



Summary ↗

February 1998

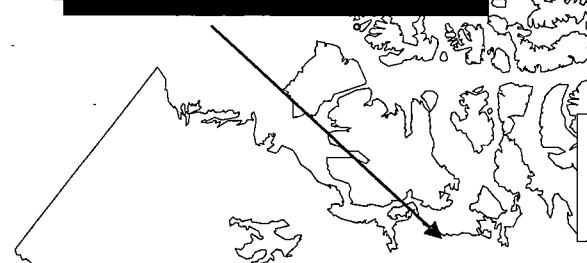
Monthly review of Canadian climate and water

vol. 3

CLIMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

February 1998

16th – While the south basks in springlike weather, there's no doubt that it's still winter in the north. Temperatures across most of the High Arctic dip well below -40° for the next few days. Coldest is Back River, in the Keewatin District, where the temperature bottoms out at 49.7° on the 20th.



25th – A storm that moves through the Maritimes drops 30 to 50 mm of rain on Nova Scotia, and brings some very high winds. In Halifax, where gusts exceeded 90 km/h, trees are blown down and some minor building damage occurs. Over the Highlands of Cape Breton the peak wind reaches 161 km/h.

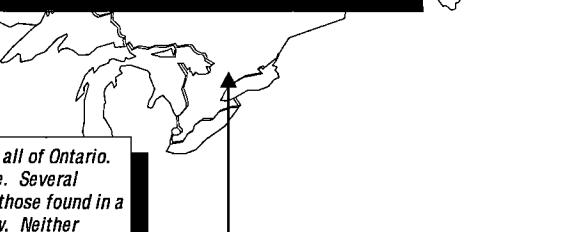
25th – The most notable storm of the month hits Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Across most of southern Manitoba, 20 cm of snow falls as the storm moves through the Dakotas. The next day, as the centre of the system passes over eastern Manitoba, rain falls in Winnipeg and area to the southeast. However, for areas to the west of the track of the storm, all of the precipitation comes down as snow. As much as 60 cm is deposited in an area extending from Brandon to central Saskatchewan. With temperatures just a couple of degrees below the freezing point, this is a particularly heavy snow that is more difficult to move than usual. All schools and most businesses in western Manitoba and southern are forced to close, and road travel becomes almost impossible.



This is winter? The temperature at Vancouver hits 15.8° on the 7th, the highest in the country this month. On the 19th, daytime highs reach the mid teens in southern Alberta.

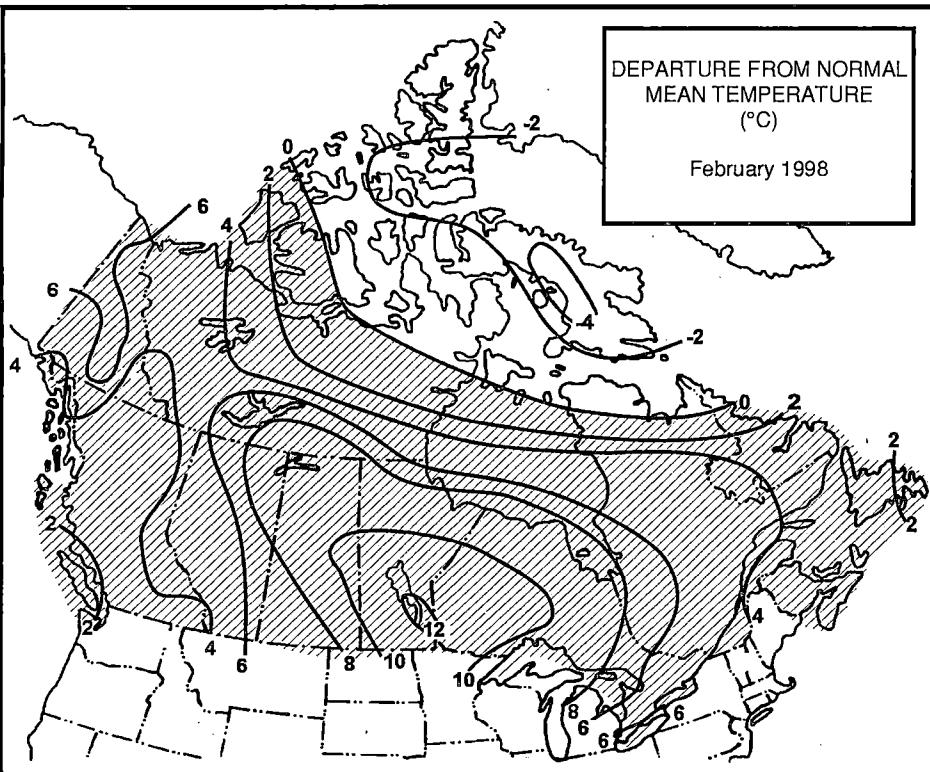
4th to 7th – Freezing drizzle becomes a problem for the eastern Prairies. In Saskatchewan its disruptive effects are limited to making streets slippery. But in southern Manitoba, power is interrupted when hydro lines ice up.

The warmest February on record for most of southern Manitoba and all of Ontario. In southern Ontario the effect of the warmth is especially noticeable. Several locations record February mean temperatures that are warmer than those found in a normal March. For many there is almost a complete absence of snow. Neither London nor Windsor receives any measurable snow, a first for both locations.



17th – For many residents of southern Ontario, it seems like the January ice storm all over again when freezing rain starts falling during the morning hours. Unlike the previous storm, there is only a small amount of ice, about 5 to 10 mm, as it carries on intermittently for about a day and a half. Nevertheless, this is enough to cause some brief power outages, and produce some serious traffic disruptions, including two deaths.

