



# CANADIAN Climate Summary

April 1996

*Monthly review of Canadian climate and water*

vol. 1

## CLIMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

April 1996

9th to 21st - As temperatures in parts of southern Saskatchewan climb close to 20°, the winter's above-average accumulation of snow begins to melt, resulting in some of the worst flooding in years. A state of emergency is declared in Moose Jaw and 40 homes are evacuated when ice jams cause the Moose Jaw River to overflow. Ice jams and high water in Regina close several roads and rip out a bridge. In Manitoba, several cottages on Lake Winnipeg are crushed by huge blocks of ice. North of Winnipeg, several hundred people are evacuated as the Red River overflows its banks. For the first time since 1959, the Manitoba provincial government has to declare a flood-related disaster area.

1st - The coldest temperature in the country this month is a -41.4° value recorded at Injin River.

8th - Osoyoos has the nation's warmest temperature so far this year with a summer-like value of 27.1°.

It's a wet month in southwestern British Columbia: Vancouver sets a new April rainfall record as 169.5 mm falls, breaking the old record by 26 mm. On the shores of the Pacific, Tofino receives nearly 500 mm. In contrast to the southern part of the province, much of northern British Columbia has a dry month. At Atlin only 0.2 mm is received.

24th & 25th - A powerful spring storm moves across southern Manitoba and Northern Ontario. Snowfalls of 10 to 25 cm are recorded across the area. Farther south, 25 to 35 mm of rain is received near Sault Ste. Marie. Although the colder conditions alleviate some of Manitoba's flooding problems, the relief is only temporary, as melting snow soon raises water levels again. Two days later, forecasts advise that "winter is not over yet", as snowsqualls develop to the lee of Lake Superior.

2nd & 3rd - Heavy precipitation occurs as a storm moves through the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Over the Gaspé and northern New Brunswick 20 to 40 cm of snow falls, while 50 to 80 mm of rain is received in parts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Winds over the Gulf gust over 130 km/h.

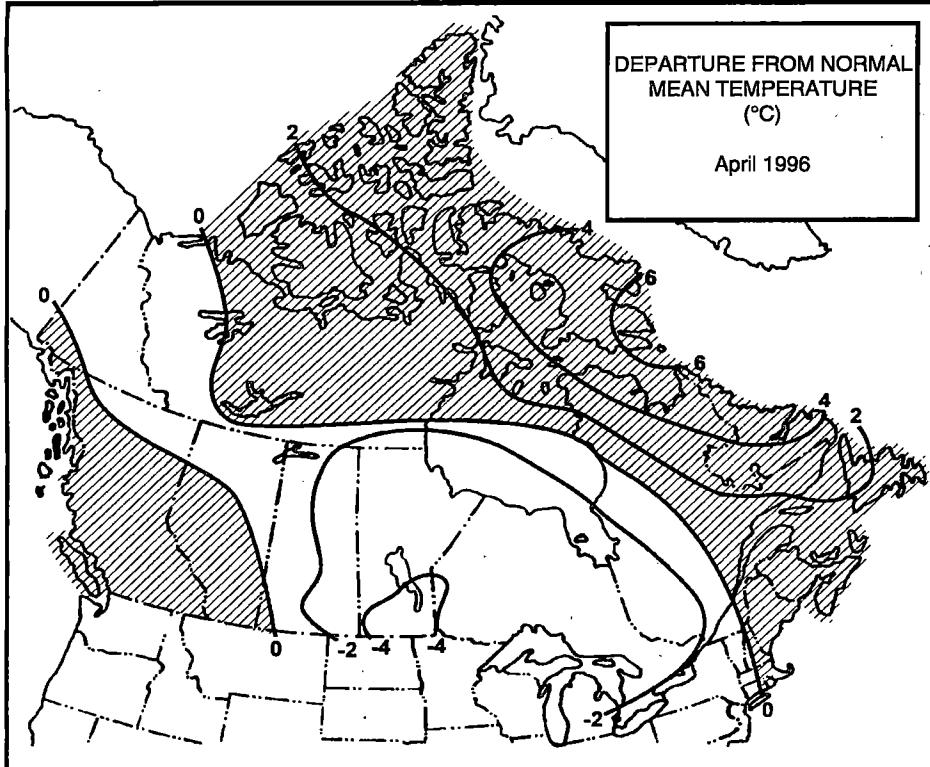
27th - The daytime high at Cartwright hits 17.4°, the second-warmest April temperature on record.

15th - Winter takes another shot at Nova Scotia. Winds of 90 km/h and a 10 to 20 cm snowfall combine to knock out electricity and close schools in many areas around Halifax. Many bridges are exceptionally slippery as snow melts in the afternoon and freezes again overnight.

13th - A 53.6 mm rainfall gives Sarnia its wettest-ever April day. The 45.2 mm received at Hamilton makes it the wettest April day in 40 years. This is just one of many rainy days in a month that is the wettest in the past 20 years for most southern Ontario communities.

20th - As a cold front sweeps across southern Ontario, severe thunderstorms develop. Two tornadoes, one rated an F3, slash their way through the area east of Lake Huron. Property damage estimates approach \$8 million. The following day, debris from the storm is found more than 100 km away.

