

NAME:

DATE:

# **EXPLORING PHYSICAL REGIONS:**

## The Great Lakes / St. Lawrence

### Lowlands Region

The Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Lowlands region is one of the smallest physical regions to be found in Canada. This physical region includes the southern parts of Ontario and Quebec.

In this physical region you will find rolling landscapes. This means that there are many small hills. The land here is flat in some areas and made up of lots of rolling hills in other areas.

The Great Lakes are also found in this region.



#### **CLIMATE**

In this physical region the climate is linked to the landforms found here. The Great Lakes cause hot and humid weather during the summer. This region can receive up to 100 cm of rain each year. The winters can be very unpredictable. Winters can be cold and up to 80 cm of snow can be found each winter here. There are other years where the winters here are mild with little snow and lots of melting and freezing temperatures.

#### **VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE**

The Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Lowland region has rich, fertile soil which makes agriculture an important feature or resource of this region. There is long growing season in this physical region and orchards of apples, peaches, cherries, tomatoes and grapes have been found near the Niagara Falls area. The Niagara Falls area is known for grapes because of the flat land and the warm climate that is found in this area.

The wildlife that can be found in this region is vast and includes deer, rabbits, squirrels, bears and more.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

The natural resources that can be found in this area include minerals such as iron, zinc, coal, copper and silver and are found on the shores of the Great lakes.

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Other natural resources found in this physical region include the rich soil. This soil allows for agricultural practices to take place.

Forestry is another natural resource found here. Thick forests that are made up of coniferous and deciduous trees are found here.

Water is another natural resource. As this region is named after the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river, it is no doubt that water can be found here.



### **INDUSTRIES & JOBS**

The industries developed in this physical region are based on the natural resources found here. Manufacturing is extremely important in the Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Lowlands. The landforms found in this region allow for the materials needed to manufacture and produce goods to sell to the other regions of Canada as well as the rest of the world. Things that are manufactured here include steel, coal, and limestone.

Another industry is farming. Farming provides lots of opportunities for jobs for many people. The rich and fertile soil found in this region along with the long growing season allow for people to make a living growing fruits and vegetables. Approximately 70% of the land found in this region can be used for growing crops.

Forestry is another major industry because of the dense coniferous and deciduous forests that are found in this physical region.

Finally, mining is a major industry. Those in the St. Lawrence lowlands mine for iron, zinc, coal, silver, copper and lead. These materials are obtained through drilling.

### **RECREATION**

Recreation is extremely popular in this region. Tourists love to visit Niagara Falls and the CN Tower as well as the old cities of Montreal and Quebec. You can go swimming, play hockey, badminton, soccer and other sports. You can even go fishing and boating.

Other activities include going fruit picking or vegetable picking during the summer and fall and skiing during the wintertime.