

Name _____



Festivals and Celebrations in Canada

Canada is a country filled with fun and exciting celebrations! People across the country come together every year to enjoy parades, fireworks, music, and traditional events. Some of the most famous celebrations in Canada include Canada Day, Indigenous Powwows, and the Calgary Stampede.

Canada Day: The Nation's Birthday (July 1st)

One of the biggest celebrations in Canada is Canada Day, which happens every year on July 1st. This holiday marks the day Canada became a country in 1867.

On this special day, people all over Canada:

- Wear red and white, the colors of the Canadian flag
- Watch fireworks light up the sky
- Enjoy concerts, parades, and outdoor activities

The biggest Canada Day celebration happens in Ottawa, the country's capital. Thousands of people gather near Parliament Hill to see musicians, dancers, and a spectacular fireworks show at night!

Indigenous Powwows: Honoring Tradition

A powwow is a special gathering of Indigenous peoples in Canada. It is a time for dancing, singing, storytelling, and honoring traditions.

During a powwow, people wear beautiful, colorful regalia (traditional clothing) and dance to the sound of drumming and singing. There are different types of dances, such as:

- Fancy Dance, where dancers move quickly with bright feathered outfits
- Jingle Dress Dance, where metal cones on the dress create a musical sound
- Grass Dance, a dance that mimics the movement of grass blowing in the wind

Powwows are a way for Indigenous communities to celebrate their culture and share it with others. Many powwows are open to everyone, and visitors can watch the dances, listen to traditional songs, and even try Indigenous foods like bannock (a type of bread).

The Calgary Stampede: The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth

Every July, the city of Calgary, Alberta hosts the Calgary Stampede, one of the biggest rodeo festivals in the world! This event celebrates Canada's cowboy and farming history.

At the Stampede, visitors can:

- Watch rodeo events like bull riding and horse racing
- See cowboys and cowgirls show off their skills
- Enjoy pancake breakfasts, music concerts, and carnival rides

People dress up in cowboy hats, boots, and western clothing to get into the Stampede spirit. The festival lasts for ten days and attracts over a million visitors every year!

