

## CLB 8 – December Question

Name:

Date:

### CLB 8: Economic Issues in Canada

#### Trade and Economic Growth

Postwar Canada enjoyed record prosperity and material progress. The world's restrictive trading



policies in the Depression era were opened up by such treaties as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), now the World Trade Organization (WTO). The discovery of oil in Alberta in 1947 began Canada's modern energy industry. In 1951, for the first time, a majority of Canadians were able to afford adequate food, shelter and clothing. Between 1945 and 1970, as Canada drew closer to the United States and other trading partners, the country enjoyed one of the strongest economies among industrialized nations. Today, Canadians enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living—maintained by the hard work of Canadians and by trade with other nations, in particular the United States.

As prosperity grew, so did the ability to support social assistance programs. The *Canada Health Act* ensures common elements and a basic standard of coverage. Unemployment insurance (now called “employment insurance”) was introduced by the federal government in 1940. Old Age Security was devised as early as 1927, and the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans in 1965. Publicly funded education is provided by the provinces and territories.

#### Review Question:

The Canada Health Act provides:

- the same health care in all territories and provinces
- free health care for low income people
- a basic standard of health coverage across Canada
- a membership card to collect health care points