

Electronic Security in Daily Life

Part of Canadian culture has always been safety first and it is demonstrated throughout the lives of each individual. As a result, the electronics we use in our daily lives like alarms, automated systems, entrance systems, and locking systems make Canadians' lives significantly safer. Although electronic security has always been important, as we move into the future, it is becoming safer to live in Canada and as a result, Canadians are feeling safer than ever with the help of electrical appliances keeping us safe.

In comparison to other countries, Canada has always acted as a safe haven for those who are grasping for safety and comfort. For example, "in 2014 the majority of Canadians said they were satisfied (50%) or very satisfied (38%) with their personal safety from crime"¹, thus making Canada a safer feeling place to live. Some factors that help with this feeling of safety are the regulations that Canadian citizens are taught at a young age. From the beginning of schooling, Canadians are shown how to keep themselves safe from immediate danger. Whether that be from natural disasters or threats outside of that matter, they are taught the procedures from kindergarten. The drills the students practice each year are lock-downs, evacuations, and lock-outs. This is an immediate increase in safety for both students and staff to ensure that everyone in the school is aware of procedures in case of any emergency. With the help of automated doors, alarms, and other automated systems within the school, these drills and procedures become significantly more effective. Though some may think that these drills may scare the students at first, it is ultimately the safest way to teach kids how to keep themselves and others safe in various scenarios.

I can remember in the second grade when I thought "why do we need to do these? could these things really happen?" and soon enough, it was clear that yes, these threats do happen and evacuations are needed. In the sixth grade, the public school I attended had two significant events in which we had to follow the procedures to both a lock-down and a lock-out. The first was a lock-down in which there were drunken, reckless teenagers being threatening in the playground. They were throwing beer

¹ <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/54889-eng.pdf?st=hLNj0bz5>

bottles, screaming and yelling, and eventually they set fire to the playground. The police were called, but all of the students followed the steps of a regulatory lock-down. We were hidden from windows, not let outside for lunch time, and kept quieter than normal. As we discovered later, the doors had also been locked using an override system implemented to keep us safe from the threat outside. Later that year, we were put to the test of a lock-out. In this instance, there had been a garbage truck that hit an electrical pole and fell onto the school. The power went out and all of the students were moved to the gym far away from where the pole hit. After making arrangements, we were all moved to a church down the street to wait until our parents came to pick us up. If we hadn't been taught these procedures then I believe that it would have been much more catastrophic than it actually was. Due to the previous practice and technological use and organization there was a route to follow and we immediately knew what to do as a whole.

In addition to these drills taught to Canadian children, they are also some of the most informed in the context of electrical safety. As children, Canadians are taught how to use safety procedures in the home and in public settings to help make them feel safer and more comfortable when presented with threatening conditions. The fire alarms, automatic doors, entrance systems, and locking systems are all things aided Canadians to feel safe in any setting. For example, public transportation in Canada has become one of the safer modes of travel and those who utilize it are satisfied with their safety in these vehicles. Due to the implementation of security cameras, automated doors, "stop" buttons, etcetera, Canadians feel safer taking the bus rather than walking or biking. This is reflected in the Statistics Canada study done in 2014, as they recorded that "90% of public transportation users in Guelph and 85% in Québec reported that they were not at all worried about their safety"², thus meaning that that public transportation does feel safer than other options without electronic security implemented. In relation to this, the home lives of Canadians have been improved through the use of locking systems in this daily lives. Home being the place where all should feel the most comfortable, Canadians utilize their electrical safety measures to feel safe in their own homes. Statistics Canada found that "the majority of Canadians (94%) said that they currently take or have

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already taken steps to protect themselves or their possessions against crime. The most common measure, adopted by 85% of Canadians, was to routinely lock the doors and windows at home”³. This is a habit taught from a young age and soon enough, it is part of every Canadians routine.

Through the use of electronic systems, the daily lives of Canadians is improved significantly. From sitting at home to riding on a public transit bus, Canadians are the safest they’ve felt in a long time. Since we have been taught from a young age to always put safety first when it comes to in-school drills, we are more inclined to value safety in our personal lives and as we grow. Using electrical appliances as an aid to safety in a culture so devoted to safety has been the most beneficial to all residents of Canada. Canada as a whole can be documented as one of the safest places on Earth historically and presently with the help of new technology assisting us in our daily lives.

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