CANADIAN CLIMATE SUMMARY
VOLUME 3



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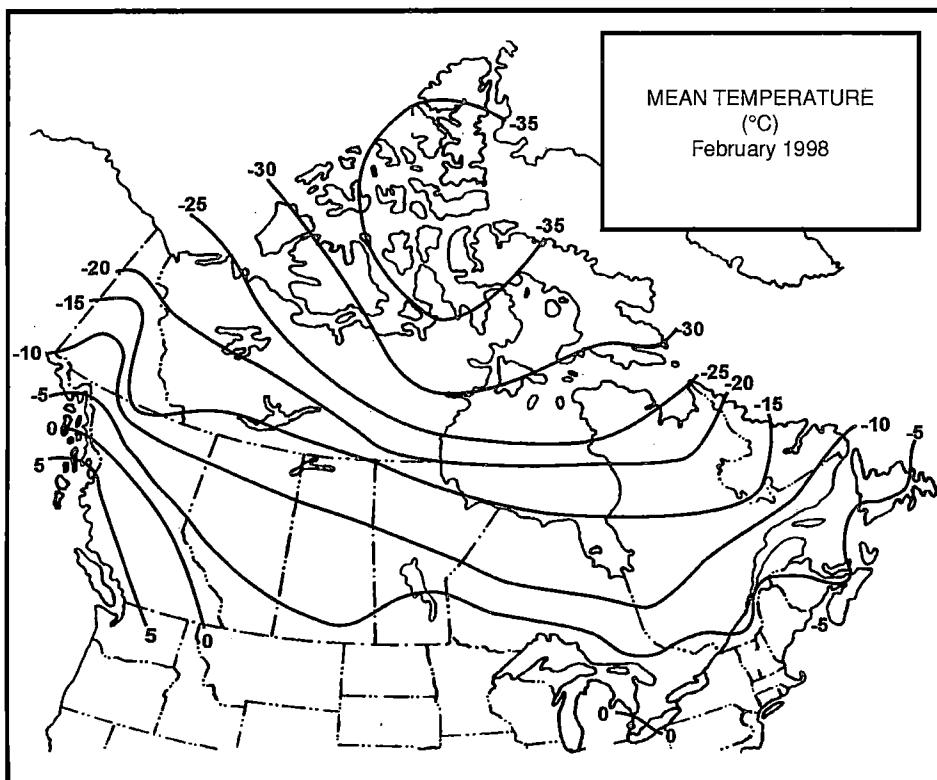
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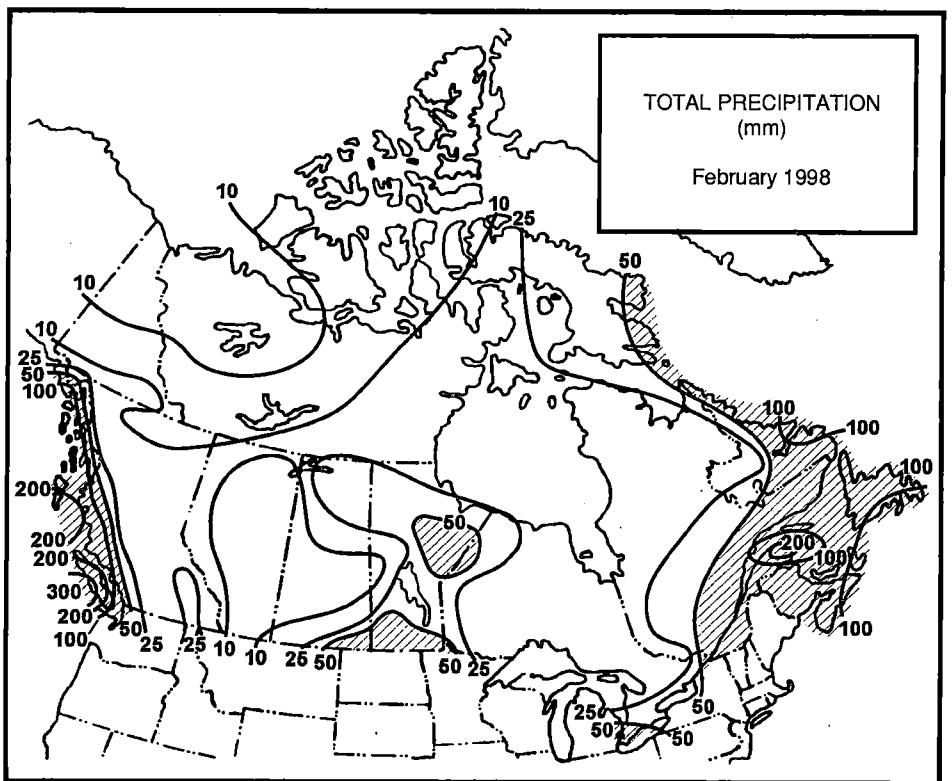
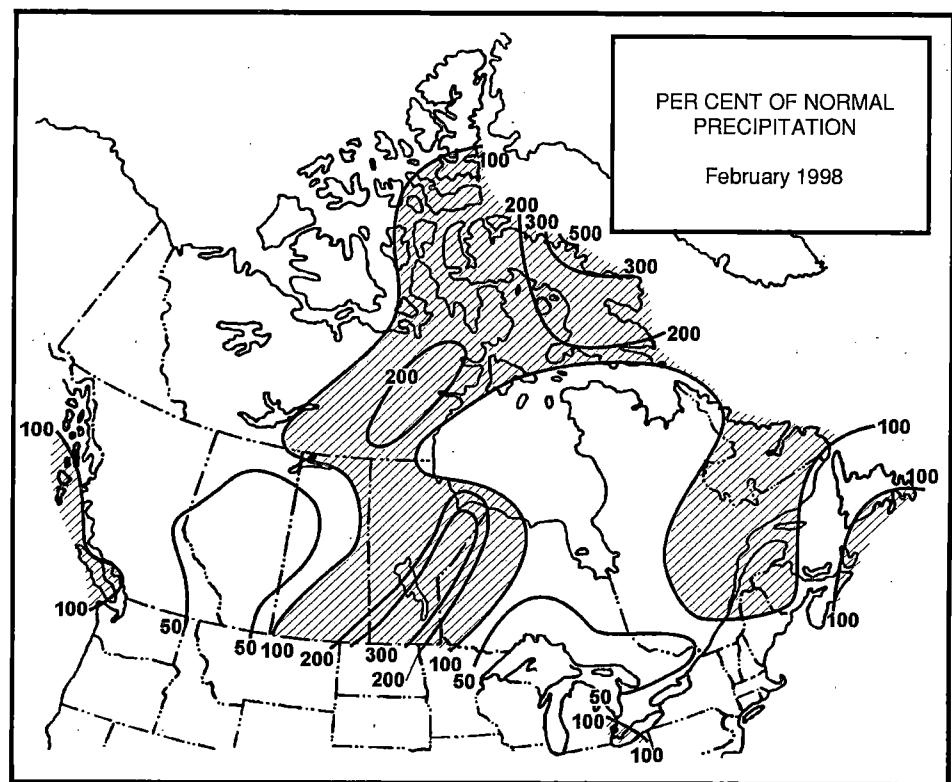


