



ADIAN

climate

Summary

May 1997

Monthly review of Canadian climate and water

vol. 2

2nd May's coldest temperature comes early in the month: -23.7° at Cambridge Bay.

It's a month of flood warnings for British Columbia. The first signs of trouble come during the first week, when a tributary of the Fraser threatens to spill its banks near Chilliwack. High water is a problem in the Okanagan during both the first and last week of May. And at Houston in the north-central part of the province, flood conditions develop around mid-month and continue on and off for the next couple of weeks.

May 15th & 17th – Heavy rains help to cause mudslides in the Shuswap area.

May's warmest temperature: 33.7° at Osoyoos on the 13th.

During the last few days of the month flooding conditions in southwestern Alberta after snowmelt combines with rain falls well in excess of 100 mm.

A warm dry start to the month has many Albertans thinking of summer. Conditions are so warm and dry that Edmonton has a rash of grass fires on the 15th. However, two days later it's back to winter as snow and rain fall across much of central Alberta. On the 20th, as much as half a metre of heavy, wet snow is dropped on the province. Hardest hit is Edmonton, which experiences its biggest power outage in 15 years. Cleanup of tree damage, the worst in 20 years, is tagged at \$1 million. As well, an indoor golf driving range with an inflated roof is flattened by the weight of the snow; cost of the repair is \$250,000.

CLIMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

May 1997

It's a wet and cold May in southern Ontario. At Windsor, the mean temperature is only 0.1° higher than the all-time May low of 10.7° . London's comes almost as close, with a monthly mean that's only 0.3° above its all-time May low. Rainfall throughout the area is almost twice the usual amount.

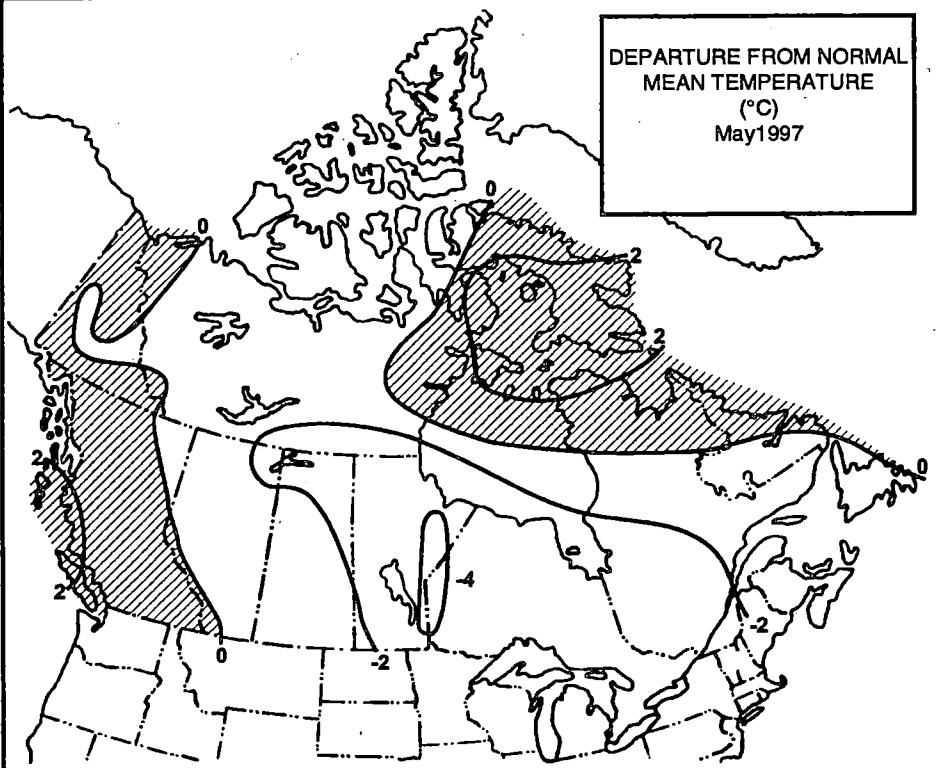
May 17th – Up to 80 mm of rain and winds reaching 100 km/h in the Gaspe cause mudslides, flooding and numerous downed trees and powerlines.

Late season ice delays the start of the lobster season by as much as 12 days.

May 1st – As a cold front blasts its way across southern Ontario, winds gust over 100 km/h. With Lake Erie already at near-record high levels, the winds produce flooding in several shoreline communities.

As May begins, one of the country's worst floods this century continues in southern Manitoba. By mid-month, when the flood threat has eased, more than 35,000 homes have been evacuated and 180,000 hectares of farmland covered. Nearly 3000 homes are damaged by the flood. The cost of fighting and controlling the flood tops \$250 million.





