

# Canadian game design

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Defining a national culture in polygons and pixels

## Some facts

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- Canada has the biggest per capita video game industry in the world
- 329 video game companies in Canada
- \$2.3 billion of Canada's GDP
- Third largest game industry in the world by number of employees, after the United States and Japan

Source: The Entertainment Software Association of Canada, 2013

Some of the best games in the world are made in Canada

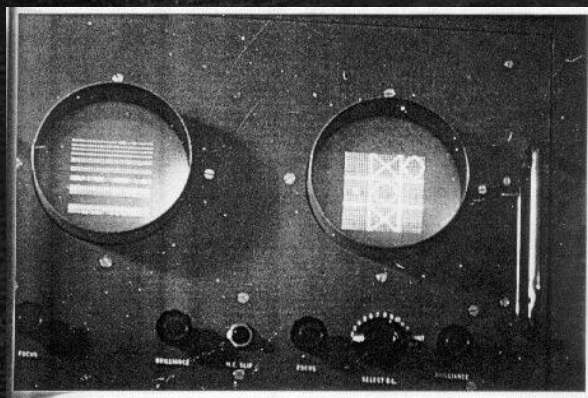


Some really great studios live in Canada

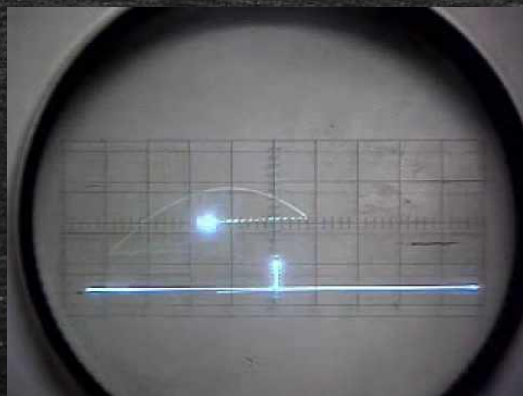
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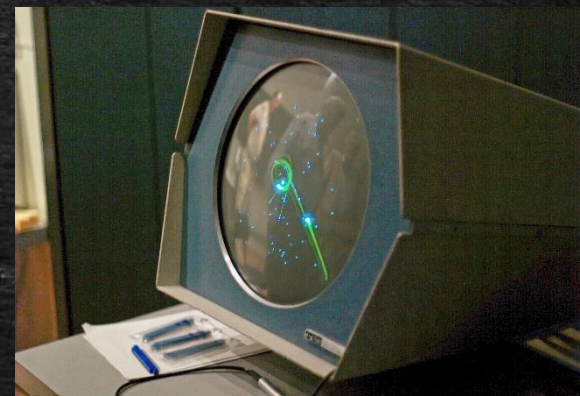
# Video Game History is muddy!



Noughts and Crosses, UK, 1952



Tennis for Two, USA, 1958



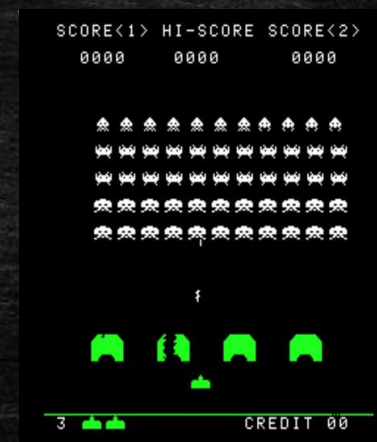
Spacewar!, USA, 1962



SEGA Combat, Japan, 1969



PONG, USA, 1973



Space Invaders, Japan, 1978

# Early '80s



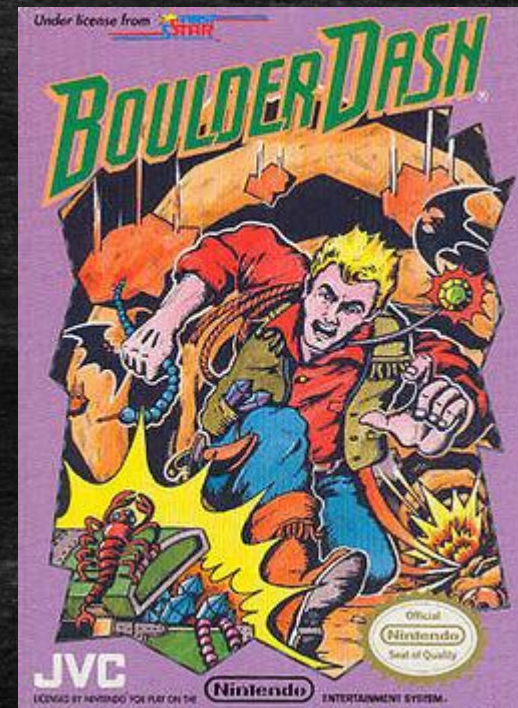
Quest for Tires, Canada, 1983, Paul Butler and Rick Banks, Ottawa

