

GRADE 8 HISTORY

UNIT ONE: CONFEDERATION

STUDENT TEXT



By Emilia Bartolomucci

Drawings by Fran Wachna



Grade 8 History UNIT ONE: CONFEDERATION

STUDENT TEXT

	Page
<i>Table of Contents</i>	T1:1 - T1 :2
<i>From the Beginning...(Timeline: 500-1790)</i>	T1:3
<i>And then...(Timeline 1790-1867)</i>	T1:4
<i>Introduction to Confederation</i>	
• Unit expectations	T1:5
• Comparing Maps: Canada Today and British North America in 1860	T1:6
<u>Chapter One: Life in British North America</u>	
• Chapter One Overview	T1:7
• Chapter One: Key Vocabulary	T1:8
• What was life like in the different colonies of BNA in the 1860s?	T1:9
➤ Atlantic Colonies	T1:10
➤ Central Canada	T1:11
➤ the North and the Prairies	T1:12
➤ the Pacific Coast:	T1:13
• Social conditions in BNA	T1:14 - T1:16
• Economic conditions in BNA	T1:17 -T1:19
• Political conditions in BNA	T1:20 - T1:26
• Chapter One Summary	T1:27
<u>Chapter Two: The Path to Confederation</u>	
• Chapter Two Overview and Key Vocabulary	T1:28
• Why did some people in BNA want Confederation?	T1:29
• Why were some people in BNA against Confederation?	T1:30
• What events led to Confederation?	T1:31 - T1:33
• Canada's First Constitution: The BNA Act	T1:34 - T1:35

	Page
• Who were some “fathers of Confederation”?	T1:36 - T1:37
• Who did not have a voice in Confederation?	T1:38
• Chapter Two Summary	T1:39

Chapter Three: Building Confederation

• Chapter Three Overview and Key Vocabulary	T1:40
• How did Canada grow “from sea to sea”?	T1:41-T1:42
• Comparing Maps: The Changing Face of Canada (1867,1870,1905.1949)	T1:43
• What are some disagreements in Canada today?	T1:44-T1:46
• Chapter Three Summary	T1:47

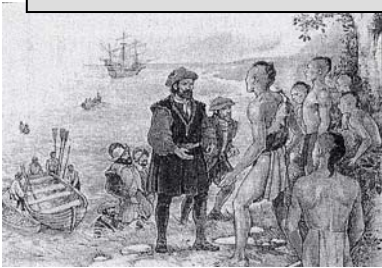
From the Beginning...

Aboriginal Peoples



Aboriginal peoples were the first people to live in North America. There were many different groups or nations. They spoke different languages and had many different ways of living. All of them used the gifts of nature in their environment to survive.

European Exploration and Settlement



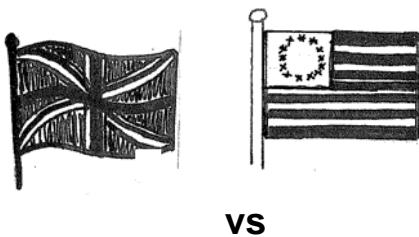
French and English explorers from Europe came to North America to claim lands. They met the Aboriginal people and began to trade with them. Many fur traders came to trade for fur. Missionaries came to teach the Aboriginal peoples Christianity. Then, settlers from Britain and France came to live on the land. Settlers from France first built homes in what is now Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. The English came to live in parts of Nova Scotia and what is now the United States.

Britain vs. France



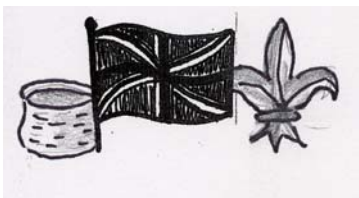
Both the French and English wanted the same land and soon fighting took place. The French and English got help from different Aboriginal groups. There were many wars. At the end of the Seven Years War in 1763, France had to give all its land in North America to Britain. From this time on, Britain had control of most of North America.

Britain vs. America



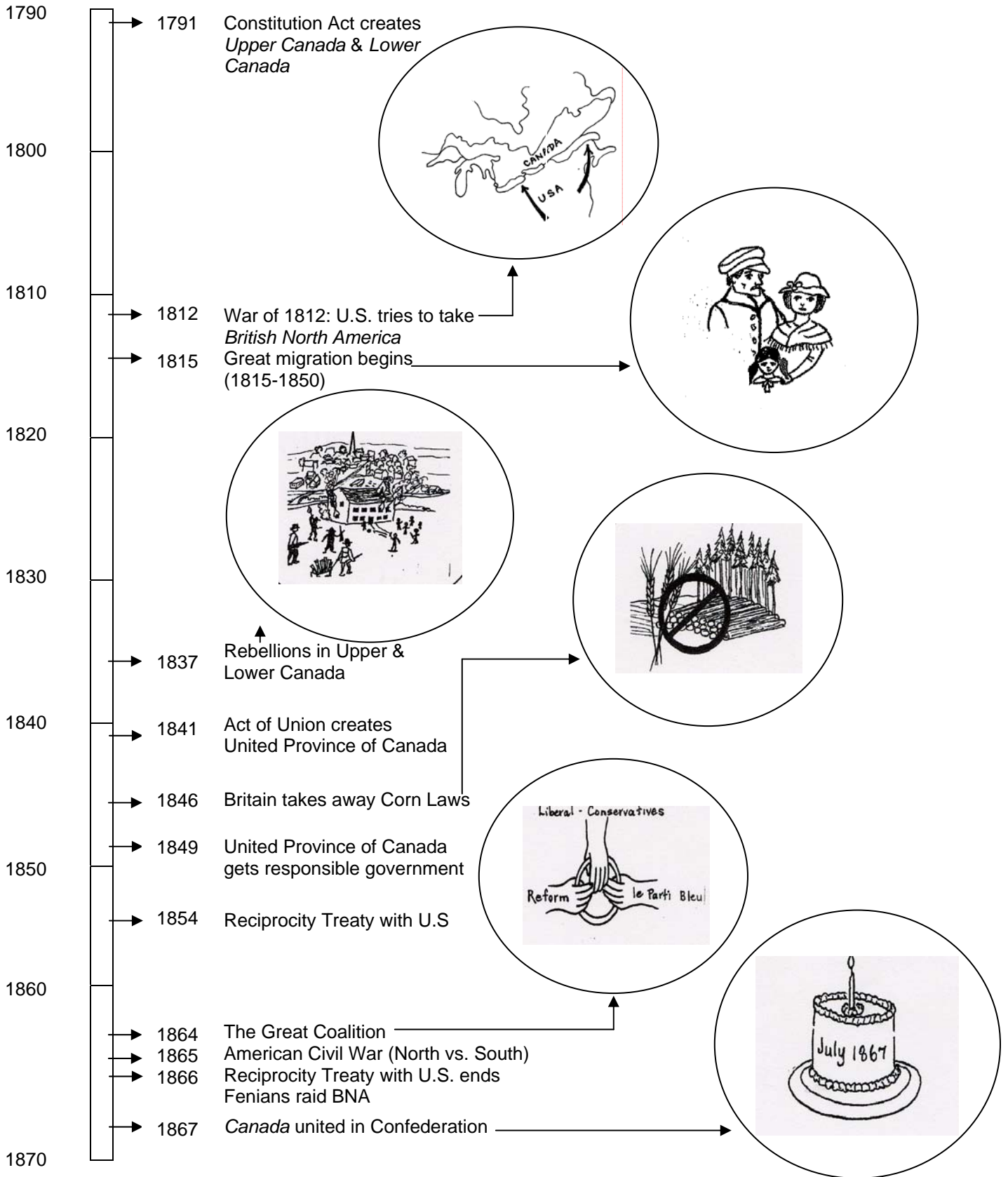
The British settlers living in the southeastern part of North America did not like how Britain was treating them. In 1776, they began a war with Britain for their independence. They won the war and created a new country called the United States of America. Britain lost much of its land. The land they kept was called British North America. The Americans forced the people who were loyal to Britain to leave. Many of these English "loyalists" moved to British North America so they could still be part of Britain. There were bad feelings between the Americans and the English in British North America.

British North America



Britain ruled British North America. When more English people started arriving, the French people became afraid of losing their language and way of living. The Aboriginal peoples were also unhappy about living on special lands set aside for them. Their way of living also was in danger of being lost. Many people wanted change.

And then...



Introduction to Confederation

Before 1867, Canada was called British North America (BNA). It was not a country. It was divided into areas called colonies. A **colony** is an area under the control of another country. Britain was the mother country of these colonies. It defended its colonies in British North America and had a special trade relationship with them. In this unit, you will learn the story of how the colonies of British North America joined together to become the country of Canada. This joining together of colonies into a country is called **Confederation**.

Unit Expectations

In this unit, you will learn the answers to these questions:

- What was life like in the different colonies of British North America in 1860?*
- Why did some colonies of British North America want to join in Confederation?*
- Why did some colonies of British North America disagree with Confederation?*
- What events led to Confederation?*
- Who were the fathers of Confederation?*
- Who had no voice in Confederation?*
- How did Canada grow from sea to sea?*

You will also learn and practice these skills:

- understand and use new vocabulary words*
- use different strategies to help you understand what you read (e.g. dictionary, glossary, chapter overview, titles, margin notes, pictures, diagrams, chapter summary etc.)*
- read and make maps to show different kinds of information*
- read and make different kinds of graphs*
- understand information in different kinds of graphic organizers*
- make notes using graphic organizers, point form*
- communicate information in different ways (pictures, drama, posters, political cartoons, newspaper article, opinion essay, storyboards, power point etc.)*

You will also learn to:

- compare Canada as it was in 1867 to Canada today*
- compare what happened in Canada's history to what is happening in the world today*

Comparing Maps: Canada Today and BNA in 1860

This is a map of Canada today.