CANADIAN CLIMATE SUMMARY VOLUME 1

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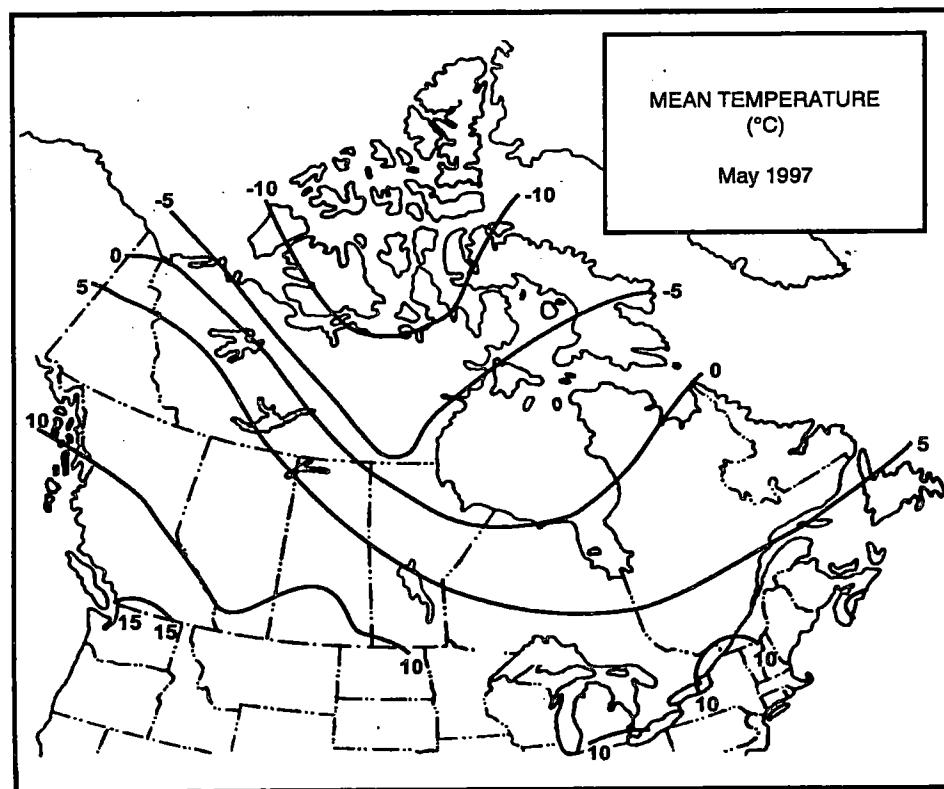
Climatic Summary is a monthly publication (disponible aussi en français) of the Canadian Meteorological Centre, Atmospheric Environment Service, 4905 Dufferin St., Downsview, Ontario, Canada M3H 5T4

The data in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department.

ISSN 1207-8514

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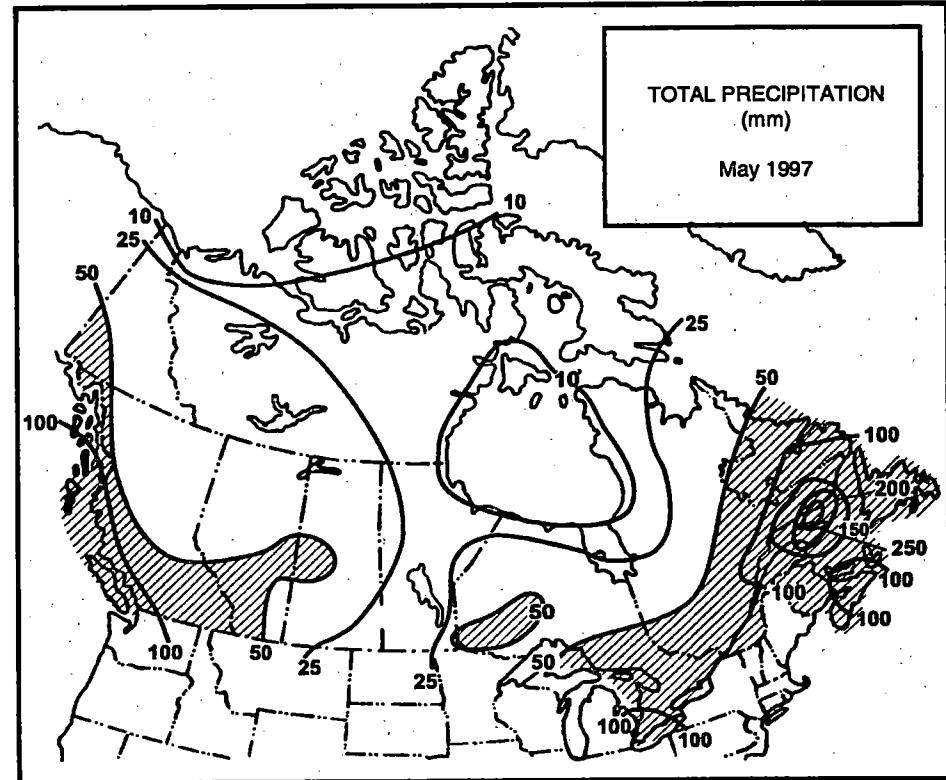
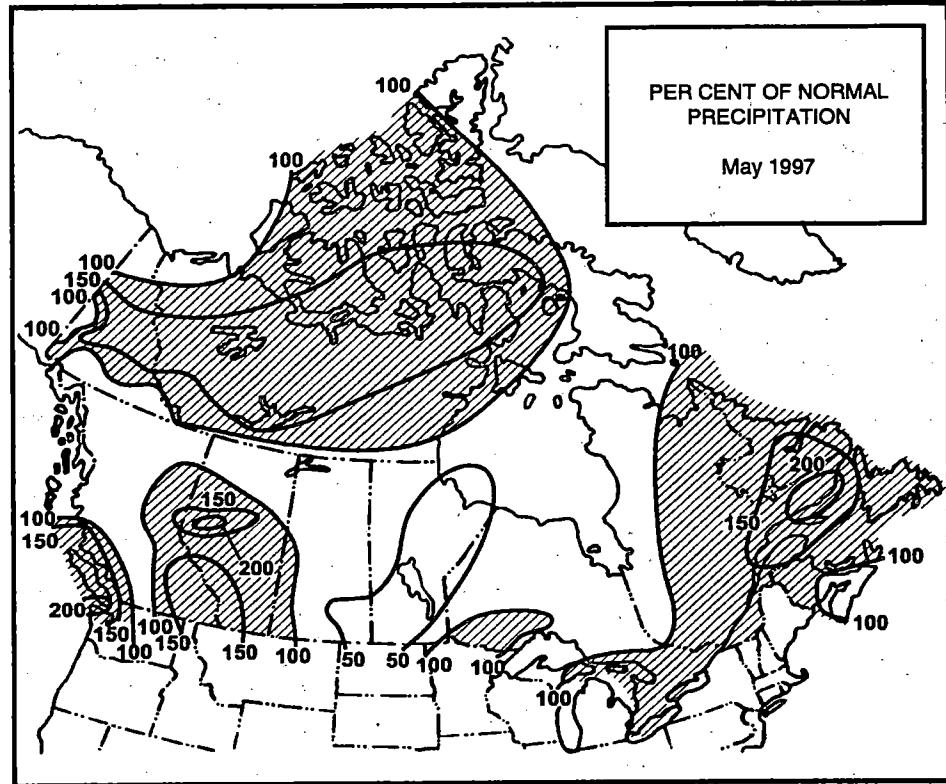