Weather Extremes, February 1998

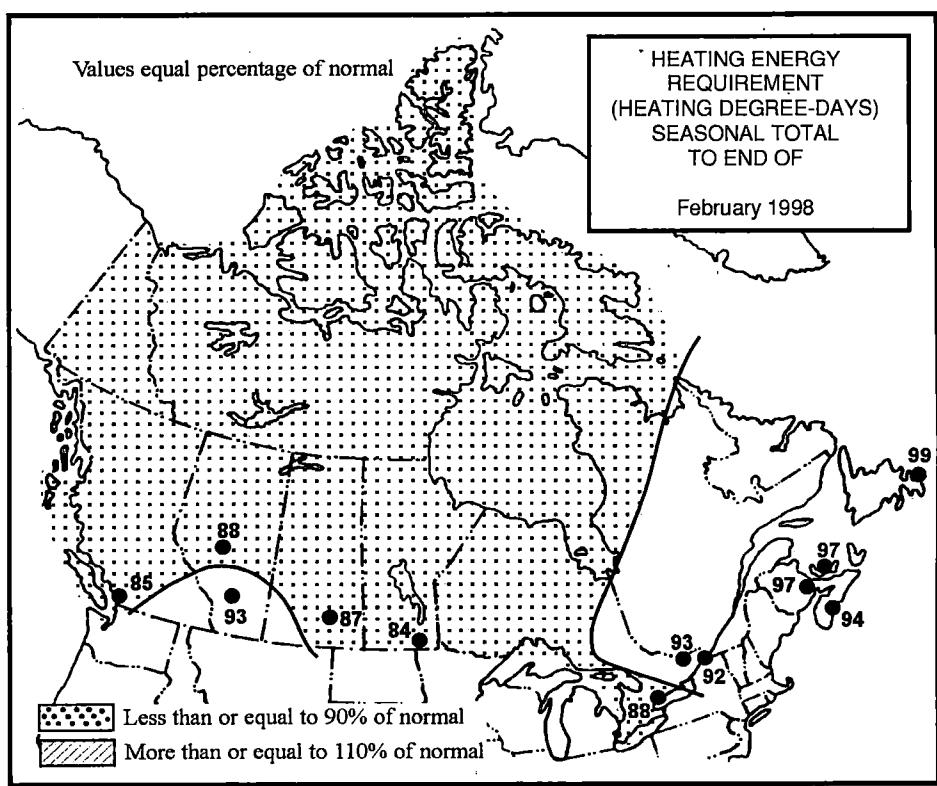
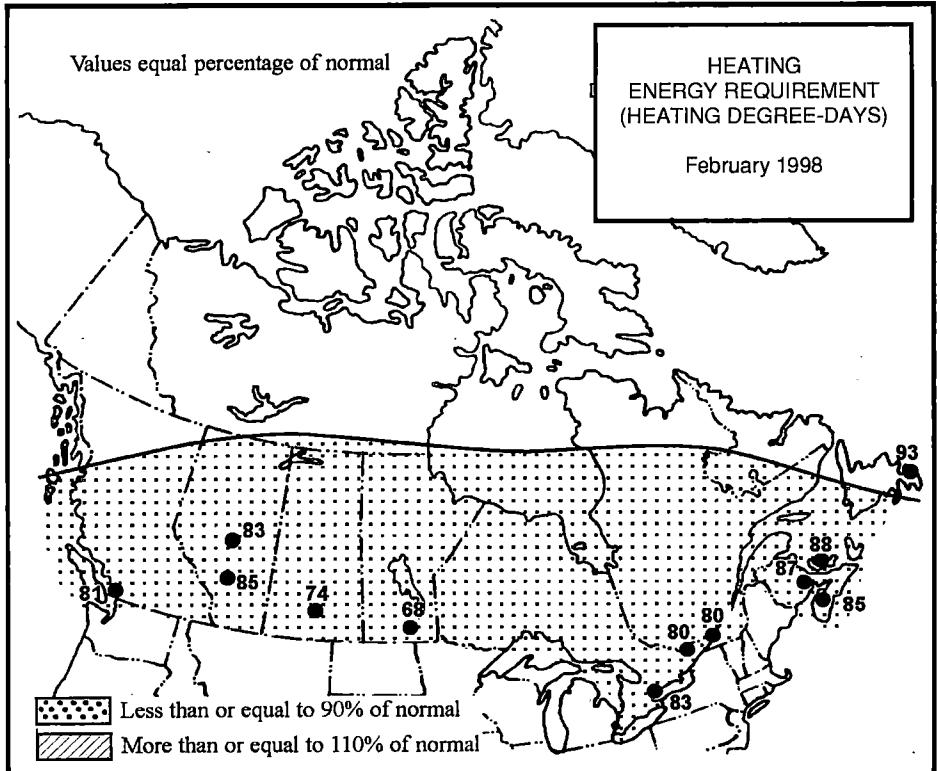
		Maximum temperature (°C)	Minimum temperature (°C)	Greatest precipitation (mm)
British Columbia	VANCOUVER INT'L A	15.8	DEASE LAKE	-26.5
Yukon Territory	CARMACKS	5.0	IVVAVIK NAT. PARK	-40.0
Northwest Territories	TROUT LAKE	3.4	ISACHSEN	-49.0
Alberta	VAUXHALL	15.1	FORT CHIPEWYAN A	-30.2
Saskatchewan	MAPLE CREEK	13.5	KEY LAKE	-37.2
Manitoba	PINE RIVER	9.0	CHURCHILL	-37.8
Ontario	GRENADIER ISLAND	11.4	LANSDOWNE HOUSE	-38.4
Quebec	LENNOXVILLE	12.9	KUUJJUARAPIK	-40.2
New Brunswick	ST STEPHEN	8.0	CHARLO	-25.3
Nova Scotia	KEJIMKUJIK	12.0	KEJIMKUJIK	-17.8
Prince Edward Island	CHARLOTTETOWN	5.5	CHARLOTTETOWN	-18.1
Newfoundland	STEPHENVILLE	11.8	CHURCHILL FALLS	-36.6

