



The Implementation of the Cultural Rights of Indigenous Peoples Under the Auspices of UNESCO: A Canadian Experience

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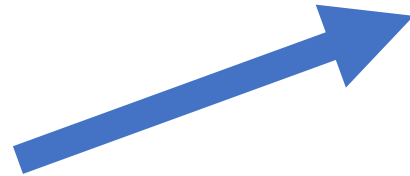


The Sunrise Ceremony is both a personal and public ceremony to give thanks and welcome a new day. (Ken Gigliotti/The Canadian Press)

Relevant UNESCO Conventions concerning the protection of the cultural diversity

- *The 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*
- *The 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage*
- *The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions*

Culture



Tangible
Heritage



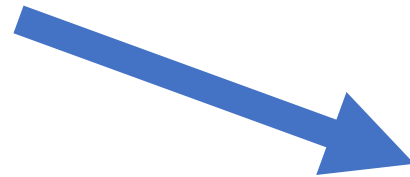
Cultural Heritage

(monuments, groups of buildings and sites)



Natural Heritage

(Natural features, Geological and physiographical formations, natural sites)



Intangible
Heritage

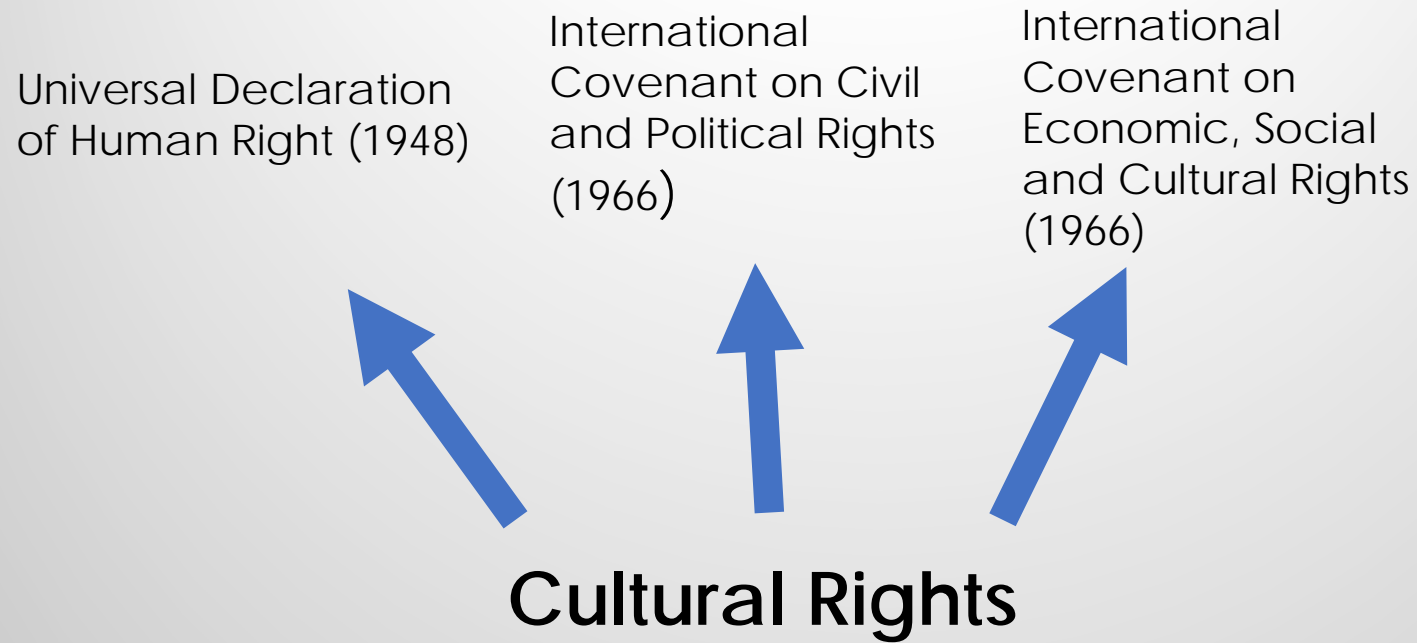


- Oral traditions and expressions (including language)
- Performing arts
- Social practices, rituals and festive events
- Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- Traditional craftsmanship

