



Lawrence, smaller rivers are important locally. The Saint John, for instance, drains a fertile area and provides most of New Brunswick's hydro power.

The Hudson Bay drainage basin is the largest and its main river is the Nelson. The Winnipeg River, a tributary of the Nelson via Lake Winnipeg, is completely developed for hydroelectric power but development of the Nelson itself is just beginning. The Saskatchewan River, tributary to the Nelson via Lake Winnipeg, drains the great agricultural region of the mid-west and is an important source for irrigation and hydroelectric power.

The Arctic drainage basin is dominated by the Mackenzie, one of the world's longest rivers. It flows 4 241 km from the head of the Finlay River to the Arctic Ocean and drains an area of approximately 1 812 992 km² in the three westernmost provinces and the two territories. Except for a 26 km portage in Alberta, barge navigation is possible from Waterways on the Athabasca River to the mouth of the Mackenzie, a distance of 2 736 km.

Rivers of the Pacific basin rise in the mountains of the Cordilleran region and flow to the Pacific Ocean through steep canyons and over innumerable falls and rapids. They provide power for large hydroelectric developments and in season swarm with salmon returning inland to their spawning grounds. The Fraser River rises in the Rocky Mountains and, toward its mouth, flows through a rich agricultural area. The Columbia is an international river which falls 808 metres during its course and thus has tremendous power potential. Although a considerable part of the United States potential has been developed, the Canadian portion of the basin remained relatively untouched until recent years when three large reservoirs were built under the terms of the Columbia River Treaty. These reservoirs make it possible for British Columbia to