

DECEMBER

	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

January

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

					<p>1998: A jeweller paid out \$500,000 when Edmonton received more than 7.5 cm of snow on New Year's Day. Customers from 15 November to Boxing Day were promised refunds if the city received that amount between 12:01 AM and midnight New Year's Day. Eleven cm of snow fell—a surprise given the El Niño-like winter. Insurance covered the payouts.</p> <p>New Year's Day Full Moon ☉</p>	<p>1998: When temperatures plunged to their lowest levels that winter, Okanagan Valley vintners were finally able to harvest the ice wine crops—one of their latest harvests ever. Thousands of dollars in potential revenue were at risk when mild weather plagued crops throughout December. An Arctic system finally brought temperatures below -10°.</p>
<p>1998: Eight people perished in southeastern BC after 3 avalanches roared through the Kootenays on the 3rd and 4th. Poor visibility, winds up to 80 km/h, and a heavy blizzard hampered search and rescue. Arctic air froze the old snow, forming a crust; then heavy, fresh snow caused an unstable situation, resulting in a high avalanche risk.</p> <p>Perihelion 08:00 EST</p>	<p>1998: Warm 5° temperatures forced officials to close the Rideau Canal to skaters for the first time this winter despite the earliest opening date on record (21 December). Many residents in the National Capital Region claim skating on the Rideau Canal is what makes winter bearable.</p>	<p>1985: A storm struck the Atlantic Provinces leaving 26 cm of snow in parts of Nova Scotia and 10 to 15 cm in PEI and southern New Brunswick. Snow-removal crews were kept busy as strong winds filled in roads behind the ploughs. In eastern Newfoundland, snow changed to rain; but blizzards were prevalent in the west and across the Northern Peninsula.</p>	<p>1717: It was a gorgeous night for viewing northern lights or "pretty dancers" at York Factory, MB. The term pretty dancers is believed to have evolved from the French "petit" or "little" dancers. Some of the Indians believed that aurora borealis foretold bad weather.</p>	<p>1998: Canada's most disruptive and destructive weather event was in its third day. Ice Storm '98 was monstrous—70 to 110 mm of freezing precipitation and 80 hours of ice rain (nearly double the normal annual duration)—and its areal coverage, from Ontario to New Brunswick, was extreme. About 900,000 Quebec households were without power, and 100,000 in Ontario. Property damage costs and business losses exceeded \$2 billion.</p>	<p>1998: Northeastern U.S. fell victim to the same ice storm that ravaged eastern Canada. <i>The Sunday Telegraph</i> reported: "Last week in Stoddard, New Hampshire, 2 women driving down the same road from opposite ends found their paths blocked by a fallen tree. They stared helplessly at each other from either side of the massive, unmovable trunk—and then swapped cars."</p> <p>Last Quarter ☾</p>	<p>1997: High winds and heavy snow resulted in a treacherous morning rush hour in the Toronto area. "Traffic was ... like a big funeral procession," said one cab driver. High winds caused whiteouts and drifting made the 15-cm snowfall in southern Ontario seem much worse. Since the storm came from Texas, people were told to blame it on the Americans.</p>
<p>1998: A chunk of ice left by Ice Storm '98 detached from the roof of a house and fell, killing a woman near Quebec City. A good-sized chunk of ice, measuring 5 by 50 cm, can easily weigh 3 or 4 kg, enough to cause serious damage. Some people wore bicycle helmets when walking in the streets.</p>	<p>1998: Six months ago cloud physicists with Environment Canada chose this week to fly surveys over eastern Ontario to monitor freezing rain. (Call the timing coincidental: it took place during the Ice Storm.) They had determined that this was one of the best places in North America, next to Newfoundland, for large-droplet icing.</p>	<p>1984: A whiteout caused one of the worst traffic accidents in Canadian history when 200 cars piled up on the Queen Elizabeth Way near Burlington, ON. The blizzard blocked all 6 lanes of the highway for 8 hours. With car parts and personal belongings scattered everywhere, the highway was described as a "snowblown wrecking yard."</p>	<p>Weather Quiz What is the average life expectancy of a snow shovel? 1) 1 season 2) 2.5 years 3) 3 years 4) 5 years 5) 10 years</p>	<p>1998: Winds gusting to 139 km/h tied up transportation in Atlantic Canada, including on the Confederation Bridge. Since it opened in May 1997, officials have had to close the bridge to vehicles with broad, tall sides on about a dozen occasions because of high winds.</p>	<p>1997: Some of the coldest air in years swept across northern Ontario. At Kapuskasing, the post office cancelled residential mail delivery after wind-chill temperatures dipped below -60°. Whiteout conditions forced closure of stretches of the Trans-Canada Highway at Wawa, and the bitterly cold winds brought frostbite cases into hospital emergency wards.</p>	<p>1998: The <i>M/V Flare</i> freighter, heading to Montreal from Rotterdam, broke into two from the pounding of 4-m waves near Newfoundland. Twenty-one of 25 crew members perished. Canadian Search and Rescue found 4 survivors clinging to an icy, overturned lifeboat. Bad weather thwarted salvage tugs trying to snag the front of the <i>Flare</i>, which remained afloat for 4 days.</p>

1998: A Chatham, ON, ice manufacturer increased sales of bagged ice to Ottawa during Ice Storm '98. Retail sales of ice were strong in the frozen storm region as residents moved produce from their power-dead refrigerators into containers.

17

1794: From *Toronto Remembered, A Celebration of the City* by William Kilbourn: "The Queen's Birthday. The weather is so mild we breakfasted with the window open."

18

1935: More than 40 cm of snow fell on Vancouver in one of its worst storms in history. Strong winds whipped snow into 2-m drifts before 267 mm of rain and freezing rain over 4 days washed them away. The roofs of many buildings, including the Forum, collapsed under the weight of the precipitation.

19

1998: During Ice Storm '98, a chunk of ice 8 cm thick and 1 m by 1/2 m flew off one truck and crashed into the windshield of another on Highway 7 in eastern Ontario. The driver suffered injuries to his face and eyes. The Ontario Provincial Police warned motorists about the dangers of driving too close to ice-encrusted vehicles.

20

1998: Howling winds and driving snow (up to 15 cm) crippled parts of Cape Breton Island. The storm closed schools and malls, and treacherous driving conditions kept people from meetings and social events. Whiteout and blizzard conditions were reported on many provincial highways. The storm also delayed a vote on a new contract by public school teachers in Nova Scotia.

21

1997: A thick sheet of glaze from a storm of ice pellets and freezing rain covered Ottawa and district, making walking and driving treacherous. More than 46,000 students were without transportation when big yellow school buses stopped running. One local reporter wrote that the storm "turned the region's roads into one big paycheque for collision centres."

22

1976: A temperature of -34° in Montreal was bad enough, but the wind chill made it feel like -65°. Officials warned that at these temperatures frostbite can occur in less than a minute. The cold caused 2,000 workers at Olympic Stadium to be sent home, forced the cancellation of races at Blue Bonnet Raceway, and closed schools throughout the city.

23

New Moon ●

1881: Three days of freezing rain in Nova Scotia's Pictou region coated telegraph wires, trees, fences, and buildings. Lumberjacks were afraid to leave their camp because of falling tree branches.

24

1998: Two days of steady, even torrential, rain caused flooding in the Maritimes after several rivers overflowed their banks and spilled onto roadways. At Truro, NS, a large tidal bore and melting ice from the Salmon River produced the worst flooding in more than 25 years. A drop in temperature turned the floodwater into chunky ice and slush. Ice jams extended as far as the eye could see.

25

1997: For the second year in a row, weather grounded Japanese hot air balloonists attempting a world record near Calgary. In 1996, unseasonably warm weather had forced the team to land in a Manitoba farmer's field. Below-zero temperatures are usually good news—dense cold air uses less propane—but record cold temperatures of -37° or lower were too cool.

26

1997: A frigid Arctic air mass gripped the West with record cold. In Saskatoon, one trucker drove over a fire hydrant buried in snow, resulting in a geyser of water. Because cold metal is very brittle and can cause major breakdowns, graders and garbage trucks were inoperable. The city sent its outside workers home until it warmed up.

27

1757: It was so cold in York Factory, MB, that brandy froze. English brandy freezes at -32°.

28

1997: Torrential rains, about 65 mm in 24 hours, flooded homes, roads, and streets in the Vancouver area. Several basements in White Rock filled with water. The Coquitlam area also suffered when rising waters, washouts, and landslides blocked roads. In the interior, the same weather system produced avalanches, forcing closure of parts of the Trans-Canada Highway.

29

1954: A tornado, accompanied by heavy hail and lightning, struck White Point Beach near Liverpool, NS. Since tornadoes rarely occur in the Maritimes, even in summer, this was a freakish event. Wreckage was strewn over a distance of approximately 1 km, and large beams were driven into the earth to a depth of almost 1/2 m.

30

1998: An Environment Canada biologist claimed that nasty weather, e.g., hurricanes and tropical storms, corresponding with the bird migrating season, were largely responsible for a decline in songbird population in South and North America.

31

Full Moon ○

JANUARY

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

MARCH

		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

February

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	<p>1996: The official thermometer in Winnipeg registered -41.4°, the coldest day on record in the past 23 years, and about 20 degrees colder than on Baffin Island. As it turned out, Winnipeg had 12 other days this winter with temperatures below -30°, and 18 days with wind chills below -50° or a wind-chill factor above 2250.</p> <p>1</p>	<p>1915: Freezing rain and high winds turned snow drifts into mounds of ice, 1 to 3 m high, along rail tracks from St. Thomas to London, ON. Since snowploughs proved useless, hundreds of men used picks and shovels to try to clear the tracks. Passengers were brought into London on sleighs after spending the night stranded.</p> <p>2</p> <p>Groundhog Day</p>	<p>1997: The ice bridge at the base of Niagara Falls was the largest since the 1960s. The bridge, spanning the Niagara Gorge from the Canadian to the American shore, was as high as 20 m in some spots. No one has been allowed to venture onto the ice formations at the base of the falls since 1912. That year, 3 people died when a piece of ice bridge collapsed and dragged them into the deadly Niagara Gorge rapids.</p> <p>3</p>	<p>1997: Two successive snow storms in Montreal had cars skidding or stuck in deep, wet snow. To save money, the city had ended weekend snow removal. Most of the snow turned into shiny ice that glazed city streets and sidewalks. Hospitals reported 5 times the usual number of sprains and broken bones. The Jewish General Hospital ran out of plaster of Paris.</p> <p>4</p>	<p>1997: Mountains of ice, swept by high winds, poured over breakwalls along the Lake Erie shore, south of Windsor, ON. Ice squashed cottages and homes in Colchester. Warm weather had caused the ice to break up, creating open water at the shoreline. The scene became a tourist attraction as hundreds of locals, armed with video recorders, came out to gawk at the piles of ice stacked up in front yards.</p> <p>5</p>	<p>1998: Saskatoon was having a tough time getting rid of slush, snow, and ice on the streets. Near-freezing temperatures had softened the snow but didn't melt it. Towing companies were busy helping to extricate cars from the slush, especially in back alleys and residential streets.</p> <p>6</p>
<p>1996: The weather was near perfect (below 0° temperatures and lots of sunshine) for the opening of Ottawa's Winterlude. Thousands of visitors enjoyed skating on the quaint 120-year-old skating rink behind Rideau Hall on the grounds of the governor general's residence.</p> <p>7</p>	<p>1991: Mild temperatures, rain, melting snow, and ice jams in King's County, NB, disrupted electrical service, flooded roads and homes, and damaged buildings. At Norton, highways were under water at some points, and the street leading into town was covered by more than 30 cm. Rising waters flooded side streets in the community and inundated the ground floors of buildings.</p> <p>8</p> <p>Last Quarter ☾</p>	<p>1998: El Niño mildness cost Ontario ice wine producers several million dollars. Vintners Quality Alliance standards demand that grapes for Ontario ice wine be harvested and pressed at temperatures colder than -8°, a process that requires up to 12 hours of consistent cold. Such conditions happened only 2 or 3 times this winter. Because the grapes were so long on the vines, hungry birds and dehydration decreased by half the amount of juice to be extracted.</p> <p>9</p>	<p>1987: A snow-laden section of roof collapsed at a St. John's shopping mall, injuring 7 people. None were seriously injured, as most shoppers, warned by the noise of the creaking roof at the Sears department store, escaped before the cave-in. Earlier in the week, a blizzard had dropped more than 30 cm of snow in the city's worst storm that winter.</p> <p>10</p>	<p>1998: Because of Ice Storm '98 in January, Montreal added one more pick-up day to its calendar to help dispose of tree branches. Officials asked residents to tie the branches in bundles no longer than 1 m and to leave them in front of their buildings, out of the way of pedestrians and motorists. The branches were used for composting and to cover waste sites.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>1988: The 2,469-tonne ship <i>Maurice Desgagnés</i> developed a list in heavy weather 100 km southeast of Halifax. The crew of 22 abandoned the ship and was rescued by the Canadian destroyer <i>Huron</i>.</p> <p>12</p>	<p>1997: A "February thaw" pushed daytime highs well above zero across most of Alberta for the next 5 days. As temperatures exceeded 10° in the south, the unusually deep snow from the previous 2 months began to melt rapidly. In Calgary, where considerable street flooding occurred, side streets were described as a "huge slurpee." The warming also forced the postponement of World Cup bobsled races.</p> <p>13</p>
<p>1997: Many Canadians were still digging their way through winter, but in Victoria, they were counting posies. The 21st annual flower count started today. Last year, Victoria residents counted a record-breaking four billion flowers.</p> <p>14</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p>	<p>1990: Vancouverites got a taste of a real Canadian winter when 14 cm of snow fell on the city in 24 hours. The heavy snowfall resulted in abandoned cars, fender-benders, crowded buses, and late planes. As many as 20,000 students on Vancouver's North Shore received an unexpected holiday when schools closed. Boats moored at Granville Island were laden with thick, wet snow.</p> <p>15</p> <p>Heritage Day—Alberta</p>	<p>1993: The temperature at Redvers, SK, dipped to around -30°. In the Garniers' unheated barn, newborn calves suffered frostbitten ears. "I felt so sorry for my babies, so I got out a tape measure and some fleece, and sewed a set of Mickey Mouse ears," said Marge Garnier. The muffs fasten to the calf's head with Velcro straps. The result was "Marge's Muffs."</p> <p>16</p> <p>New Moon ●</p>	<p>1979: The 13th running of the 160-km ski marathon from Lachute to Hull began under brutally cold conditions. At the start of the race, temperatures hovered around -30°. Because of the severe wind chill, only 86 of 1,353 participants completed the race.</p> <p>17</p>	<p>1966: Winnipeg International Airport experienced its coldest temperature ever, -45°. But busses managed to run on schedule, and planes and trains arrived only a few minutes late. In spite of the cold, the city's annual anti-mosquito campaign was underway as officials began spraying thousands of hectares of bushland.</p> <p>18</p>	<p>1998: Warm weather seriously deteriorated snowmobile trails throughout northern Ontario. The Sault Trailblazers First-Annual Poker Run had to be cancelled. On the North Channel, between Gore Bay on Manitoulin Island and Spanish on the mainland, officials closed a trail because of a 6-m gap of open water in the ice. Holes in the ice were wide enough for unsuspecting snowmobilers to fall through.</p> <p>19</p>	<p>1998: A plane from an international pilot training centre in Gimli, MB, crashed onto frozen Lake Manitoba en route to Dauphin, killing both people aboard. Visibility at the crash site was poor at the time. The weather cleared slightly after notification of the crash. A Hercules carrying a search-and-rescue crew spotted the plane and parachute just as the RCMP arrived on their snow machines.</p> <p>20</p>

1879: A snow-laden nor'easter blew down trees and buildings in PEI, including the Roman Catholic Chapel in Cardigan. The winds also fanned a serious fire in downtown Summerside.

