



NEWS RELEASE

Hockey, Queen Elizabeth, Céline Dion, Tim Hortons.... Does this define Canada? Really?

October 20, 2008 - Toronto, Ontario – To mark the release of the book *101 Things Canadians Should Know About Canada*, the Dominion Institute invites Canadians to have a say on the things that define and do not define our country. Through an interactive website, Canadians can vote for the person, place, symbol, event or innovation that they feel does not belong on a list created by their fellow citizens.

By logging on to www.101things.ca, Canadians can view the list of 101 people, places, symbols, events and innovations that most define Canada. The list is based on an unprecedented survey of over 3,000 Canadians conducted by Ipsos Reid on behalf of the Dominion Institute in the spring of 2008. Visitors are now asked to vote for the one 'thing' they believe does not deserve a place on the list of 101.

"The list of 101 things began a wide-ranging conversation between thousands of Canadians on how we understand our country. We are continuing that conversation now", said Marc Chalifoux, Executive Director of the Dominion Institute. *"Canadians can now tell us what they think does not define Canada. Does hockey (#2) deserve a place in the top ten? Should Céline Dion (#27), Don Cherry (#76) and the Queen (#87) grace a list of Canada's greats? Does Tim Hortons (#58) define Canada?"*

The *101 Things Canadians Should Know About Canada* book is the culmination of a project that kicked off June 30. Available now in bookstores across the country, the Key Porter Books publication is a collection of short essays by some of Canada's leading authors, actors and historians including Roch Carrier, Tomson Highway, Jack Granatstein, Rick Mercer and Paul Gross. The essays are complemented by illustrations by *The Globe and Mail's* Anthony Jenkins.

This summer, the *101 Things Canadians Should Know About Canada* campaign provided online visitors with the chance to vote for what was missing from the list of 101 people, places, events, symbols and accomplishments. Aboriginal Canadians were chosen as the most glaring omission from the original list. The website has generated more than half a million hits and attracted over 20,000 visitors.

The Dominion Institute (www.dominion.ca) is a national charitable organization dedicated to creating active and informed citizens through greater knowledge and appreciation of the Canadian story.

Visit www.101things.ca for more information.

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