

1.—Provinces and Territories of Canada, Dates of Admission to Confederation, Legislative Process by which Admission was Effectuated and Present Areas

Province, Territory or District	Date of Admission or Creation	Legislative Process	Present Area (sq. miles)		
			Land	Fresh Water	Total
Ontario ¹	July 1, 1867	Act of Imperial Parliament — The British North America Act, 1867 (30-31 Vict., c. 3), and Imperial Order in Council, May 22, 1867.	348,141	64,441	412,582
Quebec ²	July 1, 1867		523,860	71,000	594,860
Nova Scotia.....	July 1, 1867		20,743	325	21,068
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1867		27,473	512	27,985
Manitoba ³	July 15, 1870		Manitoba Act, 1870 (33 Vict., c. 3) and Imperial Order in Council, June 23, 1870.	219,723	26,789
British Columbia....	July 20, 1871	Imperial Order in Council, May 16, 1871.	359,279	6,976	366,255
Prince Edward Island	July 1, 1873	Imperial Order in Council, June 26, 1873.	2,184	--	2,184
Saskatchewan ⁴	Sept. 1, 1905	Saskatchewan Act, 1905 (4-5 Edw. VII, c. 42).	220,182	31,518	251,700
Alberta ⁴	Sept. 1, 1905	Alberta Act, 1905 (4-5 Edw. VII, c. 3).	248,800	6,485	255,285
Newfoundland.....	Mar. 31, 1949	The British North America Act, 1949 (12-13 Geo. VI, c. 22).	147,994	7,370	155,364
Northwest Territories ⁵	July 15, 1870	Act of Imperial Parliament—Rupert's Land Act, 1868 (31-32 Vict., c. 105), and Imperial Order in Council, June 23, 1870.	1,253,438	51,465	1,304,903
Mackenzie ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920		493,225	34,265	527,490
Keewatin ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920		218,480	9,700	228,180
Franklin ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920		541,753	7,500	549,253
Yukon Territory ⁷	June 13, 1898	Yukon Territory Act, 1898 (61 Vict., c. 6).	205,346	1,730	207,076
Canada			3,577,163	268,611	3,845,774

¹ The area of Ontario was extended by the Ontario Boundaries Extension Act, 1912 (2 Geo. V, c. 40).

² Extended by Quebec Boundaries Extension Act, 1912 (2 Geo. V, c. 45), and diminished Mar. 1, 1927, in consequence of the Award of the Judicial Committee of the British Privy Council, whereby approximately 112,000 sq. miles of territory (formerly considered as part of Quebec) was assigned to Newfoundland.

³ Extended by the Extension of Boundaries Act of Manitoba, 1881, and the Manitoba Boundaries Extension Act, 1912 (2 Geo. V, c. 32).

⁴ Saskatchewan and Alberta created as provinces in 1905 from the area formerly comprised in the provisional Districts of Assiniboia, Athabasca, Alberta and Saskatchewan, established May 17, 1882, by minute of Canadian Privy Council, concurred in by Dominion Parliament and Order in Council, Oct. 2, 1895.

⁵ By an Imperial Order in Council passed on June 23, 1870, pursuant to the Rupert's Land Act, 1868 (31-32 Vict., c. 105), the former territories of the Hudson's Bay Company known as Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were transferred to Canada, effective July 15, 1870. These territories were designated as the North-West Territories by the Act of 32-33 Vict., c. 3, and as the Northwest Territories by R.S.C. 1906, c. 62. By Imperial Order in Council of July 31, 1880 (effective Sept. 1, 1880), all British territories and possessions in North America not already included within Canada and all islands adjacent thereto (with the exception of the Colony of Newfoundland and its dependencies) were annexed to Canada, and these additional territories were formally included in the North-West Territories by 4-5 Edw. VII, c. 27. The Province of Manitoba was formed out of a portion of the territories by the Manitoba Act, 1870 (33 Vict., c. 3), and a further portion was added to Manitoba in 1881 by 44 Vict., c. 14. The Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were formed out of portions of the territories in 1905, and in 1912 other portions were added to Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

⁶ By 39 Vict., c. 21, a separate district to be known as the District of Keewatin was established and provision was made for the local government thereof. The Act was expressed to come into force by proclamation. It provided that portions of the District might be re-annexed to the North-West Territories by proclamation; in 1886 a portion of the District of Keewatin was re-annexed, and in 1905 the entire Keewatin District was re-annexed. The Act of 39 Vict. was never proclaimed. By Order in Council of May 8, 1882, the provisional districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Athabasca were created for the convenience of settlers and for postal purposes. By Order in Council of Oct. 2, 1895, the further provisional districts of Ungava, Franklin, Mackenzie and Yukon were created. The boundaries of these provisional districts were re-defined by Order in Council of Dec. 18, 1897. Subsequently the Yukon Territory was formed, the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were created and other portions of the territories were annexed to Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. By Order in Council, dated Mar. 16, 1918 (effective Jan. 1, 1920), the remaining portions of the Northwest Territories were divided into three provisional districts known as Mackenzie, Keewatin and Franklin.

⁷ The provisional district of Yukon, established in 1895, was created a judicial district of the North-West Territories by proclamation issued pursuant to Sec. 51 of the North-West Territories Act (R.S.C. 1886, c. 50) on Aug. 16, 1897, and by the Yukon Territory Act (61 Vict., c. 6) was declared to be a separate territory.