

Building permits, May 2022

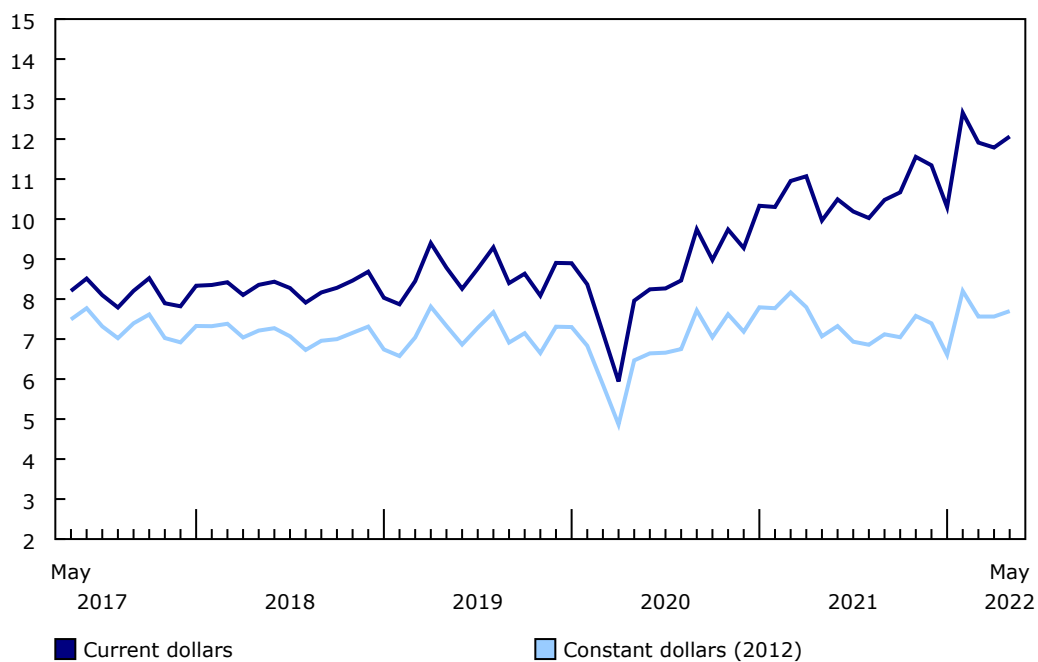
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Tuesday, July 5, 2022

The total value of building permits in Canada rose 2.3% in May to \$12.1 billion. The non-residential sector increased 7.0% to \$4.3 billion, while the residential sector edged down 0.1% to \$7.8 billion.

On a constant dollar basis (2012=100), the total value of building permits increased 1.8% to \$7.7 billion.

Chart 1
Total value of building permits, seasonally adjusted

billions of dollars



Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.



Infographic 1 – Building permits, May 2022

May 2022 Building Permits

Figure 1 Month-to-month change in total value of building permits (seasonally adjusted)