## CANADIAN CLIMATE SUMMARY VOLUME 1



DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL  
MEAN TEMPERATURE  
(°C)  
April 1996

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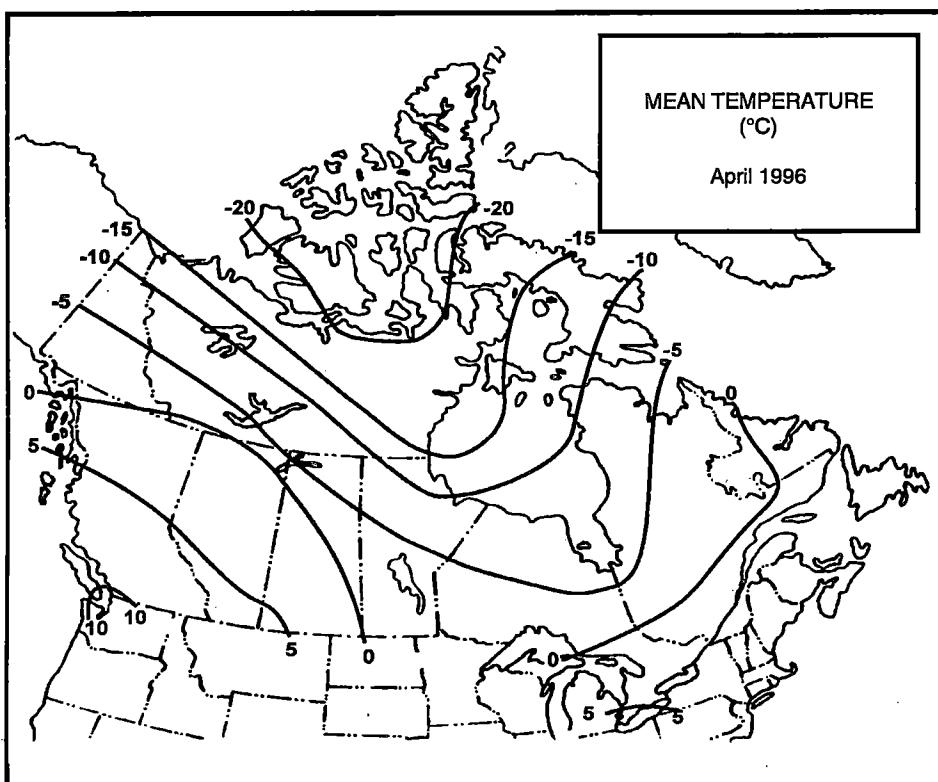
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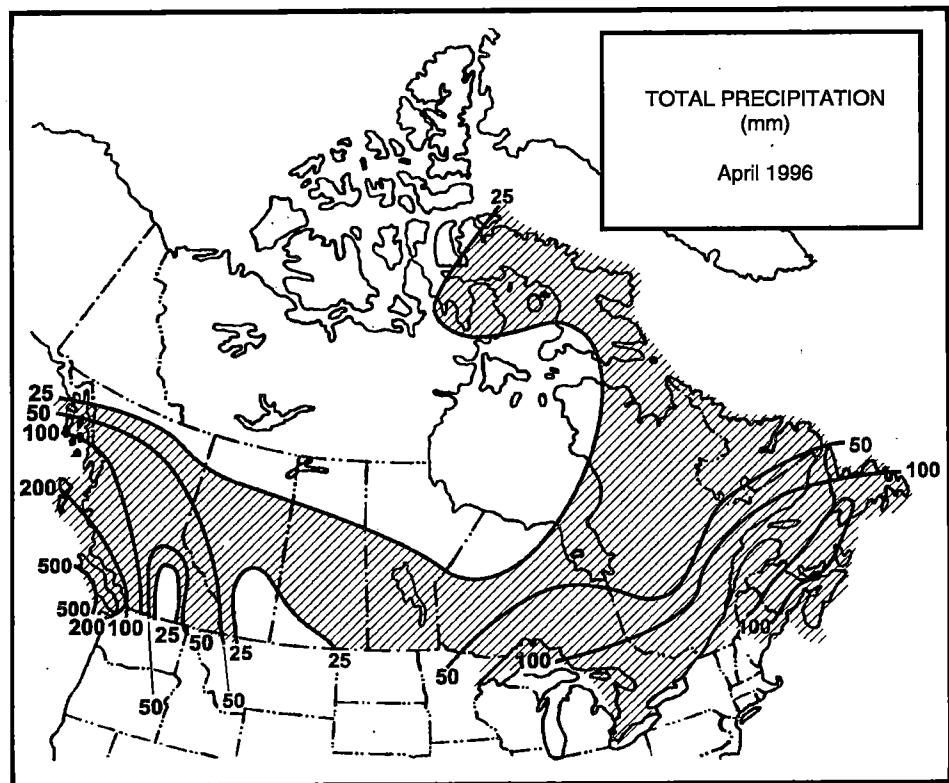
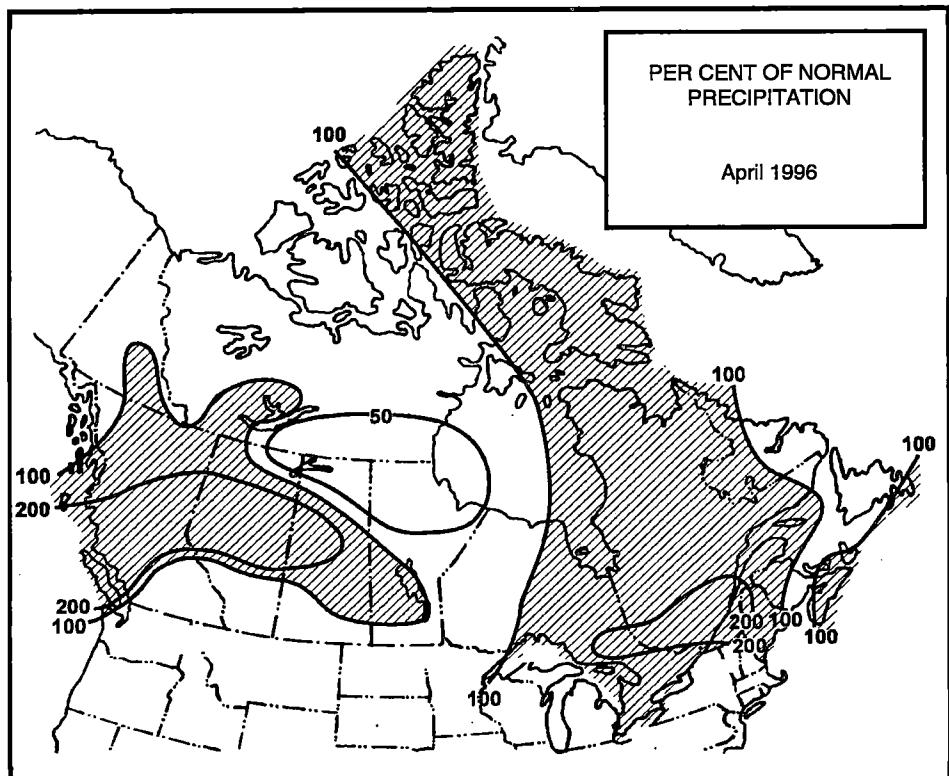
MEAN TEMPERATURE  
(°C)  
April 1996

