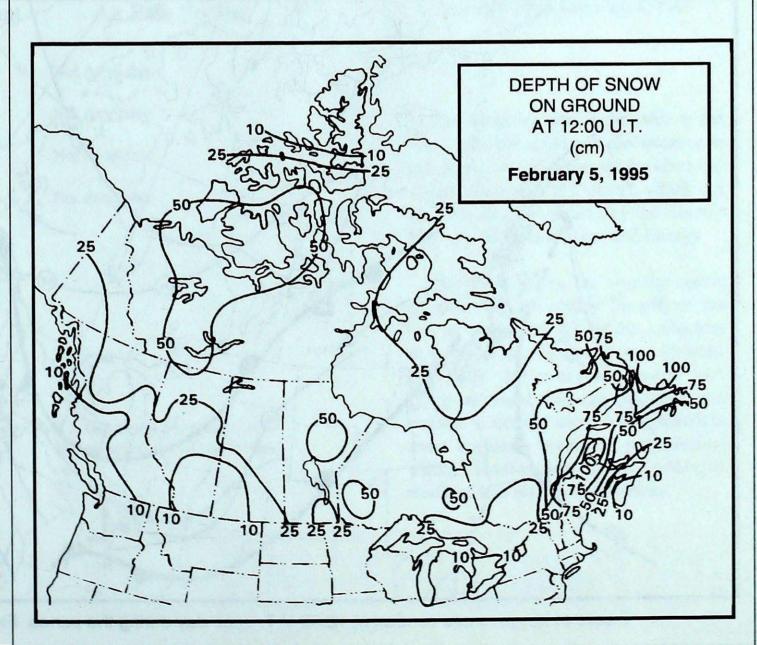
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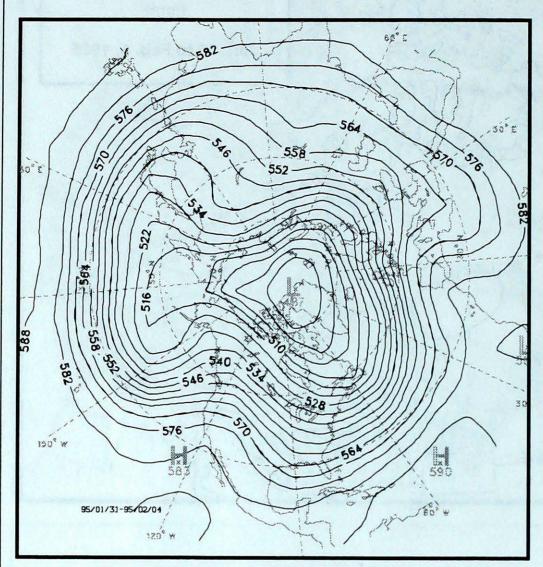
The purpose of the publication is to make topical information available to the public concerning the Canadian climate and its socio-economic impact.

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.

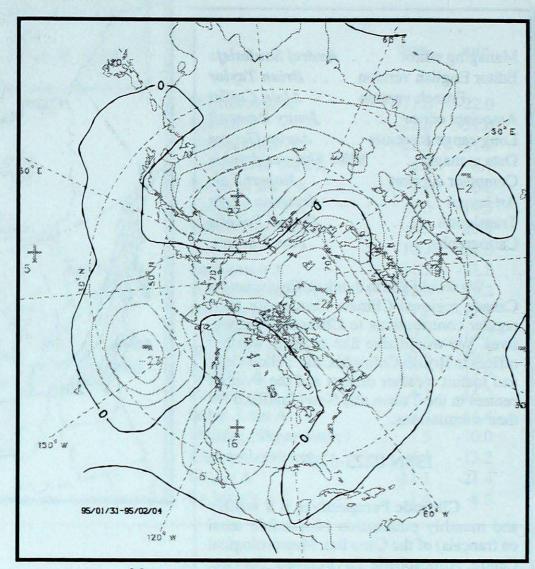




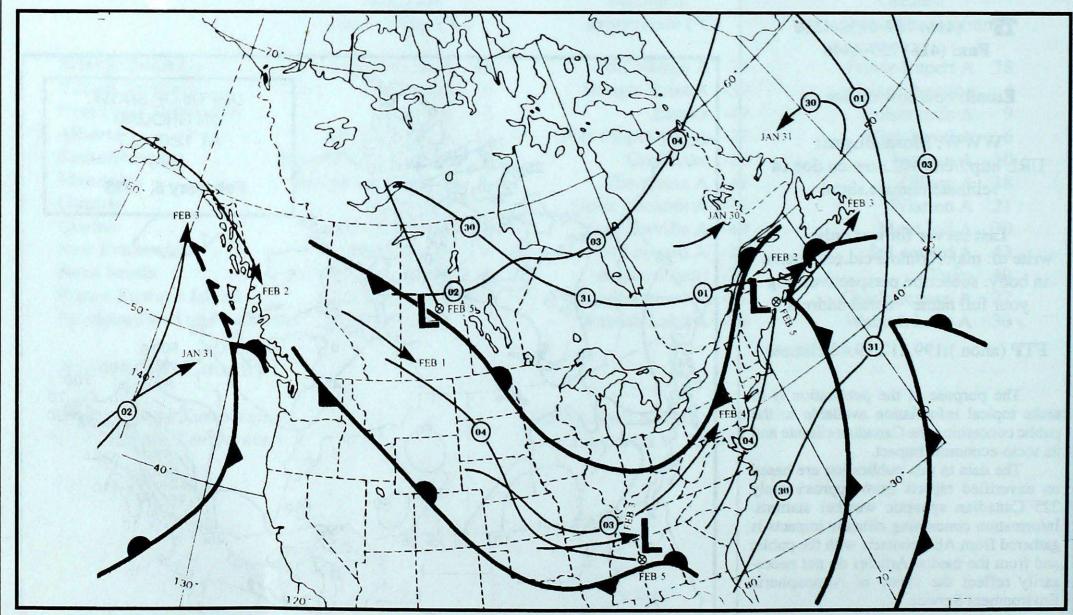
50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



