



June 5, 2008

Volume 6, Issue 21

Chalk Talk

Greetings

Feature

News

History Online!

PLEASE SHARE CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES !!!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

“This was the moment - this was the time - when we came together to remake this great nation so that it may always reflect our very best selves, and our highest ideals.”

— Barack Obama, June 3, 2008

This past Tuesday, history was made when Barack Obama became the first African American Democratic nominee for President of the United States. Should his bid be successful, his impassioned [‘This was the Moment’](#) speech may become as famous as “I Have a Dream” or “Ask not what your country can do for you”. But anyone watching the almost 18 month election campaign quickly learns that numbers have as much to do with the outcome as do words.

The process is driven by polling, market research, focus groups, surveys, and statistical possibilities. Watching ex-patriot Canadian journalist, John Roberts, on CNN working the hi-tech “magic map” is a clinic on how complex it is to project the future by analyzing the current and historical data, by state, district, gender, ethnicity, and income.

Finding statistical information that comes from a trustworthy, objective source can be a challenge. Helping students to understand how statistics are gathered, analysed and reported and how these numbers help us to understand ourselves as Canadians is the theme of this week’s issue of **Chalk Talk** which features educational material from Statistics Canada.

CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing resources on a range of topics for the classroom. We invite you to visit our website at www.4edu.ca to view the many free teachers’ resources on offer.

[As always, we’d love to hear your thoughts.](#)

Mary Kovack

Explore Canada’s History — 1867 to 1967



This spring, **Statistics Canada (StatCan)** launched the **Canada Year Book Historical Collection**, a wealth of historical data in digitized format compiled from 100 years of the Agency’s annual *Canada Year Book* (CYB).

This new module, available **free of charge** on the StatCan website, covers the first century of Canadian history following Confederation in 1867, through to 1967, with historical text, tables, charts and maps. **It is supplemented by interconnected learning resources for students and teachers.**



First published in 1867, The Canada Year Book has provided a reliable, detailed portrait of Canada and its people, year after year. The historical collection includes 159 books, 87 in English and 72 in French. Each is now accessible in PDF format.

The original edition of each Canada Year Book appears exactly as published, in PDF format, and the whole collection is fully searchable by keyword. More than 1,000 data tables are converted to HTML for easier viewing and you can browse through original charts, photos and maps. Some photos will be valuable in elementary social studies class to show how people lived and worked and their communications technology in the past. Also available are multimedia extras such as newspaper clippings, video clips and posters.



The **Teacher’s Tool Box** helps apply this exciting resource to history curriculum (see **Website of the Week**, below). The CYB Historical Collection is now available at www.statcan.ca/canadayearbook/historical or from the StatCan main page www.statcan.ca, click on the icon ‘CYB Historical collection’.

[\[Source: The Daily, March 31, 2008, Statistics Canada\]](#)

Canada Year Book Historical Collection (1867 to 1967) — a new way of looking at our past.



What forces have influenced immigration to and emigration from Canada?

How has Canada become one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world?

How has industrialization affected the way Canadians live and work?

What impact did industrialization have in the different regions of Canada?

How and why have traditional roles of men and women changed?

These are just some of the questions that are explored by Statistics Canada's research and record keeping since the beginning of Confederation. Discover Canada's social and economic past through the people, events and facts that have shaped this vast country. Now the wealth of historical data in Statistics Canada's annual Canada Year Book is available **free** on the Internet in the [Canada Year Book \(CYB\) Historical Collection \(1867-1967\)](#).

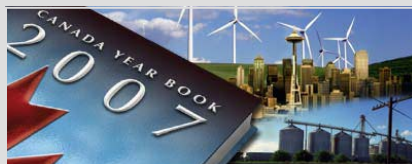
The [Teachers' toolbox](#) which accompanies the CYB Historical Collection offers theme-based lesson plans that support curriculum in history and social studies. Specially designed lessons for intermediate and secondary grade levels will help students to develop critical thinking skills and interpret original source documents. Lessons cover:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| • Changing families and households | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Lives of men and women | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Occupations | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Economic gains | Intermediate Secondary |
| • The Great Depression | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Communications | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Ethnocultural diversity | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Provinces and manufacturing | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Immigration and emigration | Intermediate Secondary |
| • Canada at war | Intermediate Secondary |



Discover Contemporary Canada

Written in accessible, plain language, students will want to check out StatCan's current **Canada Year Book**, [new edition every Fall] [now available online](#), for their research projects. Each of its 31 chapters summarizes these and many other aspects of our country's society and economy:



- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Aboriginal peoples | • Health |
| • Children and youth | • Incomes |
| • Ethnic diversity & immigration | • International trade |
| • Environment | • Population and demography |
| • Families and housing | • Prices |

Go to www.statcan.ca/canadayearbook, click on **2007 Canada Year Book**. [Note: 30% educators' discount available on print version.]