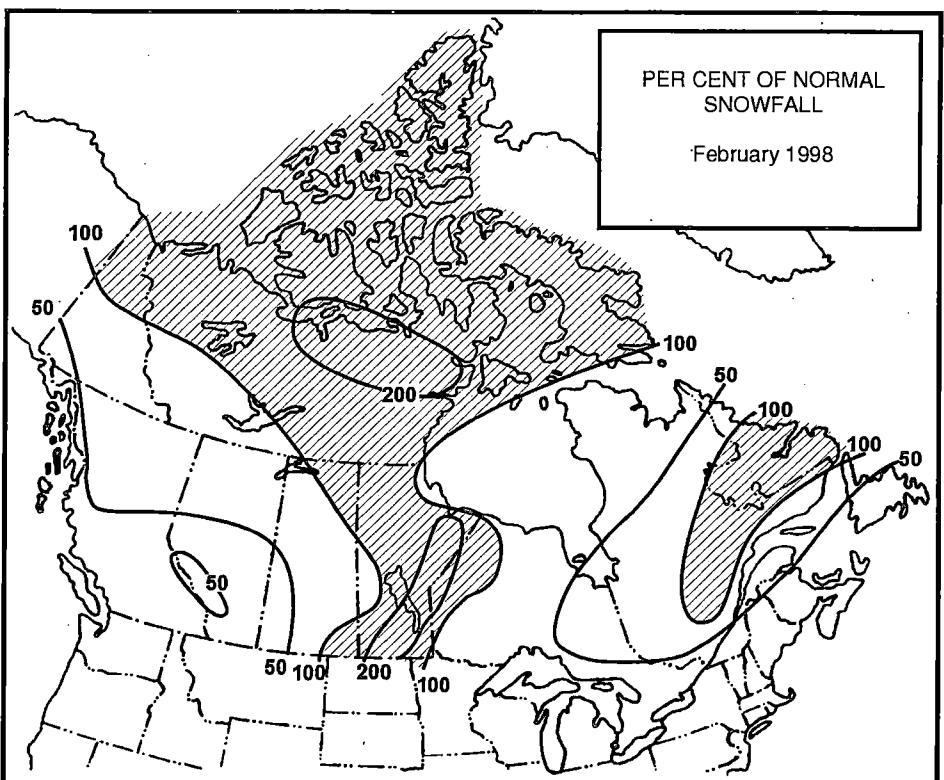
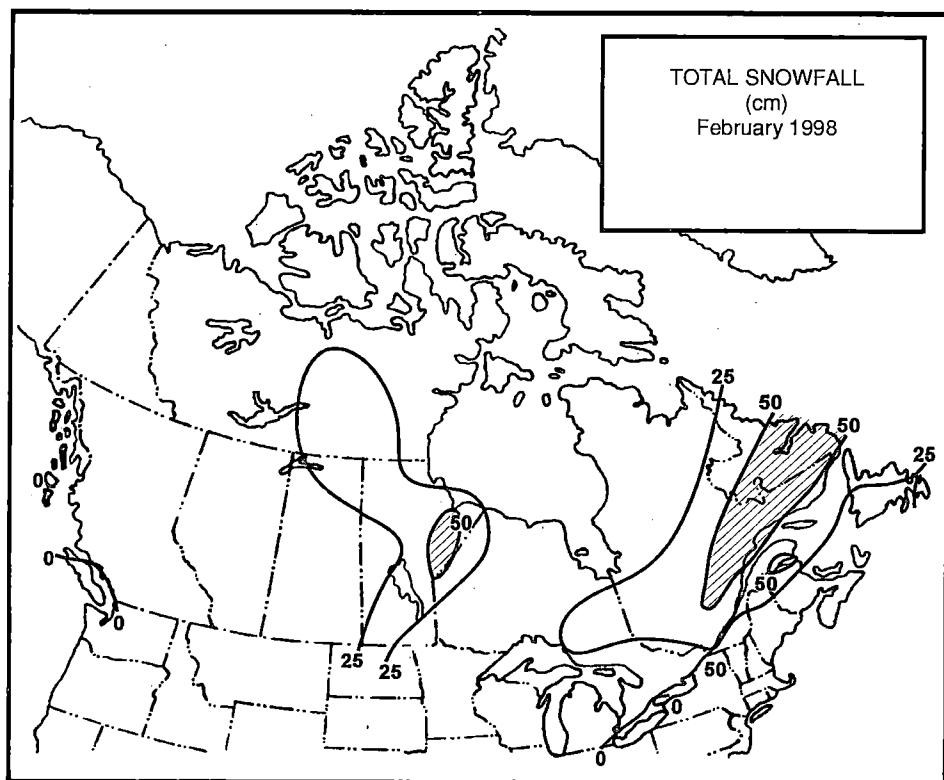
Across The Country...