## Weather Extremes, April 1996

		Maximum temperature (°C)		Minimum temperature (°C)		Greatest precipitation (mm)
<b>British Columbia</b>	<b>OSOYOOS CS</b>	27.1	<b>DEASE LAKE CAMPBELL</b>	-23.8	<b>ESTEVAN POINT</b>	507.8
<b>Yukon Territory</b>	<b>ROSS RIVER</b>	17.0	<b>OGILVIE RIVER</b>	-36.0	<b>SWIFT RIVER</b>	22.0
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>FORT SIMPSON A</b>	16.6	<b>INDIN RIVER</b>	-41.4	<b>IQALUIT A</b>	49.2
<b>Alberta</b>	<b>MILK RIVER</b>	25.6	<b>FORT CHIPEWYAN A</b>	-33.5	<b>EDMONTON INT'L A</b>	59.6
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<b>VAL MARIE S-E</b>	25.9	<b>KEY LAKE A</b>	-39.3	<b>LA RONGE A</b>	76.0
<b>Manitoba</b>	<b>DAUPHIN A</b>	16.6	<b>LYNN LAKE A</b>	-31.2	<b>DAUPHIN A</b>	90.5
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>WINDSOR A</b>	23.9	<b>PEAWANUCK</b>	-28.3	<b>LONDON A</b>	171.0
<b>Quebec</b>	<b>LENNOXVILLE</b>	21.9	<b>SCHEFFERVILLE A</b>	-25.6	<b>MONTREAL/DORVAL A</b>	177.0
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>ST STEPHEN</b>	21.0	<b>ST LEONARD A</b>	-9.0	<b>MONCTON A</b>	123.3
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>GREENWOOD A</b>	22.6	<b>TRURO</b>	-5.3	<b>YARMOUTH A</b>	148.1
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>CHARLOTTETOWN A</b>	19.1	<b>CHARLOTTETOWN A</b>	-5.5	<b>CHARLOTTETOWN A</b>	92.0
<b>Newfoundland</b>	<b>DANIELS HARBOUR</b>	20.7	<b>CHURCHILL FALLS</b>	-19.1	<b>ST LAWRENCE</b>	129.7

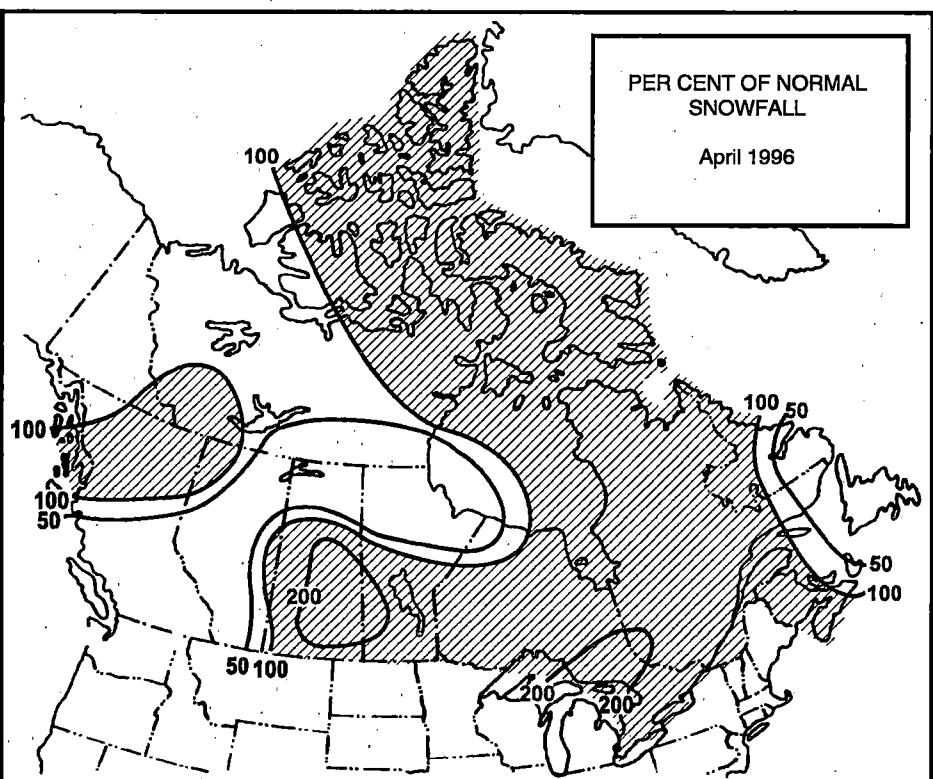
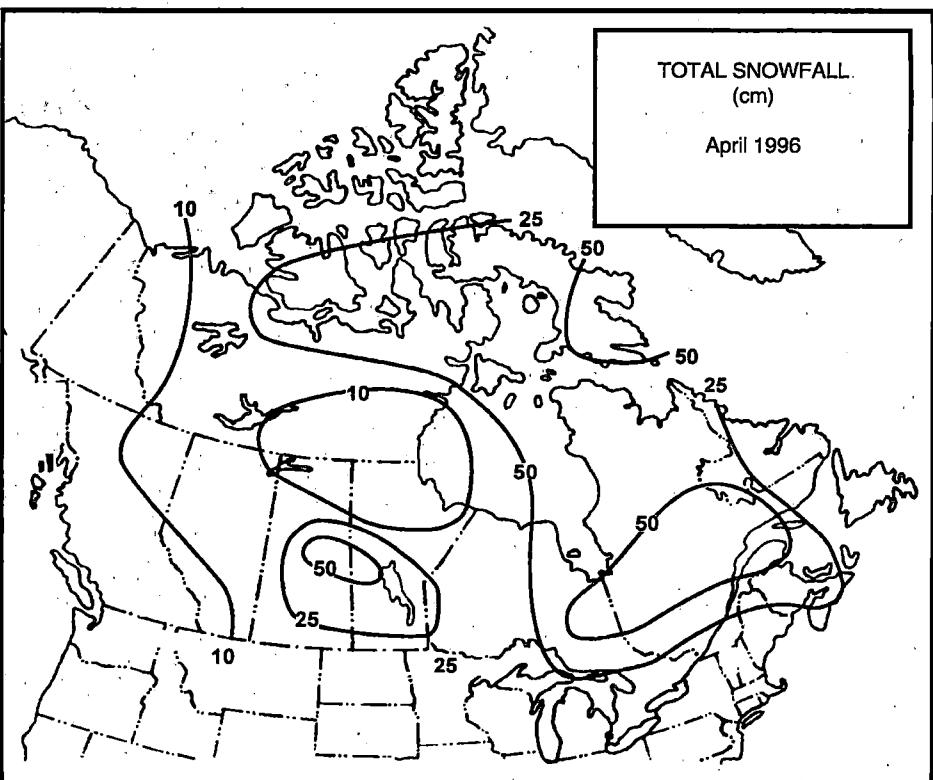
### Across The Country...