Cultural
expressions



Cultural goods,
services and
activities

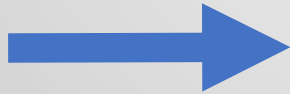


« the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of a person, alone or in common, to choose and express one's identity, and to access cultural references and cultural resources which are necessary for its identification process » (Observatoire de la diversité et des droits culturels, 2009)

In the case of indigenous peoples, the **CULTURAL RIGHTS** refer to the rights to **respect their particular way of life associated with the use of land resources** (General Comment 21 para 7 of the Human Rights Committee, 1994)

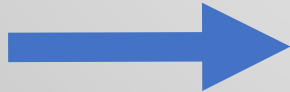
The Cultural Rights of Indigenous Peoples According to UNDRIP

ARTICLE 11



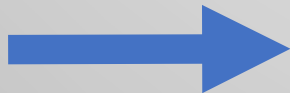
The right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs

ARTICLE 12



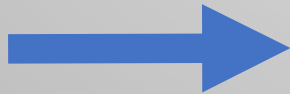
The right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies

ARTICLE 13



The right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions

ARTICLE 31



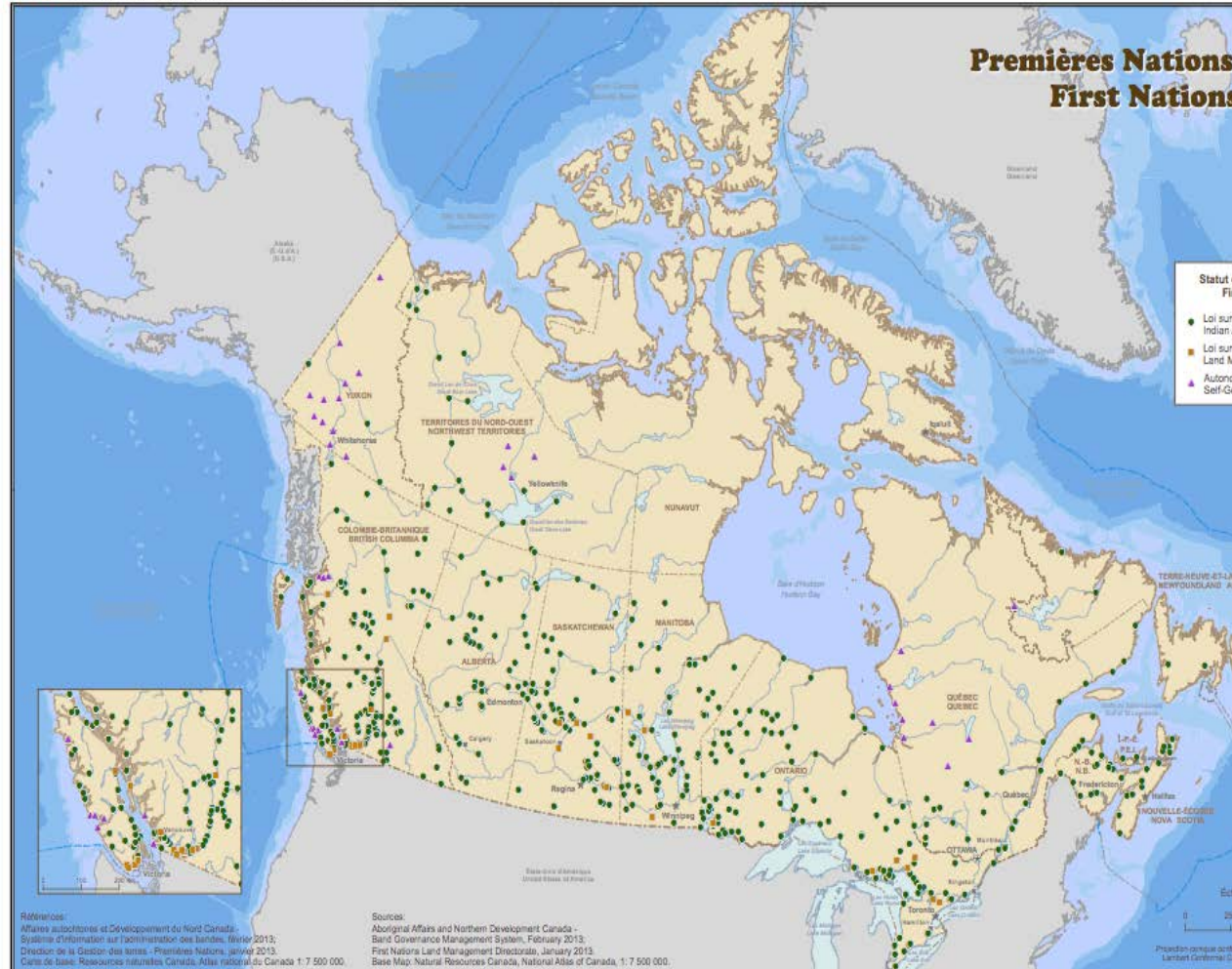
The right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional expressions