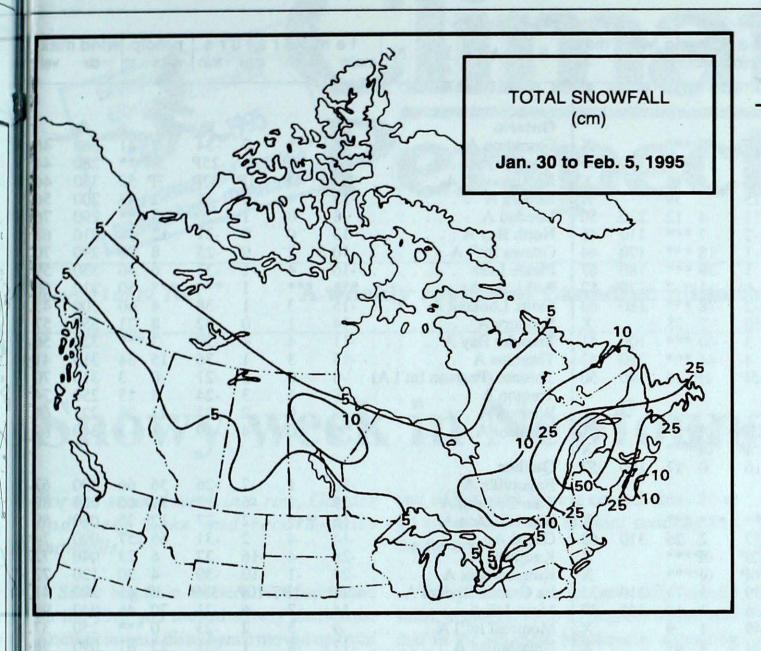
Mean geopotential height 50-kPa level (6-decametre intervals)



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



Tracks of low pressure centres at 12:00 U.T. each day during the period. Fronts depicted on last day.



Weekly snowfall extremes (cm)

B.C.	Fort Nelson	5
Yukon	Haines Junction	5
N.W.T.	Fort Simpson	5
Alta.	High Level	8
Sask.	Saskatoon	9
Man.	Thompson	21
Ont.	Wiarton	28P
Que.	Mont Joli	71
N.B.	Charlo	62
N.S.	Sydney	21
P.E.I.	Charlottetown	27
Nfld.	Wabush Lake	40
and Lab.		

P=Less than 7 days data available Tr=Trace

ACID RAIN REPORT

ACID KA	III KE	TOKI		
Site	Day	pH Amount	Air Path To Site	
Egbert, Ont.			Not Available	
Dorset*, Ont.			Not Available	
Sutton, Que.			Not Available	
Kejimkujik, N.S.			Not Available	

January 29 to February 4, 1995

The sampling sites in the table to the left, where the acidity of precipitation is monitored, are all operated by Environment Canada except Dorset*, which is a research station operated by the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Energy.

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 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.

R = rain (mm) S = snow (cm)

M = mixed rain and snow (mm)