21

1997: Road conditions—with light snow, ice pellets, and continuous rain and freezing rain—contributed to the traffic deaths of 3 Islanders on PEI. The mixture of precipitation created some of the most hazardous driving conditions in recent years. Up to 20 cm of snow, whipped by winds gusting to 98 km/h, produced huge drifts at the east end of the island. The ice on vehicles was so thick that people had to resort to using hot water.

22

1995: President Clinton made his first official visit to Ottawa. When Prime Minister Chrétien joked that he had ordered unanimous consent of the House for what was really a beautiful, springlike day, Clinton responded, "I have pondered for some time the difference between the Canadian political system and the American one. I realize in one respect, clearly, you are superior. We do not control the weather in Washington, and I am grateful that you do."

23

Weather Quiz

Almost 90% of Canadians obtain a weather forecast in the morning to plan their day. People in which province are least likely to listen to weather forecasts:

- 1) Alberta
- 2) Quebec
- 3) Ontario
- 4) Newfoundland
- 5) British Columbia

24

1998: An enormous winter storm dumped close to a season's worth of snow on parts of southern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. It was one of the worst storms in history. The wind blew so hard in Brandon that some roads were snow-covered within minutes of being ploughed. Just 2 days before the storm, trees were forming buds, and many people thought winter was over.

25

1914: A blustery, twisting wind from the south and west struck Claresholm, AB, causing extensive damage. Buggies, wagons, and cars were blown for hundreds of metres. The greatest damage was to the curling rink, and to the curlers. It was bad enough that the rink was just about paid for, but the idea that there would be no more curling caused curlers to go into mourning.

26

1992: An intense winter storm with blowing and drifting snow reduced visibilities to near zero about 45 km east of Trois-Rivières, PQ. Poor driving conditions resulted in a major highway accident involving 27 cars, 4 tractor-trailers, and 2 ten-wheelers. Two people died and 15 were injured in the accident.

27

1998: The North Bay Police Force credited El Niño and the warmer-than-usual winter for a sharp drop in accidents on city roads. There were 173 motor vehicle collisions logged between 1 January and 23 February, at least 100 fewer than during the same period last year when motorists had to contend with snow storms and freezing temperatures.

28

First Quarter 

FEBRUARY

1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28

APRIL

1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30

March

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	<p>1998: Forty-four teams from as far away as northern Ontario and Maine participated in PEI's Mill River International Sled Dog Races. Following a week of rain and above-freezing temperatures, the races were almost a washout. The trail was slow and in poor shape. "The puppies aren't happy; the mushers aren't happy. But we've raced before in the rain, and we'll race again," said one organizer.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>1947: A huge snow storm dropped 73 cm over 2 days in the Ottawa area, bringing the city to a standstill. Expectant mothers were brought to the hospital on toboggans. By noon, horses making deliveries and drawing ploughs dropped in the streets from exhaustion. In one incident, a car overheated and caught fire. Since the fire department couldn't get there, spectators doused the flames with handfuls of snow.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Full Moon ○</p>	<p>1996: There was nothing lamblike about early March weather in Alberta. A combination of heavy snow in excess of 12 cm and bitterly cold temperatures around -18° caused chaos for Calgarians as city police reported 99 fender-benders in a 12-hour period. Four people were killed in weather-related accidents in the Edmonton area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>1998: About 70,000 to 175,000 customers in the eastern Avalon Peninsula were without electricity for more than 24 hours after heavy ice toppled transmission lines. The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary received several reports of burglar alarms going off as the power fluctuated. Hardest hit was the Bay de Verde area, where ice caused about 60 poles and numerous power lines to collapse.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>1771: "The winter in general has been the mildest I ever knew at Churchill and I'll be the first of March the least snow that has been remembered at which time a violent snow came on the NNW and lasted 4 days without intermission ... The depth of the drift in the yard is about 22 feet." [Letter from explorer Samuel Hearne]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>1974: The community of Hall Beach, NWT, was without power for 6 hours during the night when the main generator broke down and the stand-by generator failed to start because of temperatures around -40°.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>
<p>1997: Residents of Nova Scotia and PEI felt the effects of a late winter blast. Heavy snow and strong winds downed power lines, leaving residents of Halifax, Truro, and Wolfville, NS, without electricity. On PEI, between 15 and 25 cm of snow, swirling about in 150 km/h winds, made travelling impossible at times. Maritime Electric crews were kept busy repairing transmission lines and poles; 12,000 Island customers were without power for a time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>Weather Quiz</p> <p>According to an Environment Canada study, based on factors such as fog, wet days, and sunshine, which Canadian city was considered the least psychologically stressful?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regina 2) Victoria 3) Ottawa 4) Montreal 5) Halifax <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>1997: A late-winter wind storm with wind speeds of 87 km/h lashed Victoria, downing trees and leaving 15,000 residents without electricity. A tree fell through the roof of a Saanich house, damaging a young girl's newly decorated bedroom. Police officers were busy directing traffic at intersections as winds caused traffic lights to malfunction. Firefighters struggled to douse fires set by downed high-voltage lines.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Last Quarter ◐</p>	<p>1998: When up to 64 mm of rain fell in New Brunswick, the resulting mudslides closed several roads between Saint John and Fredericton. In Welsford, floodwaters took out a covered bridge across the Nerepis River. Garages and barns floated down the river. Public works in Fredericton were unable to keep storm drains from overflowing, causing flooded basements. It cost millions to clear the rubble, fill holes, pave roads, and replace bridges.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>1998: Unseasonably mild weather played havoc with ice conditions off PEI. The warm temperatures stymied tour operators, sealers, animal-rights activists (including Brigitte Bardot), and government scientists—all hoping to get a look at the 500,000 harp seals giving birth off PEI. The seals were not able to congregate in one spot because ice floes in the Gulf of St. Lawrence were too thin to support their body weight.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>1991: An avalanche struck Bay Street, a ski run in the heart of the Purcell Mountains, BC, without warning, killing 9 skiers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>1998: A fast-moving chunk of blue ice punctured a hole the size of a basketball in the roof of a garden shed in Guelph, ON. At first, hail was thought to be the culprit. However, a Transport Canada investigation blamed the hole on an airplane with a faulty seal that allowed liquid human waste to leak outside the fuselage and freeze. The ice narrowly missed a residence and a man walking his dog.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>
<p>1998: A plane crashed in foggy weather on the approach to Alberta's Grande Prairie Airport, killing the pilot and all 4 members of one family. Weather logs indicate the fog ceiling was about 60 m, but the horizontal visibility was only about 1/5 km. Two earlier planes had aborted their landings for an alternate destination. Said a former pilot who farms nearby, "You couldn't see 60 feet in front of you. There's no more terrifying thing than flying through fog."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>1998: Tourists were flocking to a motel in Letellier, MB, to experience last year's Flood of the Century from the comfort of a warm, dry bed. For just \$47 a night, patrons of the Prairie's Edge Motel could stay in a theme room with sandbags on the floor, rubber boots by the bed, and evacuation instructions on the wall. Said the proprietor, "We had a couple in from Switzerland, and they had seen the flood on TV, but they said it seemed more real after they stayed in the room."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>1997: A stranded Inuk hunter dodged wolves and walked 60 km with frostbitten feet to the safety of the airport at Iqaluit, NWT, only to be mistaken for a terrorist. Exhausted and dehydrated after walking 12 hours, he reached the airport around midnight and repeatedly flicked his lighter hoping someone would come to his aid. A security guard spotted him waving and yelling with a rifle strung over his shoulder, and called the RCMP.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St. Patrick's Day New Moon ●</p>	<p>1998: It was St. Patrick's Day, but nothing was green in Calgary after the city experienced its worst mid-March storm in 113 years. The record snowfall produced slick roads and power failures. Flights were cancelled and businesses and schools closed. Downtown Calgary was a ghost town. Motorists couldn't dig out of their driveways, and the bus system ground to a halt. Ranchers had to resort to horse-back to feed their stock.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>1997: Record rainfall destroyed a handful of vacant summer homes and trailers from Duncan north to Courtenay on Vancouver Island. The weather also caused problems at ski areas in the Lower Mainland. The North Shore mountains were closed because of strong winds, forcing students who had been hoping to cruise local slopes during spring break to change their plans.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>1964: Up to 99.1 cm of snow fell at Cape Whittle, the greatest single day total from any station in Quebec.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p>1988: Two men drowned in Mahone Bay, NF, when a wave overturned their boat as they were attempting to secure a floating dock that had come loose. Winds were likely blowing from the south to the southwest at the time at 20 to 30 km/h with possible gusts to 40 or 48 km/h.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Spring Equinox 20:46 EST</p>

1980: Winds at 90 km/hr blew down 4 new houses under construction in Metro Toronto. Because the houses weren't fully built, they folded like a deck of cards. Winds also collapsed a 15-m section of roller coaster trackway under construction at Canada's Wonderland amusement park. Damage was estimated at \$50,000.

21

1998: Atlantic Canada was visited by the same spring storm that greeted southern Ontario on the first weekend of spring, dumping snow then miserably cold rain. Fierce gusts of wind meant that little of the 15 to 20 cm of snow stayed where it fell. Freezing rain and ice pellets kept federal NDP leader Alexa McDonough's plane from landing in Sydney, where she was to speak to a group of 400 faithful gathered at a provincial pre-election rally.

22

1997: A television production crew from the U.S. was in Edmonton to shoot a CBS television pilot based on the Oscar-nominated movie *Fargo*. The pilot story was set in the winter, and an integral storyline depended on the ground being cold and frozen. Unfortunately, a major warming spell with temperatures between 5 and 10° and a trace of rain meant Edmonton could not provide the necessary desolate and snow-swept vistas.

23

1997: Dozens of people from southwest Saskatchewan returned to their abandoned homes Monday to assess the damage after floodwater poured into basements, submerged vehicles, and contaminated drinking water. One Swift Current resident had huge chunks of ice on his lawn. The rising water stranded cattle and forced the evacuation of 2,000 pheasants from a farm near Ponteix.

24

1997: A university student attempting a solo, unsupported trek to the North Pole almost died when he plunged through pack ice into the Arctic Ocean. He knew he faced certain death unless he could find the camp of 2 other explorers who were trekking to the Pole. When he found them, 6 hours later, the 2 men fed him soup and lay on either side of the student to warm him during the night. Recovery aircraft arrived the next afternoon.

25

1921: The famous fishing schooner *Bluenose* was launched today. Skies were overcast, with NW winds at 8 km/h, and a temperature of 13.8°. In order to enter the challenge for the International Schooner Racing Trophy, the *Bluenose* had to be a bona fide fishing vessel. The ship promptly sailed to the Grand Banks and caught more fish than any of its competitors.

26

1870: Southern Ontario was struck by the last of 3 major snow storms. Precipitation began as rain, but soon changed to snow. Higher elevations received 90 cm of snow before the storm ended. The storm had surprisingly little impact on human activities. One positive result was an improvement in sleighing for the lumber industry.

27

1998: An Alberta teenager killed in an avalanche while snowmobiling was the 19th person to die in the deadliest winter season on record for recreational fatalities in Canada. The boy triggered an avalanche while high-marking on a steep slope near Onion Lake. High-marking is the risky practice of roaring up a slope until the snowmobile verges on getting stuck, then pivoting the machine and descending.

28

1997: About 300 female, pregnant mink died from exposure to cold, wet weather near Blenheim, ON, after being set free by 5 animal rights people. The group released about 1,500 mink from captivity, although most of the animals stayed around the fur farm, about 85 km east of Windsor. The 5 were charged with break and enter, mischief, and possession of stolen property.

29

1997: Spring runoff inundated hundreds of thousands of acres of prime farmland in south-central Saskatchewan. Canadian Forces reserve troops helped fill thousands of sandbags. Police went door-knocking to warn residents along the Moose Jaw River to leave their homes. It was the worst flood in 45 years. Twenty houses were flooded, and 140 families had to leave their homes as the water rose.

30

1998: Eastern Canada went from slush to sweat in 2 days. In southern Quebec, more than 40 cm of snow on the first weekend of spring disappeared when temperatures shot up to 20°. Along the Chateauguay River, in the Monteregie region south of Montreal, flooding forced at least 170 people out of their homes less than 3 months after an ice storm had wiped out power to the region. The Chateauguay swelled to 20 times its usual height, breaking previous records.