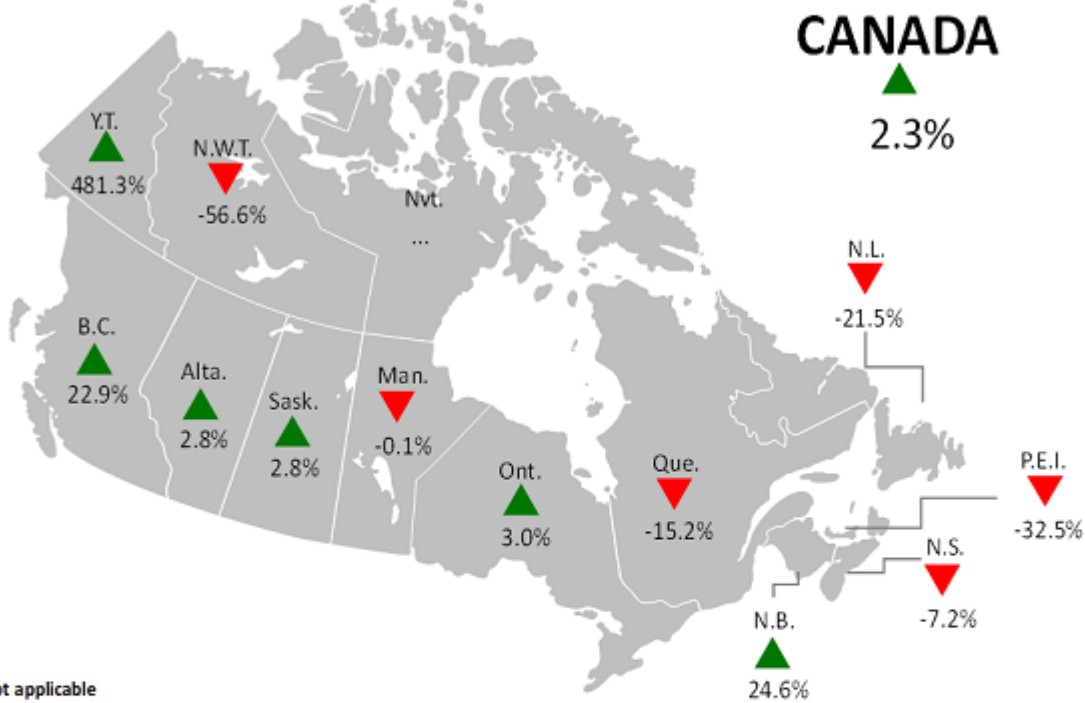
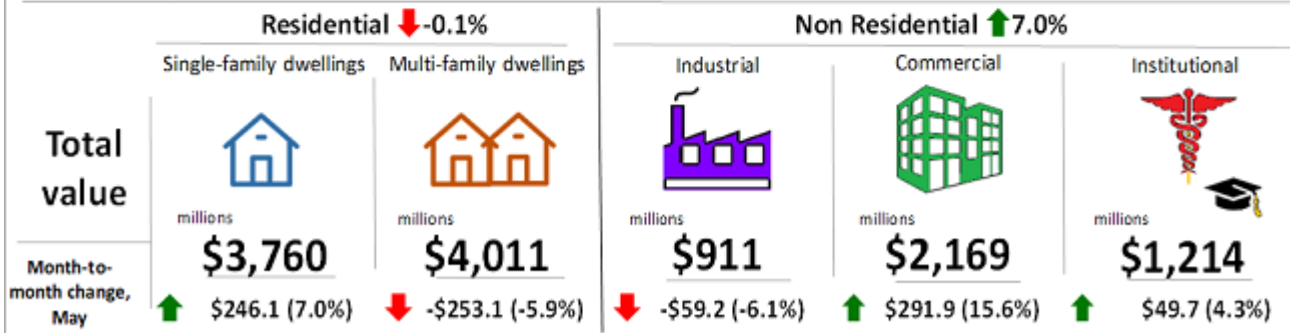


Figure 2 Building permits for residential and non-residential construction in Canada (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Table 34-10-0066-01—Building permits, by type of structure and type of work.

Multi and single residential construction diverges

Residential permits edged down 0.1% to \$7.8 billion in May. Increases in Ontario and British Columbia were offset by losses in seven other provinces.