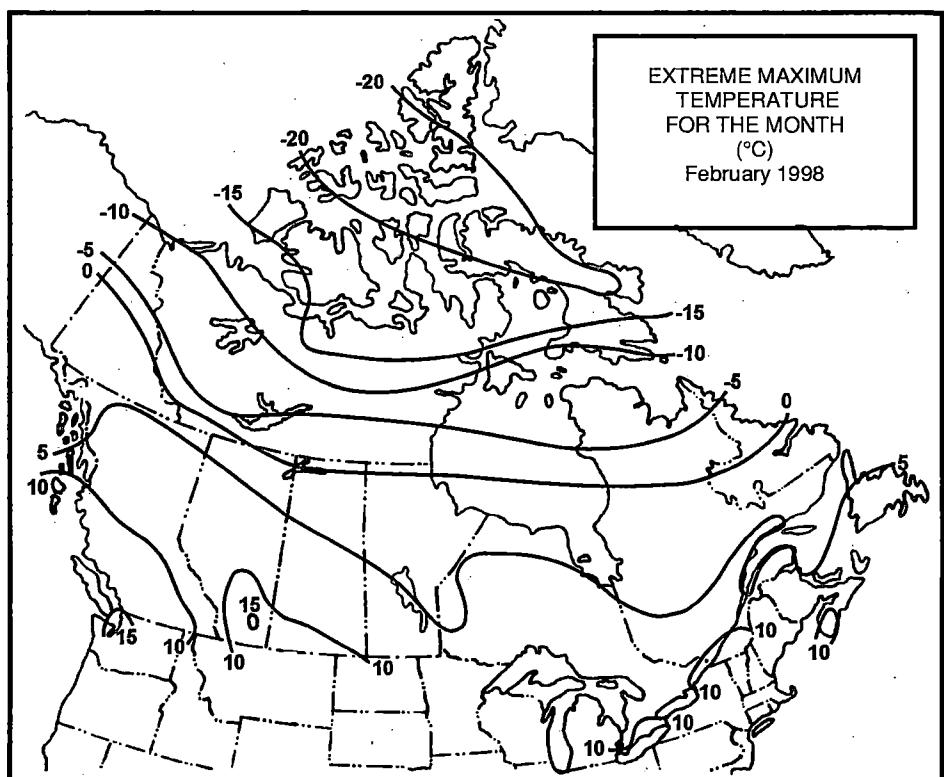
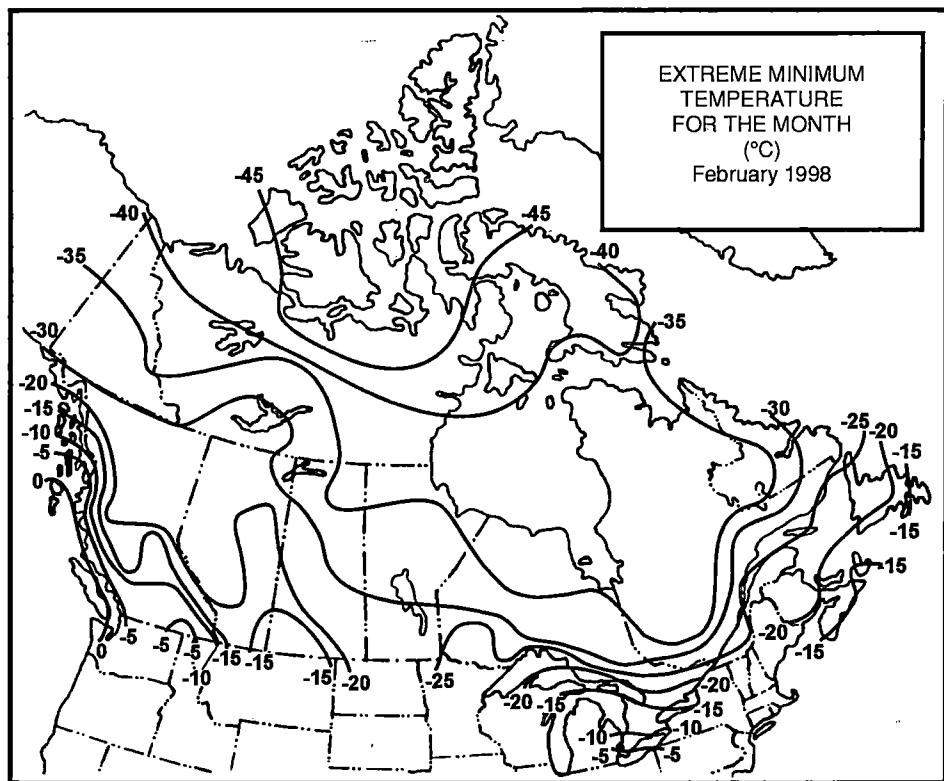
Highest Monthly Mean Temperature	ESTEVAN POINT	BC	7.4	°C
Lowest Monthly Mean Temperature	EUREKA	NWT	-39.2	°C
Highest Temperature	VANCOUVER INT'L A	BC	15.8	°C
Lowest Temperature	BACK RIVER	NWT	-49.7	°C
Heaviest Monthly Precipitation	ESTEVAN POINT	BC	452.8	mm
Greatest Number of Bright Sunshine Hours	MEDICINE HAT	ALTA	136.6	hrs



