

# ALBERTA BY NUMBERS

By Tara Hyland-Russell

- Alberta's share of Canada's total population: 9%
- Alberta's share of Canada's total primary agricultural production: 25%
- Value of wheat, Alberta's largest agri-food export, in 1998: \$1,178,000,000
- Value of Alberta's 1998 mustard exports: \$15-million
- Current price for mustard seed: 13 cents a pound
- Alberta international agri-food exports in 1998: \$5.1-billion
- Agri-food exports to the United States in 1998: \$2.65-billion
- Percentage increase in agri-food exports to the U.S. from 1989 to 1998: 336
- Value of canola seed, Alberta's largest agri-food export to Japan in 1998: \$246-million
- Value of horsemeat exported to Japan in 1998: \$19-million
- Percentage decrease of agri-food exports to Japan 1997-98: 11
- Value of decrease: \$84-million
- Percentage increase of agri-food exports to China, 1997-98: 55
- Value of increase: \$98-million
- Percentage of Canada's irrigated land that is found in Alberta: 62
- Percentage of the total licensed water allocation in Alberta consumed by irrigation : 83
- Estimated total volume of potable groundwater in Alberta: 5.5-billion dam<sup>3</sup>  
(1 dam<sup>3</sup> = 1,000 metres<sup>3</sup>, or about 200,000 gallons)
- Approximate amount of water needed to refine one cubic metre of petroleum: 22 m<sup>3</sup>
- Percentage of Prairie provinces' water which originates in Alberta: 90
- Approximate number of fabric pieces in a twin-sized double wedding ring quilt: 1,400
- Ideal number of stitches per inch in a hand-stitched quilt: 10 to 12
- Percentage of Canadian adults at the lowest literacy level: 22
- Percentage of Albertan adults at lowest literacy level: 15
- Percentage of Albertan adults with inability to deal with daily written material: 36  
(15% can't read; 21% read but at a very low level)
- Year fish screens first recommended for irrigation canals: 1912
- Number of fish screens in place today: 2
- Estimated number of fish stranded in 1999 in Carseland Canal: 300,000
- Number of fish rescued from irrigation canal since 1994: 230,000
- Number of volunteer hours in 1999 fish rescue operation: 3,800
- Year skiing introduced in Alberta by Norwegian settlers: 1890
- First ski lift installed at Lake Louise: 1954

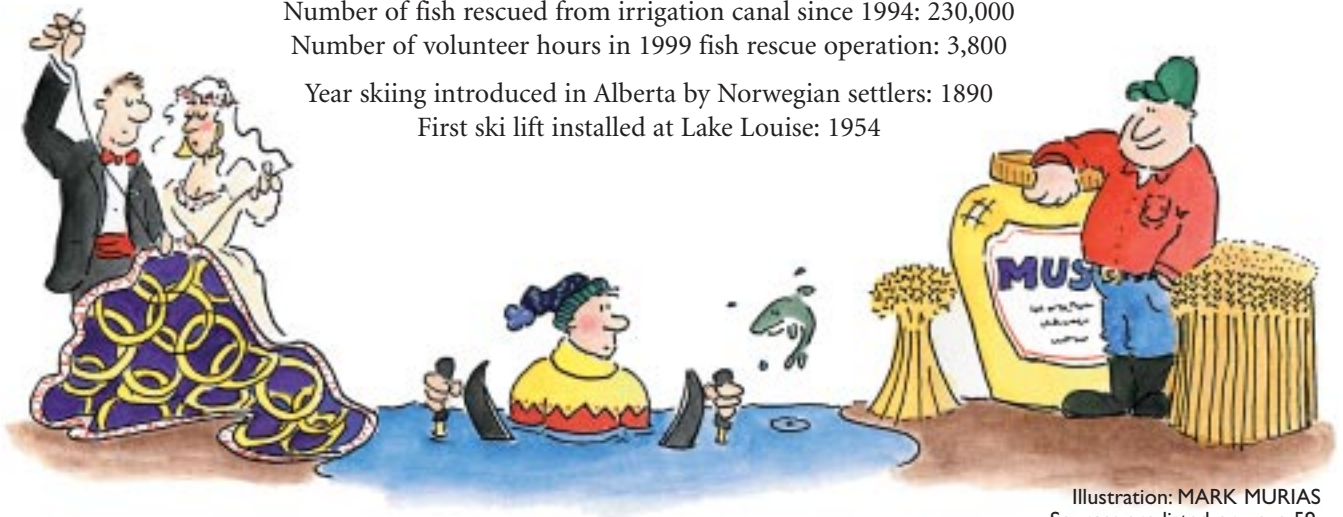


Illustration: MARK MURIAS  
Sources are listed on page 59.  
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