This is a map of British North America in the 1860s



Chapter One: LIFE IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Chapter One Overview:

What was life like in the different colonies of British North America in the 1860s?

In this chapter, you will learn about:

- some important facts about life in the different **regions** of Canada
 - the Atlantic colonies (*Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island*)
 - Central Canada (*Canada East and Canada West*)
 - the North and the Prairies (*Rupert's Land, Red River Settlement, Northwest Territories*)
 - the Pacific Coast (*British Columbia and Vancouver Island*)
- the **social** conditions in British North America
 - *What groups of people lived in BNA?*
 - *What groups of people came to Canada in the Great Migration?*
 - *How did the Great Migration affect life in BNA?*
- the **economic** conditions in British North America
 - *Why was there an economic boom before the 1840s?*
 - *What created a bust in the economy after the 1840s?*
 - *What improved the economy in the 1850s?*
- the **political** conditions in British North America
 - *What is the difference between representative government and responsible government?*
 - *Why was there a political deadlock in the United Province of Canada?*
 - *What caused political disagreements in the United Province of Canada?*
 - *What were the political parties of Canada East and Canada West and who were their leaders?*
 - *How did the Great Coalition end the political deadlock?*

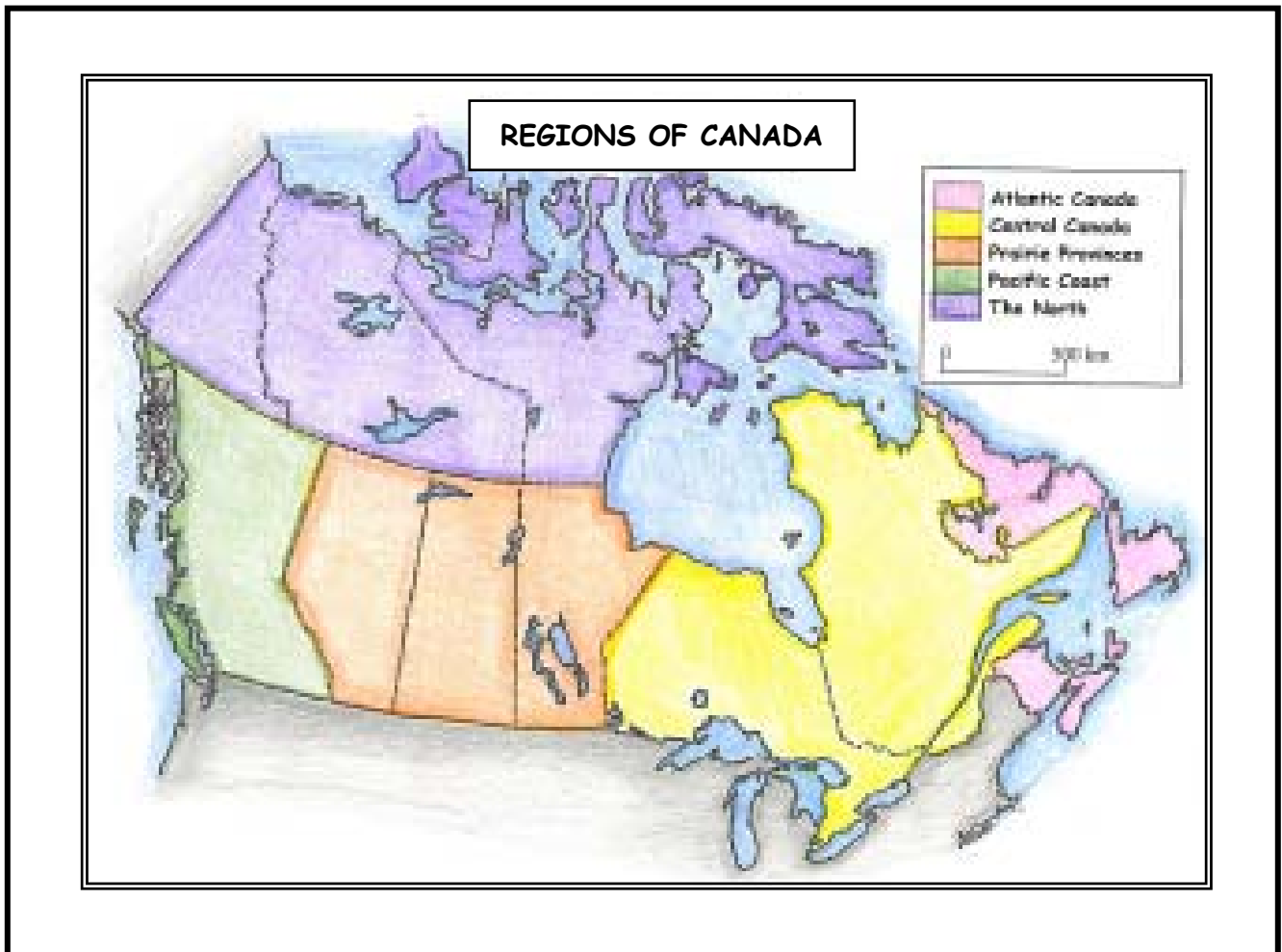
Chapter One: Key Vocabulary

Regions of Canada	Social Conditions	Economic conditions	Political conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>colony</i> ❑ <i>industry</i> ❑ <i>Aboriginal people</i> ❑ <i>trade</i> ❑ <i>forestry</i> ❑ <i>mining</i> ❑ <i>farming</i> ❑ <i>British Loyalists</i> ❑ <i>absentee landlords</i> ❑ <i>export</i> ❑ <i>factory</i> ❑ <i>port</i> ❑ <i>reservations</i> ❑ <i>Legislative Assembly</i> ❑ <i>manufacturing</i> ❑ <i>monopoly</i> ❑ <i>trading posts</i> ❑ <i>Metis</i> ❑ <i>disease</i> ❑ <i>missionaries</i> ❑ <i>tundra</i> ❑ <i>cowboys</i> ❑ <i>plateau</i> ❑ <i>canyons</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>social</i> ❑ <i>table</i> ❑ <i>bar graph</i> ❑ <i>refugee</i> ❑ <i>migration</i> ❑ <i>famine</i> ❑ <i>steerage</i> ❑ <i>timber ships</i> ❑ <i>quarantine stations</i> ❑ <i>slaves</i> ❑ <i>cotton</i> ❑ <i>abolitionists</i> ❑ <i>Underground Railway</i> ❑ <i>racism</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>economic</i> ❑ <i>cash crop</i> ❑ <i>preferential tariffs</i> ❑ <i>boom</i> ❑ <i>Industrial Revolution</i> ❑ <i>free trade</i> ❑ <i>Corn Laws</i> ❑ <i>bust</i> ❑ <i>Reciprocity Treaty</i> ❑ <i>rapids</i> ❑ <i>canals</i> ❑ <i>navvies</i> ❑ <i>bribe</i> ❑ <i>debt</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>political</i> ❑ <i>council</i> ❑ <i>representative government</i> ❑ <i>rebellion</i> ❑ <i>premier</i> ❑ <i>responsible government</i> ❑ <i>appointed</i> ❑ <i>equal representation</i> ❑ <i>rep by pop</i> ❑ <i>majority</i> ❑ <i>political deadlock</i> ❑ <i>Clergy Reserves</i> ❑ <i>assimilate</i> ❑ <i>la survivance</i> ❑ <i>confederation</i> ❑ <i>political party</i> ❑ <i>party platform</i> ❑ <i>coalition</i> ❑ <i>the Great Coalition</i>

What was life like in the different colonies of British North America in the 1860s?

Before Confederation, British North America had six different **colonies**. There were also other areas under the control of the British government but they were not colonies. We can study these colonies and areas better by dividing them into regions. A **region** is an area of land that has a similar geography, people and activities. Different colonies in the same region often had similar ideas and ways of living. These ideas and ways of living were different from people that lived in other regions. You will be reading about what life was like in the colonies in five different regions of Canada.

Look at the **legend** and the map to see where these regions are:



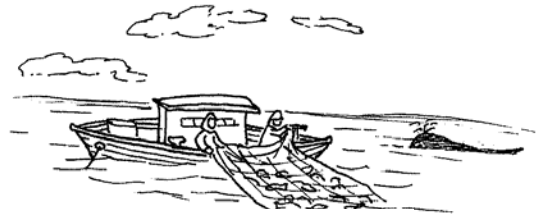
Compare the maps **Regions of Canada** on this page and **British North America before Confederation** on page T1:6. How are they similar? How are they different?