31

World Meteorology Day

First Quarter 

Full Moon 

MARCH

1 2 3 4 5 6
 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
 28 29 30 31

MAY

1
 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
 30 31

April

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				<p>1929: A vicious spring storm whipped through Ontario from Owen Sound in the west to Cornwall in the east. In the Niagara district, where the storm was the worst since 1899, winds demolished the Canadian Henley grandstand at Port Dalhousie. The 160-km/h-gale hit the huge wooden structure end on. The stand quivered and shook, then buckled and collapsed. The only thing standing was the stairway leading to it. 1</p>	<p>1997: An intense winter storm slammed into the Maritimes. On PEI, freezing rain brought down power lines, knocking out service to over 4,000 homes. On Confederation Bridge, steamrollers gave way to snow ploughs. The Harlem Globetrotters basketball team scheduled to play in Charlottetown had to cancel because the team was stuck on the New Brunswick side with no ferries running to PEI. 2</p>	<p>1998: A terrifying slide on the Chilkoat Pass, Alaska, buried 100 Klondike stampedeers under 9 m of snow. At least 60 gold prospectors perished. Within 30 minutes of the avalanche, more than 1,000 men were at work with shovels trying to save the gold prospectors from suffocation. An ox buried by the snow was dug out alive and used to haul bodies to the cemetery. 3</p>
<p>1997: Strong winds packed sea ice along the Cape Breton coastline for 2 days, trapping 2 ferries, a small Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker, and a coastal oil tanker. Among the 5,000 passengers were roadies for rock legend Bob Dylan, along with the band's equipment. Because of the ice, 2 sold-out concerts in Halifax had to be cancelled. 4</p> <p>Easter Sunday Daylight Savings Time Begins</p>	<p>1997: A nasty spring storm, the worst storm in Manitoba history, shut down Winnipeg for 48 hours. Streets were impassable except for the occasional snowmobile. All 3 Winnipeg transit tow trucks got stuck trying to free the 50 to 70 buses that were stuck. Some benefitted from the storm: owners of 4-wheel-drive vehicles charged \$80 for a ride out of Winnipeg International Airport. 5</p>	<p>1981: Winds gusting to 110 km/h ripped through southern Saskatchewan, knocking down power lines, closing schools, and tearing topsoil from farm fields. One farmer said it was the worst dust storm he'd seen in 20 years. The winds were so bad that some of the dust flying around the area had probably been lifted off fields as far away as Alberta. 6</p>	<p>1954: A baby twister lifted four 20-kg cans of ready mixed cement and dropped them on a farmer's front door step. The twister also ripped off a steel roof from a workshop and carried it a block and a half. A 3-m x 4-m shack on the property was moved 1 m and turned around. 7</p>	<p>1996: After one of the longest winters on record, and no sign of spring, some people turned to astrologers for an explanation. "It all has to do with Uranus moving out of Capricorn into Aquarius," said one psychic. Another astrologer said our psychic atmosphere is polluted. "People are thinking only about themselves. It's this negative spin we're in, with people worried about the economy, corrupt politicians, whether they'll have a job tomorrow." 8</p> <p>Last Quarter ☾</p>	<p>1997: Following a record snowfall in Winnipeg, the temperature plunged to a new all-time low temperature for the date of -21.6°, crushing the previous record of -18.9° set in 1877. The cold did not melt the snow, which was bad news for flood conditions. 9</p>	<p>1997: Huge chunks of ice plunging over Niagara Falls choked the river below, causing a flood inside the offices of the Maid of the Mist Steamboat Company. It was the worst ice jam below the falls in 35 years. The ice pushed the 2 Maid of the Mist tour boats about 2 m from where they would normally sit. 10</p>
<p>1911: A mechanical engineer working on the Saskatchewan Legislative Building restoration found a message in a bottle. The note read: "J. McLeish and F. Chester worked on these arches in April 1911. Has been a bad winter lots of people lost in blizzards hope to be home Xmas." Winter 1910-11 was the 10th coldest in Regina this century. "People lost in blizzards" may have referred to 4 Royal North West Mounted Police who on 12 February 1911 lost their lives in the Arctic. 11</p>	<p>Weather Quiz In 1880 what was Canada's most popular sport? 1) hockey 2) snowshoeing 3) puddle jumping 4) tobogganing 5) ice fishing 12</p>	<p>1972: A resident near Glencoe, ON, was asleep when a tornado struck, driving a steel rod from a nearby barn through his bedroom window and into the mattress on which he slept. It missed him by just a few centimetres. 13</p>	<p>1974: Lightning struck a 12-year-old boy playing baseball in North York, ON. The boy stopped breathing and had no pulse after being "knocked right out of his shoes" by the lightning. The victim's body was "vibrating and his clothes looked like someone poured acid over him." The baseball he was holding disintegrated. Fast action by an off-duty fireman and his neighbour saved the boy's life. 14</p>	<p>1984: An intense windstorm with gusts to 124 km/h struck the northern BC coast near Terrace. The storm damaged power lines and buildings, capsized fishing vessels and sailboats, and fanned forest fires. Damage was estimated at several million dollars. 15</p>	<p>1958: The most destructive tornado ever to hit Watrous, SK, took out a large barn, trapping more than 100 pigs. Some pigs were buried in the wreckage, others were given a whirlwind start off to the northeast. Within an hour, 5 of the animals were discovered more than 2 km away. Some of the smaller pigs had been hoisted and scattered about a nearby stubble field. 16</p> <p>New Moon ●</p>	<p>1998: Without warning, a strong gusty wind blew down a trestle bridge under construction over the St. Mary's River, about 15 km from Gall, ON. The wind shook the bridge severely, and an extra strong gust blew it over. There were 12 to 14 men working on the bridge at the time. Several saved themselves by jumping to the banks of the coulee, a distance of 3 to 6 m. Four men died. 17</p>

1997: A record snowfall, whipped by winds, made visibility difficult for motorists and walking hazardous for pedestrians in Montreal. Winds gusted as high as 60 km/h, and up to 20 cm of snow fell on the city. Police reported more than 600 accidents and 1 fatality in the Montreal Urban Community and on regional highways.

18

1973: A dustdevil severely damaged an airplane at the Brandon Airport in Manitoba. The twister lifted a Cessna 172 off the ground without affecting the planes next to it. At the time of the incident the wind was blowing from the west up to 60 km/h.

19

1967: A snow storm made history in southern Alberta. Over the next week, 107 cm of wet snow fell in the Lethbridge area. Radio stations carried emergency messages day and night. The deep snow blocked roads, closed schools, and cut off power in some areas. The US military helped by flying in food, fuel, and feed. The good news? The minister of Revenue gave citizens affected by the storms two extra weeks to file income tax.

20

1996: Despite lousy weather—rain, freezing rain, hail, snow, and fog—6,000 people and 70 bird species attended the Snow Goose Festival at Beaverhill Lake, southeast of Edmonton. More than 45,000 snow geese, white-fronted, and Canada geese and tundra swans, were present at Alberta's biggest birding festival. Beaverhill is one of the last major pit stops for migratory birds who make their summer breeding grounds in Arctic Canada, Russia, and Alaska.

21

1932: During an electrical storm, 52 wild geese were struck by lightning as they flew over Elgin, MB. The jolt killed the birds, sending them crashing to the ground. Those collected were distributed to townspeople for goose dinners. Severe thunderstorms during the day dropped up to 35 mm of rain.

22

1993: Heavy rain fell on Stephenville, NF, and Cartwright, Labrador, from 22 to 23 April. The airports set new 24-hour rainfall records of 37 mm and 26 mm, respectively.

23

1985: Just as the last traces of snow melted, a huge storm swept by high winds hit Newfoundland's Avalon Peninsula. Up to 30 cm of snow fell, closing banks, businesses, government buildings, and schools. Main highways were littered with abandoned cars. City snow-clearing operations, which had begun to pack it in for another year, were slow to respond.

24

1954: Near Nanaimo, BC, a freak whirlwind lifted a 2-car garage over 2 m, broke it apart, and sent shingles up to 70 m away. The explosive wind left untouched an old model "Nash" car within the garage. Children of one family were so frightened by the terrific noise the storm made as it fluttered their clothes that they ran and stayed inside.

25

1989: Members of Peration Polar Bear Bridge, the Soviet-Canadian transpolar ski expedition, reached the North Pole, where they were greeted by Soviet and Canadian dignitaries. It was a beautiful day at the pole, with clear skies, a temperature of -24°, and 3 to 5 km/h winds (from the south, of course).

26

1993: Snow, freezing rain, ice pellets, and rain struck the southern Maritimes, leaving Greenwood, NS, with 18 cm of snow. Three people died when a car skidded off the highway near New Glasgow. A transport truck carrying hazardous chemicals overturned near Shubenacadie, forcing the evacuation of 75 residents and the closure of the main highway from Halifax to Truro for 12 hours.

27

1979: Crews along the Red River worked frantically to raise dyke levels and cut off flood waters. Some farmers ignored evacuation orders and tried to move as much grain and livestock out of the flood area as possible. Some residents threw up gumbo earthworks to protect their grain and fertilizer. Said one farmer, "I never thought I'd have to go out to the barn in a boat."

28

1923: Heavy rains and warm temperatures caused major flooding across New Brunswick. At Hartland, the rising waters turned over a house, and carried away other buildings. The town was without water or lights for 6 days. When it ended on 9 May, total provincial flood damage was estimated near \$8 million, and 2 lives had been lost.

29

1869: More than 5,000 people gathered in downtown Ottawa to witness the death of the man who killed Thomas D'Arcy McGee. "The morning broke dull and cheerless, though not cold, and towards 8 o'clock snow began to fall in considerable quantities and continued to do so until the execution, and forcibly recalled to the minds of many the sad April morning when the treacherous bullet robbed Canada of her gifted and devoted friend." (*Ottawa Citizen*)

30

Full Moon 

Earth Day 
First Quarter 

APRIL

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30			

JUNE

			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

May

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						<p>1988: A small twister swept through Vancouver's eastern suburbs. No one was hurt, but a touch football game in John Henry Park was disrupted when the twister whipped equipment bags—some weighing 15 kg—into the air and picked up wallets that were lying on the sidelines. 1</p>
<p>1997: The 1997 Red River flood was the highest recorded this century. Unofficial damage estimates, including replacing infrastructure and flood-proofing, will exceed \$450 million. Sandbagging, flood control works, and emergency dyking prevented an estimated \$6 billion or more in damages. 2</p>	<p>1997: Strong winds toppled a 45-m-long temporary wooden construction wall in downtown Ottawa, pinning a cyclist. Passersby quickly rescued the victim from under some plywood. A day earlier high winds had blown over a flagpole. It fell 7 storeys and smashed the door of a BMW travelling along Laurier Avenue. 3</p>	<p>1964: Following a deadly tornado in New Baltimore, Michigan, at the end of April, debris began showing up in Strathroy, ON. Among articles found were cancelled cheques from the Citizens State Savings Bank, retail sales bills from a lumber company, a court summons, and a boy's sport jacket. 4</p>	<p>1945: In the spring of 1945, the U.S. Air Force used thirty-three 250-kg bombs and forty-four 50-kg bombs to break up the ice near Bishop Rock on the Yukon River. However, the explosives could not budge the ice, which jammed and caused flooding. 5</p>	<p>1997: Residents of Grise Fiord, NWT, resorted to chipping pieces of icebergs to deal with a water shortage. All 167 residents were placed on half rations of water to stretch dwindling supplies until warmer weather thawed the village's water source—a glacial river that carries water to a reservoir. 6</p>	<p>1997: Getting rid of Winnipeg's 6 million sandbags became a major headache. Last year homeowners had to remove some 300,000 bags. This year, with more than 6 million used bags, discussions took place to see if the military, city work crews, volunteers, or offenders sentenced to community service would be asked to remove them. The federal government hired 500 summer students to help. 7</p>	<p>1895: A slight rain shower in Winnipeg on a warm afternoon with temperatures around 26° included huge black ants the size of wasps. Described as similar to the African ant, the winged insects covered sidewalks, roads, roofs, and entered homes. 8</p> <p>Last Quarter </p>
<p>1972: Spring blizzards broke several weather records in Nova Scotia and surprised drivers. Many thought winter was over and had removed their snow tires. Earlier, provincial highway crews had converted snowploughs, salters, and graders for normal spring maintenance programs. When a transport truck jack-knifed and left the road near Halifax International Airport, a 3-km lineup of vehicles developed. 9</p> <p>Mother's Day</p>	<p>1990: A sudden drop in the barometric pressure in Toronto triggered a rash of migraines amongst the city's headache sufferers. Low barometric pressure is just one of about 100 factors, such as pollen and humidity, that can trigger migraines, although it is not known why. 10</p>	<p>1996: Canada shut out Jamaica 3-0 in the opening game of the Summer Olympics soccer qualifying tournament in Edmonton. A day before the competition opened the temperature dipped to -0.2° with a dusting of snow. Two days before the tournament got underway, the temperature was -5.5°, and the city received 9 cm of snow. 11</p>	<p>1960: Following a hot spell, a strong gale blew down several fences in southern Saskatchewan. Frightened cattle stampeded; it took hours to round them up again. The wind battered around 30-kg straw bales. "They were flying through the air like birds," said one farmer. 12</p>	<p>1996: Snowflurries fell as far south as Caledon and Richmond Hill in Ontario. Even later in the month, frost penetrated well into southern Ontario. Only the fact that many gardens were planted late prevented more widespread damage. The month turned out to be the coldest since 1984 and the wettest on record. 13</p>	<p>1934: A cloud of dust stretched from Alberta to Texas, suffocating birds in the sky and dusting ships at sea 480 km off the eastern coast. In just one storm in 1935, 12 million tonnes of dust were dumped on Chicago. By 1935, some 850 million tonnes of top soil had blown from the Great Plains. On several occasions, thick clouds of dust blotted out the sun. 14</p>	<p>1917: A storm accompanied by rain, hail, and wind near Viking, AB, was one of the earliest and fiercest to ever occur in Alberta's hailstorm alley. One prize bull was knocked down 15 times before reaching shelter. 15</p> <p>New Moon </p>

1879: Legend has it that a whirlwind picked up an Indian child and carried her into Saddle Lake (AB). A century later, stories persist that a hairy serpentine monster lured the child to her death. Band councillor Willie Brereton estimates the monster has been sighted about 100 times. Specialists tried to find the creature but discovered nothing. Residents are sure there's something there.