<b>Highest Monthly Mean Temperature</b>	<b>VANCOUVER HARBOUR</b>	<b>BC</b>	11.0	°C
<b>Lowest Monthly Mean Temperature</b>	<b>EUREKA</b>	<b>NWT</b>	-26.0	°C
<b>Highest Temperature</b>	<b>OSOYOOS CS</b>	<b>BC</b>	27.1	°C
<b>Lowest Temperature</b>	<b>INDIN RIVER</b>	<b>NWT</b>	-41.4	°C
<b>Heaviest Monthly Precipitation</b>	<b>ESTEVAN POINT</b>	<b>BC</b>	507.8	mm
<b>Deepest Snow on the Ground on April 30, 1996</b>	<b>YOHO PARK</b>	<b>BC</b>	134	cm
<b>Greatest Number of Bright Sunshine Hours</b>	<b>RESOLUTE A</b>	<b>NWT</b>	259.3	hrs

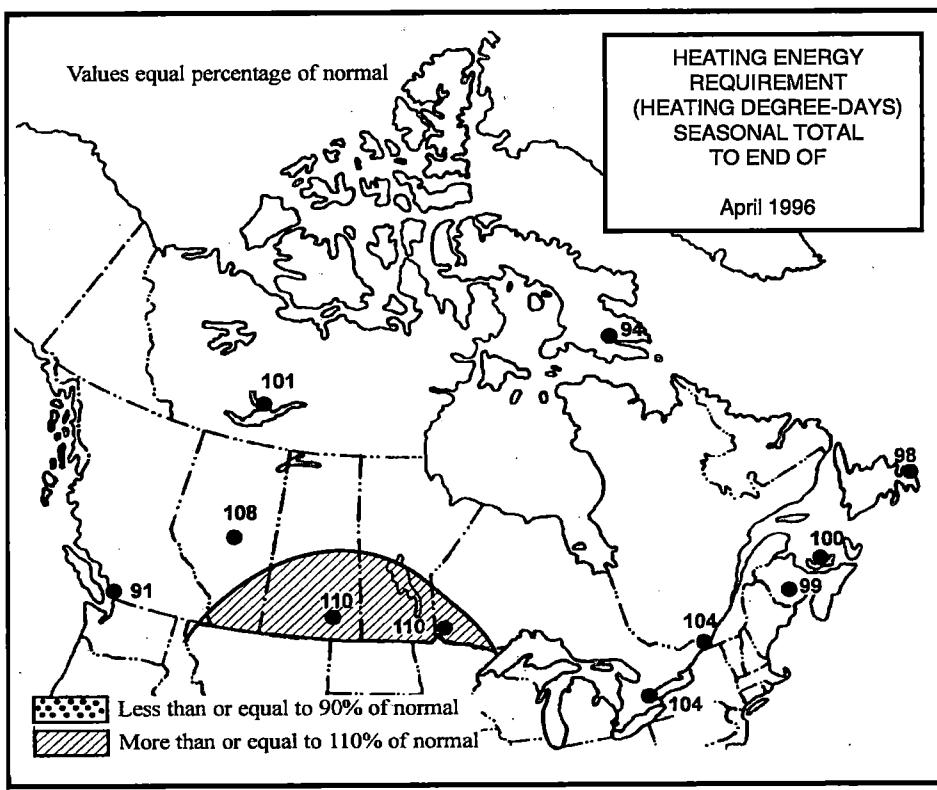
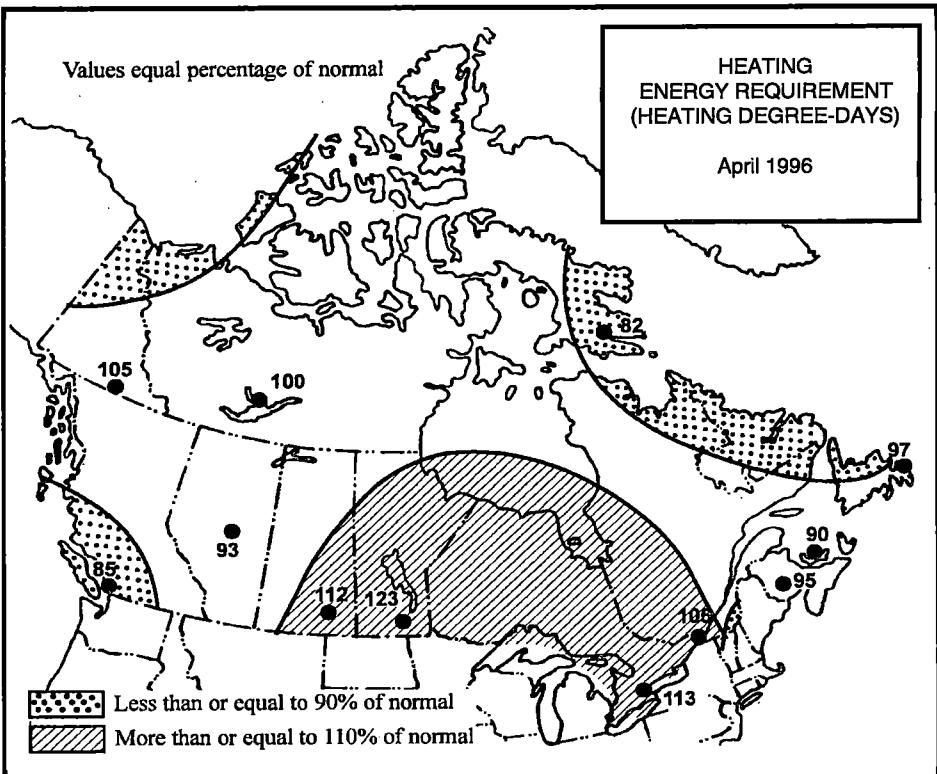