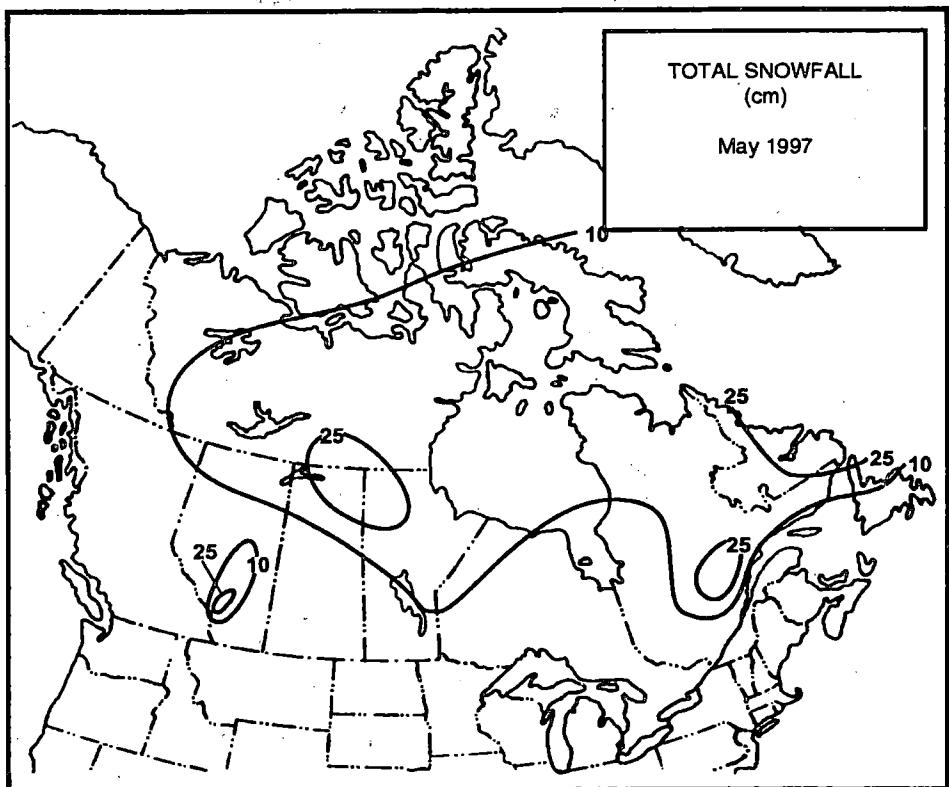
Weather Extremes, May 1997

		Maximum temperature (°C)		Minimum temperature (°C)		Greatest precipitation (mm)
British Columbia	OZOYOOS	33.7	BIG CREEK	-8.6	SQUAMISH	183.8
Yukon Territory	HAINES JUNCTION	25.5	KOMAKUK BEACH	-20.6	STEWART CROSSING	71.2
Northwest Territories	HAY RIVER A	25.9	ELLICE RIVER	-23.9	FORT SIMPSON A	42.6
Alberta	BROOKS	30.7	FORT CHIPEWYAN A	-9.5	STAVELY AAFC	160.2
Saskatchewan	WEYBURN	32.5	COLLINS BAY	-15.0	SHAUNAVON	67.9
Manitoba	PIERSON, STARBUCK	32.0	CHURCHILL A	-16.0	RENNIE A	65.8
Ontario	DRYDEN	28.2	PEAWANUCK	-14.4	LONDON A	136.6
Quebec	ROQUEMAURE	26.0	LAC BENOIT	-15.4	NATASHQUAN A	253.5
New Brunswick	ST STEPHEN	23.8	CHARLO A	-1.9	CHARLO A	134.7
Nova Scotia	KEJIMKUJIK 1	22.9	KEJIMKUJIK 1	-3.9	HALIFAX (SHEARWATER)	160.6
Prince Edward Island	CHARLOTTETOWN A	20.5	CHARLOTTETOWN A	-0.3	CHARLOTTETOWN A	98.7
Newfoundland	GOOSE A	21.8	CAPE KIGLAPAIT	-13.7	BURGEO	160.8