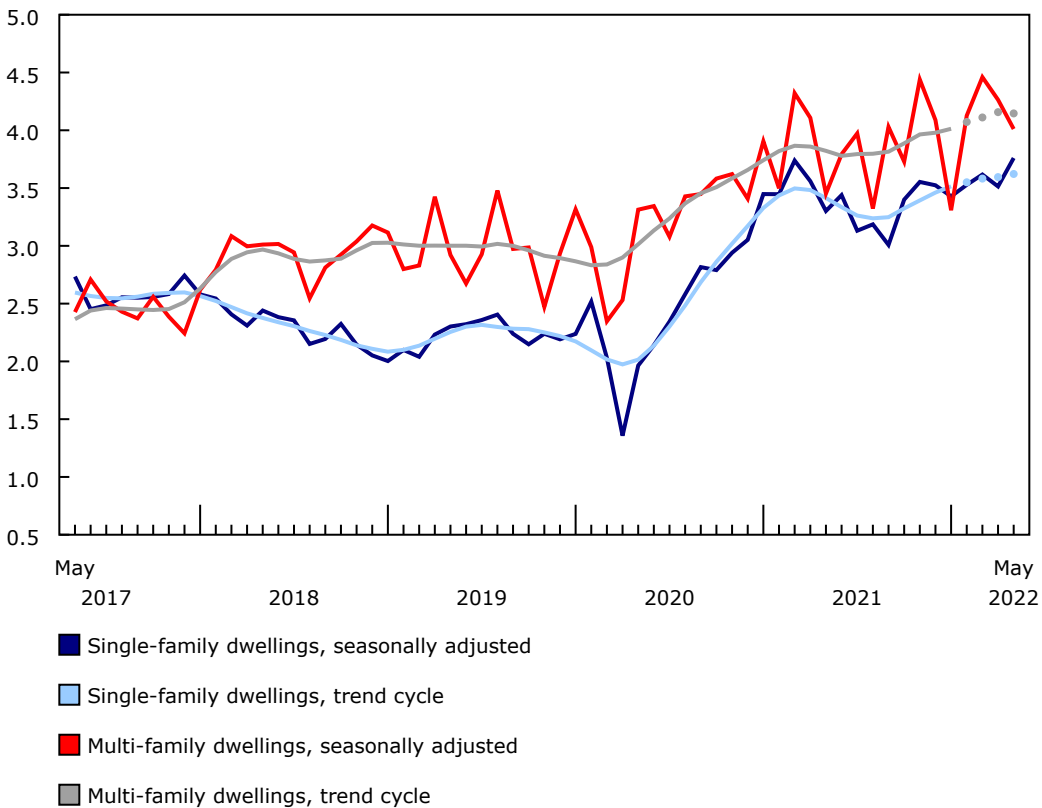
Construction intentions in the multi-family component decreased 5.9% in May, with Quebec returning to more normal levels. Conversely, British Columbia saw a 10.1% increase in part due to a \$112 million permit for a condo building in Surrey.

Single-family homes have continued their comeback since the COVID-19 pandemic downturn and longer-term secular decline, increasing 7.0% in total value nationally this month.

Overall, the number of new units created decreased 3.4% compared with April. The decline in the multi-family component (-6.4%) was partially offset by the increase in the single-family home component (+5.4%).

Chart 2
Value of building permits for the single-family and multi-family components