SEASONAL TOTAL OF HEATING DEGREE-DAYS TO END OF FEBRUARY			
	1998	1997	Normal
British Columbia			
VICTORIA INT'L A	1809	2143	2135
PRINCE GEORGE A	*	4128	3100
VANCOUVER INT'L A	1780	*	2091
PENTICTON A	2327	*	2574
KAMLOOPS A	2392	*	2812
Yukon Territory			
DAWSON	*	*	*
WATSON LAKE A	*	*	5772
North West Territories			
INUVIK A	*	*	6958
IQALUIT A	*	6470	6649
RESOLUTE A	8554	*	8389
Alberta			
EDMONTON INT'L A	3788	*	4309
CALGARY INT'L A	3510	4172	3755
MEDICINE HAT A	*	3973	3562
PEACE RIVER A	*	5089	4729
Saskatchewan			
MOOSE JAW A	*	4431	3988
REGINA A	*	*	4301
PRINCE ALBERT A	*	4970	4804
SASKATOON A	3853	4911	4456
Manitoba			
BRANDON A	3828	4801	4488
WINNIPEG INT'L A	*	*	4386
CHURCHILL A	*	*	6195
LYNN LAKE A	5144	5746	5743
THOMPSON A	5149	5724	5698
Ontario			
KENORA A	3621	4486	4355
THUNDER BAY A	*	*	4144
SUDBURY A	3588	*	3905
KAPUSKASING A	*	4523	4649
NORTH BAY A	*	*	3874
OTTAWA INT'L A	3204	*	3453
WINDSOR A	*	2554	2650
LONDON A	*	*	2982
TORONTO INT'L A	*	2795	2987
Quebec			
MONTREAL INT'L A	*	3156	3360
SHERBROOKE A	*	*	3747
SEPT-ILES A	4128	4193	4345
MONT JOLI A	3640	3684	3855
BAGOTVILLE A	3944	3984	4234
VAL D'OR A	*	*	4464
New Brunswick			
FREDERICTON A	3312	*	3434
MONCTON A	3246	3218	3362
SAINST JOHN A	3276	*	3328
Nova Scotia			
GREENWOOD A	2846	2767	2973
YARMOUTH A	*	2660	2744
Prince Edward Island			
CHARLOTTETOWN A	3098	3111	3209
Newfoundland			
GANDER INT'L A	3361	3330	3426
ST JOHN'S A	3106	*	3135
GOOSE A	4438	4485	4665