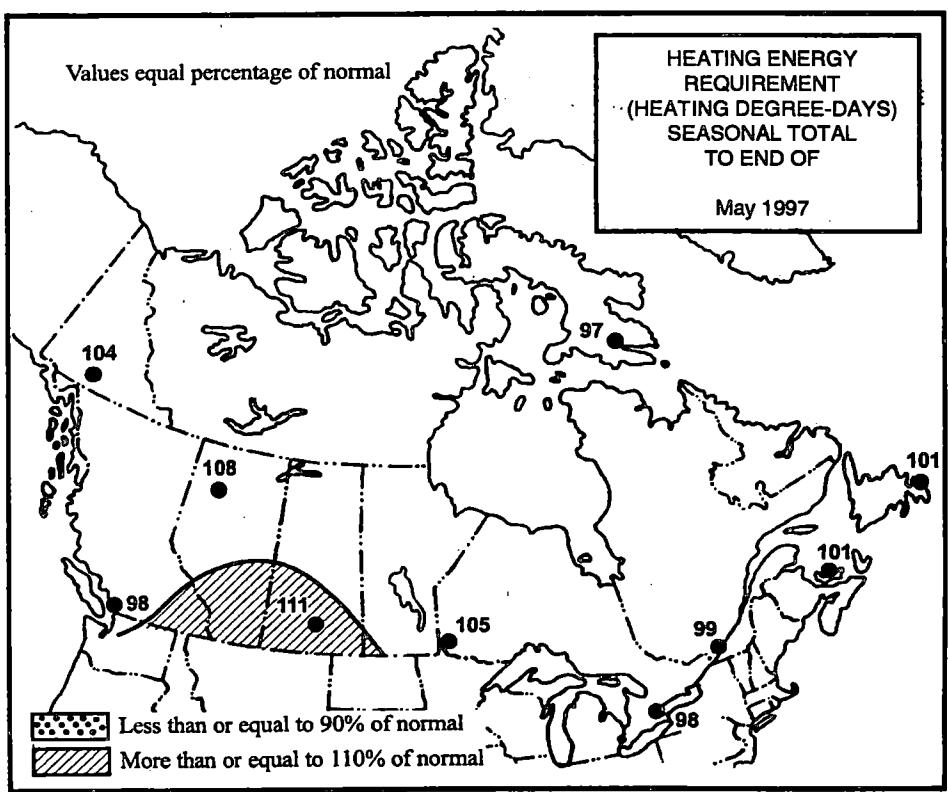
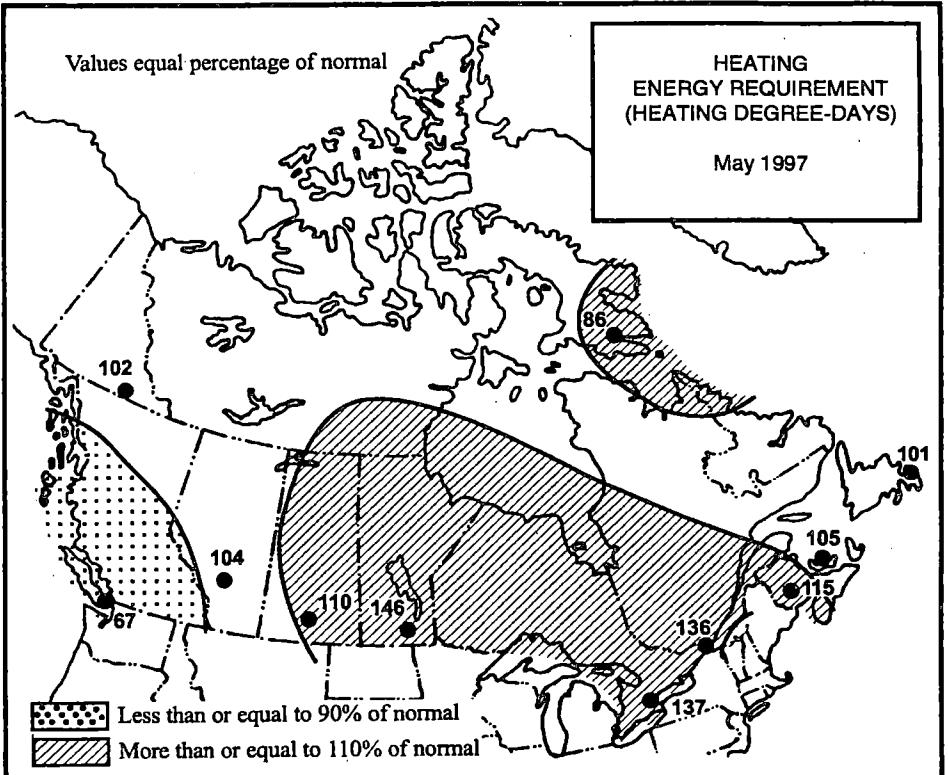
Across The Country...