16

1997: In Calgary, the Toonie Peoples' Concert for Manitoba Flood Relief was flooded out by driving rains and howling winds. "We aren't prepared to walk away because of a little rain," said one organizer. "Do you think people in Manitoba walked away because of a little rain?" Proceeds from the concert were earmarked for the Red Cross flood relief campaign.

17

1841: A ship from Limerick, Ireland, became lost and wrecked on a ridge jutting out from Red Isle in the Saguenay River. The ship carried 140 passengers; only 4 survived.

18

1780: This was eastern North America's famous Black Friday, when soot and smoke from western forest fires obscured the daytime sky. Chickens went to roost, frogs croaked, and evening birds sang. Dark days were recorded 18 times between 1706 and 1910. In later years, deforestation and fire prevention efforts all but eliminated them.

19

1997: A spring snowstorm dumped 15 to 25 cm of snow on Calgary and Edmonton, downing trees and power lines, creating temporary blackouts in more than 25,000 households, and snarling traffic. Hundreds of gardeners had their daffodils, lilacs, and pansies buried. The storm helped to push the October-to-May snowfall total (184 cm) to the fourth largest since the winter of 1947-48 when 222.2 cm fell.

20

1953: Tornadoes in southern Ontario caused 5 deaths and 41 injuries. Queenie, an Irish Setter, was so shaken by the tornado that she gave premature birth to 15 pups. The tornado flung a 16-year-old girl from Midway against a wire fence. She continued her 2-km journey from school to home, arriving in her coat cutts, shoes, and tattered stockings ... and nothing else.

21

Weather Quiz
In a public opinion survey of 4,000 urban Canadians, which citizens were most likely to cite weather in the best qualities of their city?
1) Winnipeg
2) Calgary
3) Ottawa
4) Montreal
5) Halifax

22

1997: Light winds and no pack ice or icebergs made it easier to begin towing the huge Hibernia oil platform into place off the Grand Banks. The 600,000 tonne platform is 224 m tall, half the height of the Empire State Building.

23

1881: *Victoria*, an overloaded excursion steamboat, sank on the Thames River near London, ON, drowning 181 people. The weather was perfect.

24

Victoria Day

1997: A freak wind gust, or "microburst," tore through a Girl Guide campground 20 km west of Barrie, ON. The storm tossed children through the air and ripped up tents. No one was seriously injured. Moist air descending and colliding with dry air near the ground caused the wind burst.

25

1854: Favourable weather for viewing the solar eclipse occurred at Kingston and Toronto, but not at Montreal. During the eclipse, the temperature at Toronto fell 15 degrees then rose by 3 degrees when the sun reappeared.

26

1997: Golfers from Environment Canada, including weather forecasters, teed off at Edmonton's Westridge Golf Club. The weather was perfect, though it had rained the previous day. As the last group stepped off the 18th hole, it started to pour. Said the head pro at Westridge: "I asked them what was going on, and one of them said matter-of-factly 'we've got pull.'"

27

1948: Soldiers battled rising waters along the lower Fraser River in British Columbia where Operation Overflow was underway. The flood took 10 lives, left 200 families homeless, washed away 82 bridges, disrupted rail service for 2 weeks, and caused \$300 million in damage.

28

1914: Two years after the Titanic sank, the CP liner *Empress of Ireland* collided with a Norwegian collier in the St. Lawrence River, 12 km northeast of Rimouski, PQ. The freighter cut through the steamship like a can opener. The passenger liner sank in 14 minutes; 1,012 people died. There were reports that a bank of fog had rolled across the river when the ships disappeared.

29

1985: A severe hailstorm struck Windsor, Leamington, and other parts of Essex County, ON. In some places, hail accumulated to a depth of 45 cm.

30 Full Moon ○

1975: Lightning killed 1 teenager and injured 10 at a campsite near Lachute, PQ, where they were attending a survival camp. A single ball of fire appeared to hit their camp during a thunderstorm, sending electric shocks through the bodies of several campers. Counsellors quickly applied artificial respiration.

31

MAY

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

June

JULY

						1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

		<p>1986: A wild electrical storm, accompanied by high winds and hail, swept through Saskatoon. One resident knew something was wrong when the family collie burst through the back door screen and cowered on the kitchen floor, refusing to return outside. Moments later, the roof of a 2-storey house flew across the street—along with the doghouse—and crashed into a neighbour's home. 1</p>	<p>1997: Students, teachers, and Inuit leaders from Pond Inlet, NT, on a 6-day survival course, became trapped on an ice floe north of the Arctic Circle. Bad weather made it impossible to land helicopters on the chunk of ice as it drifted slowly out to sea. After 3 days, a search and rescue team landed on the ice. The survival group had proper clothing for weather conditions and enough supplies to last until the end of the week. 2</p>	<p>1997: Heavy showers in the Vancouver area—two 15-minute showers of nearly 7 mm each—opened up over the city. The down-fall contributed to the highest water levels on the lower Fraser River in the past 25 years. The Harrison River, near Harrison Hot Springs, overtopped its banks, forcing the evacuation of several residents and spurring others to build emergency dykes around their homes. 3</p>	<p>1889: A fierce wind and rain storm, "the Bridgetown cyclone," swept through New Brunswick. In at least 2 incidents, barns demolished by the storm housed several head of cattle, and both times, heavy timbers fell in such a way as to protect the animals from injury. Hail the size of peas covered the ground. Fields and pails of water contained an odd yellow substance resembling sulphur. 4</p>	<p>1816: In the "Year without Summer," a major snow storm occurred in Montreal and Quebec City, halting all road traffic. Following the snow, a bitter cold wind swept eastern Canada and New England, killing crops, denuding trees, and freezing ponds. Ten days later the temperature rose to a scorching 35° in parts of eastern North America. 5</p>
<p>1968: It was a meteorologist's dream. Thirty-five weathermen from across Canada toured the Alberta Hail Studies Centre in Penhold. To everyone's delight, storms pelted the base, and were, as one expert said, "very fluid." Hail fell on farms west of the air base, leaving fields looking like winter. In the south, a small tornado formed. It was a perfect terrible day for a meteorological demonstration. 6</p>	<p>1997: Lightning struck a Timmins, ON, man and his fishing boat. The jolt threw him into the cold lake water, where he drowned. A friend survived the incident. 7</p> <p>Last Quarter </p>	<p>1933: Scorching 35° temperatures caused the death of a worker delivering milk to a London cheese factory. The heat also started a fire in a New Hamburg drug store when a bottle of phosphorous ignited. Ordinarily, phosphorous is kept under water or in a cool place since it will ignite at the 26° mark. The store proprietor did not realize he had phosphorous as it was among a bankrupt drug stock that he had purchased recently. 8</p>	<p>1968: Lightning struck a tree and rock pile near Lanigan, SK. The 12-m tree, about 1/2 m in diameter, was found twisted "like a rope" with strips of bark up to 10 m away. The bolt also split several large rocks, some the size of an office desk. The RCMP said it appeared as if lightning had struck the tree, then travelled across the ground and exploded in the rock pile. 9</p>	<p>1997: Smoke from more than 100 forest fires in Quebec descended on the Maritime provinces. The smoke-filled air reached as far south as Halifax and caused breathing difficulties for people with respiratory problems. In Timmins, ON, the thick, sweet scent of burning wood and smouldering pine needles was everywhere. Some people said it was the worst in 25 years. 10</p>	<p>1939: The Royal train, bearing King George and Queen Elizabeth, was to stop briefly at St. John in Quebec's Eastern Townships on 12 June. But on the 11th, a tornado tore through town, blowing roofs off houses and toppling trees. The town suddenly took on a sodden appearance with most of the city's decorations shredded. Workers moved feverishly to replace the destroyed decorations and clear debris. 11</p>	<p>1978: Northwest of Huli, hurricane-force winds toppled part of a barn onto a car, trapping an 11-year old girl inside. She had climbed into the family car to close the windows when she saw storm clouds approaching. "She was screaming her head off," said her father, "but other than that she wasn't hurt." The girl stayed home from school the next day—with laryngitis! 12</p>
<p>1953: A "little tornado" swept through an experimental woodlot in central Saskatchewan, destroying 20 years of hard work in 20 minutes. The provincial forestry service had set up the woodlot to study small scale forestry management for farmers. The lot had just reached the stage where accurate records could be obtained and recommendations made. 13</p>	<p>1919: Alcock and Brown took off from St. John's on the first successful nonstop flight across the Atlantic Ocean, landing the next day at Clifion, Ireland. The weather at takeoff was 15° and clear, with southwest winds at 32 km/h and 4/10 cloud cover. 14</p>	<p>1993: Lightning hit a tree and a line of cows near Bracebridge, ON. The cattle, including the prize bull, died "without a twitch." The attendant claimed she survived because she was wearing rubber boots. She felt a rush of wind by her face, then heard a loud, piercing sound. Apparently, the lightning struck the tree, travelled down the muddy trail, and zapped the cattle. There was no light or flash, just the sound. 15</p>	<p>1923: Tornadoic winds snatched a child from her mother's arms near Ernold, SK. The family was returning home from Chaplin when the tornado swept the girl from the horse buggy on the outskirts of Uren. The frantic parents could not find her in the inky darkness. Ten hours later a search party discovered the youngster asleep in a shack 3 km away. 16</p>	<p>1946: A dark, twisting cone reared up across the Detroit River and demolished or damaged 400 homes in Windsor and county. Seventeen persons perished; some were decapitated by flying debris. The tornado took down 150 barns and farm buildings and uprooted hundreds of orchard trees and full-grown woodlots. 17</p>	<p>1784: A disastrous fire broke out in Saint John when a sudden gale arose as a settler was setting fire to some brush. The flames spread through town, destroying huts and cabins built by the loyalist settlers. There were reports that the flames demolished all but 1 house in the path of the flames. The fire also destroyed many treasured relics of the American colonies. 18</p>	<p>1978: A tornado struck Aubigny, MB. One town resident lost her freezer. It ended up in the basement of another house—without the meat. Another resident reported: "The last time I saw our bathroom (outhouse) it was going down the front street as fast as you please." 19</p>

1874: An 8-hour storm, described as the greatest thunderstorm Manitoba had ever seen, brought torrential rain and terrific lightning. The lightning caused 250 mounted police horses to stampede all the way to North Dakota.

20

Father's Day

First Quarter 

1906: Lightning struck a worker in a Toronto freight company as he was talking on the telephone. He was leaning against a wall with the receiver to his ear when he was struck. The bolt paralyzed the left side of his face and left arm. It also seared his chest, leaving marks resembling the branches of a tree. Two telephones in the office were burned out.

21

Summer Solstice 15:49 EDT

1997: Despite dire forecasts of swarming mosquitoes for Winnipeg, arguably Canada's mosquito capital, fears of an especially bad outbreak did not materialize. Though there were more flood waters in the province than anyone living had seen, the water never stood still long enough to breed mosquitoes. Entomologists described the mosquito population as low to moderate; nothing to be concerned about.

22

1997: Lightning and thunder greeted the Queen and Prince Philip when they arrived in St. John's, the day before the replica of Cabot's tiny sailing ship, the *Matthew*, was due in Bonavista. The rain let up, but the wind blew hard. Women held on to their hats with one hand and their skirts with the other. The Queen's hat stayed in place because it had a tight head-hugging band inside.

23

Weather Quiz

In a tornado most deaths and severe injury occur from:

- 1) tumbling mobile homes
- 2) flying glass
- 3) collapsing walls
- 4) electrical wires
- 5) suction action of the extremely low pressure

24

Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day

1971: An intense storm with cyclonic winds and heavy rain struck the Grand Coulee and Pense districts of Saskatchewan. One family waiting out the storm in their car beside the road saw their new camper-trailer tip over with the first gusts of wind. About 5 minutes later, as they pondered how they were going to upright the trailer, the wind switched direction and, much to their surprise, turned the trailer upright again.

25

1930: A storm burst upon Lumsden and Bonavista, NF. When the telephone rang at the O'Neil residence, Mrs. O'Neil took the receiver but fell to the floor after getting a shock. Her husband and his brother-in-law, James Clarke, revived her. When the phone rang again, Mrs. O'Neil told Clarke it was for him. It was his wife, so he warned her to hang up. Just then, lightning struck and Clarke dropped dead on the floor. (*The Evening Telegram*, St. John's)

26

1997: More than 80 Canada geese died while being relocated at the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo. Apparently, the geese were being attacked by foxes and coyotes, so were being moved. Zoo officials blamed hot and humid conditions. On 25 June, the temperature downtown was 32.9°. But the Canadian Wildlife Service said the birds died because more than 300 of them were crammed into the back of a truck.

27

1915: A devastating flood hit Edmonton, inundating 20 streets and leaving 2,000 residents homeless. Many homes were lost; others were saved by roping them to the nearest telephone pole. Train engineers came up with an ingenious plan to save the Low Level Bridge. They used locomotives to back 2 gravel-filled trains onto the bridge structure to add weight.

28

Full Moon 

1985: At about 11:15 AM, a tornado emerged from the west and headed across farm fields near Raymond, AB. The twister picked up a 770-kg Clydesdale horse and hurled it through a barbed wire fence. Apparently, the horse had its front legs in the air and broke the wire with its hind legs. The horse was a little shaken but uninjured.

29

1990: Victoria's regional government drained Heal Lake for landfill and uncovered ancient logs, dating back almost 13,000 years. But the trees almost ended up in a wood chipper. Fortunately, scientists from the Royal BC Museum managed to collect more than 700 samples and logs. Early readings suggested that between 1,400 and 1,600 years ago it was dry on the coast. And for some reason, there were 50 wet springs between 100 to 150 AD, followed by 50 years of dry springs.