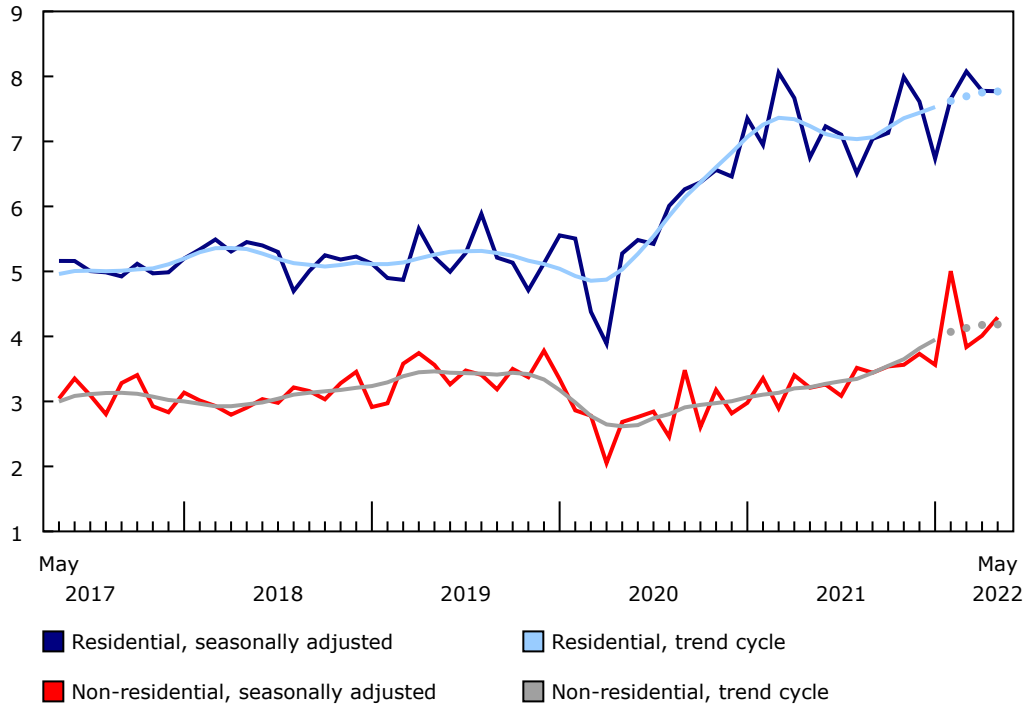
billions of dollars



Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the previous three months. For more information, see the Note to readers.
Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

Chart 3
Value of building permits for the residential and non-residential sectors

billions of dollars



Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the previous three months. For more information, see the Note to readers.
Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

British Columbia pushes up non-residential sector

The total value of non-residential sector permits increased 7.0% to \$4.3 billion in May. Gains in the commercial and institutional sectors outweighed losses in the industrial component, which declined 6.1%.

Commercial permit values increased sharply by 15.6% in May, driven by British Columbia with an overall increase of 73.8% for the month.

Construction intentions in the institutional component rose 4.3% in May. Gains were led by British Columbia (+54.9%), reflecting an \$82 million permit for a hospital in Fort St. James. New Brunswick also saw notable gains due to permits for a police station and a school in Moncton. Conversely, gains were largely countered by decreases in Quebec (-20.2%) and Ontario (-8.1%).

To explore data using an interactive user interface, visit the [Building permits: Interactive Dashboard](#).

To explore the impact of the pandemic on the socioeconomic landscape, please consult the [Canadian Economic Dashboard and COVID-19](#).

For more information on housing, please visit the [Housing statistics](#) portal.

Statistics Canada has a [Housing Market Indicators](#) dashboard. This web application provides access to key housing market indicators for Canada, by province and by census metropolitan area. These indicators are updated automatically with new information from monthly releases, giving users access to the latest data.

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data with current dollar values, which facilitate month-to-month and quarter-to-quarter comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Building components

- **Single-family dwellings:** Residential buildings containing only one dwelling unit (e.g., single-detached house, bungalow, linked home [linked at the foundation]).
- **Multi-family dwellings:** Residential buildings containing multiple dwelling units (e.g., apartment, apartment condominium, row house, semi-detached house).
- **Industrial buildings:** Buildings used in the processing or production of goods, or related to transportation and communication.
- **Commercial buildings:** Buildings used in the trade or distribution of goods and services, including office buildings.
- **Institutional and government buildings:** Buildings used to house public and semi-public services, such as those related to health and welfare, education, or public administration, as well as buildings used for religious services.

Revision

Data are subject to revisions based on late responses, methodological changes and classification updates. Unadjusted data has been revised for the previous four months to incorporate new municipalities from the 2021 census of population. Seasonally adjusted data has been revised for the same time period.

For information on trend-cycle data, see the [StatCan Blog](#) and [Trend-cycle estimates – Frequently asked questions](#).

Next release

Data on building permits for June will be released on August 4.