THE ATLANTIC COLONIES



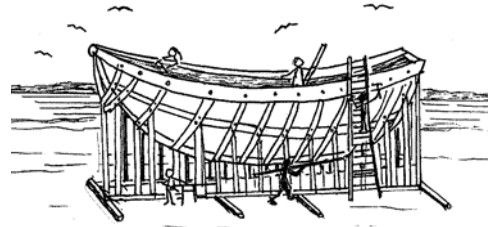
Newfoundland

- population: mostly English, many Irish immigrants
- most people were fishers who lived along the coast
- capital: St. John's
- main **industry**: fishing,
- other industries: whale & seal hunting, shipbuilding
- traded with Britain, West Indies
- no **trade** with other BNA colonies



Nova Scotia

- population: mostly Scottish, French speaking people called Acadians
- **Aboriginal people** (Mi'kmaq, Maliseet)
- capital: Halifax
- main industry: shipbuilding
- other industries: **forestry**, coal **mining**, some **farming**
- traded with Britain, Europe
- little trade with other BNA colonies



New Brunswick

- population: mostly **British Loyalists**, some French, Aboriginal
- capital: Fredericton
- St. John oldest and largest city (30,000 people)
- main industry: forestry
- other industries: shipbuilding, fishing, farming
- traded with Britain, United States, West Indies
- little trade with other BNA colonies



Prince Edward Island

- population: mostly Scottish, British
- capital: Charlottetown
- farmers couldn't buy land – paid rent to **absentee landlords**
- main industry: farming
- other industries: fishing
- exported food to Atlantic colonies, United States



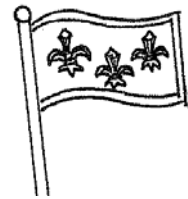
CENTRAL CANADA



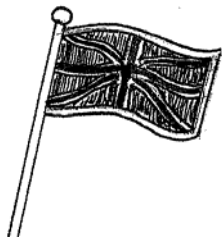
THE UNITED PROVINCE OF CANADA:

Canada East (Quebec):

- population: -mostly French Canadian & Roman Catholic
-mostly British & Irish in Montreal and Eastern townships
-Aboriginal people (Algonquin, Montagnais, Mistassini Cree)
- capital: Ottawa
- George Etienne Carter elected leader in **Legislative Assembly** (law making part of government) for Canada East
- main industries: farming along St. Lawrence River, forestry
- other industries: **manufacturing**, iron & steel for canal & railway building
- most important cities were Quebec city & Montreal
- Quebec city
 - 59,000 people mostly French Canadian
but English had most important jobs in industry & trade
 - timber most important industry
 - port
- Montreal
 - British North America's most important city
 - population (100,000) mostly English speaking
 - many **factories**
 - important **port**



Canada West (Ontario):



- population: -mostly English Protestants
- some Irish Protestants that hated Roman Catholics (Orangemen)
- Aboriginal people (e.g. Cree, Ojibway)
- some Aboriginal people living on special land called **reservations**
-30,000 African Americans from U.S.A.
- capital: Ottawa
John A. Macdonald elected leader in Legislative Assembly (law making body of government) for Canada West
- other important cities: Kingston, Toronto
- important industries: farming, timber, manufacturing, trade

THE NORTH AND THE PRAIRIES



The North



The Prairies

Rupert's Land

- name of all territory with rivers that flowed into Hudson's Bay
- was under control of Hudson's Bay Company
 - had **monopoly** to trade with Aboriginal people
 - many **trading posts**



Red River Settlement

- many different groups of people living there
 - **Metis** (from Aboriginal mothers, European fathers) were largest group (9800) mostly farmers
 - different groups of Aboriginal people (about 35,000)
 - lived by hunting buffalo but less buffalo to eat
 - sick from European **diseases**
 - Scottish settlers in area called Assiniboia
 - French speaking fur traders
 - retired workers and families of Hudson's Bay Company
 - Roman Catholic **missionaries**



Northwest Territories



- Inuit people lived in far north
 - no trees just **tundra**
 - important industry: whale hunting
- Aboriginal (Dene) lived further south
 - many trees
 - hunted caribou

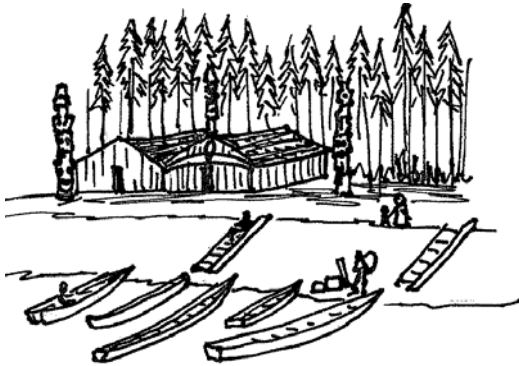


THE PACIFIC COAST



British Columbia and Vancouver Island

- population: -Aboriginal peoples living along the coast and on Pacific islands
-British workers for the Hudson's Bay Company,
-American miners
-**cowboys** taking care of cattle on **plateau**
- Chinese men escaping war in China (Opium War with Britain)
- 1858 –gold discovered in Fraser River **canyons**
- 30,000 miners went to British Columbia (many Americans)
- Americans did not want to listen to British laws (wanted to take British Columbia)



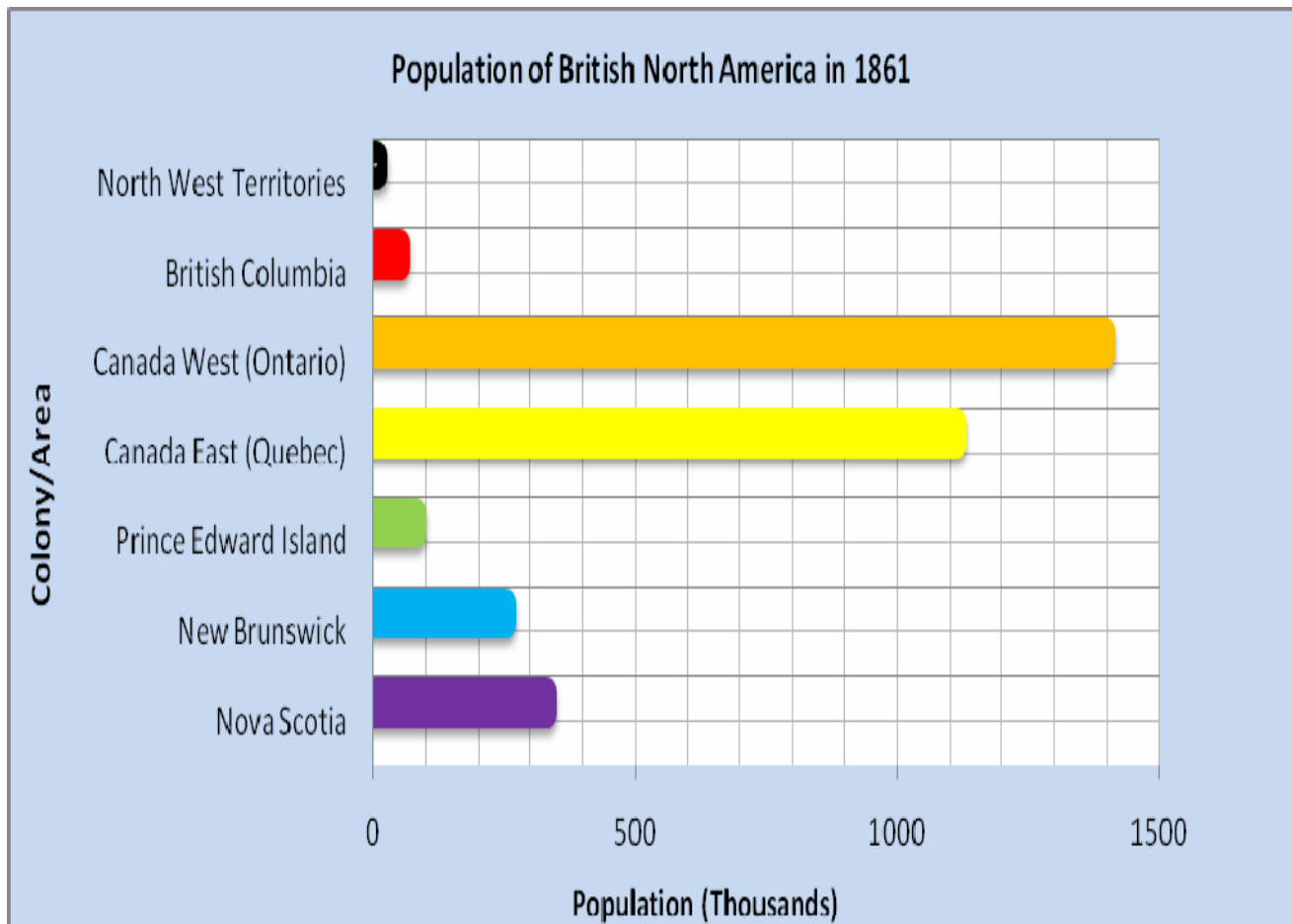
Social Conditions in British North America:

In 1861, there were more than three million people living in British North America.

This **table** shows where they lived. It does not include Aboriginal peoples and Newfoundland.

Population of British North America in 1861	
Colony/Area	Population
Nova Scotia	330,857
New Brunswick	252,047
Prince Edward Island	80,857
Canada East (Quebec)	1, 111,566
Canada West (Ontario)	1, 396,091
British Columbia	51,524
North West Territories	6,691
Total	3, 229,633

We can *compare* this information in a **horizontal bar graph**:



Groups of people in BNA



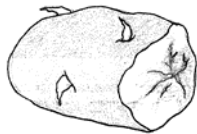
Who were the different groups of people living in the colonies of British North America? The three largest groups were the English, the French, and the Aboriginal peoples. Some English or French men had married Aboriginal women. Their children were a mixed race of people who called themselves Metis. Each of these groups had their own culture, language, and way of life.

The Great Migration



Before 1840, there were more French than English people living in British North America. Between 1840 and 1860, many more English-speaking people came to live here. Tens of thousands came from Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales. They were looking for a better life. African American slaves came from the United States. They came to be free. Those who escaped to safety were **refugees** in their new land. These new immigrants added their language, customs and beliefs to the Aboriginal peoples and French and British settlers already living here. **'Migration'** means *movement from one place to another*. Because so many people moved to British North America, we call this time period "the Great Migration".

The Irish potato famine



The Irish were the largest group of **immigrants**. They were escaping hunger. The poor Irish ate potatoes as the main part of their meal. However, in 1845 and 1846, a disease destroyed most of the potatoes. Thousands of poor Irish began dying of hunger due to **famine**. Other diseases like *cholera* and *typhus* also started to attack their weak bodies. Many wanted to come to North America for a better chance at life. Some could not raise the money they needed for the trip onboard ship. They had to stay in Ireland. Those who had money for the passage left for North America. Some traveled comfortably in cabins. A cabin with meals cost between \$60 and \$80. Others had to travel in **steerage**, the cheapest part of the ship. A steerage ticket cost \$25. The steerage passengers had a miserable voyage.