Educators — Need help using StatCan resources?

Ask one of the five StatCan education full-time regional representatives across the country, who offer these free services:

- one-on-one telephone/e-mail support
- workshops on StatCan resources at professional development days and conferences, or made-to-measure for your school or district
- consultation with curriculum advisors and textbook publishers
- articles for teacher newsletters and websites

To find your nearest representative, go to the Teacher's page of Learning Resources, under "Regional support" at <http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu/reprs-tea.htm>.



"According to Statistics Canada...": we read or hear these familiar words almost everyday in the media. **Statistics Canada**, our national statistical organization, is a mirror of who we are as Canadians, producing the numbers and analysis that help us better understand our country—its population, resources, economy, society and culture. In addition to conducting the national census every five years, Statistics Canada runs about 350 active surveys on virtually all aspects of Canadian life.

Statistics Canada is mandated by the federal government to produce objective statistical information that is vital to an open and democratic society. This information is used by elected representatives, businesses, unions and non-profit organizations, as well as individual Canadians, to make informed decisions. For teachers and students too, Statistics Canada is the ultimate reference source about Canada.

Learning Resources at www.statcan.ca/english/edu, is a special area of the Statistics Canada website for teachers and students. It links to the information and teaching tools that are most relevant to K-12 curricula and to postsecondary learning.

Choose from three entry pages:

- **Teachers:** support for elementary and secondary school teaching
- **Students:** homework help and [Kids' Zone](#) fun activities
- **Postsecondary:** more detailed data for in-depth research

Or link to our main resources for the education community:

[E-STAT](#) — an interactive data tool for schools about Canada's society and economy

[Census at School](#) — an international online survey project for students aged 8 to 18

Or under "Quick links", choose popular resources such as:

[Canadian Social Trends](#) — featuring today's social issues

[Population pyramids](#) — animations showing the baby boom moving through history

[Resources by school subject](#) — lesson plans, key resources and data tables relevant to your courses.

[Source: Statistics Canada]

Support for teaching and learning in schools

Teachers
Connect to data, reference material, lesson plans and teaching tools for school teachers and teacher-librarians.

Students
Make the grade with the data and information you need to get your assignments done, as well as ideas for your projects.

Kids' Zone Try our fun activities!

Postsecondary
Find data and programs to support in-depth research, teaching and learning, including the Data Liberation Initiative and Research Data Centres.

Statistics Canada — Newsworthy ... Everyday

[2006 Census: Changing patterns in Canadian homeownership and shelter costs](#) — *The Daily*, Statistics Canada, June 4, 2008

"In 2006, Canada's homeownership rate reached its highest level since 1971, according to a new detailed analysis of data on housing, homeownership and shelter costs from the 2006 Census. At the same time, the percentage of households spending 30% or more of their incomes on shelter, a measurement of housing affordability developed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the provinces, increased slightly. Most of this increase was for homeowners with mortgages as opposed to renters or mortgage-free owners."

Census at School

Teachers:
Get YOUR class
involved!



[Census at School](#) - *Learning Resources Bulletin*, Statistics Canada, May/08

"Looking for an engaging activity as the end of the year approaches? The Census at School online survey (grades 4-12) at www.censusatschool.ca is available until June 20th, 2008. Students answer survey questions about themselves, such as height, favourite sport or recycling behaviour, then analyse their class data and compare them with Canadian and international results.

To be added to this mailing list, please opt in by clicking [here](#)

To be removed from this mailing list, please opt out by clicking [here](#)

We are the Company for Education Communications. We specialize in developing, producing and evaluating school resources and award programs. Working in conjunction with Departments/Ministries of Education, school district/boards, associations, teachers and subject specialists across the country; we provide free, curriculum-based educational resources to Canadian classrooms.

The opinions, conclusions and other information expressed in the preceding content do not necessarily reflect the views of and are not endorsed by CoEd Communications.

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