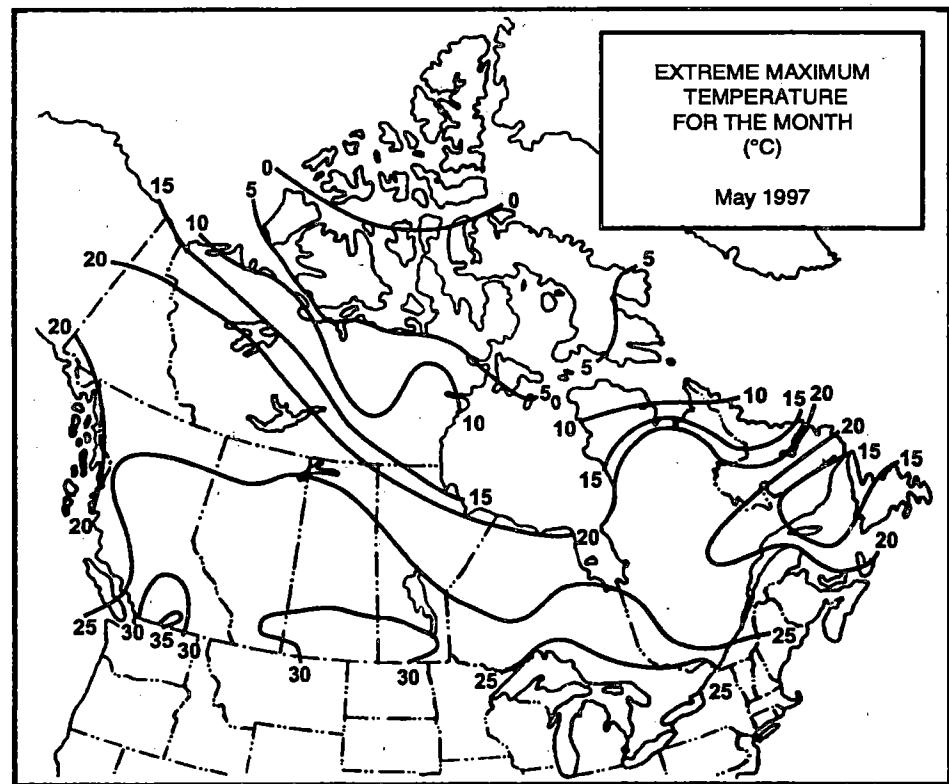
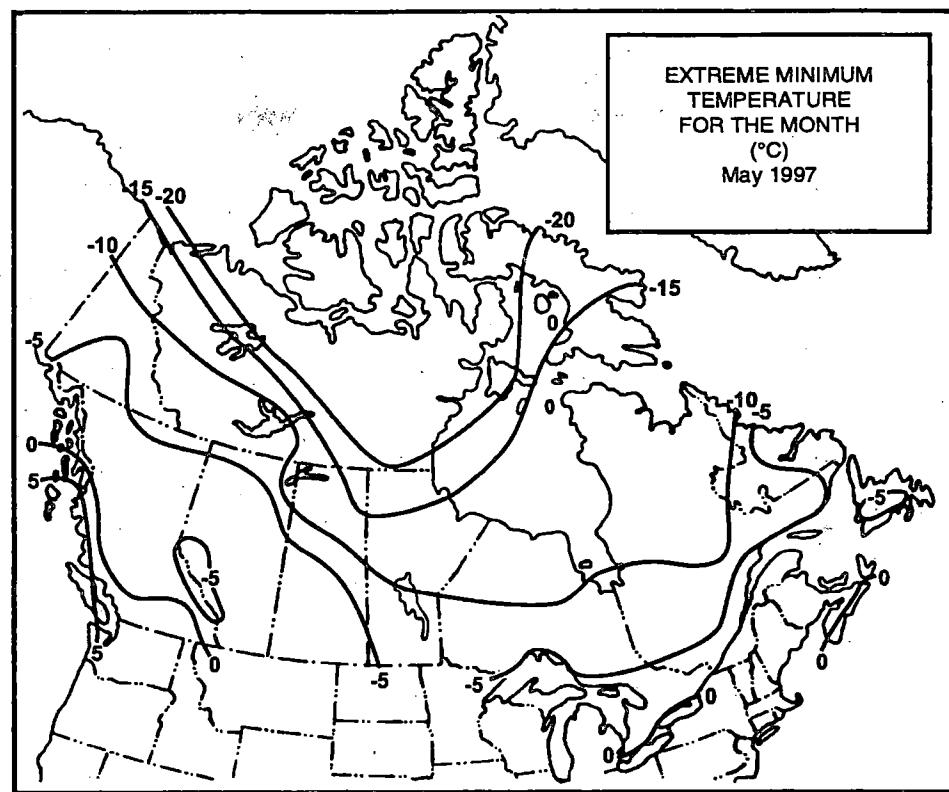
Highest Monthly Mean Temperature	OZOYOOS	BC	16.3	°C
Lowest Monthly Mean Temperature	ALERT	NWT	-13.3	°C
Highest Temperature	OZOYOOS	BC	33.7	°C
Lowest Temperature	ELLICE RIVER	NWT	-23.9	°C
Heaviest Monthly Precipitation	NATASHQUAN A	QUE	253.5	mm
Greatest Number of Bright Sunshine Hours	EUREKA	NWT	551	hrs





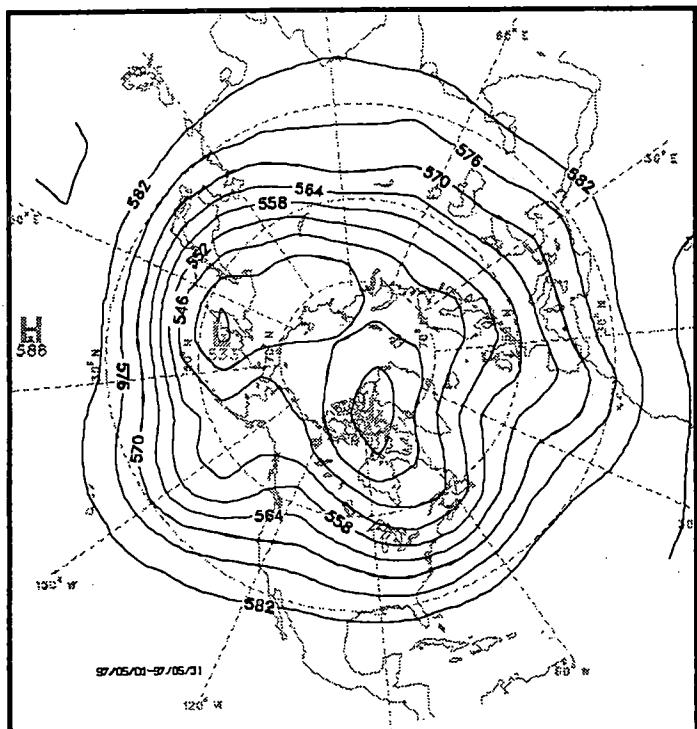
SEASONAL TOTAL OF HEATING DEGREE-DAYS TO END OF MAY				
	1997	1996	Normal	
British Columbia				
VICTORIA INT'L A	2928	2770	2996	
PRINCE GEORGE A	5391	5415	5092	
VANCOUVER INT'L A	*	2696	2913	
PENTICTON A	*	3504	3421	
KAMLOOPS A	*	3734	3621	
Yukon Territory				
DAWSON	*	*	*	
WATSON LAKE A	*	*	7558	
North West Territories				
INUVIK A	*	*	9814	
IQALUIT A	9280	9066	9610	
RESOLUTE A	*	11910	12070	
Alberta				
EDMONTON INT'L A	*	6238	5707	
CALGARY INT'L A	5601	5640	5068	
MEDICINE HAT A	5176	5252	4689	
PEACE RIVER A	6726	6823	6214	
Saskatchewan				
MOOSE JAW A	5873	5861	5280	
REGINA A	*	*	5680	
PRINCE ALBERT A	6639	6712	6339	
SASKATOON A	6488	6561	5866	
Manitoba				
BRANDON A	*	6675	5945	
WINNIPEG INT'L A	*	*	5805	
CHURCHILL A	*	9086	8820	
LYNN LAKE A	7973	8089	7703	
THOMPSON A	7901	8171	7647	
Ontario				
KENORA A	6091	6376	5774	
THUNDER BAY A	*	*	5618	
SUDBURY A	*	*	5319	
KAPUSKASING A	6355	6806	6311	
NORTH BAY A	*	5677	5268	
OTTAWA INT'L A	*	4850	4642	
WINDSOR A	*	3825	3589	
LONDON A	*	*	4092	
TORONTO INT'L A	4017	4310	4117	
Quebec				
MONTRÉAL INT'L A	4473	*	4531	
SHERBROOKE A	*	*	5082	
SEPT-ÎLES A	6042	5974	6036	
MONT JOLI A	5303	5273	5370	
BAGOTVILLE A	5659	5757	5740	
VAL D'OR A	*	6523	6078	
New Brunswick				
FREDERICTON A	*	4700	4717	
MONCTON A	4736	4763	4731	
SAINT JOHN A	*	4713	4688	
Nova Scotia				
GREENWOOD A	4121	4140	4201	
YARMOUTH A	4005	3953	3967	
Prince Edward Island				
CHARLOTTETOWN A	4678	4564	4632	
Newfoundland				
GANDER INT'L A	5031	4770	4968	
ST JOHN'S A	*	4559	4650	
GOOSE A	6495	6163	6506	



