All Aboot Canada, Eh?

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... but, first, a quiz ...
True or False:

Canadians burned down the White House during the war of 1812.
False –

British soldiers did it. Canada didn’t exist until 1867.
In terms of square miles, the land mass of Canada is:

1. Second only to Russia
2. Third, with Russia and China being larger
3. Fourth, with Russia, China and the USA being larger
4. 90% uninhabitable, except for penguins and polar bears
What is the latitude of the most southerly part of mainland Canada?

1. 49° (the 49th parallel)
2. 41.9° (slightly south of the northern border of California)
3. I’m not sure, but I’ve heard that Windsor, Ontario is directly south of Detroit, Michigan, and that’s just weird
4. I don’t care – wherever it is, it’s cold
Who is the current head of state of Canada?

1. The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau
2. The Governor General, Julie Payette
3. Queen Elizabeth II
4. Murray Doehler
The price of a home game ticket for a Toronto Maple Leafs (hockey team) is the highest amongst any team in the National Hockey League (NHL). Why?

1. The arena holds 19,000 seats and 85% are reserved for season ticket holders (mostly corporate). An economist would call this supply management.

2. The Maple Leafs team is the most winning team in the NHL

3. Toronto’s hockey fans are desperate, gullible, loyal.

4. It’s $Canadian, so the numbers only look high.
Each province/territory has an energy/utility regulatory board or commission.

All are appointed (i.e. none are elected). Some are “on good behavior” and others are “at pleasure”.

Some terms are short (2 years, or in individual cases 6 months), some are until age 70, and some are in between (5 -7 years).
Numbers of commissioners/board members ranges from 4 to 10.

Most have a mix of full-time and part-time members. A few have only part-time members.

Staff complement ranges from 0 full-time staff to around 500.
All of them hold hearings on matters under their jurisdiction.

Rate methodologies range from rate base/rate of return to incentive regulation.

Most boards/commissions are quasi-judicial. Two are advisory.
Mandates differ significantly across provinces/territories (some examples)

- Electricity
- Natural gas
- Water
- Petroleum products (including maximum price of gasoline)
- Auto insurance
- Land and property matters
- Payday loans
National Energy Board responsibilities:

- Authorization of interprovincial and international pipelines
- Tolls and tariffs of those pipelines
- Construction/operation of international power lines
- Export and import of energy
- Environmental protection and assessment
- Public safety associated with these
- Note that electricity, including interprovincial electricity, is under provincial jurisdiction, and therefore under the regulatory responsibility of those regulators.

- No equivalent to FERC in Canada.
Telecommunications:

The regulation of all telecommunications falls under federal jurisdiction – Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission:

- Regulation of uranium mines & mills
- Reactors – power plants & research reactors
- Nuclear substances & radiation devices
- Nuclear waste
Thank you