Of , ylemons employed insem = 5%

	anom		ure min	precip. ptot st	The second secon	max vel	
ritish Columbia							Ontario
lue River A 3P	12P	9P	OP	0P***	1.40	X	Geraldton A16 *** 0 -34 7 41 360
omox A 7	4	14	-8	57 ***	140	85	Gore Bay A9P 3P 2P -25P 3P*** 280
ranbrook A 0 ort Nelson A13	9	-1	-25	9 15 3 39		XX	Kapuskasing A18P 1P -1P -37P 7P 52 330
rt St John A2	12	6	-11	4 12	230	50	Kenora A13
amloops A 4	8	11	-2	7 ***	110	46	North Bay A13 0 0 -31 12 18 010
nticton A 4	6	9	-1	18 ***	170	44	Ottawa Int'l A10 2 0 -25 8 18 290
rt Hardy A 8	4	14	1	39 ***	180	67	Pickle Lake16 4 -1 -33 6 40 330
ince George A 1	9	7	-6	11 3	170	52	Red Lake A *** *** 1 *** *** 50 310
ince Rupert A 6	5	15	-2	78 ***	180	63	Sioux Lookout A15 3 1 -38 4 60 300
nithers A1	6	7	-10	7 28	100	X	Sudbury A14 1 0 -32 8 21 350
ncouver Int'l A 8 ctoria Int'l A 9	4 5	14 14	3	40 ***	100	41	Thunder Bay A11 4 4 -30 3 *** 320
illiams Lake A 1P	8P	8P	4 -5P	1P 16	240 140	43 50	Timmins A15 3 1 -36 15 34 310
illians Lake A If	or	or	-3F	1F 10	140	30	Toronto (Pearson Int'l A)8 0 2 -21 0 3 310 Trenton A8 1 3 -24 4 13 250
ikon Territory							Wiarton A
	P	3P	-23P	0P		X	Windsor A 6 0 4 -19 1 3 340
tson Lake A17P	6P		-25P	0P***		X	
nitehorse A5	12	1	-16	0 17	160	57	Québec
							Bagotville A16 1 -7 -26 36 66 290
rthwest Territories	***	***	***	***		77	Baie Comeau A15 -1 -6 -27 51 60 050
				*** ***	210	X	Blanc Sablon A16 *** -2 -27 12 25 080
ker Lake A30 mbridge Bay A35P		-21 -24P	-37 -42P	2 26 0P***	310	63 X	Gaspé A
yde A36P			-42P -40P	0P***		X	Kuujjuaq A28 -4 -16 -37 6 23 040 Kuujjuarapik A24 -1 -10 -39 4 20 120
ppermine A27		-16	-39	3 71	210	32	La Grande Rivière A24P -1P -10P -38P 3P 41 280
ral Harbour A32	-1	-23	-36	1 19	340	57	Mont Joli A14 -2 -6 -21 70 46 040
reka44		-36	-49	1 9		X	Montréal Int'l A9 3 2 -23 0 *** 250
rt Smith A14	11	-5	-24	4 41		X	Natashquan A17 -4 1 -31 25 81 090
ll Beach A35	-3	-27	-41	0 35	310	50	
ıvik A26	4	-3	-40	5 48		X	Québec A12 1 0 -24 38 92 250 Schefferville A28P -6P -12P -40P 0P*** 350
luit A31		-20	-39	1 21	320	43	Sept-Îles A16 -1 -1 -27 65 52 070
ould Bay A35P			-45P	0P***	200	56	Sherbrooke A9P 4P 1P -24P 17P***
rman Wells A21	8	-5	-30	2 24	130	43	Val-d'Or A16 2 -1 -32 12 17 340
solute A		-26	-45	1 49	360	33	
llowknife A18	9	-12	-26	9 36	100	41	New Brunswick
berta							Fredericton A10 1 1 -22 40 65 030 Miscou Island (aut)12P -2P 2P -21P 17P***
lgary Int'l A 2	11	13	-11	1 ***	260	76	Moncton A11 -1 3 -25 42 32 190
ld Lake A 4	12		-14	3 25	280	44	Saint John A
monton Namao A1	12		-11	2 15	160	32	St Leonard A14 *** -1 -27 43 91 290
rt McMurray A5	14		-16	3 19		X	
ande Prairie A3	11	6	-15	3 36	260	67	Nova Scotia
gh Level A11	11	4	-25	6 27	280	41	Greenwood A7 0 6 -23 35 8 120 1
thbridge A 4P		13P	-8P	0P***		X	Shearwater A4 1 5 -17 24 *** 100 1
edicine Hat A 3	13	13	-8	1 ***	270	63	Sydney A *** *** 4 *** *** 30 120 1
ce River A5	12	4	-18	6 17	280	50	Yarmouth A3 1 6 -14 44 3 100
skatchewan							Prince Edward Island
tevan A5	9	3	-14	10 19	330	63	Charlottetown A9 0 4 -21 27 44 130 1
Ronge A8	14		-20	5 32	300	56	East Point (auto)6P ***P 3P -13P 2P***
gina A5	11		-15	5 13	340	63	
skatoon A5	11		-20	6 ***	330	52	Newfoundland and Labrador
ift Current A1P	11P		12P	4P***		X	Cartwright17 -4 -2 -31 9 107 310
rkton A6	12	5	-15	2 33	310	59	Churchill Falls A23P -2P OP -38P 9P***
nitoba	10	2	10	2 22	220		Goose A20 -4 -2 -32 6 35 120
ndon A8 archill A23	10		-19	3 33 5 ***	320	56	Stephenville A9 -3 3 -23 22 87 120 1 St John's A7 -2 0 -16 28 94 300
nn Lake A17	10		-36 -33	15 35	350 310	59	
e Pas A11			-24	1 29	310	52 67	St Lawrence6 -2 1 -17 4 39 Wabush Lake A23 -2 -7 -38 30 67 080
ompson A19	9 8 5	-3	-41	13 52	330	46	Waddin Lake 1123 -2 -1 -36 30 07 060
ompson A19 nnipeg Int'l A13	5	2	-41 -30	0 24		69	95/01/30-95/02/05

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

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

X = no observation P * = less than 7 days of data

= missing data when going to printing.