We've got **more** than you think!

What's the stereotype of the Canadian law enforcement officer? Dudley Do-right, the cartoon character, of course! He's the fictional heroic "Mountie" (member of the RCMP, Royal Canadian Mounted Police), stoutly patrolling the Canadian Rockies, saving damsels in distress from evil villains, crying out, "Stop in the name of the law!" Marylouise Macmillan doesn't know whether to laugh or cry when she hears it repeated.

Macmillan, one of nearly four thousand police constables in the Toronto Police Service, has never ridden a horse, never climbed the Rockies, and thinks it's high time the rest of the world changed its image of Canada as a simple, isolated, rural place. She knows lots of facts and figures to convince you.

The Canada Constable Macmillan knows best is the sophisticated, cosmopolitan, urban society of Toronto, which, with a population of some 4.2 million, is Canada's largest city and the fifth largest in North America, surpassed only by Mexico City, New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. The capital of Ontario, Canada's most prosperous and populous province, Toronto is the center of finance, industry and commerce for the country as a whole and one of the largest financial centers in all of North America. Toronto boasts the tallest free-standing structure in the world, the 553-metre CN Tower, and the longest street in the world, Yonge Street, stretching 1,900 kilometers from Queens Quay on Lake Ontario to Rainy River near James Bay in northern Ontario. The Toronto Stock Exchange is the second largest in North America, after New York. The Toronto-area auto industry is the second largest in North America, after Detroit. As a film and television production center, Toronto is the third largest in North America, after New York and Los Angeles.

Macmillan claims that Toronto, with more than eighty cultures from around the globe represented, is the world's most ethnically diverse city. After English, the top ten languages spoken in Toronto are Cantonese, Italian, Portuguese, Polish, Spanish, French, German, Greek, Tagalog, and Punjabi. There are daily newspapers in English, Chinese, Italian, Spanish and Korean. The city has more than 5000 eating establishments of various ethnic tastes, including 500 Chinese restaurants alone!

Culture and the arts are alive and well in Toronto. The Toronto Symphony Orchestra is nearly a century old. Toronto has the third largest live theatre scene in the English-speaking world, with over one hundred professional theatre companies and fifty different productions a month on average -- only London and New York have more. The venerable Art Gallery of Ontario is the preserve of more than 15,000 paintings and sculptures; Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum is the largest repository of history, art and the natural sciences in Canada.

Toronto is also home to five professional sports teams: baseball, basketball, football, hockey, and lacrosse.

Ms. Macmillan's employer, the Toronto Police Service, is the sixth largest municipal police service in North America. In1998, the police force had 4,904 uniformed officers and 2,162 civilian personnel operating with the assistance of 1,161 cars,129 motorcycles, and eighteen boats, not to mention twenty-five horses and fifteen dogs, including three specially trained for drugs and one for explosives. In 1998, the police communications center received nearly two million calls for service. Reaching out to wider sections of the community by providing service in languages other than English, the Language Line Service received 2,626 calls for service in fifty-one different languages in 1998.

So, please, Constable Macmillan begs, don't sell Canada short!

READING FOR DETAIL

1. Make the following statements true by changing the underlined part:
   a) Toronto is the capital of Canada.
   b) Toronto has the tallest building in the world.
   c) Toronto 's police service is the fourth largest in North America.

2. Put the following in the correct order:
   a) Italian, English, Polish, Cantonese, Portuguese (Toronto's top five languages)
   b) Toronto, New York, Los Angeles (the most important TV production centers in North America)
   c) Los Angeles, New York, Toronto, Mexico City, Chicago (North America's five largest cities)

3. First, second, or third? (If first, leave blank.)
   a) Toronto is the _____ largest car maker in North America.
   b) Ontario is the _____ richest province in Canada.
   c) Toronto has the _____ largest English-speaking theater scene in the world.

4. In the following, fill in the correct number
   a) Toronto has _____ sports teams.
   b) Toronto's daily newspapers are published in _____ foreign languages.
   c) There are some _____ Chinese restaurants in Toronto.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. How would you describe Ms. Macmillan's reaction to the stereotype of Canada: good, bad, or mixed?
2. Why does she provide so many statistics about Toronto ?
3. According to the text, the Toronto Police Service received calls for service in fifty-one different languages. What conclusions can you draw from this piece of information?

STUDYING THE LANGUAGE

1. Provide the superlative form of the following, then fill in the blanks:
   a) well (adverb): _____
      The part of Canada she knows _____ is Toronto.
   b) populous: _____
      Ontario is _____ province in Canada.
   c) long: _____
      Yonge Street is _____ in the world.
   d) diverse: _____
      In terms of world cultures, Toronto is the world's _____ city.

2. Provide the second of the pair of words (refer to the passage):
   a) I don't know whether to laugh or _____!
   b) He can't remember all those facts and _____.
   c) Theater is alive and _____ in London.

3. Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions (refer to the passage if necessary):
   a) The police work _____ the assistance _____ cars, motorcycles, and boats.
   b) They reach out _____ the community _____ providing various services.
   c) The police received calls _____ service _____ many different languages.