

## Canadian Diamonds

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### A Vast Supply of Canadian Diamonds

In 1998 Canada became the world's 8th largest producer of diamonds with the opening of the Ekati Mine in the Northwest Territories. Diamond production, has soared from zero to almost five million carats a year between 1998 and 2003. According to Statistics Canada, this production has escalated to more than double since then. Production figures are as follows:

Year	Production
2003	11.6 million carats
2004	12.7 million carats
2005	12.3 million carats
2006	13.28 million carats
2007	17 million carats

Botswana and Russia are the top two producers of diamonds in the world. They both produce around 30 million carats. Canada shares the third production spot with South Africa. Considering Canada's escalation of production figures, it should be able to close the gap between itself and the top producers over the next few years with more and more mines coming online. Older diamond mines in areas such as Australia and South Africa are either reducing production or shutting down due to depletion and Canada is ready to fill this opening. Canada's geology is also a factor - the country's Precambrian Shield is said to be the largest and most prospective terrain for diamonds in the world - and there is huge potential for additional finds.

Canadian diamonds are known to be 'conflict-free' and polished Canadian diamonds can be traced back to its source of origin. To fully understand what qualifies as a 'Canadian Diamond', please read the link [The Canadian Diamond Code of Conduct](#) on the Diamond Buyer's Guide page on [www.s2sartworks.com](http://www.s2sartworks.com).

Canadian diamonds are also sold under a variety of brand names such as '[Polar Bear](#)', '[Polar Ice](#)', '[Aurias](#)', etc. These brand names and matching hallmarks are laser inscribed onto the girdle of the diamonds for identification.

The CANADIAN ARCTIC™ diamond is a Canadian GNWT diamond. These diamonds have diamond certificates each carrying a serial number, which is individually recorded in a confidential centralized database. This is the world's first polished Diamond Certification Program certifying authentic Canadian diamonds mined, cut and polished in the Northwest Territories. All certified diamonds must meet a high standard of quality cut. Two factories in Yellowknife are currently participating in the Government Diamond Certification Program.

[Click here](#) to read more about Canadian GNWT diamonds.

Want to see photos of Canadian diamonds? View the [De Beers photo gallery](#).

### Locations of Major Canada's Diamond Mines and Diamond Projects:

#### [EKATI Diamond Mine](#)

310 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT

Open pit mine

Began operations on:

October 14, 1998

#### [Diavik Diamond Mine](#)

300 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT

Open pit mine

Began operations on:

January 2003

#### [Snap Lake Diamond Project](#)

220 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT

Underground diamond mine

Operations to start in 2008

#### [Victor Diamond Project](#)

James Bay Lowlands of Northern Ontario (90 km west of the coastal community of Attawapiskat)

Open pit mine

Operations to start approx. 2009

#### [Gahcho Kué Diamond Project](#)

300 km NE of Yellowknife, NWT

(90 km southeast of the Snap Lake Project)

Unspecified starting date