



Geography of Canada

Lowland Regions of Canada

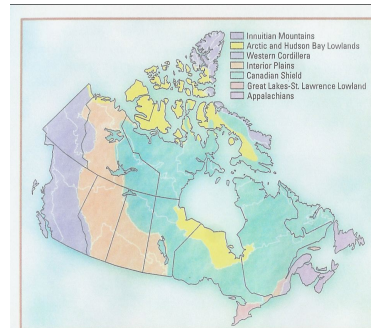


Lowland Regions of Canada

- Canada consists of the following lowland regions:

- Interior Plains
- Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Lowlands
- Hudson Bay – Arctic Lowlands

- Formed from the sediments eroded from the **Canadian Shield**.
- The sediments were deposited in ancient seas that existed over these areas at various times millions of years ago.
- Eventually the horizontal layers of sediment were compressed into sedimentary rock.





Interior Plains

- Form part of the **Great Plains of North America** stretching from the **Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico**.
- Source of natural resources such as **coal**, **oil**, **natural gas** and **potash**.
- The soils that developed on these sediments are deep and fertile.
- **Grain** is grown throughout the southern part of the Interior Plains.
- **Cattle** are raised in places where the climate is too dry to grow crops.
- Known as Canada's "**bread basket**".



Interior Plains – South Saskatchewan River





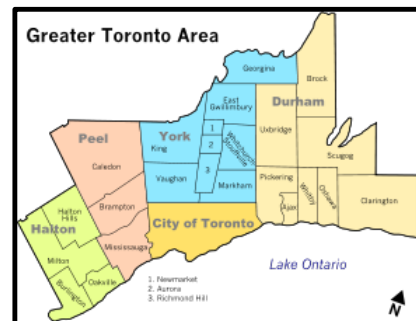
Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Lowlands

- Bedrock consists of **sedimentary rock** formed during the **Paleozoic Era**.
- In the **Great Lakes Region**, glaciers carried huge amounts of material (soil, sand, clay and gravel) from the **Canadian Shield** and dumped it throughout the region.
- The five Great Lakes were larger in the past because of the meltwater from the glaciers.
- The **St. Lawrence Region** forms part of a **rift valley** (double faulting).



Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Lowlands

- The Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Lowlands is:
 - well suited for **agriculture** because of its fertile soils and warm climate.
 - ideal for **transportation routes** and the development of cities.
 - known as Canada's "**industrial heartland**".
 - 70% of Canada's manufacturing industries are located here.
- About 50% of Canada's population live here which consists of 14% of Canada's total area.

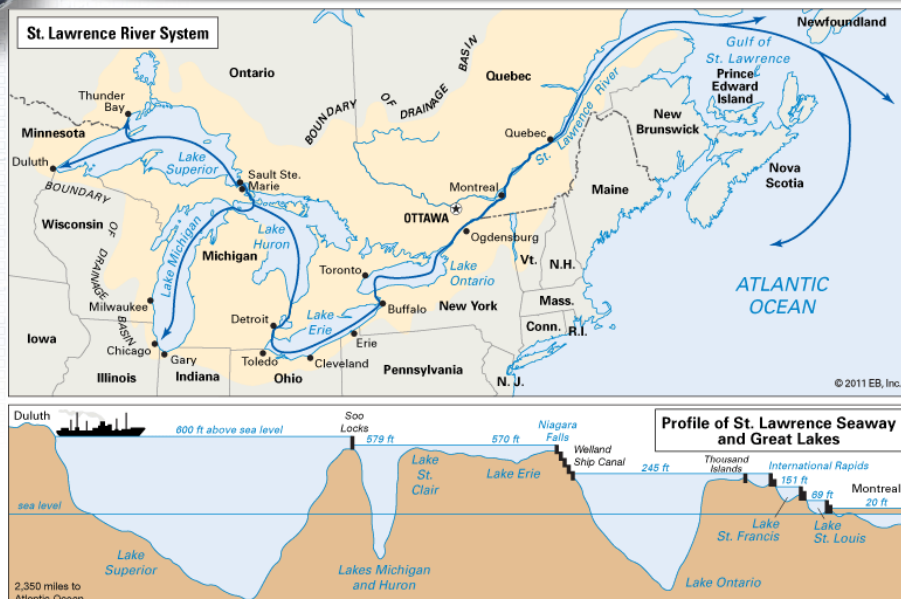




Great Lakes St. Lawrence Lowlands



Great Lakes St. Lawrence Lowlands





Hudson Bay – Arctic Lowlands

- **Hudson Bay Lowlands**

- Located on the southwestern shore of **Hudson Bay** and **James Bay**.
- Very flat and low area covered by “**swampy forests**”.
- Rocks are composed of **sedimentary rock**.
- Very few people live here.

- **Arctic Lowlands**

- Made up of a series of islands located in Canada’s far north.
- Harsh cold climate does not permit farming.
- Future source of **coal**, **oil**, and **natural gas**.
- Very few people live here.



Hudson Bay – Arctic Lowlands





Homework

- Textbook: Read pages 134-138, Questions #1-11 on page 138.