Table 1
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2021	March 2022 ^r	April 2022 ^r	May 2022 ^p	April to May 2022	May 2021 to May 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	9,964.4	11,912.4	11,788.5	12,063.9	2.3	21.1
Residential	6,754.0	8,076.4	7,777.7	7,770.7	-0.1	15.1
Single ¹	3,302.2	3,616.7	3,513.8	3,759.9	7.0	13.9
Multiple	3,451.8	4,459.7	4,264.0	4,010.8	-5.9	16.2
Non-residential	3,210.4	3,836.0	4,010.8	4,293.2	7.0	33.7
Industrial	526.0	718.2	969.9	910.7	-6.1	73.2
Commercial	1,724.0	2,043.4	1,876.7	2,168.7	15.6	25.8
Institutional	960.5	1,074.4	1,164.1	1,213.8	4.3	26.4
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	23,153	23,478	23,840	23,035	-3.4	-0.5
Single ¹	6,540	6,309	6,066	6,391	5.4	-2.3
Multiple	16,613	17,169	17,774	16,644	-6.4	0.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single detached, mobile home and cottage.

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): Table [34-10-0066-01](#).

Table 2
Value of building permits, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2021	March 2022 ^r	April 2022 ^r	May 2022 ^p	April to May 2022	May 2021 to May 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	9,964.4	11,912.4	11,788.5	12,063.9	2.3	21.1
Residential	6,754.0	8,076.4	7,777.7	7,770.7	-0.1	15.1
Non-residential	3,210.4	3,836.0	4,010.8	4,293.2	7.0	33.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	95.1	57.6	66.7	52.4	-21.5	-45.0
Residential	20.2	39.5	45.6	39.1	-14.3	93.3
Non-residential	74.9	18.1	21.1	13.3	-37.1	-82.3
Prince Edward Island	51.4	51.8	62.0	41.8	-32.5	-18.7
Residential	35.3	45.8	45.2	21.7	-52.1	-38.7
Non-residential	16.1	6.0	16.8	20.2	19.9	25.3
Nova Scotia	183.6	204.9	272.8	253.2	-7.2	37.9
Residential	148.8	163.6	218.8	201.4	-8.0	35.4
Non-residential	34.9	41.3	54.0	51.8	-4.1	48.6
New Brunswick	106.2	168.9	160.8	200.4	24.6	88.6
Residential	64.7	116.9	123.7	114.5	-7.5	76.9
Non-residential	41.5	52.0	37.0	85.9	131.9	106.9
Quebec	2,455.0	2,517.0	2,687.0	2,279.7	-15.2	-7.1
Residential	1,674.8	1,501.3	1,592.5	1,209.1	-24.1	-27.8
Non-residential	780.2	1,015.7	1,094.5	1,070.6	-2.2	37.2
Ontario	3,979.7	4,837.9	4,735.1	4,879.2	3.0	22.6
Residential	2,743.3	3,437.8	3,046.3	3,349.1	9.9	22.1
Non-residential	1,236.5	1,400.2	1,688.9	1,530.1	-9.4	23.7
Manitoba	320.5	304.5	326.7	326.2	-0.1	1.8
Residential	197.5	200.7	234.6	216.5	-7.7	9.6
Non-residential	123.0	103.8	92.1	109.8	19.2	-10.7
Saskatchewan	128.8	184.6	173.2	178.1	2.8	38.2
Residential	70.4	110.3	106.8	104.3	-2.3	48.2
Non-residential	58.4	74.2	66.4	73.8	11.1	26.2
Alberta	1,197.5	1,209.9	1,218.5	1,252.4	2.8	4.6
Residential	825.7	788.3	804.3	818.2	1.7	-0.9
Non-residential	371.8	421.6	414.2	434.2	4.8	16.8
British Columbia	1,408.7	2,363.2	2,067.1	2,541.2	22.9	80.4
Residential	959.0	1,663.7	1,544.3	1,682.7	9.0	75.5
Non-residential	449.7	699.5	522.8	858.5	64.2	90.9
Yukon	19.3	9.8	7.8	45.5	481.3	136.2
Residential	8.2	7.2	4.7	4.1	-13.8	-50.1
Non-residential	11.1	2.5	3.1	41.5	...	274.0
Northwest Territories	17.7	0.8	10.9	4.7	-56.6	-73.5
Residential	6.0	0.5	10.9	1.2	-89.1	-80.5
Non-residential	11.7	0.3	0.0	3.5	...	-69.8
Nunavut	0.9	1.5	0.1	9.0	...	956.0
Residential	0.1	0.7	0.1	8.9
Non-residential	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.1	...	-82.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