"coffin ships"

The poorest Irish had to travel on **timber ships**. These ships had been built to carry lumber, not people. Men, women and children were crowded close together in a small area. There was not enough food, water, light or air. So many people died from the horrible conditions that the timber ships began to be called "coffin ships" or "fever ships".



quarantine stations

When the ships arrived at the port, health inspectors had to check the new immigrants for sickness. They had to wait in **quarantine stations** until they were better. Thousands of people died because there were not enough doctors or nurses to care for them. Their hopes and dreams for a better life died with them.

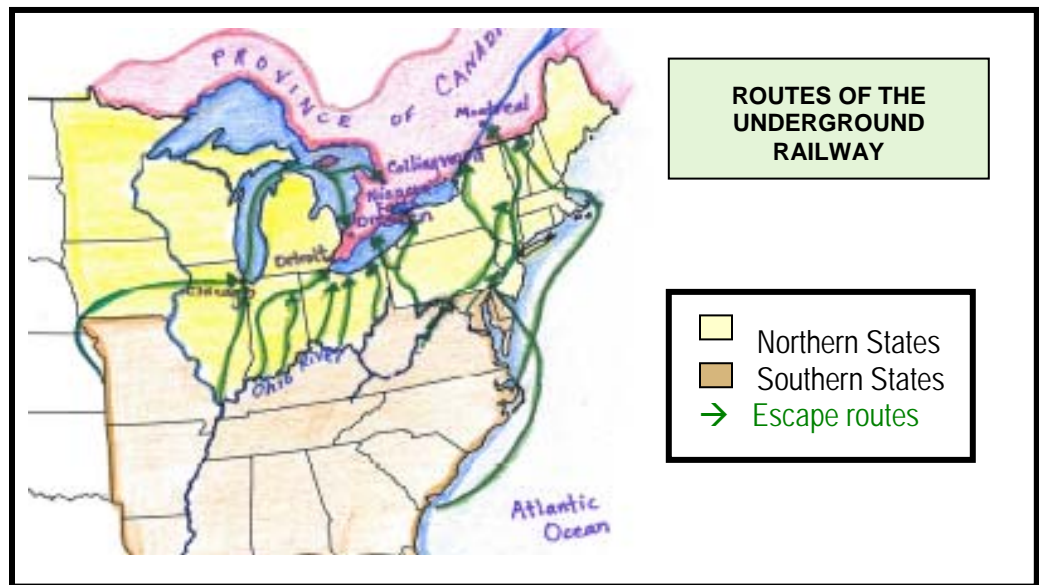
African slaves



Underground Railway



In the 1700s, slave traders had brought Africans to America to work as **slaves** in the **cotton** fields. When the United States became a country in 1776, the southern States still needed slaves to pick cotton. However, the people in the northern States felt that slavery was evil. A special group of people wanted to ‘abolish’ or ‘get rid’ of slavery. They were called **abolitionists**. They tried to help slaves escape to Canada by giving them a safe route to freedom. If they were caught, they would be put in prison or even killed. Therefore, they had to keep the route a secret. They even had a secret language so others would not know what they were talking about. This safe route to freedom became known as the **Underground Railroad** - “underground” because it was secret and “railroad” because they used many railway words in their secret language. Many African Americans settled in Canada West. They were free but **racism** made life difficult. Some returned to the United States when all slaves became free there.



Effects of the Great Migration

The Great Migration changed life in British North America. Most of the immigrants spoke English. Many of them settled in Canada West. Before the great migration, the French population in Canada East was more than the English population in Canada West. After the great migration, there were more English in Canada West than French in Canada East. The English wanted more power in the government. The French began to worry more about the survival of their language and culture. In addition, the new immigrants needed land, shelter, food and jobs to survive. These needs led to many changes in the economic conditions in British North America. You will learn about these changes in the next section.

Economic Conditions in British North America:

boom



preferential
tariffs

Industrial Revolution



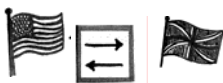
free trade

bust

no Corn Laws



Reciprocity Treaty



The population of British North America was growing quickly. Trade was also growing. Many of the people in British North America were farmers. They grew wheat to make flour and to trade for cash. Wheat was their main **cash crop**. Many people also worked in the forest industry. Timber was needed to build ships, houses, and furniture. British North America sent most of its wheat and timber to Britain. The British government collected taxes or **tariffs** on imported products. However, before 1846, it collected *less tax* from British North America because it was one of its colonies. This was known as **preferential tariffs**. Less tax meant more money for the farmers and timber companies in British North America. This created a **boom** in the economy.

From 1750 to 1850, Britain was having an **Industrial Revolution**. Many changes took place. People moved from the farm to the city to work in factories. A lot of work was done by machines. The factory owners wanted the cheapest materials so they could make more money. They wanted **free trade**. This meant *no taxes* on imports so they would be cheaper to buy.

Therefore, the British government began to get rid of preferential tariffs. The British called wheat “corn”. In 1846, they took away the **Corn Laws** that gave special rates for wheat to the colonies. This was good for Britain but bad for the colonies. British North America could not compete with cheaper wheat and timber from Europe. Many wheat farmers left their farms and moved to the United States. Timber companies also lost most of their business. This caused an economic **bust**. Thousands of Irish were arriving on ships but no work was waiting for them. The people of British North America were suffering. They felt Britain had betrayed them. Some began talking about joining the United States.

Lord Elgin was the Governor General of the Province of Canada. In 1854, he persuaded the United States to sign a free trade agreement or **Reciprocity Treaty** with the Province of Canada. There would be no taxes on Canadian wheat, timber, coal, fish or potatoes going into the United States for the next ten years. In return, American fishers could fish in the British waters off the Atlantic coast.

boom again



Transportation improves
water transportation



land transportation
railway building



After the treaty was signed, the United States became an important trading partner. Exports from the Province of Canada doubled from 1853 to 1855. Britain was getting wheat from Russia. However, in 1854, Britain began a war with Russia. Its supply of wheat was cut off so it began to import wheat from British North America again. This increased trade even more. The economy was booming once again!

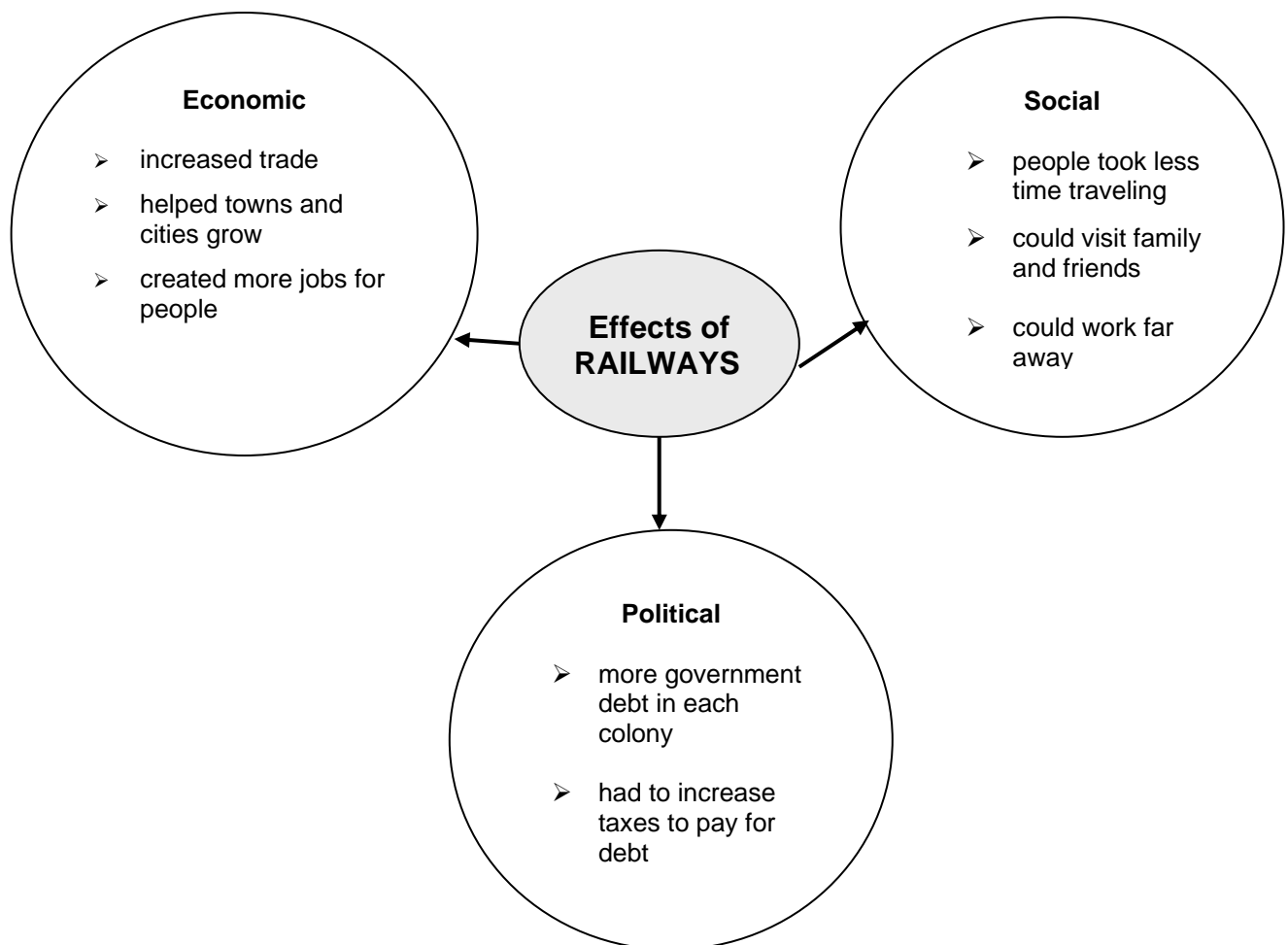
Trade needs good transportation. Traveling by road in British North America took a long time. During the Industrial Revolution, people began to think of new ways to improve transportation on water. Many ships used the St. Lawrence River and Ottawa River to bring products in and out of British North America. However, the rivers had **rapids** and waterfalls that made traveling by ship difficult. Therefore, new **canals** were built so ships could go around them. Three important canals were the Lachine, Welland and Rideau canals. Canal workers were called **navvies**. Many navvies were Irish immigrants. The steam engine also improved water transportation. It was a new invention used in factories. Then they began to use the steam engine to power steamboats that traveled on inland rivers. The big steamboats could carry people and products much faster until the rivers became frozen in winter. They also began to use steam engines to power ships that traveled across the ocean. Instead of three months, ships could cross the Atlantic Ocean in 12 days!