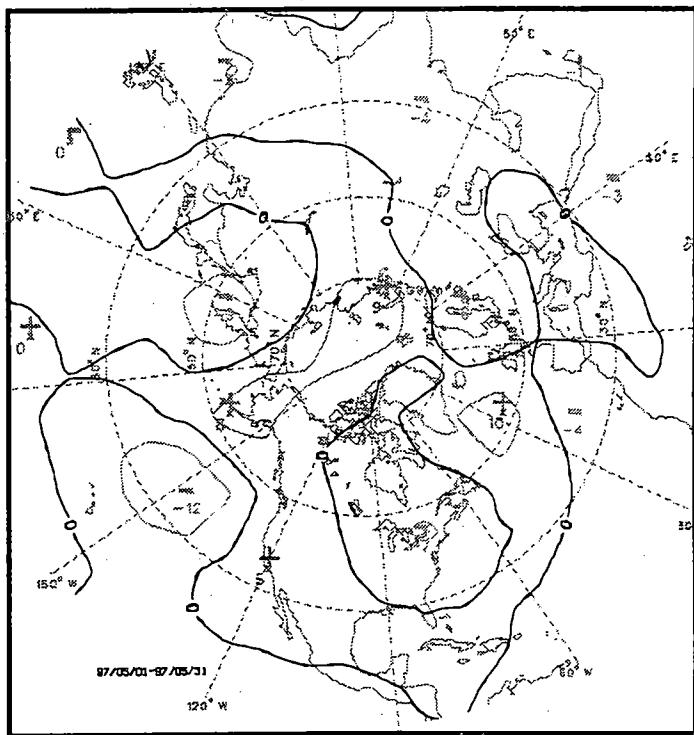


50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

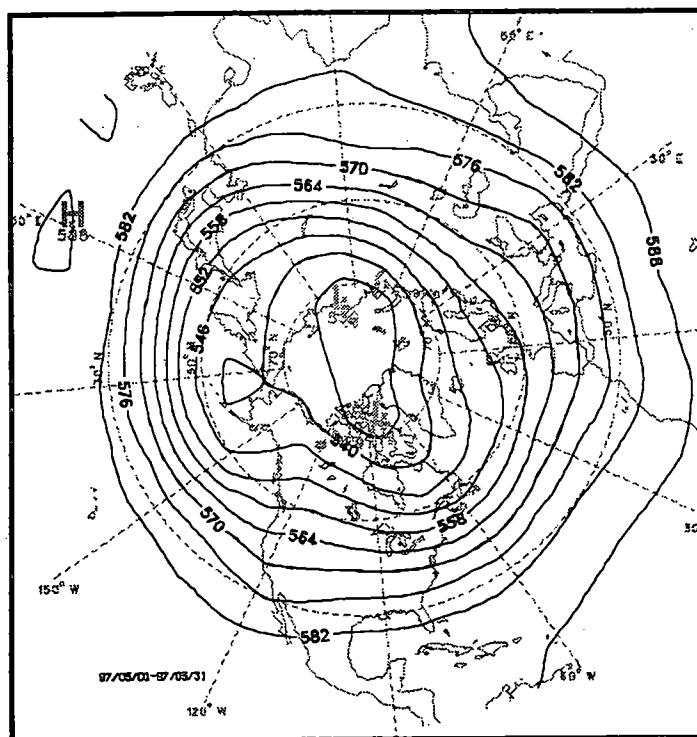
May 1997



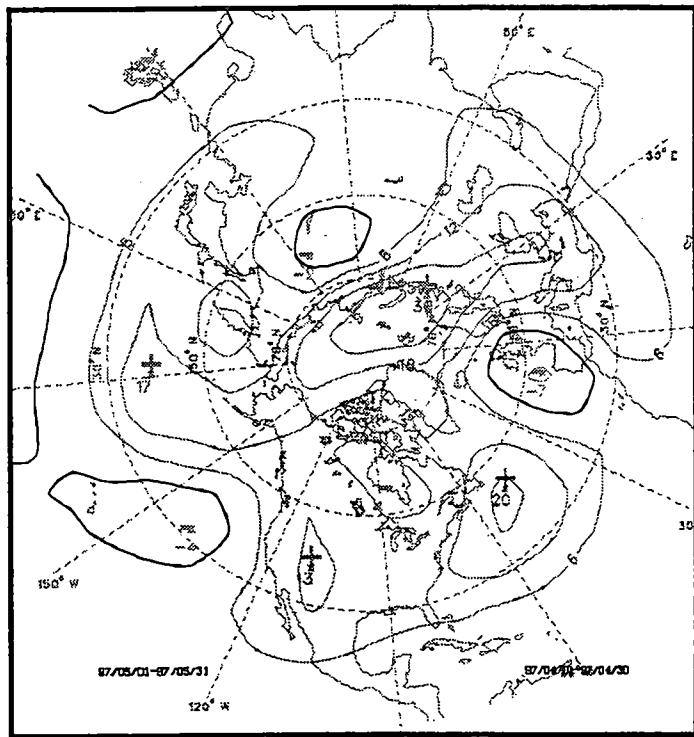
Mean geopotential heights
6-decametre interval



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

May 1997

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
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum								
BRITISH COLUMBIA												
ABBOTSFORD A	14.8	2.8	29.7	3.0	0.0	179.3	201		13		105.7	
AGASSIZ CS	15.4		28.9	4.6		113.2			11		95.8	
CLINTON	9.8		26.8	-2.6		48.7			8		255.3	
COWICHAN A	13.4	1.6	26.0	2.2	0.0	75.6	175		11	248	143.0	
CRANBROOK A	11.4	0.4	26.0	-1.2	0.0	63.5	146		6		204.3	
DEASE LAKE CAMPBELL	8.0		23.1	-5.7		0.0			0		311.5	
ESTEVAN POINT CS	12.7		22.4	2.9		127.0			12		164.7	
FORT NELSON A	9.0	-0.6	22.4	-1.6		40.8	86		7		280.4	
FORT ST JOHN A	9.5	-0.2	25.5	-1.4	0.0	47.0	115		11		107.7	
HOPE	14.8		29.7	2.1							99.0	
KAMLOOPS A	15.1	1.1	30.2	2.6		44.6	205		7		164.3	
KELOWNA A	12.7	0.3	28.4	-1.7		53.5	142		12			
LANGARA	10.0	1.9	18.3	4.3		53.6	51		12		248.9	
LYTTON	15.4		30.9	2.0							95.1	
MACKENZIE A	9.1	0.8	25.4	-4.7								
MALAHAT	13.8		25.6	2.9		73.8			12		137.5	
MCINNES ISLAND	11.8	2.1	20.1	5.6		111.0	73		16		191.4	
NELSON	12.1		25.9	1.9		60.0			11		182.1	
PENTICTON A	14.8	1.5	29.2	0.8	0.0	58.6	178		9		107.5	
PORT ALBERNI	13.5		29.1	1.7								
PORT HARDY A	11.5	2.1	22.8	1.1	0.0	122.8	163		11		200.8	
PRINCE GEORGE A	10.6	1.2	25.5	-2.3	0.0	64.9	126		11		229.6	
PRINCE RUPERT A	11.1	2.7	22.0	2.8		114.0	80		14		213.9	
PRINCETON	12.2		28.5	-3.9							179.9	
QUESNEL A	11.8	1.3	28.3	-2.4		31.0	73		4		192.7	
REVELSTOKE	12.8		27.0	0.6		55.0			12		161.5	
SANDSPIT A	10.9	2.1	17.0	2.5		20.0	32		10		219.9	
SHERINGHAM POINT	12.7		22.2	5.5								