30



JUNE

1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30

AUGUST

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

July

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				<p>1944: In 1942, a tornado destroyed a farm owned by a couple from Tilbury, ON. When another tornado struck Windsor in June 1944, the couple decided to contribute to a fund set up to assist people left homeless. On this date, they auctioned off their 5-month-old, chubby York boar, Twister II, named once for his tail and once for the twister that did so much damage.</p> <p>1</p>	<p>1996: Two weeks after boasting of a budget surplus during an election campaign, BC's finance minister revealed a huge budget deficit instead, which he blamed on the weather. He claimed that heavy snows and rain late in the fiscal year had delayed logging operations. The opposition party presented 40 pages of weather records showing snow and rain totals for that period were average.</p> <p>2</p>	<p>1933: Hail, wind, and possibly a tornado partially destroyed 60,000 hectares of crops southeast of Regina. One farmer at Huronville found the roof of his shed in the middle of his garden. Under the roof were a strange cow, a bull, and a 50-kg sack of flour. The animals were unharmed, and the flour as dry as the day it left the mill.</p> <p>3</p>
				Canada Day		
<p>1997: A dust devil picked a British teenager's pocket in Winnipeg. He was playing tennis when the whirlwind picked up his wallet, carrying away \$1,200 in holiday cash. "It just jumped into the air," said the teen. "Nothing like that ever happens in England; it just rains a lot." The teen had a difficult time convincing his sceptical parents.</p> <p>4</p>	<p>1937: The temperature hit 45° at Midale and Yellow Grass, SK—the highest ever recorded in Canada. One area farmer spent the day in his Fordson tractor, ploughing a field. The tractor lacked fenders or a platform, so the farmer's feet—and his brand new \$2 boots—rested on the transmission housing. When he climbed down, "the soles were fried right off." [Will Chabun, <i>The Leader-Post</i>, Regina]</p> <p>5</p>	<p>1997: NASA's Martian rover crept about the surface of Mars. The weather was a balmy 6.6° as the midday sun warmed the surface. There was a light breeze, interrupted occasionally by cooler gusts that would ruffle your hair if you were on Mars, said one meteorologist. [It was nicer on Mars than Iqaluit, NT, where the temperature was 4.7° in light rain and fog.]</p> <p>6</p>	<p>1961: A diaper change may have saved the life of a 1 year old when a small but savage tornado ripped through Vaughan Township north of Toronto. The mother was attending the baby in his bedroom when she saw shingles fly by and heard the wind roar. The twister demolished a brick garage where the baby usually played. "If he'd been in there, he'd have been a goner," said his father.</p> <p>7</p>	<p>1927: The tornado that struck Vulcan, AB, brought the hamlet world fame. Charles Jones's incredible photo, taken down main street as the funnel approached the town, has appeared on the pages of many books and magazines, including the <i>Encyclopaedia Britannica</i> for most of the first half of this century. It was a perfect photographic record of what a tornado looks like as it sweeps down on a town.</p> <p>8</p>	<p>1981: Lightning hit an airplane as it gained altitude while taking off from St. John's. Fortunately, there were no casualties among the crew or the 90 passengers.</p> <p>9</p>	<p>1905: The <i>Calgary Herald</i>, on a tornado near Red Deer: "The disturbance was of real cyclonic proportions and cut a swath through the country as clean as if a gang of bushmen had gone through." A reader responded: "A lie which is half a truth is ever the blackest of lies. Let us have the truth by all means, but we object to damaging the fame of our climate by statements which may help to sell a few papers, but which have only a small foundation in fact."</p> <p>10</p>
			Aphelion 18:00 EDT Last Quarter ☉			
<p>1932: A freak lightning bolt struck a gold mine near Rouyn, PQ, detonating dynamite 60 m underground and killing 2 miners instantly. Either the lightning struck near 2 locked safety switches on the surface, jumped across and detonated the dynamite, or it struck just inside the mineshaft below the safety switch. The men on the surface were not injured.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>1969: Two severe lightning, wind, and rain storms battered Althol Township, ON. Lightning struck at least 2 houses, and wind tore limbs off trees. Said one resident: "Lightning came in from almost every corner ... on the TV, hydro line, clothes line, and telephone. And, amazingly enough, no one was hurt, and damage was less than one would expect." Another resident's hearing was affected for a time but returned.</p> <p>12</p>	<p>1997: Heavy rains swelled several rivers in northwestern Alberta, washing out railroads, damaging 1 bridge, and flooding farmland. A golfer at Pigeon Lake Provincial Park suffered second-degree burns after being struck by lightning. The lightning came up from the ground, went through his foot, and out his shoulder. Fortunately, the golfer's partner applied cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which likely saved his life.</p> <p>13</p>	<p>1997: A rain storm dumped 140 mm of rain over 10 hours in Chambly, PQ—more than half of it in less than 4 hours. About 520 homes, about 8% of the town's residences, sustained water damage. For some families, it was the third flooding in 18 months. Many residents marched on city offices demanding changes to the old sewage system.</p> <p>14</p>	<p>1946: A cow was found lying on her back anchored securely to the ground by her horns after a tornado passed through Sedley, SK. Once dug out, she showed no ill effects from the throw. The farmer hadn't yet milked her, and now worried that "she might be sour."</p> <p>15</p>	<p>1982: A storm with winds up to 100 km/h, sporadic hail, and "coloured" lightning ripped through Bagot, MB. Some wooded areas looked as if a bulldozer had run amok, leaving white scars where branches and trunks had been sheared off. Various TV antenna stood erect, untouched by the storm, whereas others were bent to resemble modern sculpture.</p> <p>16</p>	<p>1980: A thunderstorm dumped 48 mm of rain on Charlottetown, causing power outages and flooding streets. Rising waters forced many motorists to abandon their vehicles.</p> <p>17</p>
	New Moon ●					

1857: "A waterspout below Quebec ... revolved rapidly, hissing like escaping steam, and swinging to and fro, and imitating the contortions of a snake ... One horse and three cows were drawn by the power of suction to the waterspout, and after being raised high in the air were let gradually down; they escaped uninjured and were only covered with mud." [*The Globe*, Toronto]

18

1980: Lightning struck a member of the Georgetown, ON, Cricket Club and his opponent from the host team in Toronto. Several players from both sides, and 2 umpires, also suffered slight shocks. The bolt of lightning struck 7 m from the playing field and ricocheted, hitting the 2 cricketers. "The shattering explosion ... felt like a blast of wind out their ears," said one player.

19

1958: When rainfall of over 60 mm near Mount Pearl, NF, eroded some roadbed, 2 girls waved a pair of red pyjamas to flag down the incoming train. Earlier, the girls (the train engineer's daughter and the niece of a passenger) had phoned the chief dispatcher in St. John's, warning of potential washouts. He told them to flag down the train. The rail company dispatched a repair crew.

20

1997: In Kelowna, a severe storm set several rainfall records, including greatest amount for any day of the year—33.8 mm—with most falling in less than 2 hours. The accompanying hail slashed or knocked off almost all exposed fruit. Losses included at least \$120 million in reduced economic activity for local and provincial economies. Growers called it the worst storm in memory.

21

1997: A month of dry weather forced officials to close Point Pleasant Park in Halifax to visitors because of the fire risk. Some new-growth spruce was so dry it crumbled in your hand. Park staff stopped using power saws and lawn mowers because of the threat from fuel and sparks.

22

1940: Soldiers cleaned up damage caused by an electrical storm at a military camp 200 km west of Winnipeg. The storm wrecked huts, tore tents from their pegs, and set fire to another one. The wind tossed some tents 200 m away and ripped apart a 30-m-long building. Soldiers' rifles and bayonets, which had apparently attracted the bolt, were reduced to junk.

23

1965: A tornado felled trees, damaged homes, levelled crops, and left fish swimming in a storm-created pond on the main street of Erieau, ON. Eyewitnesses saw a waterspout suck up the blue gills from a pond at the north edge of the village and dump them in the subdivision. Winds up to 130 km/h blew branches across roads.

24

1921: A torrential rain and wind storm struck Saskatoon, flooding parts of the downtown. "Women, bravely during the flood, with their dresses pulled up, daringly exposed trim ankles and roll-downs' as they made their way across street corners where the water congestion was greatest. Immediately prior to the cloudburst, when the wind was at its height, several staid and portly gentlemen of dignified mien, were employed in futile attempts at hat recovery." (Saskatoon *Star Phoenix*)

25

Weather Quiz
Aside from Ontario, which province has the highest percentage of homes equipped with air conditioning?
1) Quebec
2) Manitoba
3) British Columbia
4) Saskatchewan
5) Nova Scotia

26

1997: In a sombre ceremony to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Black Friday tornado - Edmonton's worst natural disaster - civic leaders released 27 doves into the air, symbolizing the number who died in the 1987 tornado. As a grim reminder that such an occurrence could happen again, a funnel cloud was spotted near the town of Legal, about 30 km north of Edmonton. It turned out to be harmless.

27

1938: A storm swept down from Georgian Bay, scattering destruction over several central Ontario towns and villages. At Midland, the loud rattle of hailstones on the courthouse windows forced suspension of court as councils' arguments could not be heard over the din. Hail forced cancellation of a parade in which hundreds of citizens were participating, and the rain and winds ruined scores of brightly coloured floats.

28

1997: The forest fire index measured extreme in south-eastern PEI for the first time this year owing to a dry summer. July precipitation was 20% of normal. Officials banned all open fires but allowed small campfires in fire pits if they were positioned without endangering nearby forests or vegetation. The dry weather even made smokers on golf courses potential fire hazards.

29

1978: A highly unusual tornado toppled a tower near Yellowknife. The tornado appeared to have bounced a couple of times before ripping up a transmission tower 5 km from Rae-Edzo, NT. The storm tore the beams right out of the base mounts and bent the tower in half. It was the third twister recorded in the Yellowknife area in the past 16 years.

30

1987: A week-old baby hurled 50 m by the Edmonton tornado survived with only a few scratches. Even more remarkable, a neighbour found her bundled in a blanket on a road during the storm. No one knew who the infant was, and she lay in intensive care as Miss X until late that night when her grandfather ended a frantic family search by identifying the child.

31

First Quarter 

Full Moon 

JULY

1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

SEPTEMBER

1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30

August

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1
1979: When a violent thunderstorm hit Winnipeg, the thumping hail may have brought on the premature birth of 2 St. Bernard litters. Heidi delivered a Canadian-record-breaking 22 puppies. (The Guinness world's record is 23). But the storm likely caused the death of 6 puppies. In her zeal to protect them from the hail, Heidi dug a hole in the mud, pushed the pups in, and laid on top. Six suffocated.

2
1934: A thunderstorm poured torrents of rain across southern Ontario, bringing a welcome end to the summer-long drought. At a YWCA camp near Ridgeway, the storm blew tents and bedding into Lake Erie. Heavy rain and winds forced hundreds of sparrows to the ground into about 80 mm of water, drowning them. In Brantford, the city's rainmaker, Frank Clark, boasted his mystery machine had "done the trick."

Civic Holiday

3
1918: A tornado levelled crops and destroyed several large barns near Wynyard, SK. One farmer was caught under the barn when a huge beam fell on his chest. Neighbours rescued him, but the local doctor pronounced him dead. His obituary appeared in the next issue of the local newspaper. However, 13 hours later, he regained consciousness and eventually lived to be almost 80 years old.

4
1921: It rained frogs in Calgary. Along 11th Avenue, the frogs were strewn thickly on the pavement. Residents were puzzled as to the source of the reptiles. Few believed they had come out of their hidden retreats to bathe in the shower, but there were no eyewitnesses. The first to discover their presence were cats, who found them as edible as fresh fish.

Last Quarter ☾

5
1975: A freak twister struck a gondola-lift cable car, sending it crashing 30 m to the ground on Alberta's Sulphur Mountain. Fortunately, the car was unoccupied. The spectacular crash broke 2 of the car's 5 windows and dented its body. The accident suspended lift operations for an hour and a half, but it didn't upset the 6 passengers travelling on other cars when the crash occurred.

6
1997: A sudden thunderstorm blazed across BC, leaving 70,000 people without power and 80 air-planes stranded on the tarmac for nearly 4 hours. The storm's approximately 20,000 strikes of lightning sparked more than 40 forest fires. Winds in the Okanagan reached 100 km/h, felling scores of huge, majestic trees in Kelowna parks and damaging hundreds of boats in Lake Okanagan.

7
1947: Severe weather, including a mini-tornado, struck Ontario's Temagami area. A family camping in tents about 2 km down the lake from the village said trees fell all around them. The wind blew the rain so hard that their tents leaked like sieves. They finally took refuge on the lake in a boat rather than face the falling trees.

8
1949: Nine hundred turkeys on a farm near Yorkton, SK, took to the bush when let out a few minutes before a severe thunderstorm struck. The storm demolished the turkey houses. A bull in a barn also took to the bush but not of his own accord. When the barn blew away, the bull went with it and was never found again.

9
1997: One of Metro Halifax's most popular parks reopened. Point Pleasant Park was closed to the public in July because of the forest fire hazard. But after steady, 2-day rain, park officials allowed the public back in. That was good news for the "Shakespeare by the Sea" theatre troupe. It had temporarily moved to a nearby parking lot, where attendance had dropped.

10
Weather Quiz
In Newfoundland what is the meaning of the word "flaw"?
1) sudden gust of wind
2) no wind
3) waterspout
4) howling storm
5) misty shower

11
1913: *The Fife Lake (SK) History Book* gave this account of a tornado: "One day after William had gone off to work for the day, a cyclone came through the farm yard, lifting the house off the ground and turning it around. When William came home late that night he couldn't get in. The door wasn't where it was supposed to be. He finally found it facing the opposite direction."

New Moon ●

12
1997: Sightings of whales of all shapes and sizes were up dramatically along Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast. Experts credited the unusually sunny, dry weather for shifting the marine food chain and drawing the whales closer to shore in search of fish. One charter operation near Halifax said they could see the whales from their kitchen table.