However, ships could not travel on fresh water lakes and rivers in the winter. Some towns were not close to water. Railways made traveling over land faster and easier and they could run all year round. Therefore, in the 1850s, the colonies began building railways between large towns. But building railways was very expensive. Railway companies did not have enough money. They asked the government to help them pay for the railway. Some leaders of the railway companies were also leaders in the government. In addition, the railway companies **bribed** many government officials to vote yes. Therefore, the government agreed to loan the Grand Trunk Railway company money to build the railway. By the end of the 1850s, Canada West, Canada East, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia each had their own railway. There was over 3,000 km of track. However, there was no railway connecting the colonies to one another.

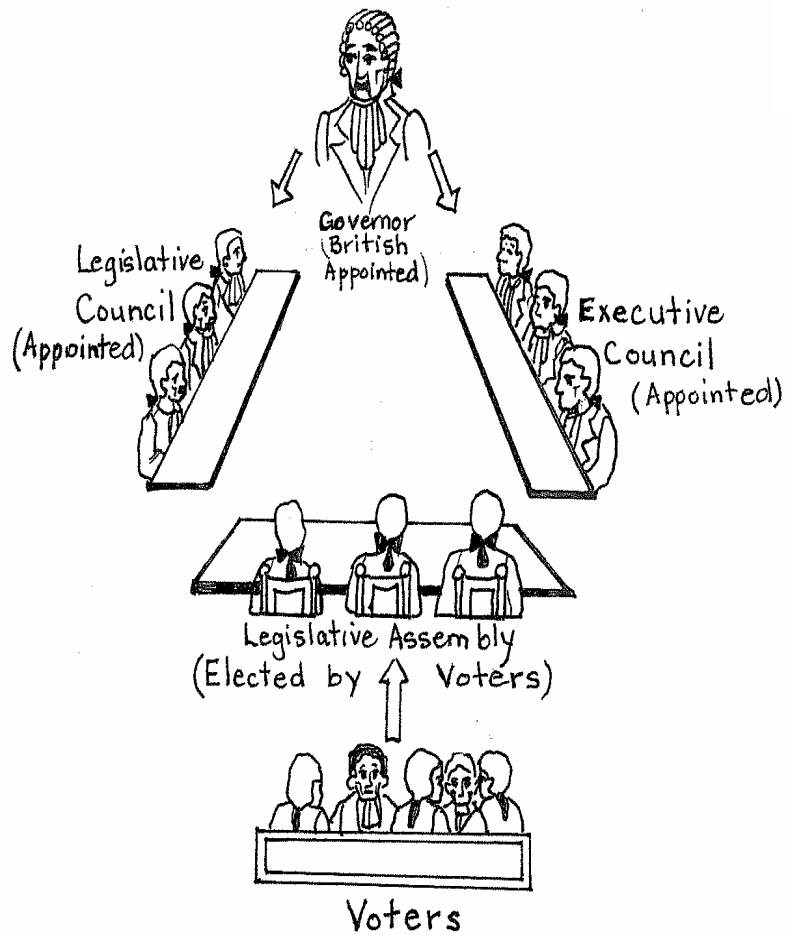
Effects of the railway



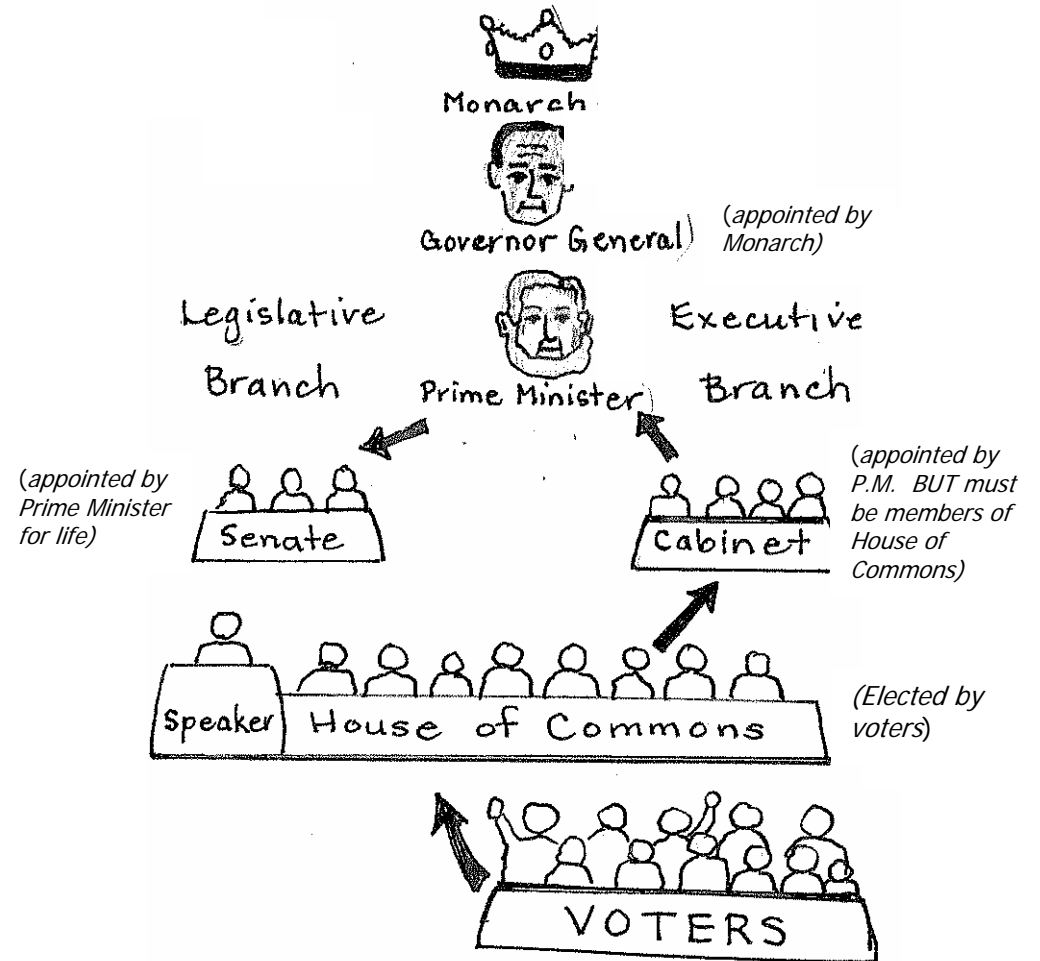
Railways had many effects on the economic, social, and political life of British North America. Trade increased because products could travel faster and farther. Towns and cities that were on railway routes grew. Those that were not on railway routes disappeared. Railways created more work for everyone. People were needed to work on the trains, make steel, and fix the engines and tracks. Railways also changed life for the people in British North America. Traveling took less time. People could travel hundreds of kilometres in one day. They could work far away from home and visit friends and family in other towns. However, railway building also made the government in each colony go deeply into **debt**. To get more money, the government had to put a tax on imports and increase property taxes. But railways were very important to the growth of British North America. Therefore, the government had to continue building railways.



REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT



RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT



Political Conditions in British North America:

representative government



Rebellion in United Province of Canada



Act of Union 1841

responsible government

Four areas of disagreement

How was British North America governed? Britain ruled the colonies of British North America. The King or Queen of England sent a Governor General to make decisions for the colony. The Governor General chose a **council** to help him make these decisions. Many of the colonies in British North America had **representative government**. This means the people could vote for someone to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

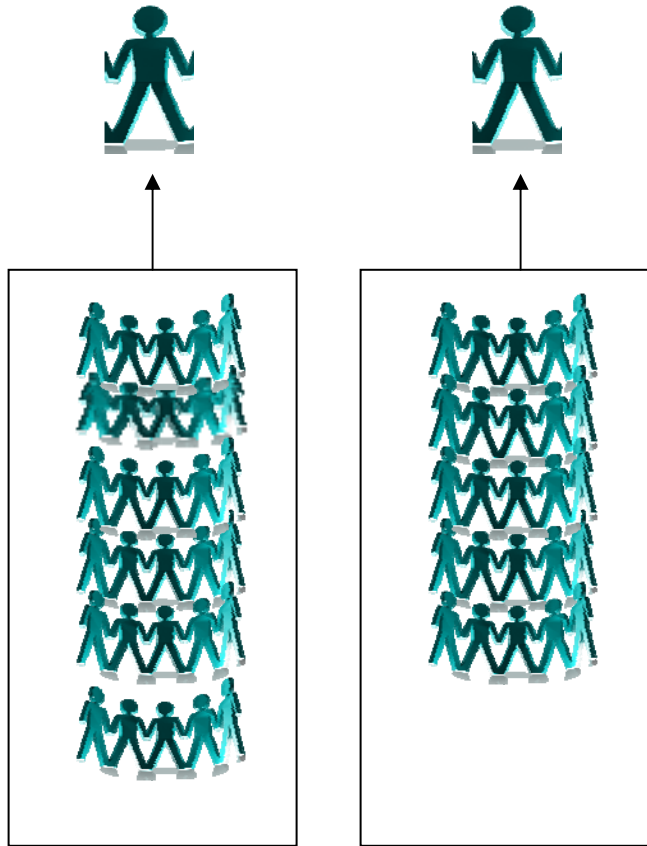
Some of the colonies got representative government in peaceful ways. However, the people in Canada West and Canada East had to fight for this right. In 1837-1838, leaders in both Upper Canada (Canada West) and Lower Canada (Canada East) had started a **rebellion** against the government. British soldiers stopped the rebellion. They burned houses and buildings. Many people were killed.