SMITHERS A	10.2	1.2	25.7	-2.8	0.0	0	29.4	88	5	238	107	240.9
SPARWOOD	9.4		25.0	-3.4							267.6	
SQUAMISH	13.9		30.4	0.0		183.8			11		129.1	
SUMMERLAND CS	14.6		29.6	3.2								
TERRACE A	11.8	1.9	25.7	0.0	0.0	36.3	73		8		191.0	
VANCOUVER INT'L A	14.1	2.0	24.8	3.7	0.0	74.4	121		12		122.2	
VICTORIA INT'L A	13.4	2.0	26.7	2.3		54.0	162		9		142.1	
WILLIAMS LAKE A	10.5	1.4	25.0	-2.8		24.4	67		7	260	104	232.5

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
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum								
YUKON TERRITORY												
BURWASH	5.7					23.1	-9.8				63.4	31.8
DAWSON	7.9					23.4	-7.6				7	11
FARO	7.4					19.7	-4.1					
KOMAKUK BEACH	-4.4					9.0	-20.6					
TESLIN	7.6					21.4	-5.5					
WATSON LAKE A	7.7	0.8				21.4	-4.6					
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES												
ALERT	-13.3					-6.0						
BAKER LAKE A	-5.9	0.8				-2.2	-21.5				138	117
BROUGHTON ISLAND	-6.0					2.1	4.9					
CAMBRIDGE BAY A	-11.0					-1.5	2.0					
CAPE DORSET A	-3.2					3.5	-12.5					
CAPE HOOPER	-6.4					1.6	3.0					
CAPE PARRY A	-7.6					-0.8	7.6				14.5	80
CLYDE A	-7.6					0.5	3.5				6	
CORAL HARBOUR A	-4.9					2.2	3.4					
ENNADAILAKE	-5.5					13.5	-22.8					
EUREKA	-8.9					2.0	-0.2				1.0	
FORT SIMPSON A	7.7					-0.8	24.3				47	
FORT SMITH A	6.1					-2.0	22.8				42.6	
HALL BEACH A	-7.2					2.3	1.3				19.1	
HAY RIVER A	4.1					-1.8	25.9				114	
INUVIK A	0.3					1.0	17.6				6.5	
IQALUIT A	-1.1					3.1	6.1				3.4	
KUGLUKTUK A	-5.8					11.5	-22.8					
LADY FRANKLIN POINT	-7.7					-0.4	4.6					
LONGSTAFF BLUFF	-5.5					2.5	3.8					
NORMAN WELLS A	5.3					-0.5	23.7					
PANGNIRTUNG	-0.7					8.7	-12.0					
RANKIN INLET A	-4.5					9.1	-19.9				7.8	
RESOLUTE A	-11.3					-0.3	-23.4				92	
SHEPHERD BAY A	-10.6					1.7	-22.0					
TUKTOYAKTUK	-4.8					10.5	-19.5					

