Social aspects of the Potato Industry

Potatoes have had a social impact for thousands of years. They were the focus of numerous superstitions and mythology in ancient South America.

PEI Potato Museum.

Potatoes are highly celebrated on Prince Edward Island. This is a float in the Potato Blossom Festival parade in O'Leary, PEI.

PEI Potato Museum.

A newspaper clipping from the Journal Pioneer in 1997 exaggerating the impact of the large fiberglass potato at the museum in O'Leary. PEI Potato Museum.
The unveiling of the world’s largest potato outside the potato museum in O’Leary PEI with Premier Pat Binns and Conservative candidate Eva Rodgerson in attendance. 

**PEI Potato Museum.**

Quilt making is one of the important crafts from PEI. The importance of the potato in everyday life is illustrated in the fact that it is included in this quilt. 

**PEI Potato Museum.**

With the arrival of the tractor to PEI around the mid 1900s, the face of the potato industry was changed forever. Farmers could now increase their yields exponentially. 

**PEI Potato Museum.**
Potatoes are most commonly boiled, fried, or turned into French Fries but can also be ingredients in a wide variety of dishes such as soup.

The potato-processing sector now constitutes nearly 65% of the industry. Cavendish Farms employs hundreds of Islanders in their processing plants, making French Fries and a variety of other potato products. This adds a great deal of money to the Island economy. *PEI Potato Museum.*

Chip making is another spinoff industries branching out from potato farming. *PEI Department of Agriculture.*
Islanders wait anxiously for the new potatoes to hit the shelves of stores beginning in early July.

*PEI Potato Museum.*

The beauty pageant is always a big part of the Potato Blossom Festival in O'Leary. Here are the winners and runners up of the Miss Potato Blossom pageant in 2000.

*PEI Potato Museum.*

The potato not only adds to the economy of the province but also the Island's landscape. These small blossoms cover the Island in late July adding to the natural beauty of PEI.

*PEI Department of Agriculture.*