SEASONAL SNOWFALL TOTALS (cm)  
TO END OF APRIL

	1996	1995	Norml
<b>British Columbia</b>			
VICTORIA INT'L A	*	7	47
PRINCE GEORGE A	185	*	231
VANCOUVER INT'L A	*	*	55
PENTICTON A	103	*	73
KAMLOOPS A	*	*	86
<b>Yukon Territory</b>			
WATSON LAKE A	*	*	213
<b>North West Territories</b>			
INUVIK A	*	186	158
YELLOWKNIFE A	131	186	139
IQALUIT A	*	*	217
RESOLUTE A	152	159	79
<b>Alberta</b>			
EDMONTON INT'L A	*	77	124
CALGARY INT'L A	170	88	125
MEDICINE HAT A	*	67	106
PEACE RIVER A	*	71	138
<b>Saskatchewan</b>			
MOOSE JAW A	155	*	120
REGINA A	*	*	104
PRINCE ALBERT A	*	140	114
SASKATOON A	*	*	104
<b>Manitoba</b>			
BRANDON A	*	166	103
WINNIPEG INT'L A	*	*	113
CHURCHILL A	*	130	177
LYNN LAKE A	*	140	193
THOMPSON A	*	179	182
<b>Ontario</b>			
KENORA A	194	143	175
THUNDER BAY A	*	*	193
SUDBURY A	*	156	265
KAPUSKASING A	*	249	315
NORTH BAY A	*	197	266
OTTAWA INT'L A	*	136	220
WINDSOR A	*	*	123
LONDON A	*	*	212
TORONTO INT'L A	140	*	124
<b>Quebec</b>			
MONTREAL INT'L A	*	*	213
SHERBROOKE A	*	*	286
SEPT-ILES A	503	519	407
MONT JOLI A	*	456	370
BAGOTVILLE A	304	435	340
VAL D'OR A	*	245	314
<b>New Brunswick</b>			
FREDERICTON A	*	237	293
MONCTON A	*	315	362
SAINT JOHN A	*	*	281
<b>Nova Scotia</b>			
GREENWOOD A	*	236	281
YARMOUTH A	*	*	204
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>			
CHARLOTTETOWN A	278	*	336
<b>Newfoundland</b>			
GANDER INT'L A	*	589	427
ST JOHN'S A	*	441	313
GOOSE A	*	*	440