May 1997

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	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
RED LAKE A	6.5	-3.1	26.9	-6.4			47.8	89		7			355.2
SAULT STE MARIE A	6.2	-3.6	23.9	-3.9			65.2	103		10			345.2
SIOUX LOOKOUT A	6.9	-2.9	27.8	-6.1	14.4	215							
SUDBURY A	7.5	-3.3	22.9	-3.0			69.4	98		10	200		327.0
THUNDER BAY A	6.5	-2.5	24.5	-5.7			58.3	84		7			373.9
TIMMINS A	5.9	-3.3	26.4	-5.3									
TORONTO ISLAND A	9.8	-2.2	19.1	2.3	5.0	62							
TORONTO LESTER B. P	9.7	-2.6	20.8	0.1	0.0	0	65.4	99		12			255.8
TRENTON A	9.6	-2.8	21.2	-0.6	0.0	0	72.3	97		11			259.6
WATERLOO WELLINGTON	8.8	-3.7	21.8	-1.0			85.2	112		14			285.8
WAWA A	5.2	23.9	-5.0				96.4			10			395.3
WIARTON A	7.5	-3.0	20.7	-1.0	0.0	0	89.7	134		14			329.6
WINDSOR A	10.8	-3.6	23.2	1.6									223.2
QUEBEC													
BAGOTVILLE A	7.2	-2.1	22.8	-4.7	21.6	491	163.9	202		19			336.0
BAIE COMEAU A	5.9	-0.7	20.4	-1.7			133.7	155		14			374.0
BLANC SABLON A	3.8	13.8	-4.2				104.0			17			441.5
CHIBOUGAMAU	3.7	20.6	-8.9										444.8
GASPE A	6.1	21.0	-4.9	7.8			216.4			15	141		368.9
ILES DE LA MADELEINE	6.2	16.8	0.3				95.0			16	187		365.9
JONQUIERE	7.4	22.5	-4.1				165.1			22			327.1
KUUJUUAQ A	1.5	1.6	21.0	-11.7	10.0	64	31.1	102		10			510.0
KUJJUARAPIK A	-0.2	-1.4	20.4	-10.9	7.2	47	9.4	26		5	115		564.6
L'ASSOMPTION CDA	10.3	-2.0	25.8	-1.6			69.2	90		11	0		239.2
LA GRANDE RIVIERE A	2.3	22.0	-11.9	5.8			21.2			5	231		486.0
LAC EON	1.5	15.0	-9.0										510.5
MANIWAKI AIRPORT	8.7		25.1	-3.0			84.4			16			288.0
MATAGAMI	4.0		23.9	-9.4	4.0	138	123.8	156		8			433.3
MONT JOLI A	7.1	-1.1	20.8	-0.3			77.5	113		17			337.2
MONTRÉAL/DORVAL INT	10.7	-2.2	25.2	-1.9	4.0					8			226.0
NATASHQUAN A	4.6	-0.4	17.0	-4.1			253.3	283		17			414.3
NORMANDIN	6.5		21.9	-5.3			79.3			18			356.9
QUEBEC CS	8.6		23.8	-2.0						0			290.2
ROBERVAL A	6.7	-2.8	22.9	-5.9	25.6	948	118.4	153		18			350.2
SEPT-ILES A	4.9	-1.0	17.0	-2.5	9.8	124	153.0	159		17			406.2
SHERBROOKE A	7.8	-3.0	24.2	-5.1			64.0	89		19			316.5
ST HUBERT A	10.5	-2.2	25.0	-1.4			65.0	86		9			231.7
VAL D'OR A	5.9	-3.0	24.4	-6.5			96.0	134		15			373.9

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	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum									
NEW BRUNSWICK													
CHARLO A	7.9	-0.3	21.8	-1.9									312.8
FREDERICTON A	9.6	-1.2	23.6	-0.8									259.6
MONCTON A	9.0	-0.6	22.3	-0.2									277.7
SAINT JOHN A	7.9	-1.2	21.6	-0.7									311.7
ST LEONARD A	7.4		21.4	-1.8									
NOVA SCOTIA													
GREENWOOD A	10.1	-0.5	22.7	-1.2									243.6
SYDNEY A	7.0	-0.5	21.4	-1.6									341.3
YARMOUTH A	8.4	-0.9	18.5	0.9									297.5
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND													
CHARLOTTETOWN A	8.3	-0.5	20.5	-0.9									299.7
NEWFOUNDLAND													
BONAVISTA	5.1	0.0	17.0	-2.8									398.7
CAPE RACE	3.4		12.8	-1.5									452.0
CARTWRIGHT	3.6	0.7	20.9	-4.4									446.9
CHURCHILL FALLS	2.2		19.4	-9.4									489.6
DEER LAKE A	5.8	-1.0	16.6	-4.9									377.3
GANDER INT'L A	5.9	-0.6	19.3	-3.0									375.1
GOOSE A	4.3	-0.8	21.8	-3.6									423.2
MARY'S HARBOUR	3.3		18.0	-1.7									455.3
NAIN A	2.2		17.0	-7.6									
PORT AUX BASQUES	4.1	-0.9	11.7	-1.5									431.1
ST JOHN'S A	5.7	-0.1	18.3	-1.4									380.9
STEPHENVILLE A	6.0	-1.1	15.2	-2.6									372.8
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