

THE NATURAL LANDSCAPES OF CANADA

A Study in Regional Earth Science

by J. Brian Bird

This text is unique in that it presents, for the first time, a complete and comprehensive description of the physical landscape of Canada, thus filling a void in the area of published Canadian environmental studies.

Integrating geological and geomorphological data, the author develops a systematic discussion of the evolutionary processes effecting change in Canadian landform regions, and then substantiates this general analysis by focusing on regional physical characteristics. The result is a scholarly yet readable prose which, in addition to elucidating the basic physical features of the country, also delineates in depth the Maritime, Prairie, Canadian Shield, and Arctic landscapes, a feature distinguishing this from other publications to date.

Numerous maps, photographs, and illustrations, most of which have never been reproduced elsewhere, appear throughout the text, enhancing its visual appeal and contributing greatly to its comprehension.

The author's extensive knowledge, careful attention to detail, and ability to infuse life into his subject have combined in this book to provide for the earth science student both an interesting and reliable source of information and, hopefully, a stimulus to further research.

ISBN 0-471-07371-7

Preface		xv
Introduction	Canada at Large	1
1	Geological History	6
2	The Great Ice Age	22
3	The Scenery of the Glaciations	35
4	The Glacial Lakes	49
5	The Changing Sea Level	63
6	The Physiographic Regions of Canada	71
7	The Appalachian–Acadian Province	75
8	The Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Lowlands	99
9	The Western Interior Plains (The Prairies)	116
10	The Canadian Shield	130
11	The Arctic Lands	140
12	The Hudson Bay Lowland	161
13	The Western Cordillera	166
Index		185