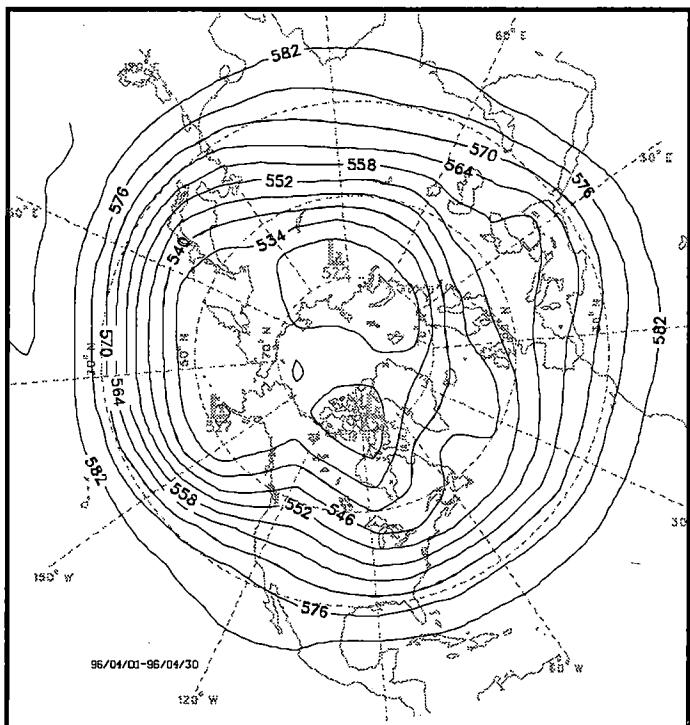


SEASONAL TOTAL OF HEATING DEGREE-DAYS TO END OF APRIL				
	1996	1995	Norml	
<b>British Columbia</b>				
VICTORIA INT'L A	2549	2531	2791	
PRINCE GEORGE A	5093	4551	4826	
VANCOUVER INT'L A	2509	2516	2730	
PENTICTON A	3300	3097	3271	
KAMLOOPS A	3553	3229	3490	
<b>Yukon Territory</b>				
WATSON LAKE A	*	*	7214	
<b>North West Territories</b>				
INUVIK A	*	*	9232	
YELLOWKNIFE A	8012	7252	7923	
IQALUIT A	8385	8799	8921	
RESOLUTE A	11067	10822	11167	
<b>Alberta</b>				
EDMONTON INT'L A	5900	5248	5468	
CALGARY INT'L A	5282	4613	4810	
MEDICINE HAT A	*	*	4509	
PEACE RIVER A	*	5717	5963	
<b>Saskatchewan</b>				
MOOSE JAW A	5582	4690	5079	
REGINA A	*	5050	5467	
PRINCE ALBERT A	6406	5880	6099	
SASKATOON A	6262	3133	5656	
<b>Manitoba</b>				
BRANDON A	6370	5558	5719	
WINNIPEG INT'L A	*	6797	5593	
CHURCHILL A	8483	7603	8225	
LYNN LAKE A	*	6872	7337	
THOMPSON A	7688	6858	7282	
<b>Ontario</b>				
KENORA A	6106	5079	5551	
THUNDER BAY A	*	3008	5337	
SUDBURY A	*	4706	5090	
KAPUSKASING A	6438	5467	6014	
NORTH BAY A	*	4634	5035	
OTTAWA INT'L A	4662	4083	4471	
WINDSOR A	3659	3162	3458	
LONDON A	*	3620	3913	
TORONTO INT'L A	4104	3570	3930	
<b>Quebec</b>				
MONTREAL INT'L A	*	*	4364	
SHERBROOKE A	*	*	4854	
SEPT-ILES A	5570	5614	5660	
MONT JOLI A	*	4905	5063	
BAGOTVILLE A	5472	5170	5467	
VAL D'OR A	6185	5382	5792	
<b>New Brunswick</b>				
FREDERICTON A	4442	4331	4490	
MONCTON A	4467	4376	4471	
SAINST JOHN A	4403	4230	4412	
<b>Nova Scotia</b>				
GREENWOOD A	*	3800	3971	
YARMOUTH A	3658	3507	3697	
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>				
CHARLOTTETOWN A	*	4254	4346	
<b>Newfoundland</b>				
GANDER INT'L A	4395	4641	4613	
ST JOHN'S A	4186	4251	4272	
GOOSE A	5732	6150	6105	