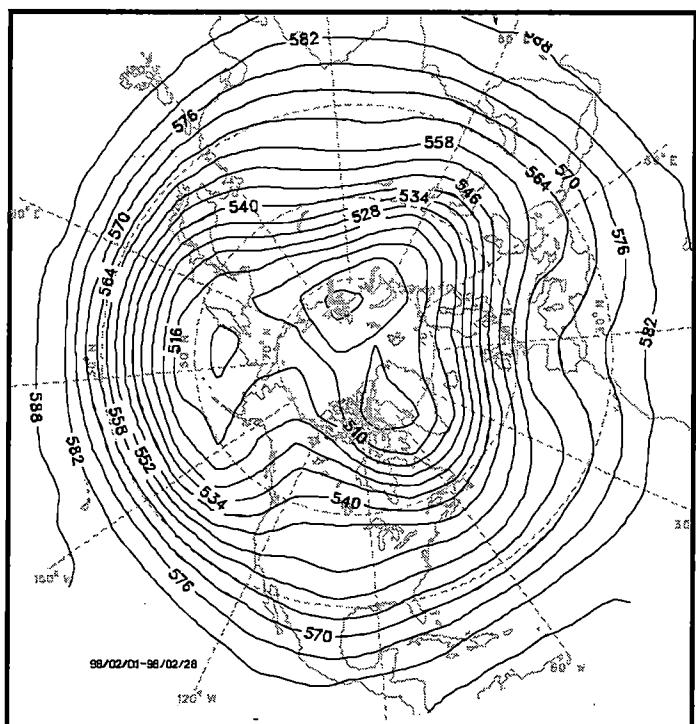




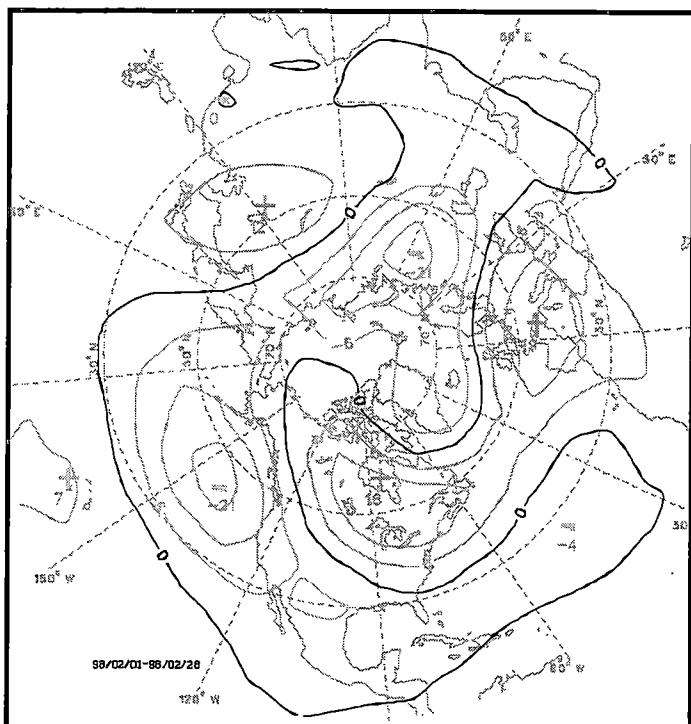


50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

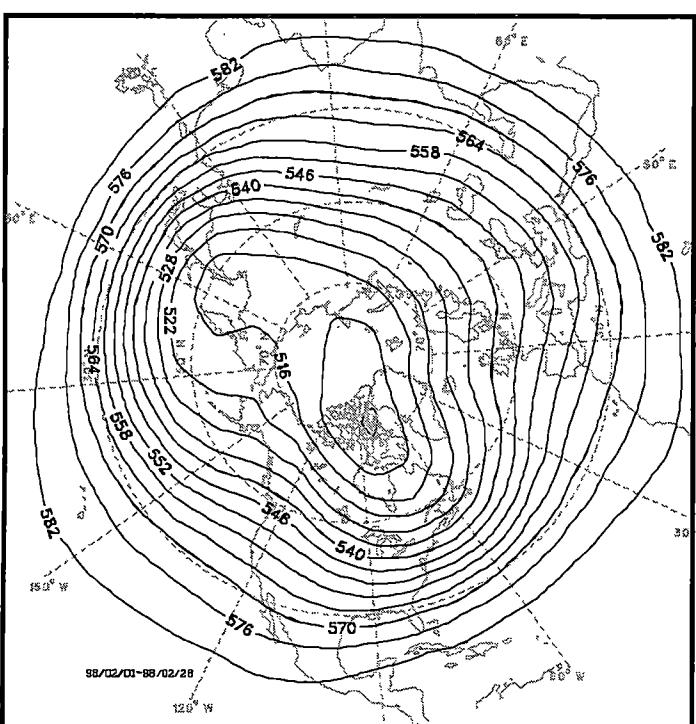
February 1998



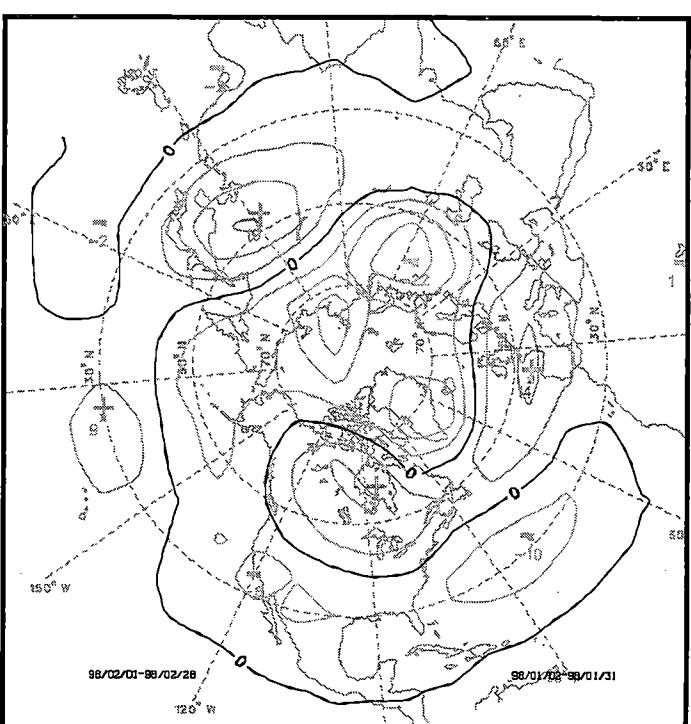
Mean geopotential heights
6-decametre interval



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

February 1998

STATION	Temperature C					Temperature C				
	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum	Snowfall (cm)	Mean	Difference from Normal	Maximum	Minimum	Snowfall (cm)
BRITISH COLUMBIA										
ABBOTSFORD A	6.9	2.3	14.5	-3.0	0.0	0	92.0	56	18	312.1
AGASSIZ CS	6.8	13.4	-0.6	-13.5	0.0	0	83.8	13	9	313.7
CLINTON	-1.1	7.5	-14.0	14.0	0.0	0	14.0	9	21	534.4
COMOX A	6.0	1.8	10.9	-1.9	0.0	0	151.8	124		335.9
CRANBROOK A	-0.1	3.7	8.3	-10.8	0.6	3	5.7	26	4	506.0
DEASE LAKE CAMPBELL	-9.0	6.4	-26.7	-1.0	0.0	0	452.8	8.6	23	755.3
ESTEVAN POINT CS	7.4	13.9	13.9	-1.0	0.0	0	11.2	81	2	297.7
FORT NELSON A	-13.5	3.0	3.8	-24.8	20.2	93	48	2	89	882.9
FORT ST JOHN A	-6.1	4.9	7.0	-16.6	27.8	98	20.4	87	13	675.7
HOPE	5.5	11.5	-1.5	-6.3	0.0	0	62.2	10	3	350.9
KAMLOOPS A	4.0	4.6	14.2	-6.3	0.0	0	11.2	84	11	393.1
KELOWNA A	1.3	3.0	10.1	-8.4	0.0	0	19.5	84	3	468.2
LANGARA	6.1	2.3	11.4	0.6	0.0	0	160.6	110	22	333.5
LYTTON	4.2	11.0	-4.4	-21.2	0.0	0	112.6	0	18	
MACKENZIE A	-4.8	7.3	-21.6	-21.6	0.0	0	11.2	84		
MALAHAT	5.3	10.3	-21.6	-21.6	0.0	0	11.2	84		
MCINNES ISLAND	7.3	2.7	11.7	1.7	0.0	0	234.9	98	23	300.1
NELSON	3.0	9.6	-5.2	-6.3	0.0	0	37.8	11	11	419.7
PENTICTON A	3.3	2.6	10.6	-6.3	1.2	11	19.8	96	0	411.0
PORT ALBERNI	4.4	10.3	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	0	305.4	21		381.1
PORT HARDY A	6.0	1.9	11.4	-2.9	2.0	18	162.2	94	19	337.3
PRINCE RUPERT A	6.2	3.7	14.4	-2.1	0.0	0	116.0	54	17	331.5
PRINCETON	0.6	8.7	-10.3	-10.3	0.0	0	9.5	33	2	488.5
QUESNEL A	1.2	5.4	11.1	-10.0	0.0	0	9.5	33		471.7
REVELSTOKE	1.5	7.8	-6.3	-6.3	0.0	0	26.5	0	9	461.7
SANDSPIT A	6.4	2.7	11.1	-0.1	0.0	0	194.5	156	21	325.4
SHERINGHAM POINT	8.9	14.7	2.2	-4.1	0.0	0	56.2	0	9	254.4
SMITHERS A	-1.5	3.3	8.0	-14.0	17.0	57	14.2	48	4	546.1
SPARWOOD	-0.9	7.2	-16.3	-16.3	0.0	0	286.2	0	21	529.3
SQUAMISH	4.5	10.7	-2.4	-4.1	0.0	0	9.6	77	4	376.9
SUMMERLAND CS	3.1	10.7	-4.1	-4.1	0.0	0	418.3	0	8	418.3
TERRACE A	2.4	3.6	8.4	-3.0	2.6	4	45.7	37		435.8
VANCOUVER INT'L A	7.1	2.4	15.8	-1.5	0.0	0	82.8	67	19	306.3
VICTORIA INT'L A	6.7	1.9	12.3	-1.3	0.0	0	76.4	77	13	317.4
WILLIAMS LAKE A	0.4	4.7	8.7	-13.4	12.3	47	13.0	56	4	492.7

