

for *Bear* and André Major for *Les Rescapés*; in poetry, Joe Rosenblatt for *Top Soil* and Alphonse Piché for *Poèmes 1946-1968*; in non-fiction, Carl Berger for *The Writing of Canadian History* and Fernand Ouellet for *Le bas Canada 1791-1840, changements structureaux et crise*. Apr. 28, Jean-Luc Pepin said he would resign May 6 as chairman of the Anti-Inflation Board, to be succeeded by Harold Renouf. Apr. 29, Ontario Premier William Davis called an election for June 9, saying the opposition had made minority government unworkable.

## May

May 8, Team Canada finished fourth in the world hockey championships, won by Czechoslovakia. May 9, The Berger Commission recommended a 10-year moratorium on construction of a Mackenzie River Valley pipeline to allow time to settle and implement native land claims and to solve technical and environmental problems, and also a permanent ban on any pipeline from Alaska across the environmentally-sensitive northern Yukon. The Bank of Canada announced reduction of its lending interest rate from 8.0% to 7.5%, the lowest level in three years, because of slow growth in the money supply; the rate had already been reduced from 8.5% in January. May 10, CBC president Al Johnson said some staff were reprimanded following allegations by federal politicians of a pro-separatist bias in the CBC's French-language service. May 12, In Canada's first fishing agreement with another country since extending its coastal zone to 200 nautical miles, Cuba received the right to fish within the zone and in return recognized Canada's interest in fish stock beyond that limit. May 14, Montreal Canadiens won their second consecutive Stanley Cup, defeating Boston Bruins in four straight games. May 16, The Hall Commission report on grain handling and transportation recommended retention of subsidized Crowsnest Pass transportation rates, establishment of a Prairie rail authority, gradual abandonment of more than 3200 km (2,000 miles) of branch lines, and construction of a new Arctic railway. May 17, Ray Guy, St. John's, Nfld. columnist, won the 1977 Stephen Leacock award for humour for *That Far Greater Bay*. May 21, Dave Barrett, former BC premier, was returned as leader of the BC New Democratic Party at its annual convention. May 24, Liberals won five of six federal byelections, including the PEI riding of Malpeque held by the Conservatives for the last 25 years. May 25, Transport Minister Lang announced a \$125 million program to aid highway, passenger and freight efforts in the Atlantic provinces in the next three years. The \$50,000 annual Royal Bank of Canada award to outstanding Canadians for exceptional contribution to human welfare and the common good was split between Dr. Gordon W. Thomas and Dr. W.A.

Paddon, both of the International Grenfell Association. May 26, Acting on the Hall Commission report, Transport Minister Lang announced that more than 2900 km (1,800 miles) of Prairie rail lines had been added to the basic network protected from abandonment to the year 2000. Quebec Nordiques won the World Hockey Association title, defeating Winnipeg Jets four games to three. May 27, Montreal actress Monique Mercure, first Canadian performer to win a top prize at the Cannes Film Festival, was co-winner of the best actress award in the National Film Board's *J.A. Martin, Photographe*. May 31, The Canadian Wheat Board announced the sale to China of 3 million tonnes (about 110 million bushels) of wheat with an estimated value of \$330 million.

## June

June 2, Quebec raised its minimum hourly wage from \$3.00 to \$3.15, the highest rate in Canada, in a decision to tie the minimum wage to the average industrial wage every six months. June 7, A special Commons subcommittee set up to examine the Canadian Penitentiary Service recommended restraints on power of employees over prisoners. June 8, Joey Smallwood, 76, premier of Newfoundland from 1949 to 1972, resigned as a Liberal opposition member of the Newfoundland legislature. June 9, In an Ontario provincial election Premier Davis' Progressive Conservative government retained power but again failed to win a majority; Liberals under Stuart Smith displaced the NDP as the official opposition. June 11, Electoral boundary changes came into effect to increase by 18 the number of seats in the House of Commons to 282 after the next general election. June 14, Agriculture Minister Whelan announced Cabinet approval of a national chicken broiler marketing agency; national marketing boards were already operating for eggs and turkeys. The Canadian Labour Relations Board ruled that unions representing bank employees could organize workers branch by branch rather than in a cross-country unit and certified the new Canadian Union of Bank Employees in three Ontario branches of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Jacques Lavoie, MP for the Montreal riding of Hochelaga, quit the Progressive Conservatives to join the Liberals. June 15, The final report of Ontario's Royal Commission on Violence in the Communications Industry, headed by Judy LaMarsh, rejected censorship, but recommended tougher controls over all broadcast and print media. June 16, The Quebec government ordered a commission of inquiry into illegal police activities, headed by labour lawyer Jean Keable, after three policemen, from the RCMP, the Quebec Provincial Police and the Montreal police, pleaded guilty to charges of failing to obtain a search warrant before a break-in at the office of Agence de Presse Libre du Québec. June 20, The federal government announced the end of a five-year