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CULTURAL RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



Principle of Self-determination of indigenous peoples

Inextricable link between Nature and Culture



QUESTION

Does Canada effectively implement the rights of indigenous peoples while safeguarding and protecting heritage and cultural expressions in compliance with UNESCO Conventions?

Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List (18)



Cultural (8)

- ◆ Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump (1981)
- ◆ Historic District of Old Québec (1985)
- ◆ Landscape of Grand Pré (2012)
- ◆ L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site (1978)
- ◆ Old Town Lunenburg (1995)
- ◆ Red Bay Basque Whaling Station (2013)
- ◆ Rideau Canal (2007)
- ◆ SGang Gwaay (1981)

Natural (10)

- Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks (1984)
- Dinosaur Provincial Park (1979)
- Gros Morne National Park (1987)
- Joggins Fossil Cliffs (2008)
- Kluane / Wrangell-St. Elias / Glacier Bay / Tatshenshini-Alsek (1979)
- Miguasha National Park (1999)
- Mistaken Point (2016)
- Nahanni National Park (1978)
- Waterton Glacier International Peace Park (1995)
- Wood Buffalo National Park (1983)



Canada

Acceptance of the Convention:

Friday, 23 July 1976

Mandates to the World Heritage Committee (4)

1976-1978 1985-1991 1995-2001 2005-2009

Source: Official Relations (UNESCO/ERI)

Canada

UNESCO Country page

Permanent Delegation of Canada to UNESCO

H. E. Ms Elaine Ayotte

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate

www.canadainternational.gc.ca/unesco

Canadian Commission for UNESCO

www.unesco.ca

World Heritage

- World heritage Fund, States Parties Contributions
- Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

Within UNESCO

- UNESCO Worldwide (UNESCO/ERI)
- Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO/CLT/ITH)
- Cultural Heritage Laws Database (UNESCO/CLT/NATLAWS)
- Ratified Convention (UNESCO/LA)
- Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO/SC)
- Documents & Publications (UNESCO/UNESDOC)
- Multimedia Archives (UNESCO/MSS/BKI/ISS)

Other sources of information

- Informea



Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

In south-west Alberta, the remains of marked trails and an aboriginal camp, and a tumulus where vast quantities of buffalo (American Bison) skeletons can still be found, are evidence of a custom practised by aboriginal peoples of the North American plains for nearly 6,000 years. Using their excellent knowledge of the topography and of buffalo behaviour, they killed their prey by chasing them over a precipice; the carcasses were later carved up in the camp below.

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English

French

Arabic

Chinese

Russian


Spanish

Japanese

Dutch



Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump © Maureen J. Flynn

 Canada

Province of Alberta

N49 44 58 W113 37 26

Date of Inscription: 1981

Criteria: (vi)

Property : 4,000 ha

Ref: 158



Media

Activities

Links

Periodic Reporting

 [Access to the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire](#)



Wood Buffalo National Park

Situated on the plains in the north-central region of Canada, the park (which covers 44,807 km²) is home to North America's largest population of wild bison. It is also the natural nesting place of the whooping crane. Another of the park's attractions is the world's largest inland delta, located at the mouth of the Peace and Athabasca rivers.

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English

French

Arabic

Chinese

Russian

Spanish

Japanese

Dutch



Wood Buffalo National Park

 Canada

Northwest Territories and Alberta

N59 21 30 W112 17 36

Date of Inscription: 1983

Criteria: (vii)(ix)(x)

Property : 4,480,000 ha

Ref: 256




Media

News

Links

Periodic Reporting

 [Access to the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire](#)

State of Conservation (SOC) by year

2017 2015 2004 2003 2002 1992 1991 1990
1989 1985

 [Play the World Heritage Game at this site](#)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage



The Katajjanig (Inuit throat singing)

What could be improved by Canada in order to effectively implement the cultural rights of indigenous peoples?



Thank you

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