... not applicable

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

Table 3
Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area – Seasonally adjusted¹

	May 2021	March 2022 ^r	April 2022 ^r	May 2022 ^p	April to May 2022	May 2021 to May 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	7,430.5	8,964.9	8,892.9	8,854.1	-0.4	19.2
St. John's	85.2	34.1	40.5	25.3	-37.4	-70.3
Halifax	109.2	110.9	186.8	175.5	-6.0	60.8
Moncton	34.0	46.7	47.1	73.7	56.5	116.7
Saint John	23.5	31.9	20.2	14.7	-27.2	-37.3
Fredericton	..	25.1	27.5	38.2	39.0	..
Saguenay	57.4	27.8	41.7	39.1	-6.4	-31.9
Québec	230.7	234.7	209.9	178.2	-15.1	-22.7
Sherbrooke	73.5	65.6	53.7	44.7	-16.7	-39.2
Trois-Rivières	36.2	45.0	39.5	33.7	-14.7	-7.0
Drummondville	..	26.5	65.3	30.0	-54.1	..
Montréal	1,310.3	1,151.3	1,428.1	1,188.0	-16.8	-9.3
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario and Quebec	459.8	439.9	454.7	364.3	-19.9	-20.8
Gatineau part	95.0	89.4	141.8	45.5	-67.9	-52.1
Ottawa part	364.8	350.5	312.8	318.8	1.9	-12.6
Kingston	38.2	44.2	49.5	50.2	1.5	31.7
Belleville	24.2	25.2	50.4	47.7	-5.3	97.4
Peterborough	61.8	42.0	61.5	22.7	-63.1	-63.3
Oshawa	150.1	144.5	248.9	113.2	-54.5	-24.6
Toronto	1,534.6	2,278.5	1,952.2	1,885.8	-3.4	22.9
Hamilton	87.5	165.2	221.4	353.1	59.5	303.6
St. Catharines–Niagara	109.6	135.0	175.3	244.3	39.4	122.9
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	175.3	190.3	165.8	212.8	28.3	21.4
Brantford	97.8	58.0	96.1	58.5	-39.1	-40.2
Guelph	19.5	51.1	31.4	34.1	8.4	74.5
London	200.3	192.1	148.3	159.6	7.6	-20.3
Windsor	70.0	133.1	145.1	156.0	7.5	122.9
Barrie	51.7	219.4	66.5	115.0	73.1	122.6
Greater Sudbury	19.6	31.3	23.9 ^E	22.3 ^E	-6.7	13.5
Thunder Bay	7.6	5.9	33.8	4.8	-85.9	-37.1
Winnipeg	251.0	206.9	228.9	208.3	-9.0	-17.0
Regina	34.6	52.0	41.1	37.8	-8.1	9.2
Saskatoon	73.1	87.5	93.7	74.0	-21.1	1.2
Lethbridge	32.3	32.7	61.6	42.4	-31.1	31.6
Calgary	581.2	517.6	593.8	564.3	-5.0	-2.9
Red Deer	..	9.0	6.9	34.6	397.8	..
Edmonton	382.9	391.6	307.5	342.5	11.4	-10.6
Kelowna	139.2	175.0	120.0	211.1	75.9	51.6
Kamloops	..	24.1	58.2	25.8	-55.7	..
Chilliwack	..	44.5	47.4	30.3	-36.1	..
Abbotsford–Mission	42.7	80.0	81.8	62.2	-24.0	45.7
Vancouver	664.2	1,349.4	1,217.2	1,530.7	25.8	130.4
Victoria	161.8	168.7	155.2	163.5	5.3	1.1
Nanaimo	..	58.6 ^E	49.9	112.3	125.0	..

^r revised

^p preliminary

.. not available for a specific reference period

^E use with caution

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that make up the **census metropolitan areas**.

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): Table [34-10-0066-01](#).

Available tables: [table 34-10-0066-01](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: [survey number 2802](#).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).