13
1946: From *A History of Alliance (AB) and District*: "Charlie Pigeon agreed to move a granary from one side of a fence to the other. He was so busy that he never got around to the job, and the other day the fellow asked him how much he owed for having the granary moved ... Investigation proved that the recent heavy wind [a severe thunderstorm] must have lifted the granary into the air and blew it 50 feet over to the exact spot where it was to be moved! The only damage evident was 2 or 3 cracked 2x4's!"

14
1989: Tornadoes are extremely rare in the Maritimes, so it was a surprise when 3 tunnels touched down in New Brunswick. In Carlisle, 20 km east of Hartland, a tornado uprooted trees and ripped apart a barn, but cracked only 2 of 24 glass storm windows that were stored in the building. The tornado dug a groove in the ground 5 to 10 cm deep and about 4 to 5 m long.

15
1997: A tornado touched down near Desboro, ON. One resident was standing in his living room with a friend. Seconds later they were at the bottom of a shallow lake with debris from the tornado-blasted home floating above them. They fought their way to the surface through the debris and swam 100 m to shore. A single board was all that remained of the home.

16
1997: A lightning strike on a police headquarters building in Ontario's Waterloo region knocked out the 911 system along with much of the emergency backup and computer-aided dispatch systems. The power failure lasted nearly 4 hours.

17
1958: A fiery baby tornado, called a dust devil, roared out of a forest fire in BC's Douglas Lake district. The inferno enveloped 2 firefighters in flames, then hurled them into the air like flaming torches. The men later died from their burns.

18
1989: The largest solar flare since 1972 disrupted shortwave radio communications for several hours and may have been responsible for a power failure that left 270,000 Hydro-Quebec customers without power for 2 hours.

First Quarter ☽

19
1968: A severe hail storm hit Lambeth, ON, damaging crops and property. Four hours after the storm, ice balls were still piled 10 to 18 cm deep on the streets. Scientists at the University of Toronto Physics Department asked residents who had put hail stones in their freezers to contact them. They were studying the crystal and cell structure, density, and other factors to learn more about how hail stones grow.

20
1970: A rare morning tornado struck Sudbury, ON, at about 8:30 AM. In a few minutes, it inflicted \$5 million damage and left 10 dead, 200 injured, and 750 homeless. The twister blew 1 storey of a house completely away, lifting 7 brothers and sisters from their bedroom to the backyard 15 m away.

21
1823: Eliza Harrison was hanging out her washing at her Milton, ON, farm home when a tornado picked her up and carried her 800 m before setting her down without a scratch.

1995: Tropical Storm *Felix* accelerated through Atlantic Canada. As the eye of the storm crossed through the middle of the Canadian offshore buoy network, the sensors recorded near-hurricane force winds and waves an incredible 27.5 m high. Total rainfall ranged from 35 to 65 mm near the Avalon Peninsula.

22

1936: A lightning bolt played an unkind prank on a collie dog owned by a resident near Burnt River, ON. The lightning hit the house chimney, ripped apart the rafters, bulged a metal ceiling, tore off plaster, then followed a telephone wire to the woodshed, where the owner was splitting wood—his dog at his side. The bolt then circled near the dog and flipped him on his back. The white dog was scorched a dark brown.

23

1997: Balmy weather, ripening apple and plum trees, and seed-laden bird feeders attracted many bears and cougars to BC's Lower Mainland. But it was nothing compared to 1996, one of the busiest on record for black bears in the area. Conservation officers had attended to 796 complaints, destroying 124 bears and relocating 192. Rapid urban sprawl has pushed humans into the path of bears and cougars.

24

1969: A tornado and fierce hail storm left the hamlet of Lawvan, SK, in shambles. At one farmhouse, swirling winds sucked fine dishes from the china cabinet and stacked them in neat piles on the floor. The bodies of dead chickens lay strewn across the yard while others, injured or stunned, floundered about. The ground around a plantation of small evergreens was a mass of needles, stripped from the trees.

25

1883: Volcanic explosions ravaged Krakatau Island in Indonesia. A veil of dust eventually encircled the Earth at a very high altitude. On 27 November, vivid red dust caused sunset afterglows in eastern Canada, so brilliant that people thought they were fires.

26

1953: A scientific rainmaker, Dr. Wallace E. Howell, once a meteorologist at Harvard and famous for making it rain in the early 1950s in order to fill New York's reservoirs, put his cloud seeding to different use near Forestville, PQ. There, he seeded for 10 days and brought rain that put out a fire in an area measuring 80 by 160 km.

27

1900: From *A History of Wapella and District* (SK): "One Sunday when we got home from church my father said, "There is going to be a storm, see how the cattle are bunching together and looking the same way." ... All at once everything turned dark, one awful roar and the new house was gone. The next day my brother, Farquhar, found half the roof with the shingles still on half a mile away, as if some strong hand had placed it there."

28

1876: A torrential rain storm flooded St. John's with 173.2 mm of rain in 24 hours. This was the greatest amount of rain received in any 1 day in Newfoundland.

29

1976: Two hunters went missing in Igloodik, NT, when they got caught in bad weather. They had only planned to be away for a few days, so when they did not return after 2 weeks, a rescue crew was sent out. They located the hunters on an ice floe close to an island in Steensby Inlet along with 2 families who had been hunting in the same area. Everyone was in good health.

30

1997: Crummy summer weather helped Casino Windsor post the best month in its 3-year history. Officials said that unseasonably cool summer weather had helped. When the weather starts improving in the spring, more people come to the casino. But poor summer weather also encourages gamblers. And in the winter, good weather brings them out again.

31

Full Moon 



AUGUST

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

September

OCTOBER

1 2
3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			<p>1996: Heavy spring rains and runoff and warm summer temperatures may have contributed to an outbreak of <i>Cryptosporidium</i> in Okanagan Lake, Kelowna's main source of water. The parasite afflicted more than 10,000 people; health officials advised 80,000 residents to boil their water. Schools brought in bottled water before opening in September.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>1984: Eight confirmed tornadoes were reported on the Labour Day weekend in Ontario's tornado alley—Windsor to London. As the news spread, residents who were away for the weekend rushed home. One homeowner had been watching the Canada Cup hockey game in Fergus, ON, when news of the tornado flashed on the screen. He left immediately and found his house had suffered a direct hit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Last Quarter </p>	<p>1910: A cigarette-smoking harvester tossed the glowing end of his cigarette into the grass. A stiff breeze fanned the flames, which in turn burned 24 hectares of standing wheat on a farm near Kemnay, MB. Neighbours saved their fields by hurriedly ploughing fireguards.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>1953: Neighbours and friends in London Township built a new barn to replace one smashed by a tornado in May. Hundreds were invited to try out the new plank flooring at an old-fashioned square dance. As the guests arrived, a second tornado blew in and knocked down the new structure, spreading twisted metal and splintered wood up to 2 km away.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>
<p>1922: A terrible lightning storm broke over the Semans district north of Regina. The rain forced 2 brothers to take refuge under a stook of grain before it was struck by lightning. Other farmhands found their badly burned bodies. The same bolt of lightning stunned another hired hand working in the same field, but he recovered.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>1991: Former prime minister Brian Mulroney told the <i>Winnipeg Free Press</i> that a meeting with Joyce Millgaard on a cold evening 6 years ago touched him to such an extent that he requested a review of her son's case. But Mr. Mulroney was mistaken about the time and the weather: It was noon, sunny, and 27° on the day he talked to her in Winnipeg.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Labour Day</p>	<p>1996: The remnants of Hurricane Fran blew through southern Ontario. In Toronto, 78 mm of rain—about a month's worth—fell in 1 day. The storm washed out the third round of the Canadian Open Golf Tournament in Oakville. On the positive side, the hurricane blew countless Atlantic ocean birds into Ontario, making it one of the best days ever for birding.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>1952: Canadian television made its debut. The stars were 3 puppets and meteorologist Percy Saltzman. Ever the wit, Percy boasted, "I'm proud of being the first TV weatherman in Canada ... the first to use satellite weather data ... to throw up on air (chalk that is) ... to wear no glass in my glasses. I once did the weather with my fly open. No one noticed."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>1979: Tornadoic winds damaged grain bins at a farm south of Manor, SK. A farm worker took cover in a steel bin. The wind promptly lifted the structure and carried it over a fence. It bounced on the ground and landed about 50 m away. When asked what he thought of his experience, the man said, "The take-off wasn't too bad, but the landing was something else!"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Moon </p>	<p>1813: Early in the morning, Laura Secord left her home at Queenston, near Niagara Falls, and walked 30 km to Beaver Dams to warn of an American attack. According to later accounts, the day was sunny, very hot, and humid.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>1925: A severe storm broke swiftly over Montreal at 2 PM, lasting for only a few minutes. In that brief time, driving sheets of rain, hail, vivid lightning, and deafening thunder swept the city. The storm washed away produce from farmers' carts that had been brought in to Chamb de Mara and Jacques Cartier Square for the Friday market.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rosh Hashanah</p>
<p>1977: Two men at Beaver Dam Flats on the Bow River reported to CFB Calgary that they were whisked into an "oval and flat, very bright white/blue light by individuals who were small and dressed in silver suits. They were taken aboard an UFO for about 8 to 10 hours." At the time, visibility was limited, no clouds, and it was a new moon.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>1878: A heavy rainstorm in Vaughan, ON, in which 125 mm of rain fell over 3 days, washed out a bridge in Concord, stopping a southbound Northern Railway train. The flood destroyed 30 dams and 20 bridges. Road repairs were extensive, and many of the flooded mills were never rebuilt.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>Weather Quiz What is snirt? 1) dirty snow that flies off dusty prairie fields 2) strong wind that blows across a glacier 3) Nova Scotian term for smog 4) earthy odour emitted by minerals prior to rain 5) fog drifting over the Grand Banks</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>1752: The Great Hurricane occurred in Charleston, South Carolina, the day after the British colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar by dropping 11 days from the Julian calendar. Some of the superstitious among the local populace believed that the meddling was to blame for the disastrous hurricane. "Give us back our lost days," they pleaded.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>1984: Gale-force winds from tropical storm <i>Diane</i> struck a 50-m Victoria-based brigantine off Halifax. The winds knocked 2 men overboard—1 drowned, but crew members managed to pull the other to safety.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>1895: At Sarnia, one of the wildest thunderstorms in years occurred. Lightning set ablaze many barns. The waters of Lake Huron receded by more than 1 m, rose in a few minutes to 1/3 m above the usual water level, then went up and down twice—a classic Great Lakes seiche.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">First Quarter </p>	<p>1996: Record numbers of waterfowl migrated south for the winter. More than 90 million ducks alone winged over Canada on their way to warmer climates. Good rainfall on the prairies over the past 3 years has filled marshes and potholes, leading to a boom in waterfowl population.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>

1935: A boy from Lachute, PQ, was standing beside his home when he saw a raging tornado approaching. The storm lifted the roof and galleries of several large homes, uprooted trees, and caved-in barns. The boy immediately ran into his kitchen, but the storm blew down the ceiling around him. When the debris was cleared he got up, dazed but unhurt.

19

1932: A severe rainstorm in New Brunswick caused 3 spans of the Upper Dorchester Bridge over Memramcook River to collapse in the winds and waves. The bridge had been rebuilt in 1924-25 after being destroyed by high tides during World War I. The fall freshet produced the worst flooding in years.

20

Yom Kippur

1997: Patients with breathing problems packed Winnipeg hospitals after a thick blanket of smoke from stubble burning covered the city. The provincial agriculture department had told farmers that air stability was favourable for carrying smoke up and over the city. Instead, damp, cool evening conditions kept the smoke close to the ground, and a 15-km/h wind pushed it into the city's west end.

21

1866: A hurricane visited Newfoundland and caused considerable damage to shipping, fences, and trees. One farm near Carbonear lost 54 trees, some 1 m in circumference. During the hurricane, the French Man-of-War *Abondance* and 15 merchant vessels were wrecked at St. Pierre. Seventy-four men died.

22

1996: Unseasonably cool and sometimes rainy conditions across the country dampened consumers' enthusiasm for items such as patio furniture, swimming pools, air conditioners, and ice cream. Fewer shoppers came into stores, and though warm sunny weather arrived in August, most people had given up on the season.

23

Autumnal Equinox 07:31 EDT

1968: Vicious winds near St. Mary's, ON, demolished about 150 m of the fairgrounds' exhibition building, sent 3 people to hospital, and forced cancellation of the fall fair. The wind also destroyed part of the building that covered a quarter-mile race track. The St. Mary's racetrack was once featured in Ripley's *Believe It or Not* as the only covered racetrack in the world.

24

1994: High winds caused blizzard conditions over the Arctic Islands from 25 to 27 September. Wind gusts reached 140 km/h at Alert. Flying debris from the storm forced the Clyde River school to close. By the 28th, temperatures dipped to -16° at Mould Bay.

25

Full Moon 

1898: A schoolteacher saved 40 children from death in Merriton, ON, when she spotted an approaching tornado and led her children to a safe corner when the tornado struck. Unfortunately, falling debris killed one of the children and injured several others.

26

1992: Rain began to drench the Terrace/Kitimat region of BC. Between the 24th and 27th, the area received over 180 mm, and by 4 October, Kitimat had 311.2 mm. The heavy rain resulted in flooding and considerable property damage.

27

1980: A mini-tornado at Cape Traverse, PEI, tipped a fishing boat, moored in a backyard, onto a barn. One gust of wind turned a 9,000-kg tanker onto its side, and a second gust returned it onto 4 wheels.

28

1997: In contrast to the summer's dry conditions, which forced officials to ban open fires in provincial forests, a storm dumped up to 45 mm of rain on Halifax. Ankle-deep water at the entrance to the Bedford Place Mall caused one store to close early. On the Halifax waterfront, port police lost the use of 1 of their 2 patrol boats when rain submerged the 8-m craft.

29

1881: From the diary of Dr. Joseph Workman: "Vennor's prophecy for September has been utterly out, but this seems not to trouble him." Henry George Vennor of the Geological Survey in Ottawa was one of many amateur weather forecasters who claimed they could predict future weather through a "law of recurrences." Newspapers carried his forecasts and the annual Vennor's Almanac beginning in 1877 had a huge following.