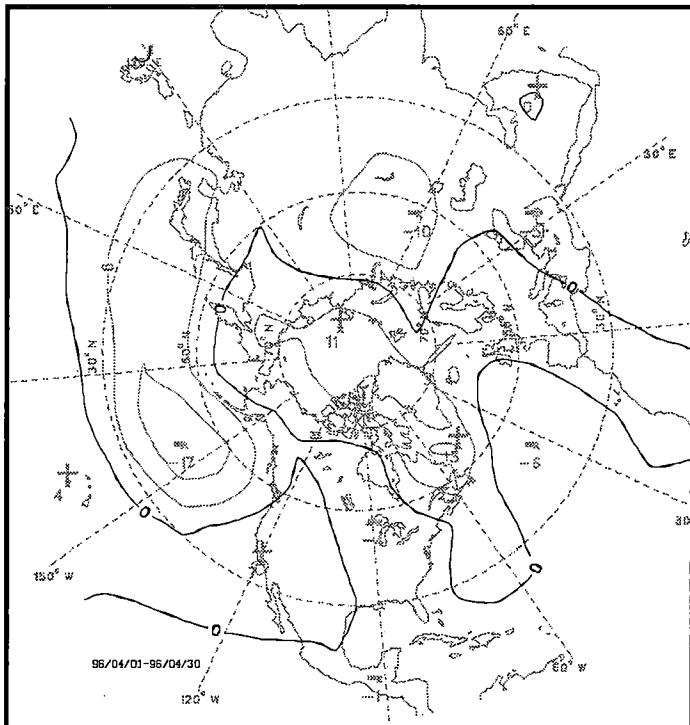


## 50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

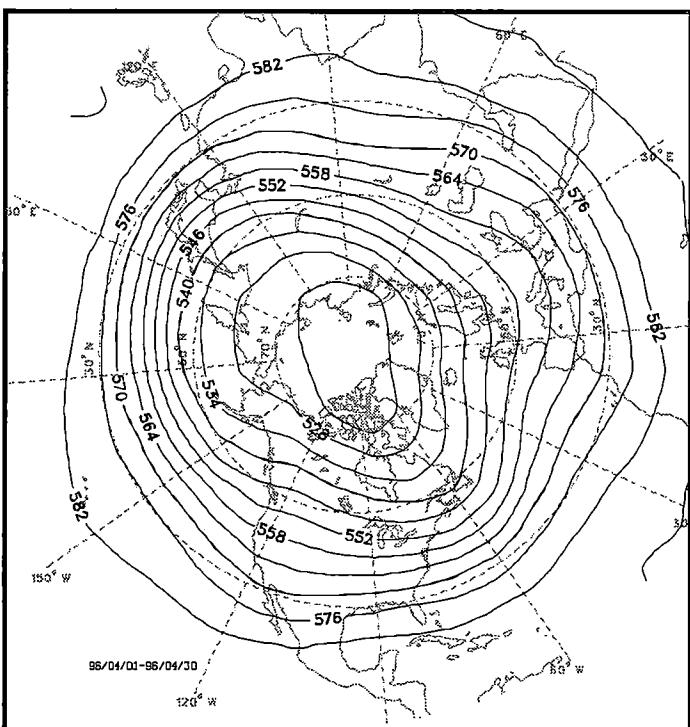
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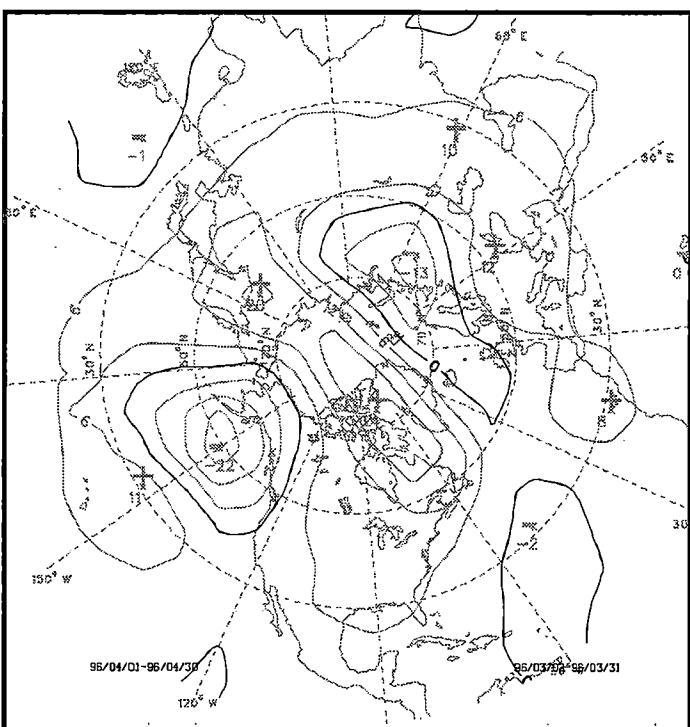
Mean geopotential heights  
6-decametre interval



Mean geopotential height anomaly  
6-decametre interval



Normal geopotential heights for the month  
6-decametre interval



Mean height difference w/r to previous month  
6-decametre interval

## Canadian Climate Summary

STATION	April 1996			
	Temperature C			
	Mean		Difference from Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
BRITISH COLUMBIA				
ABORTSFORD A	10.6	1.8	20.7	1.1
AGASSIZ CS	11.0	*	22.0	1.4
COWICHAN A	9.3	1.1	16.6	0.0
CRAIBROOK A	6.6	0.3	22.6	-3.8
DEESE LAKE CAMPBELL ESTEVAN POINT	0.2	*	13.2	-23.8
FORT NELSON A	9.1	*	15.3	-22.8
FORT ST JOHN A	3.8	-1.1	14.1	-14.4
HOPE	9.4	*	21.1	-39.6
KAMLOOPS A	10.3	0.9	21.7	-2.1
KELowna A	8.1	0.2	21.0	-6.1
LANGARA	6.2	0.4	13.4	-3.0
LYTTON	10.6	-0.2	24.0	-0.4
MACKENZIE A	2.7	-1.2	14.8	-16.0
MAHAT BEACH	8.2	*	26.9	-10.0
MCKINNIS ISLAND	8.4	1.1	13.5	1.1
NEILSON	8.1	*	19.1	-2.6
PENTICTON A	9.3	0.6	14.7	0.0
PORT ALBERNI	8.8	*	18.0	-1.0
PORT HAROY A	8.5	1.7	16.0	-1.0
REVELSTOKE	6.7	*	16.9	-2.5
RINDSPIT A	7.0	0.8	11.9	-3.4
SHERINGHAM POINT	9.1	*	16.2	-1.3
SMITHERS A	4.5	0.1	16.1	-10.4
SPARWOOD	5.1	*	20.6	-5.4
SQUAMISH	9.1	*	19.4	-3.0
SUMMERLAND CS	9.4	*	19.3	-3.0
TERRACE A	6.2	0.5	17.6	-5.1
VANCOUVER INT'L A	10.4	1.6	20.3	2.8
VICTORIA INT'L A	9.9	1.5	18.2	0.0
WILLIAMS LAKE A	5.9	1.3	19.3	-6.2