# Early '80s



Evolution, Canada, 1983, Don Mattrick and Jeff Sember, Vancouver

Early '80s



Boulder Dash, Canada, 1984 Peter Liepa and Chris Gray, Toronto/Oakville

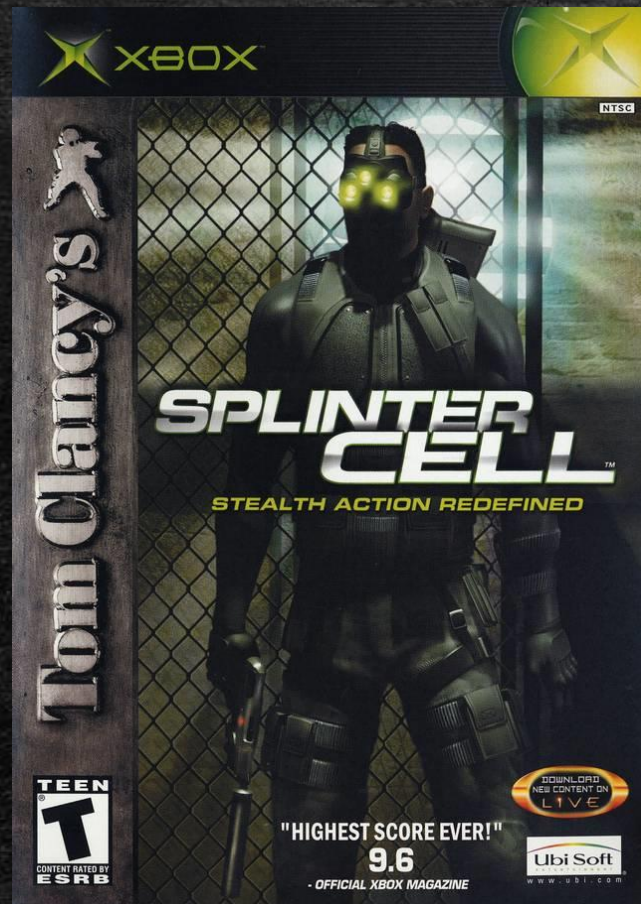


# 1997 – Ubisoft comes to Montreal

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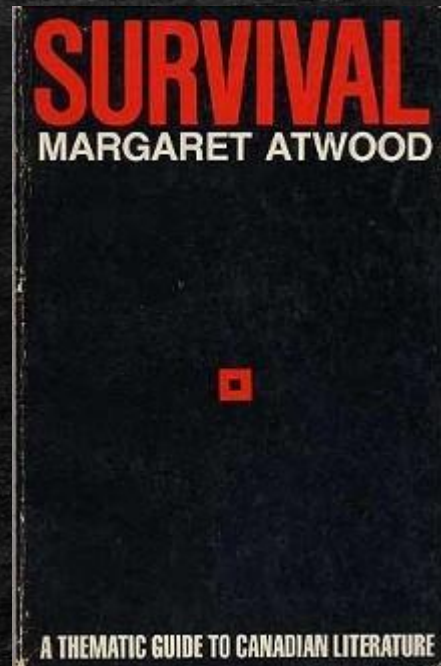


# Splinter Cell - 2002



# National Identity?

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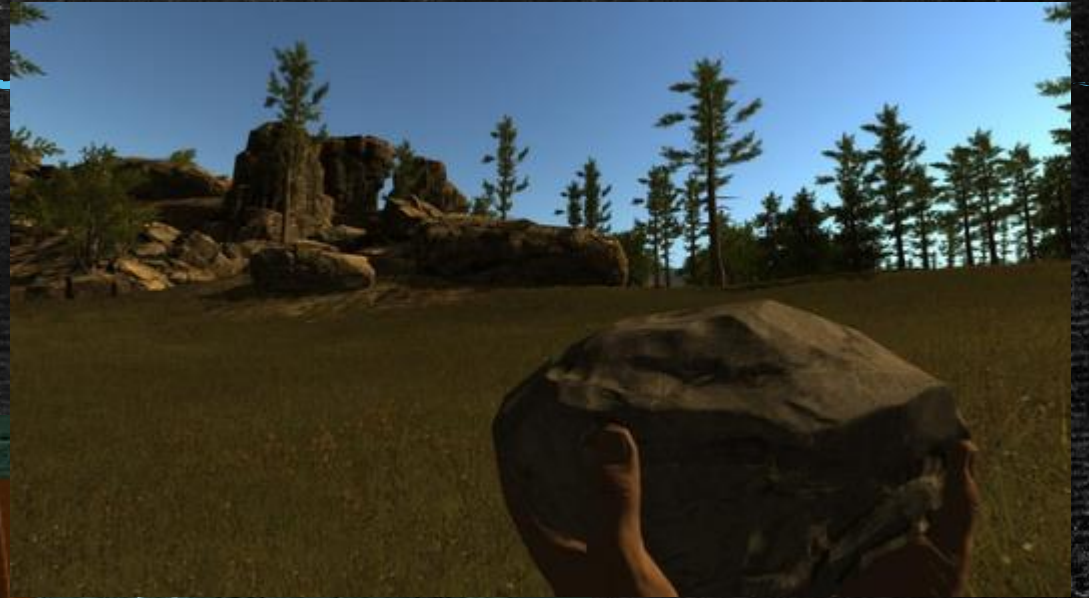