30



SEPTEMBER

	1	2	3	4						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
26	27	28	29	30						

October

NOVEMBER

	1	2	3	4	5	6						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
28	29	30										

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

					<p>1996: A mere 156 days after the last remaining snow melted on 28 April, Winnipeg received another snowfall, making it the shortest snow-free period in recent memory. Winnipeggers' emotions ranged from stoicism, to anger, to feeling cheated. Retailers specializing in winter garb and gear reported booming business.</p>	<p>1964: A miniature tornado swept across the Kirkton, ON, fairgrounds scattering debris and a few loose hats, then disappeared. It also flattened bleachers about 2 minutes after 100 spectators had abandoned the structures to seek shelter in cars and nearby buildings from the advancing rain.</p> <p>Last Quarter </p>
<p>1978: Wind gusts blowing at 115 km/h swept into downtown Calgary, forcing several construction workers to jump to the ground from 4-m-high scaffolds. The wind also sucked the glass out of store windows. Several people had to seek shelter because they couldn't walk against the wind.</p>	<p>1610: From the weather log of John Guy, sent to Canada by the Newfoundland Company to govern its plantation: "A hot and most fair clear sunshiny day. We have found the weather since our coming so temperate as in England and rather better ... our company is much confirmed in a good concept of this climate, seeing that the weather [has] proved contrary to [its] fame."</p>	<p>1868: Lt. Saxby of the Royal Navy predicted that exactly 1 year from today a storm of marked severity and exceptionally high tides would occur. One year less a day later, the famous <i>Saxby Gale</i> struck western New Brunswick. The storm tore vessels from moorings, drove boats ashore, and badly damaged others. At Moncton, tides were 2 m above any previous record set there.</p>	<p>1858: A violent storm whipped across southern Ontario. The newspaper reported: "Ladies experienced considerable difficulty in walking the streets from the force of the wind, and the super-abundance of skirt indulged in now-a-days. But what they lost in comfort they gained in appearance, for the cheeks looked rosy and healthy, and the face animated and handsome."</p>	<p>1997: Calgarians woke up to their first blast of winter. In the downtown, snow amounted to 12 cm or more, though none fell outside the city. Police investigated 40 minor accidents during the morning rush hour, compared to the normal 3 or 4.</p>	<p>1977: A tornado struck Chatham Township in southwestern Ontario, tearing the roof from a house and pushing the building 2 m off its foundation. A 4-year-old boy was asleep at the time. A piece of timber fell near his bed, and a large chunk of cement crashed a few centimetres from his head. The front steps of the house went missing, but, somehow, the family of 5 escaped safely.</p>	<p>1997: The Mexicans were shivering; but it was not the thought of playing Canada in a World Cup soccer qualifier in Edmonton. It was the weather! Temperatures hovered near the freezing mark in light flurries. The Mexicans were all bundled up (as were the Canadians). "In my life I have never been so cold," moaned one Mexican forward.</p> <p>New Moon </p>
<p>1997: Alberta's top court refused to overturn a lower court decision ordering a Foremost resident to pay \$45,000 to his neighbour for whacking him with a 2 by 4. The victim had sued the man for breaking his elbow during a dispute over the way in which the victim was clearing and banking snow from his driveway.</p>	<p>1962: Typhoon Freda struck the Pacific Northwest, causing 7 deaths and damages in excess of \$10 million. Howling winds reached a maximum sustained wind speed of 88 km/h with gusts of 140 km/h. In Victoria, the wind tore off the side of a house and lifted a fibreglass boat suspended from the ceiling and smashed it into the house next door!</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>1997: A major storm system packing wind gusts to 120 km/h tracked into the eastern Arctic from 12 to 16 October. At Cape Dorset, on Baffin Island, strong winds caused extensive damage and capsized 5 boats. Officials ordered people to stay indoors as winds up to 120 km/h battered the area. Emergency personnel at Rankin Inlet reported that the wind blew the roof off a store.</p>	<p>Weather Quiz What is <i>nephelococcygia</i>?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) activity of describing the shape of clouds 2) scientific name for weather modification 3) practice of seeding clouds to prevent hail 4) technical name for clouds that resemble flying saucers 5) trance from staring at a full moon 	<p>1996: Western Canada was hit with some brutal fall weather. In the Vancouver area, heavy rain and wind flooded intersections, caused power outages, cancelled ferry crossings, and delayed Thanksgiving dinners. A whopping 46 mm of rain fell in just 15 hours. Meanwhile, southern Saskatchewan residents woke to heavy rain, lightning, and marble-sized hail.</p>	<p>1871: The keel of the schooner <i>Snow Squall</i> was laid in a snow storm and launched in a snow storm. Coincidentally, on this day she was also lost in a snow storm while on a trading voyage to Newfoundland. All hands perished.</p>	<p>1852: A storm drove 21 American fishing vessels onto shore at Souris, PEI. A witness wrote, "Two hundred destitute seamen can be seen ... strolling about in distress and want, many of whom escaped without shoes, hats, or jackets."</p>

1997: A Calgary pilot died instantly when his small plane crashed after clipping power lines northeast of Crossfield. A police officer said it appeared the pilot descended through thick mist to get his bearings and hit the power lines. Weather conditions in the area were deteriorating at the time, with a 250-m cloud ceiling, mist, and gusting north winds.

17

1930: Twenty-five people fled the Angola Hotel in Buffalo, New York, when bulging walls warned that the roof might cave in from the weight of wet snow left after a sudden snowburst. Hundreds of small buildings along the American shore of Lake Ontario collapsed under the weight. In Ontario, most stations near the lakes reported only a dusting of snow.

18

1997: Hot "Indian Summer" weather and skyrocketing water temperatures may have encouraged the production of substances that fouled Windsor's drinking water. The organic compounds—geosmin and methylisoboreol—were released when weeds in Lake St. Clair began to decompose. The City treats the water to remove the offending compounds, but that program usually ends in early October when water temperatures drop and plant-growth and decomposition slow.

19

1997: Frigid temperatures and heavy snow flurries blanketed Manitoba. Blowing snow severely hampered transportation in and around Winnipeg. Icy road conditions had Manitoba Public Insurance hopping, with an average of 100 new claims an hour, a 30% increase over an ordinary winter day.

20

1993: Southern and central Ontario residents cleaned up after a fierce wind storm. The winds downed trees and power lines, damaged buildings, and caused water levels to rise quickly along Lake Erie's eastern end. At Gore Bay on Manitoulin Island, a wind gust of 102 km/h was the strongest ever recorded at that location in October.

21

1997: A winter storm slowed traffic to a crawl across most of Ontario from London to Cornwall. The largest snowfall occurred in the Lake Huron region, where up to 15 cm fell. In London, the storm delayed school buses, cut power, and downed branches. In Ottawa, dozens of drivers, caught off guard by the season's first snowfall, skidded off the road.

22

1993: Gale-force winds, clocked above 90 km/h, pounded Victoria. Power lines came down, leaving many areas in darkness. The worst of the storm hit just before the World Series baseball game ended, but most people got to see the Toronto Blue Jays win before being plunged into darkness.

23

First Quarter 

1945: A 3-day rainfall started on the 23rd in BC's Lower Fraser Valley. It caused mudslides and the diversion of a mountain stream east of Abbotsford, which disrupted electric railway service.

24

1983: A major storm with winds in excess of 100 km/h hit Atlantic Canada. One ship reported high seas of 10 m. Winds downed power lines leaving two-thirds of Nova Scotia in darkness for up to 20 hours. The storm flooded highways as well as destroying 30 fishing boats and thousands of lobster traps.

25

1857: A farmer and his son from Magog, PQ, noticed that before a rain shower on this day, their cattle acted strangely. They ran, frightened, to the river's edge and stood together until the storm passed, bellowing furiously all the while.

26

1997: Ottawa residents awoke to the start of the largest teacher's walkout in Canadian history, and to the aftermath of a freak snow storm. The storm created a transportation mess, sending dozens of cars into ditches and stranding OC Transpo's big, articulated buses. The storm even knocked the Virgin Mary statue from her pedestal outside St. Patrick's Basilica on Nepean Street.

27

1996: Edmonton missed the fierce storm predicted for the evening rush hour, but Calgary was not so fortunate. Strong gusts knocked down power lines, throwing several neighbourhoods into darkness. Up to 12 cm of snow fell across southern Alberta. Temperatures were at least 10 degrees below normal, along with very high wind chill.

28

1997: Strong winds clocked at 95 km/h forced operators of the Confederation Bridge to stop tractor trailers and motorcycles from crossing during the night. The weather also forced cancellation of all ferry crossings between PEI and Nova Scotia.

29

1978: Strong winds began blowing in northern BC and Alberta. In southern Alberta, 2 furniture-warehouse roofs blew off, collapsing walls and causing about \$1.5 million damage. Near Pincher Creek, the wind pushed a rail car carrying 40 head of cattle over 70 km—at speeds up to 80 km/h—before the car came to rest on an incline.

30

1949: Residents of Haines Junction, YT, were busy shovelling 67.3 cm of snow from yesterday's snowfall, the greatest 1-day total ever from a Yukon station.

31 Daylight Savings Time Ends
Halloween
Last Quarter 

OCTOBER

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

DECEMBER

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	<p>1997: Thirty weeks after their worst blizzard ever, Manitobans were shovelling again. The first snow of winter closed highways and caused cars to slide into ditches and each other. Between 10 and 15 cm fell across the Red River Valley, and up to 20 cm in eastern Manitoba. Visibility was zero in open areas; some tow-truck drivers refused to travel far to rescue vehicles.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>1955: Ferocious winds brought a massive downpour ashore to North Vancouver. Rising waters drove people from their homes and washed away houses, roads, bridges, and rail lines. The 2-day rain exceeded 125 mm in places. Army personnel joined thousands of police, firefighters, civil defence workers, UBC students, and civilian volunteers sandbagging along creeks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>1996: A winter snow storm wreaked havoc across PEI, causing hazardous driving conditions and stranding travellers at ferry terminals. At the terminals, parking lots were so full that officials loaded 2 rows of cars onto a docked ferry to wait out the storm, thus making room in the terminal. People had to wait 1 hour for cafeteria service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>1875: The lives of 130 people, most from BC, were lost when the <i>Pacific</i> sank after being struck by a heavy southeaster. One man managed to survive the shipwreck by floating on part of the pilot house. Rescuers found him 26 hours later.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>Weather Quiz Prior to World War II, meteorologists used to refer to themselves with this nickname: 1) met men 2) rainmakers 3) balloon blowers 4) weather weenies 5) storm chasers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>1880: A gale on the 6th and 7th wrecked or disabled a score of vessels on the Great Lakes. Only 15 km from its destination at Toronto, the <i>Belle Sheridan</i>, with a cargo of coal, was swept eastward along the shore of Lake Ontario past Presqu'ile, all the while being torn up by the piercing westerlies. Of the 7 crew members, only 1 boy survived.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>
<p>1994: New Brunswick's worst wind storm in 25 years, with gusts up to 100 km/h, tore through forests, leaving downed trees in a tangled mess. Foresters estimated the winds felled 1 million cords of wood worth about \$10 million, enough wood to keep a large pulp mill going for a year. At Woodbine in Toronto races were cancelled because winds were blowing horses sideways.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>1819: Around noon in Montreal, the sky turned from a greenish tint to inky black, then sooty, soapy-suds rain fell. Later, a tremour shook the island of Montreal. Frightened citizens made their way to the church. Suddenly, a lightning bolt struck the church spire, and it crashed to the ground. The next morning dawned bright and clear as if nothing had happened.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>1913: A Sunday storm drowned more than 270 seamen in the Great Lakes. Thirty-four freighters and other vessels sank or were badly wrecked. The crew of the <i>Plymouth</i> on Lake Michigan met a tragic end in the storm. When U.S. coast guard officials boarded, they found the crew of 7 men lashed to the mast, frozen to death. Only the ship had survived.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>1990: A heavy snow storm dumped up to 45 cm of snow on the Matapédia Valley in Gaspé, PQ. Snow and strong winds downed trees and hydro lines, leaving thousands without power. Elsewhere, strong wind gusts up to 130 km/h, 10- to 20-m high waves, and rain whipped Nova Scotia and PEI, causing local flooding and suspending ferry service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>1983: A waterspout occurred in Millar Channel near Flores Island on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The unseasonable fury, packing 110-km/h wind gusts, and much farther north than usual, capsized the wooden fishing boat, <i>Storm Prince</i>, drowning 2 of 10 people on board.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>1955: Three people died in Nicolet, PQ, when a section of an embankment slid into the Nicolet River. Several others clambered to safety as the ground cracked around them, and slid some 20 m down the river bank. Fearing further cave-ins, civic officials evacuated over 200 people from convents, hostels, and homes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>1978: Massive flooding in the Terrace, BC, area over 2 weeks necessitated one of the largest highway reconstruction projects ever in the west central region of the province. The flood, described as a once-in-a-200-year event, washed out roads, bridges, and businesses. One resident said that the raging creeks "sounded like Niagara Falls."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>
<p>New Moon ●</p> <p>1997: Thousands of Toronto motorists were turning after up to 22 cm of snow fell in the city, but, because of budget cuts, hardly a salt truck was to be seen. The storm—the third-heaviest snowfall this early in the season in 60 years—was partly to blame for 4 road deaths and hundreds of accidents on icy, wind-swept, snow-clogged highways in Greater Toronto.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>1997: Canada's "wet coast" city enjoyed 9 straight rainless days. But no one complained, especially considering the record 167 mm of rain that fell in October, and that the city had twice the usual amount of precipitation over the past 12 months. Vancouver has only had more than 8 straight days of sunshine 6 times in the past 59 years.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>1962: Gale-force winds and tides caused minor flooding in southeastern New Brunswick, inundating wharves, highways, and isolating several homes. The storm hit hard between Bucoche and Shediac. Up to 1.5 m of water submerged a newly paved road near Bucoche.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>1997: At 6:40 AM, the first barrel of oil finally flowed out of Hibernia, nearly 20 years after engineers discovered the field off Newfoundland. As the oil started flowing, the weather was mediocre, with 4-m waves and 37-km/h winds, far better than what Hibernia was designed to withstand: icebergs; 25-m waves, and 185-km/h winds.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>Remembrance Day</p> <p>1997: The UN stated that Toronto is the world's leading municipality attempting to introduce greenhouse gas reductions. Toronto and its surrounding suburbs achieved cumulative reductions of 7.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide between 1990 and 1995—a 6% decline since 1990. Edmonton finished 7th in the international survey involving 150 cities.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>1887: In the midst of a howling storm, the schooner <i>Glendora</i> plunged to the bottom of Lake Ontario near Amherst Island. Its cargo included an unspecified amount of gold and silver pieces.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p>1997: Toyota Canada decided to build a cold-weather research and test centre in Timmins, ON. The company liked the city's natural weather, i.e., high humidity in cold temperatures, large wind-chill factor, and abundant snowfall. Other auto makers also test their vehicles in northern Ontario, including General Motors in Kapuskasing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">20</p>
	<p>First Quarter ●</p>					

1997: A Falmouth ski hill operator exports snow. The owner of Ski Martock sent 50 tonnes of fresh Canadian snow to the sunny climes of Puerto Rico. It arrived in a refrigerated container in time for a 4-day celebration to kick off the Christmas season.