STATION	April 1996			
	Temperature C			
	Mean		Difference from Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
YUKON TERRITORY				
BURWASH	-2.5	*	11.1	-32.7
DAWSON	0.4	*	15.5	-29.0
FARO	0.2	*	12.4	-28.3
KOMAKIK BEACH	-19.0	*	-10.1	-33.7
TESLIN	-0.3	*	12.7	-23.4
WATSON LAKE A	-1.5	*	10.2	-30.8
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES				
ALERT	-22.6	2.5	-11.6	-34.4
BAKER LAKE A	-17.6	0.2	-2.5	-31.7
BROUGHTON ISLAND	-11.3	5.5	-1.9	-27.2
CAMBRIDGE BAY A	-21.3	0.7	-5.9	-37.9
CAPRE DORSET A	-10.5	*	-1.7	-21.4
CAPRE DIER	-10.6	*	-1.7	-27.3
CAPE HOOPER	-13.1	4.3	-3.5	-25.8
CARE PARRY A	-17.6	0.6	-8.0	-29.0
CLYDE A	-17.4	1.6	-2.2	-33.3
COPPERMINE A	-17.0	*	-3.3	-33.3
CORAL HARBOUR A	-14.3	2.7	-1.9	-28.3
ENNAHALLAKE	-13.9	*	5.5	-32.1
EUREKA	-26.0	2.0	-15.0	-40.4
FORT SIMPSON A	-1.3	0.0	16.6	-22.5
FORT SMITH A	-1.6	-0.2	15.6	-30.1
HALL BEACH A	-16.8	4.1	-3.2	-36.1
HAY RIVER A	-3.2	0.3	14.7	-33.3
INVUKA	-14.4	2.1	-2.1	-28.9
IQALUIT A	-8.7	6.0	1.9	-26.2
LADY FRANKLIN POINT	-17.9	1.1	-6.4	-34.4
LONGSTAFF BLUFF	-14.2	4.7	-2.2	-27.4
MOULD BAY CAMP	-14.7	4.7	-2.7	-34.4
NORMAN WELLS A	-8.5	-2.0	7.8	-31.4
PANGNIRTUNG	-9.6	2.4	-2.3	-32.9
RANKIN INLET A	-16.6	*	-2.1	-29.1
RESOLUTE A	-16.6	*	-2.3	-35.3
SHEPHERD BAY A	-21.2	1.1	-7.9	-33.8
TUROTAKUK	-16.9	*	-1.5	-30.0
YELLOWKNIFE A	-6.2	0.0	11.1	-30.4

April 1996

STATION	Temperature C				% of Normal Snowfall	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	% of Normal Bright Sunshine	Degree Days below 18 C	Temperature C				% of Normal Snowfall	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	Snow on ground at end of month (cm)	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	% of Normal Bright Sunshine	Degree Days below 18 C		
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum	Snowfall (cm)									
ALBERTA																										
BROOKS	7.1	*	23.6	-6.7	*	20.1	*	*	6	*	*	*	326.1													
CALGARY INT'L A	4.9	0.8	22.7	-14.6	8.8	43	18.5	74	*	*	*	*	393.1													
CARDSTON	6.4	*	22.8	-7.9	*	17.6	*	32.2	*	*	*	*	348.0													
CLARESHOLM	6.4	*	24.8	-8.9	*	5	*	32.2	*	*	*	*	348.1													
COLD LAKE A	3.0	-0.6	19.0	-18.9	17.6	148	28.0	131	*	*	*	*	450.5													
CORONATION	3.9	*	19.1	-12.4	*	*	*	*	5	*	*	*	423.6													
EDMONTON INT'L A	4.7	1.0	19.2	-15.2	*	59.6	273	*	6	*	*	*	399.3													
EDMONTON MUNICIPAL	5.5	0.6	20.0	-12.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	375.9													
EDMONTON STONY PLA	6.2	1.9	19.3	-9.4	*	29.8	120	*	5	*	*	*	*													
EDSON	4.3	*	20.5	-15.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	411.2													
FORT CHIPEWYAN A	-1.7	-1.5	15.6	-33.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	591.5													
FORT McMURRAY A	1.7	-1.1	15.8	-23.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
HIGH LEVEL A	0.3	-1.6	17.7	-25.7	14.6	154	19.0	111	0	7	*	*	530.1													
LAC LA BICHE	3.3	*	17.7	-16.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	441.6													
LACOMBE CDA 2	4.1	*	19.5	-15.1	*	38.8	*	*	12	*	*	*	416.0													
LETHBRIDGE A	7.3	1.7	25.3	-7.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
LETHBRIDGE CDA	6.8	1.2	24.2	-6.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
LLOYDMINSTER A	3.3	*	20.2	-19.1	11.0	*	17.8	67	*	5	*	*	441.8													
MEDICINE HAT A	7.3	1.0	24.7	-5.5	11.5	60	17.5	67	*	5	*	*	319.5													
PEACE RIVER A	3.6	0.6	17.0	-15.1	4.6	49	34.7	220	*	8	*	*	431.8													
PINCHER CREEK	5.4	*	21.4	-9.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	378.0													
RED DEER A	4.1	0.4	19.2	-14.1	5.0	35	10.8	47	*	4	*	*	416.9													
ROCKY MTN HOUSE	3.9	*	18.7	-14.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
SLAVE LAKE	3.0	*	16.1	-14.4	*	26.2	*	*	7	*	*	*	448.8													
VEGREVILLE AEC	3.9	*	19.3	-18.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	404.5													
WHITECOURT A	4.5	*	18.0	-12.0	19.2	*	48.8	*	*	9	*	*	*													
SASKATCHEWAN																										
BROADVIEW	0.4	-2.8	16.4	-20.2	*	26.0	102	*	8	*	*	*	529.0													
COLLINS BAY	-5.3	*	11.5	-30.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
CORONACH SPC	3.4	*	25.1	-15.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
CREE LAKE	-3.0	-1.8	10.9	-34.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
ESTEVAN A	1.4	-3.3	20.0	-19.8	16.0	122	27.4	82	*	11	*	*	498.1													
HUDSON BAY	-0.3	*	14.3	-23.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	550.3													
INDIAN HEAD CDA	0.7	-3.1	20.2	-16.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	518.2													
KINDERSLEY A	4.3	*	22.3	-10.5	12.6	*	30.2	*	*	10	163	*	412.4													
LA RONGE A	-0.9	-2.0	13.6	-24.2	66.4	391	76.0	280	3	7	*	*	567.0													
MEADOW LAKE A	1.9	*	15.9	-26.4	21.0	*	25.1	*	*	9	*	*	483.6													
MOOSE JAW A	3.2	-1.6	22.5	-12.8	24.2	224	31.3	129	*	11	170	*	443.8													
NIPAWIN A	-0.3	*	14.9	-25.3	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	550.1													

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