Finally, in 1841, Britain passed the Act of Union. This law united Canada East (called Lower Canada) and Canada West (called Upper Canada) into the United Province of Canada. It gave both Canada East and Canada West representative government. The government of the province would have two leaders or **premiers**, one from Canada East and one from Canada West. In 1841, Canada East had more people than Canada West. The British government did not want to give the French more power than the English. Therefore, Canada East and Canada West had to have the same number of representatives in the Legislative Assembly.

Even though the United Province of Canada had representative government, the Governor General and the council did not have to listen to the Legislative Assembly. They could pass laws that the Legislative Assembly did not agree with. The people wanted **responsible government**. This means they wanted the elected representatives of the people to pass the laws. They wanted the council to be elected not **appointed** or chosen by the Governor General. In 1849, Lord Elgin passed a law that a majority of elected representatives voted for. This meant that the United Province of Canada finally had responsible government!

However, there were still many disagreements about the decisions the government should make. People disagreed about four main things: religion, culture, the kind of representation, and confederation. You will learn more about these disagreements in the next section.

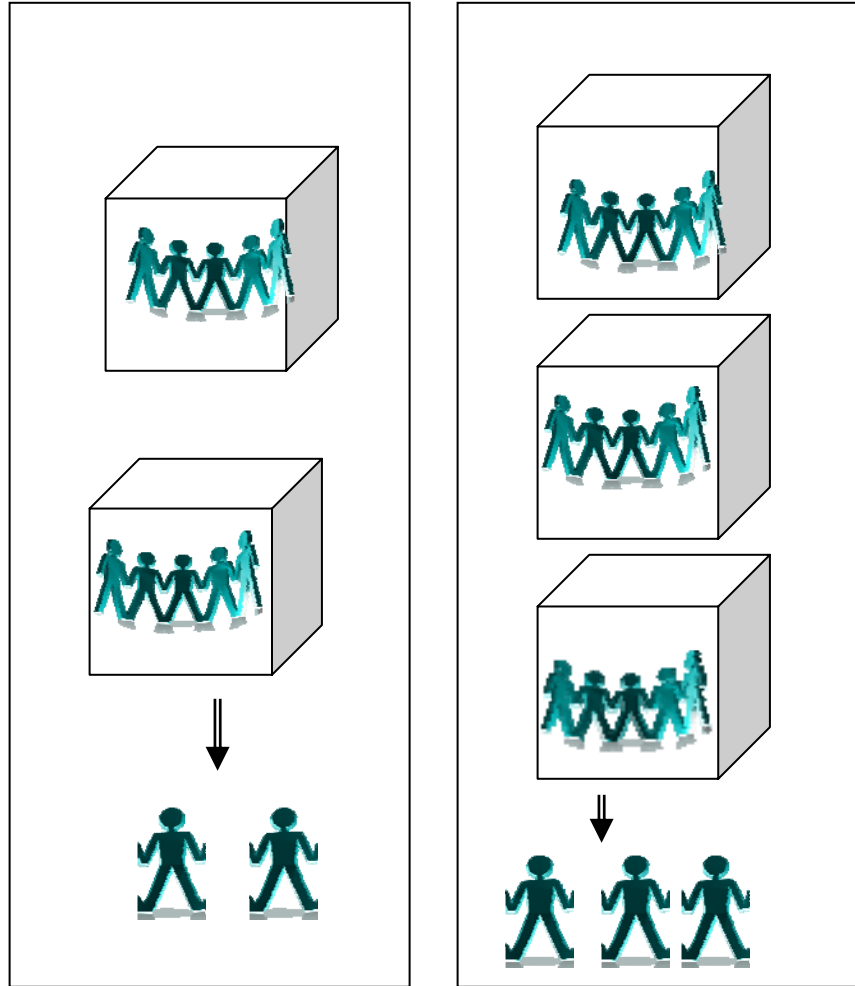
EQUAL REPRESENTATION



QUEBEC
6,000
people

ONTARIO
5,000
people

REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION

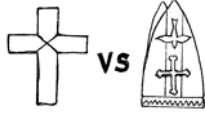


QUEBEC
10,000
people

ONTARIO
15,000
people

Political disagreements:

1. *Protestants versus Catholics*



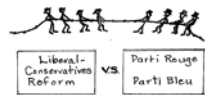
Religion divided the people and the government. The majority of English speaking people in the Province of Canada were Protestant. However, there were different groups of Protestants. Protestants that belonged to the Church of England were called Anglicans. The British government had given the Anglicans very large areas of land in Canada West called **Clergy Reserves**. Many people did not want the money from this land to go to the Anglican Church. Some thought it should be given to the government. Others thought it should be given to other religious groups. In Canada East, most of the French Canadians were Roman Catholic. They could send their children to Catholic schools paid for by the government. Some people felt the government should not give money to any religious school or group. They thought that religion and government should be separate.

2. *English versus French*



Culture also caused problems. The English thought they were better than the French. They wanted laws that favoured English-speaking people not French Canadians. They wanted more English-speaking immigrants to come so that they would be the majority. They felt the French Canadians should **assimilate** or become like them. However, the French Canadians did not want their culture to disappear. They began to work for **la survivance** or the survival of French culture. They did this by having many children and voting as one voice in the Legislative Assembly.

3. *equal representation versus "rep by pop"*

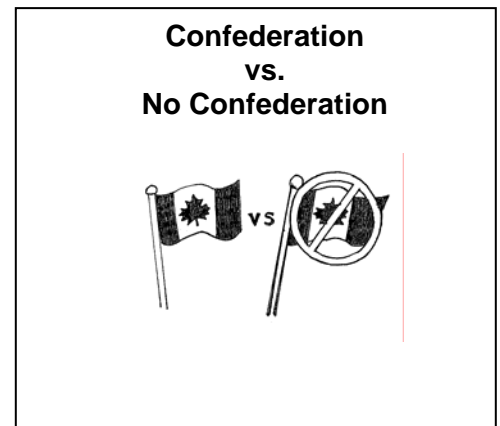
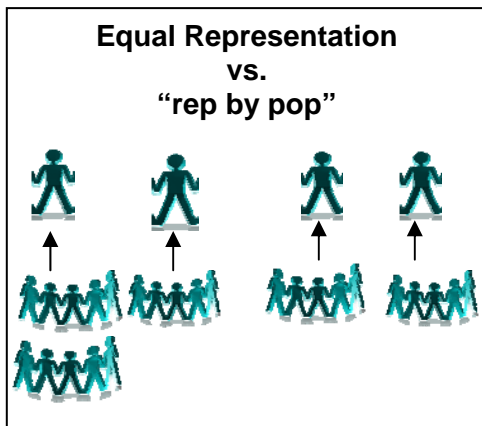
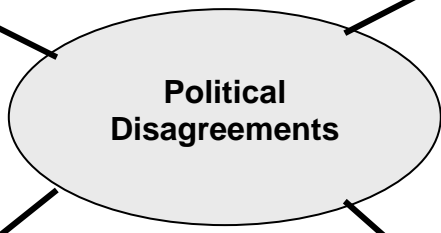
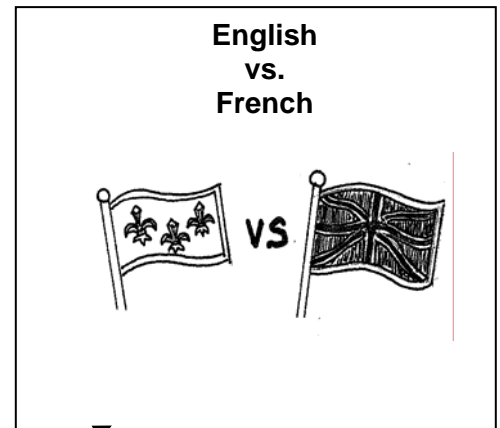
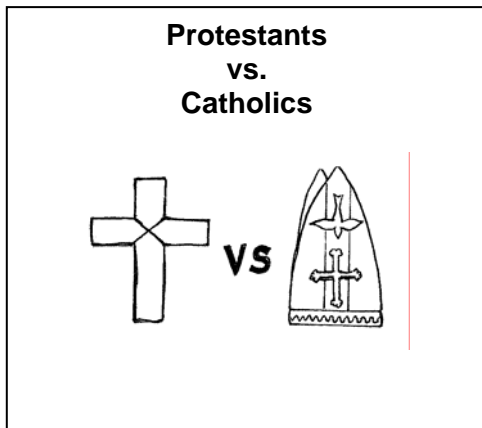


A third thing politicians did not agree on was the *kind* of representation the government should have. The Act of Union in 1841 had given Canada East and Canada West **equal representation**. Each province had the same number of representatives in the Legislative Assembly. However, no side had a **majority**. Therefore, the government could not make important decisions. When a government cannot pass any laws, it is called **political deadlock**. Because of the great migration, Canada West now had more people than Canada East. Canada West wanted **representation by population** or "**rep by pop**". This meant that each politician in the Assembly would represent the same number of people. Canada West would have more representatives than Canada East and more control in government decisions. "Rep by pop" would give the English majority more power in the government.