21

1996: Queen's University researchers figured out how Arctic fish avoid freezing. Apparently, the fish use an anti-freeze protein to limit little ice crystals that get into their circulation by controlling the ice-crystal size. The discovery has important implications in everything from storing ice cream and other freezer foods to developing frost-resistant plants.

22

1996: Cold weather played havoc with Calgary drivers. Slippery roads contributed to nearly 500 accidents; 51 resulted in injuries. The cold also froze water pipes, including one in an abandoned department store. When the pipe burst, more than 190,000 litres of water gushed out, filling the driveway of a loading dock to 1 1/2 m.

23

1996: A 30-m-long awning loaded with snow tore off the front of an Edmonton store and fell on a woman, shattering both her legs. At first, the awning tipped forward, spilling hundreds of kilograms of snow on the sidewalk. Then it tore loose. It was so cold, around -30°, that the woman's blood froze.

24

1860: A vicious storm drove the *Jersey City*, a propeller steamer with a cargo of flour, pork, and a deckload of cattle ashore at Long Point, ON. Heavy seas washed some cattle overboard as well as one of the passengers. The remaining passengers and 19 of the 20 crew made it to shore just as the snow squall reached full force.

25

1996: Frigid temperatures and an early dump of deep snow made it extremely difficult for wildlife in Alberta. Many mule deer congregated on neighbourhood lawns. With the start of breeding season, males expend a lot of energy and don't eat, often dying before the end of winter. Severe winter weather worsens their condition.

26

1997: An early season snow storm wreaked havoc on parts of the Maritimes, dumping 20 to 25 cm of slushy, heavy snow and forcing police to close the Trans-Canada in several places. Slippery conditions and poor visibility caused several tractor-trailers to jackknife or slide into the ditch. In southern New Brunswick, schools closed and many community events were cancelled.

27

1997: Alberta wildlife biologists suggested that the open water and the lack of a deep snow pack made it difficult for coyotes to find food. Last year, with a deep snow pack, the coyotes did very well feeding on starving, exhausted, and injured deer.

28

1997: An avalanche in Kananaskis country swept 4 Calgary teens to their deaths. Park wardens said the teens were in an out-of-bounds area and likely triggered the avalanche that roared 150 m down a steep slope and engulfed them. Unseasonably mild temperatures and lack of snowfall kept most Alberta ski hills closed this season.

29

1997: With the threat of a \$500 fine, the city of St. John's forbids people from depositing snow or ice on any street or sidewalk in such a way as to create a safety hazard. One elderly, very annoyed man in St. John's said: "Look around here. Where am I going to put it?" and then clearly expressed his mood by saying exactly what he wanted to do with it.

30

Full Moon 

Last Quarter 

NOVEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

JANUARY

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			<p>1997: The Atlantic hurricane season came to a quiet end. Seven tropical storms formed; only 3 reached hurricane strength, and none entered Canadian waters. Only 1 tropical storm appeared during the peak August to September period—an occurrence last noted in 1929. Most hurricane forecasters credited El Niño for shutting down tropical disturbances before they could intensify.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>1997: Between 30 and 40 cm of snow fell across the Maritimes. High winds forced closure of the Confederation Bridge for several hours. Northumberland ferries were tied up all day, and flights were cancelled at the Charlottetown Airport. On PEI, authorities closed schools in outlying districts, and provincial politicians cancelled the evening sitting of the legislature.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>1995: The Canadian navy pulled off a dramatic 4-hour rescue early this morning, in the North Atlantic. Fighting 15-m waves and stinging salt spray, the Sea King helicopter hovered 12 m above the heaving deck of a sinking Greek-owned bulk carrier. Flares from a circling Hercules aircraft lit the scene, and Search and Rescue technicians used a horse-collar-style harness to haul up survivors.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>1873: Hon. O. Mowat, premier of Ontario, narrowly escaped serious injuries or worse. Mr. Mowat was residing in the Parliament Buildings while his residence was being repaired. At the height of a storm, winds toppled one of the buildings' chimneys. Bricks came crashing through the roof into the room below, which was occupied by the premier.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>
<p>1997: <i>The X-Files</i> co-star David Duchovny complained on the "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" show from New York that he was fed up with Vancouver because it had "400 inches of rain a day." Duchovny's remark, intended as a joke, outraged British Columbia's tourist association and drew furious reaction from residents. He later apologized. (1997 was Vancouver's wettest year ever.)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>1857: From the writings of Henry Youle Hind: "After our arrival at Red Lake Mission we learned the Roman Catholic missionary had frozen to death 2 days previously, in an attempt to cross the ice during a snow storm ... He had been visiting a camp of Ojibways, who warned him of the perils of a return across the ice during the storm, and invited him to pass the night in their wigwams ..."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p>1997: Thick fog engulfed Calgary for several days—the result of a thermal inversion. The fog usually vanishes by morning, when the sun warms the ground. However, in winter, the days are so short and the sun so low, the fog often hangs around much longer than it would in the summer. Calgary's overnight temperature dipped to -20.7°.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>1881: "Canada has a reputation for magnificent winter weather ... but the result this time [during a stay in Montreal and Quebec] has been a mess of characterless weather, which any right-feeling Canadians are probably ashamed of ... never mind; what you lack in weather you make up in the means of grace." (Mark Twain, address at Windsor Hotel, Montreal, reproduced in <i>The New York Times</i>, 18 December 1881)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>1854: A brutal start to winter placed a burden on the Great Western Railway. From a railway report: "The mails are behind, and there are 9 trains of cars blocked between Windsor and Niagara Falls. We pity the passengers, for when the passage is shortest the accommodations for eating are very bad and when drawn out to 2 or 3 days there will ensue a semi-famine ..."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>1997: Fourteen passengers aboard the Sowind Air commuter plane survived when it crashed at Little Grand Rapids, MB; 4 people died. At the time of the crash (3:15 PM) there was a low ceiling, thick fog, near-zero visibility, and freezing rain. Local residents snow-mobilized across Family Lake, carrying chainsaws and axes. Nurses treated the injured until they could be flown to Winnipeg.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>1867: In Kingston, ON: "Saxie Allen ... was executed at a few minutes after 11 o'clock this morning. He walked to the gallows with a firm step, and refused to have the black cap drawn over his head ... he died with a smile on his face ... About 1,500 persons witnessed the execution. Weather cold and clear." (<i>The Daily Globe</i>, Toronto)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p>1997: Warm weather slowed winter road construction in northern communities such as Fort Chipewyan, AB. Freeze-up was a month later than usual. A contractor checking the road across Lake Athabasca crashed through the ice on a snowcat. When this happens, road construction must start over, so besides putting the victim at risk, such incidents delay the road for everyone.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>1997: Record-breaking temperatures in Alberta made it feel more like October than December. Eight new records were broken, including 9.2° at Edmonton and 13.3° at Medicine Hat. In Calgary, one resort offered same-day ski-and-golf packages. For many residents, December golf was a first. Some businesses such as snow-removal companies and sporting goods stores were praying for snow.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>1964: A brutal cold spell caused at least 3 deaths, and resulted in power shortages in much of Alberta. Fire-fighters had trouble because of frozen equipment and icy streets. Calgary residents rationed power by voluntarily turning off Christmas lights. The Calgary post office reported only one serious case of frostbite among workers—but the victim was an inside employee!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>1997: Record-high temperatures in the West had Saskatonians playing golf, and picking up Christmas trees on their way home. Meanwhile, freak snow storms and bitter cold struck northern Mexico, leaving at least 12 dead and paralyzing highways and ports. It snowed in Guadalajara (as much as 40 cm) for the first time since 1881. Temperatures were -15° in Chihuahua state.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p>1997: It was dark, and the airport was shrouded in fog when an Air Canada flight from Toronto to Fredericton approached the slippery runway. It skidded, bounced across a field, then slid up a snowy embankment and slammed into trees and bush about 1 km from the airport. It took rescuers 30 minutes to find it. The deep snowpack likely saved the victims' lives.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>1997: Wildfires pushed by 80 km/h winds raced through tinder-dry forests in central Alberta—the first winter forest fires in a decade. More serious were massive wildfires near Fort Macleod, AB. Strong chinook winds from 80 to 100 km/h whipped the grassfires across the ranchland, scorching buildings and 1,000 km of fence, and burning to death hundreds of livestock.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>1795: From explorer David Thompson's diary during his expedition in northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba: "On the 18th December at 8 AM, the thermometer was 56°; at noon 44°, and at 9 PM 48 degrees below zero. It was a day of most intense cold, the ice on the lake was splitting in all directions, the smoke from the chimney fell in lumps to the ground."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>
			<p>New Moon ●</p>			
			<p>First Quarter ●</p>			

1983: Vancouver temperatures were -5° and -13°. Vehicles wouldn't start, and customers waited hours for taxi and towing services. Prairie folks chuckled when Vancouverites described this as "cold." It was -41° at Coronation, AB, the coldest in 99 years. At Moosomin, SK, it was -38°, so cold that several children got stuck to playground equipment, and had to be thawed off.

19

1996: Rush hour was a slushy, white-knuckle ride home for many Vancouver drivers. Temperatures near the freezing mark left downtown streets wet, but at higher elevations several centimetres of slushy snow covered the ground. Buses ran about an hour late. Up to 25 cm of snow fell in the Fraser Valley.

20

1997: Ontario Provincial Police warned residents in the Midland area not to venture out on lakes and rivers. Ice was not thick enough to support the weight of people and snow machines. Two kayakers became trapped by ice on Penetang Bay; luckily, they were able to free themselves.

21

1989: It was so cold in Toronto that when the doorman at the posh King Edward Hotel used his whistle to hail a cab the metal whistle stuck to his lip. The temperature of -22.2° that day felt more like -30° with the wind chill.

22

1997: The scanty snow cover across Western Canada caused a meat merchant from St. Albert, AB, to truck in 5 trailerloads of snow scraped from a hockey rink. He had it dumped in front of his store. Surprised shoppers enjoyed the sight, especially the 3 snowmen. The merchant had been concerned that his daughter would be unable to enjoy winter during the holidays.

23

1986: A severe ice storm struck the Ottawa Valley and southwestern Quebec on Christmas Eve. One home in 4 was without power on Christmas Day, and many residents had to resort to barbecued turkey or take-out food for dinner. Nearly 14 hours of freezing rain deposited about 30 mm of precipitation—making for a mystical yet distressing scene.

24

1997: At noon, Edmonton's temperature was 6.8°C; but in Phoenix it was only a degree warmer. There was no snow on the ground in the Alberta capital—the first brown Christmas in 100 years. At least a dozen golfers played at the Victoria golf course. Kids tried out new bikes, joggers ran in their shirt-sleeves, and people strolled in wind-breakers and sunglasses.

25

Winter Solstice 02:44 EST

Full Moon 

Christmas Day

1989: A major snowfall caused automobile accidents from Montreal to the US border. Near St. Luc, 25 km southeast of Montreal, 150 cars were involved in a single accident.

26

Weather Quiz
What is the most popular weather term used in naming geographical areas, features, and places in Canada?

- 1) sunny
- 2) rainy
- 3) snow
- 4) wind
- 5) frost

27

1996: The Great Blizzard of '96 struck southwestern BC, dumping a record 1-day snowfall of 41 cm on Vancouver and 65 cm at Victoria. Canadian Forces soldiers cleared roads and searched for hundreds of stranded motorists. On Vancouver Island, there were so many collapsing buildings that firefighters were only visiting those where people were known to be inside.

28

1942: A freezing rain "ice blitz" hit Cornwall, ON, knocking down telephone poles and sending large tree limbs crashing to the ground. Most residents were without electricity and telephone service for 7 to 10 days, although it took months to return essential services to all customers. Utility companies brought in workers from Quebec and western Ontario to repair power lines.

29

1997: Described as a "spring tide with attitude," high tides, combined with deep low-atmospheric pressure and strong winds, caused water to break through makeshift rock barriers near Fox Point, NS. The surge threw piles of seaweed into yards. The ugly mess frightened children to the point that they refused to leave their houses.

30

1997: Vancouver and Victoria went through the "Big Wet"—the wettest year in their history. At Vancouver, total precipitation was 1,537 mm, almost all of it rain. Only 8 cm of snow fell, the least since 1941 received a mere 2.3 cm. Wet days numbered 185 (3 snow days), compared to the normal of 164 days.

31

Boxing Day

Last Quarter 

January - 2	2.5 years
February - 2	Quebec
March - 1	Regina
April - 2	snowshoeing
May - 2	Calgary
June - 2	flying glass
July - 2	Manitoba
August - 1	sudden gust of wind
September - 1	dirty snow that flies off dusty prairie fields
October - 1	activity of describing the shape of clouds
November - 3	balloon blowers
December - 3	snow