



# Pre-Arrival English

## Canadian Holidays



# Warm-Up



- ❖ What are some Canadian holidays you know?
- ❖ What do people do during those holidays?
- ❖ What time of year do most holidays happen here?
- ❖ Which holidays do you also celebrate?

# Holidays Observed

## School & National Holidays:

- ❖ December 31/January 1: New Year's Eve/Day
- ❖ February 15: Family Day (provincial holiday)
- ❖ April 10: Good Friday / April 13: Easter
- ❖ May 24: Victoria Day (provincial holiday)
- ❖ July 1: Canada Day
- ❖ August 3: BC Day (provincial holiday)
- ❖ September 6: Labour Day
- ❖ October 11: Thanksgiving Day
- ❖ November 11: Remembrance Day
- ❖ December 25: Christmas Day



holidays change depending on the province

# New Year's Eve/Day



- ❖ House Parties
- ❖ Midnight Countdown
- ❖ Fireworks
- ❖ Champagne Toast
- ❖ Sing Auld Lang Syne
- ❖ New Year's Resolutions

*How do you celebrate this day in your country?*

# Easter/Good Friday



- ❖ Originating from Christianity, but now celebrated by many Canadians as a family day of:
  - Coloring eggs
  - Going on Easter basket hunts for candy/toys
  - Going to church
  - Having a big family dinner together

*Do you celebrate this day in your country? If not, what is a holiday like it that you celebrate?*



# Canada Day



## ❖ What do Canadians do?

- Picnics
- BBQs
- Local festivals
- Wear Red and **White!**
- Watch **FIREWORKS!**

*What is a similar holiday in your country?*

# Thanksgiving

What do you know about this holiday?



Video credit: The History Channel

*What is a similar holiday in your country?*



**Main Dish:**  
**Turkey**

**The focus is on  
giving thanks  
for the harvest  
in autumn  
(October in  
Canada.)**





And a side of...



Thanksgiving Pies, nanaimo bars, fudge...





# What do families do on Thanksgiving?

...besides eat a ton of food.





**Morning football or other sports...**

**or volunteering at a food bank.**





# Friendsgiving



- Your friends are family too
- Especially if you don't have family in town
- ...or you do have family in town, but you want **ANOTHER Thanksgiving!**

# CHRISTMAS

What do you know?





The Christmas Tree is symbolic of many things, such as the spring to come and continuing a full, healthy life.





## Christmas Gift Exchanges: White Elephant and Secret Santa







## Other Christmas traditions...

# Functional Language



“Happy Holidays!  
Happy New Year!  
Happy Easter!”  
**BUT**  
“Merry Christmas!”

# Functional Language



“What do you do for (say a holiday)?”

“My family/friends and I (say an activity).”

“What is your favorite holiday?”

“Probably (say a holiday) because (say the reason)! What about you?”



**Do you have any  
other questions  
about Canadian  
holidays?**