February 1998

February 1998

STATION	Temperature C								Temperature C								
	Mean				Difference from Normal				Mean				Difference from Normal				
	Maximum	Minimum	Snowfall (cm)	% 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)	Total Precipitation (mm)	% of Normal Precipitation	No. of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more	Bright Sunshine (hours)	% of Normal Bright Sunshine	Degree Days below 18 C		
SIOUX LOOKOUT A	-4.5	11.0	7.3	-24.3	12.4	44	20.8	75	18	4	6	99	644.3	697.4	697.4		
SUDBURY A	-5.0	6.9	5.2	-24.1	17.4	36	21.3	44	18	6	4	99	641.2	641.2	641.2		
THUNDER BAY A	-4.0	8.8	6.1	-25.2	25.2	49	22.2	50	44	4	6	99	645.8	645.8	645.8		
TIMMINS A	-6.9	8.1	5.5	-32.6	25.2	49	22.2	50	44	4	6	99	619.6	619.6	619.6		
TORONTO ISLAND A	0.5	4.6	9.5	-10.7									696.4	696.4	696.4	696.4	
TORONTO LESTER B. P	-0.3	5.8	9.8	-12.4	1.4	5	38.0	84	0	6	7	108	512.6	557.4	557.4		
TRENTON A	-1.9	4.8	10.8	-16.3	11.8	34	44.1	79	0	6	7	108	557.4	597.2	597.2		
WATERLOO WELLINGTON	-1.5	5.3	10.0	-13.4	0.6	2	32.4	58	38	5	6	108	547.1	597.2	597.2		
WAWA A	-3.3																
WIARTON A	-1.8	5.6	7.2	-14.6	5.1	7	20.7	33	2	5	7	117	554.2	442.0	442.0		
WINDSOR A	2.2	6.1	11.3	-5.1													
QUEBEC																	
BAGOTVILLE A	-8.0	6.0	5.8	-27.3	50.8	91	42.5	86	48	7			728.8	729.4	729.4	729.4	
BAIE COMEAU A	-8.1	4.4	6.6	-23.3													
BLANC SABLON A	-9.1		3.7	-28.1													
CHIBOUGAMAU	-10.0		4.0	-37.7													
GASPE A	-7.5		5.9	-27.7	26.0		230.9		60	1	8	103	713.4	633.4	633.4	633.4	
ILES DE LA MADELEIN	-4.6		4.8	-16.1													
JONQUIERE	-7.3		6.9	-28.1													
KUUJJUAQ A	-23.1	0.0	-4.7	-36.8	11.8	36	11.8	37	29	4	4	109	783.4	1150.7	1150.7	1150.7	
KUJJUARAPIK A	-18.6	4.5	4.6	-40.2	8.0	37	8.4	40	30	3	109	1024.7	646.4	646.4	646.4	646.4	
L'ASSOMPTION COA	-5.1	5.3	7.3	-28.0													
LA GRANDE RIVIERE A	-14.9		3.6	-34.0	11.4		10.4		47	3	144	919.8	872.0	872.0	872.0	872.0	
LAC EON	-13.1		2.0	-35.0													
MANIWAKI AIRPORT	-4.0		9.7	-26.6									614.8				
MATAGAMI	-10.3		4.1	-32.1													
MONT JOLI A	-7.0	3.8	3.2	-20.3	42.6	69	69.0	113	39	8	124	699.3	610.7	610.7	610.7	610.7	
MONTRÉAL/DORVAL INT	-3.8	5.0	5.9	-19.7													
NATASHQUAN A	-9.1	3.0	4.4	-27.9									752.8	654.6	654.6	654.6	654.6
NORMANDIN	-8.9		7.8	-33.7													
QUEBEC CS	-5.4		7.4	-23.9													
ROBERVAL A	-8.1	6.0	5.4	-29.5	58.0	119	57.6	115	44	22	6	120	731.8				
SEPT-ILES A	-8.6	4.4	6.4	-28.3	50.2	81	89.8	130	12	7	9	120	744.6	641.7	641.7	641.7	
SHERBROOKE A	-4.9	5.5	10.7	-24.3			49.0	82									
ST HUBERT A	-5.0	3.9	5.7	-23.7													
VAL D'OR A	-8.6	6.5	5.2	-33.1			25.5	53									

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