Atikamekw; Canada

Canada Fast Facts: Number of people: **34,000,000** Main language: **English & French** Main religion: **Christianity** # of languages: **1755** # of languages ... without any of the Bible: **39** with part of the Bible: **29** with a New Testament: **23** with a whole Bible: **84**

Did you know?

Canada is the second largest country in the world — only Russia is bigger. That means that Canada is even larger than the United States! In fact, Canada's border with the United States is the longest international border in the world (that means the longest place where two countries touch). Another cool thing about Canada is that it has more than two million lakes — that's more than all the other lakes in the world together!

You might be wondering why languages in Canada would need the Bible. After all, don't they speak English just like we do in the United States? Well, there are actually two official languages — English and French. And as we saw in the fast facts, there are 175 languages in the whole country! That means there are definitely languages in Canada that are still waiting for the Bible.

Atikamekw is one of those languages, and there are around 5,000 people who speak it. The Atikamekw people used to be known for making their own sleds and snowshoes so they could hunt in the winter. Since the northern part of Canada is so close to the North Pole, these things were really important for

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getting around and feeding their families during the long, cold months of winter! They also made their own birch bark canoes to fish from when the lakes weren't frozen over.

In 2014 the Atikamekw New Testament was published. Now they can read it in their own language.

You can pray ...

It's always exciting when people get God's Word in their own language! That's why the Atikamekw people want to have a party to mark the wonderful day when they get to hold the whole New Testament in their hands. You can pray that they'd find the perfect time and place to have this celebration. And you can also pray that lots of people would come and be excited about having God's Word in their own language!

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