# Survival

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"The central symbol for Canada [...] is undoubtedly Survival, la Survivance. Like the Frontier and The Island, it is a multi-faceted and adaptable idea. For early explorers and settlers, it meant bare survival [...] But the word can also suggest survival of a crisis or disaster, like a hurricane or a wreck, and many Canadian poems have this kind of survival as a theme; what you might call 'grim' survival as opposed to 'bare' survival. " – Margaret Atwood, 1972

# Survival

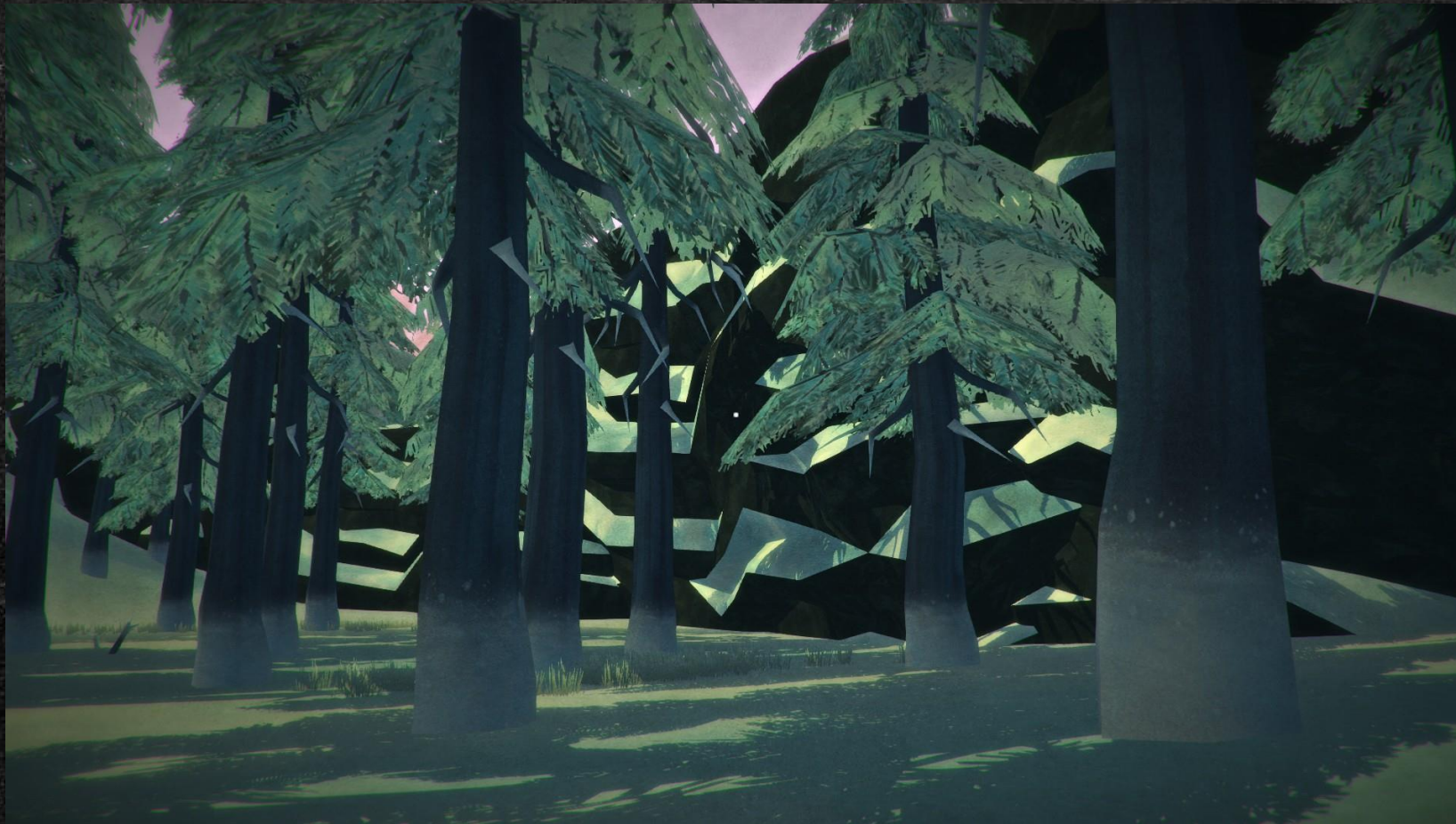


# Don't Starve - Survival Sandbox



# The Long Dark – Survival Canadiana

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# The Long Dark – Survival Canadiana





# Mass Effect – Survival Sci-fi

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# Star Trek – Frontier Sci-fi



# Mass Effect – Survival Sci-fi

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# Mass Effect – Survival Sci-fi

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# Another national legacy – 3D animation



Thank you!

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