4. Confederation
versus
no
confederation



Another important thing politicians could not agree about was the future of British North America. Some people felt that it would be better if British North America became part of the United States. A second group of people thought it should continue to be a British colony. Others began to feel that all the colonies should join together to form a new country. This “joining together” is called **confederation**.



Political parties



Groups of people who shared the same ideas belonged to the same political **party**. There were four parties in the Legislative Assembly—two from Canada East and two from Canada West. The two parties in Canada West were the Liberal-Conservatives and the Reform Party. Canada East had *le Parti bleu* and *le Parti rouge*. Each party had different ideas about what was important and how government should work. The different ideas or beliefs of a political party are called its **party platform**. Look at the chart to learn more about the four political parties and their platforms.

The Great Coalition



To break the political deadlock, the parties tried to join together to get laws passed. A joining together of two or more parties is called a **coalition**. After many years of deadlock, three of the four parties (Liberal-Conservative Party, the Reform Party and the *Parti bleu*) agreed to work together. This was the **Great Coalition**. The parties of the Great Coalition wanted the Province of Canada to join together in confederation. They decided to ask the Atlantic colonies (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland) if they also wanted to be part of this new union.

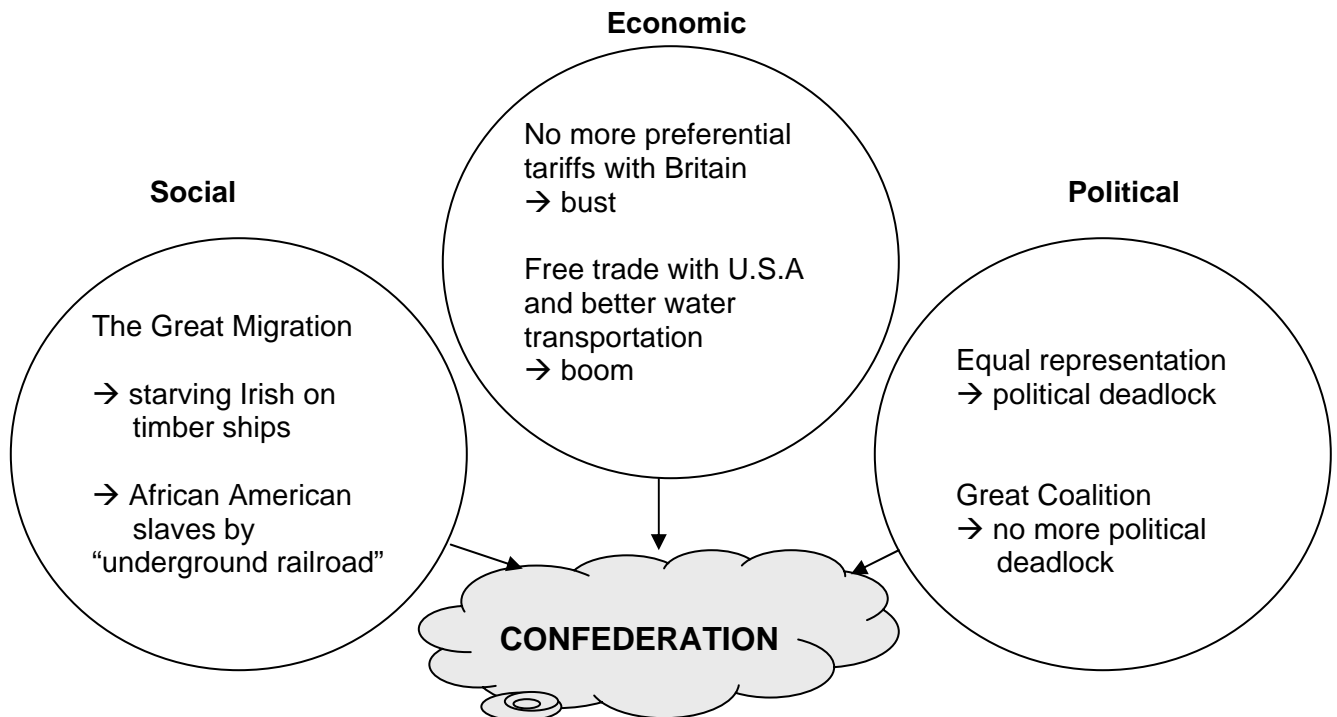
The Great Coalition	
<p>Liberal - Conservative Party (<i>Tories</i>) (John A. Macdonald)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>Reform Party (<i>Clear Grits</i>) (George Brown)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>le Parti bleu (<i>conservatives</i>) (George Etienne Carter)</p>	<p>VERSUS</p>
	<p>le Parti Rouge (<i>reform party</i>) (Antoine-Aime Dorion)</p>

Comparing Political Parties in the United Province of Canada

	Canada West		Canada East	
Party	Liberal-Conservative Party	Reform Party	<i>Le Parti bleu</i>	<i>Le Parti rouge</i>
Also called	<i>Tory Party</i>	<i>Clear Grits</i>	<i>Conservatives</i>	<i>Reform party</i>
Leader	John A. Macdonald	George Brown	George-Etienne Cartier	Antoine-Aime Dorion
Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for Confederation • for rep by pop • government should support business and railway building • wanted English and French to co-operate • supported ties with Britain • supported Anglican church • wanted government to buy Rupert's land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for Confederation • for rep by pop • government should represent <u>all</u> the people (no special group) • did not want to co-operate with French • supported ties with Britain • government and church should be separate • anti-Catholic • did not want government to support religious schools • thought money from Clergy Reserves should go to local government • wanted government to buy Rupert's land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for Confederation • against rep by pop • government should protect French culture and language • wanted French and English to co-operate • supported Catholic church • supported Catholic schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • against Confederation • against rep by pop • government should protect French culture and language • did not want Catholic Church to control government

Chapter One: Summary

Between 1850 and 1860, there were many changes in British North America. First of all, there were social changes. A *Great Migration* of English speaking people came to live in British North America. The largest group of immigrants was the Irish trying to survive a potato famine in Ireland. The second largest group was African Americans trying to escape slavery in the southern United States. Differences in culture, religion and race caused many disagreements among the different groups of people living in the colonies. Secondly, there were economic changes. After 1846, Britain took away preferential tariffs for its colonies. As a result, the economy in British North America began to suffer. Farmers left their farms and timber companies closed down. However, a free trade agreement with the United States in 1857 and better water and land transportation improved trade and created more jobs for the growing population. Thirdly, British North America experienced political changes. Canada East and Canada West had equal representation so the government did not have the majority needed to pass laws. This created a political deadlock in the United Province of Canada. To break the deadlock, the leaders of three political parties joined together in the Great Coalition. The Great Coalition wanted all the colonies in British North America to join together in Confederation. They decided to invite other colonies to be part of this new union.



Chapter Two: THE PATH TO CONFEDERATION

Chapter Two Overview:

How did Canada become a country? In this chapter, you will learn answers to the following questions:

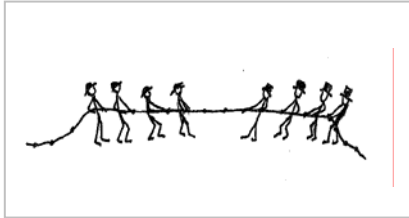
- Why did some people in BNA want Confederation?
- Why were some people in BNA against Confederation?
- What events led to Confederation?
 - *What were some problems between BNA and the United States?*
 - *Manifest Destiny*
 - *the Civil War*
 - *the Trent Incident*
 - *St. Alban's raid*
 - *Fenian raids*
 - *What happened at the Charlottetown, Quebec, and London Conferences?*
- What were some important rules for governing Canada (in the BNA Act)?
- Who are some *fathers of Confederation*?
- Who had no voice in Confederation?

Chapter Two: Key Vocabulary

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>Manifest Destiny</i> ❑ <i>Civil War</i> ❑ <i>neutral</i> ❑ <i>incident</i> ❑ <i>agent</i> ❑ <i>raid</i> ❑ <i>terrorist</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>delegate</i> ❑ <i>maritime</i> ❑ <i>conference</i> ❑ <i>Seventy Two Resolutions</i> ❑ <i>debate</i> ❑ <i>constitution</i> ❑ <i>BNA Act</i> ❑ <i>British Commonwealth</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <i>House of Commons</i> ❑ <i>Senate</i> ❑ <i>agriculture</i> ❑ <i>civil law</i> ❑ <i>criminal law</i> ❑ <i>secede from</i> ❑ <i>fathers of Confederation</i> ❑ <i>Prime Minister</i>
---	--	---

Why did some people in British North America want Confederation?

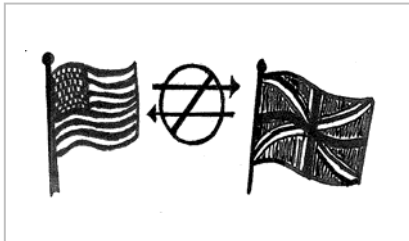
Many people felt that Confederation would help to solve some of their problems:



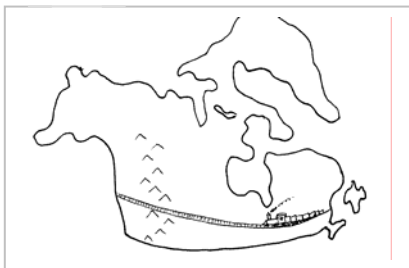
1. In the United Province of Canada, the government could not pass important laws because of political deadlock. Confederation with representation by population might break the political deadlock.



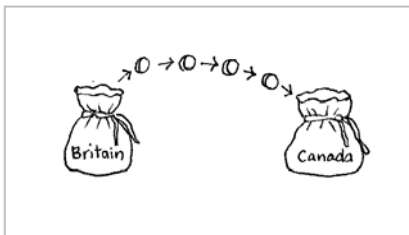
2. People were afraid the United States would take British North America and make it part of the U.S.A. A united Canada might be able to defend itself better.



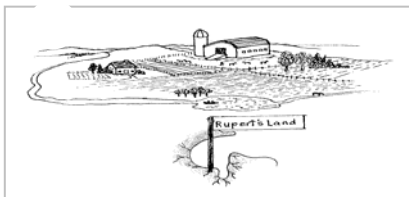
3. The United States did not want to continue free trade with British North America (no more Reciprocity Treaty). A united Canada might improve trade between provinces.



4. A railway was needed across Canada to improve trade between the colonies and move soldiers to defend Canada. A federal government might have the money and power to build a railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific.



5. The colonies were too expensive for Britain to support. A united Canada might not need so much help from the British government.



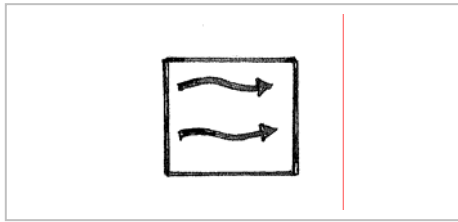
6. People wanted to move into the northern and western territories. A united Canada could buy Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company.



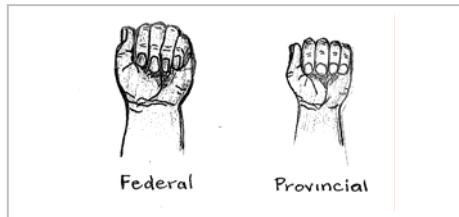
7. Some of the colonies had a lot of debt. They had borrowed money to build railways, roads and canals. If they joined Confederation, the federal government might pay each colony's debts.

Why were some people in British North America against Confederation?

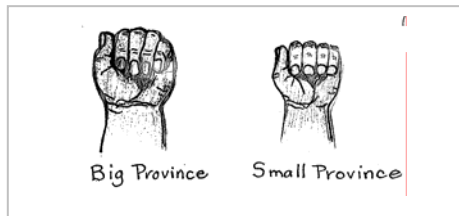
Others felt Confederation would create problems instead of solving them:



1. Confederation was not needed. Things were fine the way they were.



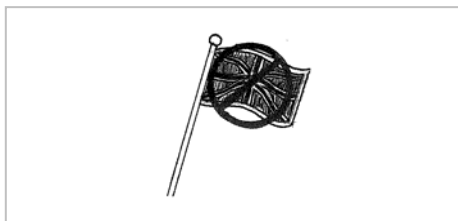
2. The central government might take away the provincial government's power.



3. If Canada had representation by population, the smaller provinces might have very little power in the federal government.



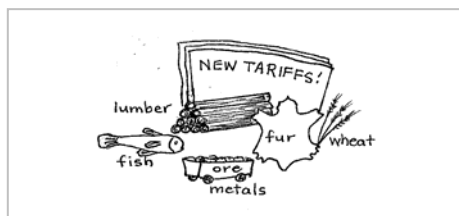
4. French Canadians might lose their language and culture in a country with an English-speaking majority.



5. A united Canada might lose its ties with Britain.



6. There might be more taxes to pay for the new railway building and other changes. These changes might be good for other provinces but not for them.



7. There might be more tariffs on imports. This would make them more expensive to buy.

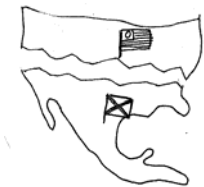
What events led to Confederation?

Problems with U.S.A.

Manifest Destiny

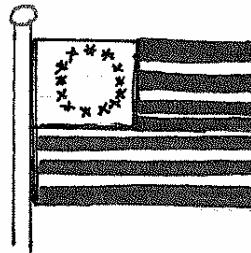


The Civil War

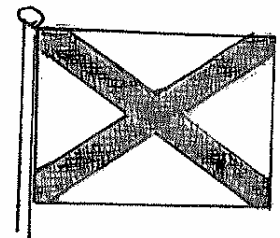
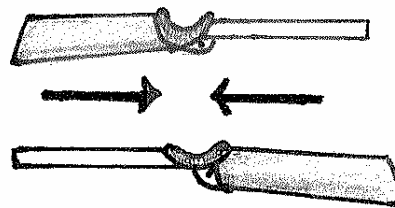


The United States was becoming a large and powerful country. It stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. The people of the United States believed that one day, all of North America would be part of the United States. This belief was called "**Manifest Destiny**". Many people in British North America were afraid they would not be able to defend themselves against such a powerful nation.

In 1865, a **Civil War** began in the United States between the northern states and the southern states. The North (called *the Union*) was trying to end slavery in the South (called *the Confederacy*). Britain was supposed to be **neutral** in the war. This means it would not help either side. However, certain events caused problems between Britain and the Union government in the northern United States.



The Union



The Confederacy

The Trent incident



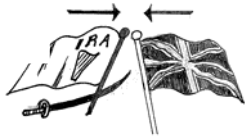
The first event was *the Trent incident*. The South sent two **agents** to Britain to ask for help in their fight against the North. They traveled on a British ship, the *Trent*. A Union warship stopped the *Trent* and found out about the plan. The Union navy took the Southern agents off the *Trent*. This made the British very angry. The Union had no right to do this in international waters. Britain sent 10,000 soldiers to British North America to prepare for war. The British soldiers found traveling difficult because there was no railway between the Maritime colonies and the Provinces of Canada. Luckily, Union soldiers never came across the border.

St. Albans raid



The South continued to try to get Britain into the war. Confederate agents living in Canada began to make **raids** or short attacks across the U. S. border. The most famous raid was in St. Albans, Vermont on October 19, 1864. The North was not happy with how Canada was dealing with the problem. The Civil War ended in 1865. The North won the war against the South. The people of BNA were afraid that a Union army would soon attack Canada.

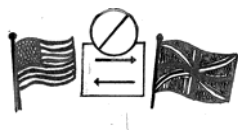
The Fenian raids



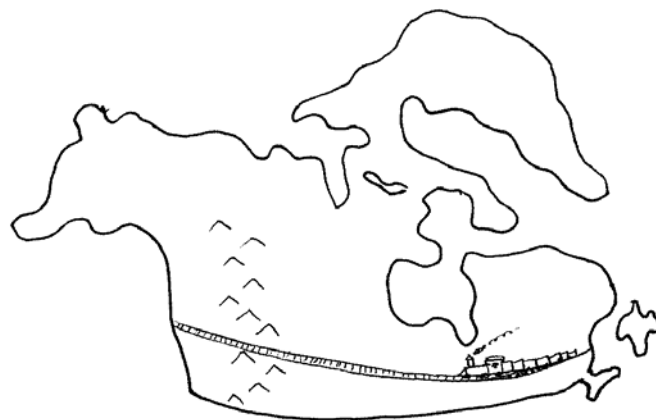
Instead of an American army, the Fenians crossed the border in 1866 and began to attack towns in British North America. The Fenians were a group of Irish **terrorists** who wanted to free Ireland from British rule. Many of them had fought for the Union in the American Civil War. They had learned to use guns and plan attacks. They thought their attacks on British North America would make Britain take her soldiers out of Ireland to defend her colonies in British North America. This is a Fenian soldier's song:

*We are the Fenian Brotherhood, skilled in the arts of war,
And we're going to fight for Ireland, the land we adore,
Many battles we have won, along with the boys in blue,
And we'll go and capture Canada, for we've nothing else to do.*

Reciprocity Treaty ends



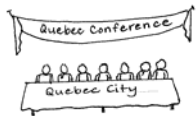
Also in 1866, the Reciprocity Treaty between BNA and the United States ended. The United States no longer wanted free trade with BNA. The colonies would have to trade more with one another. However, there was no railway linking the colonies. A railway should be built to increase trade and move soldiers to where they were needed.



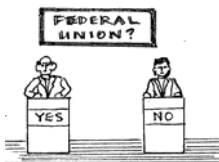
The delegates meet
Charlottetown Conference



Quebec Conference



Confederation debates



London Conference



These events made more people in British North America think that Confederation would be a good idea. Government representatives decided to meet to talk about a plan. In September, 1864, **delegates** or representatives from the **maritime** colonies (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island) and the United Province of Canada (Canada East and Canada West) met in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island to talk about uniting under one central government. This meeting is called the Charlottetown **Conference**. John A. Macdonald, George Etienne Cartier, and George Brown tried to persuade the representatives of the maritime colonies that they should all join together in a federal union under one central government. After a lot of eating and drinking, the delegates agreed. They decided to meet again in Quebec to talk about how this federal union would work.

On October 9, 1864, delegates from the maritime colonies and the United Province of Canada had a second meeting in Quebec City. They talked about how Canada would be governed under a federal union. John A. Macdonald presented a list called the **Seventy Two Resolutions**. This list was a set of rules for governing the new country. Macdonald persuaded the majority of delegates to agree with these rules.

The delegates had to persuade the rest of the people to agree with the rules also. There were many **debates** or discussions to allow the people to say how they felt. Finally, there was a vote in the Legislative Assembly in each colony and province. The United Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick voted for Confederation. However, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland chose not to join the new union at this time.

The colonies needed permission from Britain to form a new country. Consequently, in 1866, 16 delegates from the United Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick sailed to London, England to present the Seventy Two Resolutions to the British government. In London, they decided to make some changes to the Resolutions. They promised to build a railway that would unite the provinces of Canada. The federal government would also give more money to the provincial governments. Britain wanted the colonies to become a new country. Therefore, the British government quickly passed the Seventy Two Resolutions. On July, 1867, a new country called the Dominion of Canada was born. Every year on this day, we celebrate Canada's birthday.

Canada's First Constitution: The British North America Act

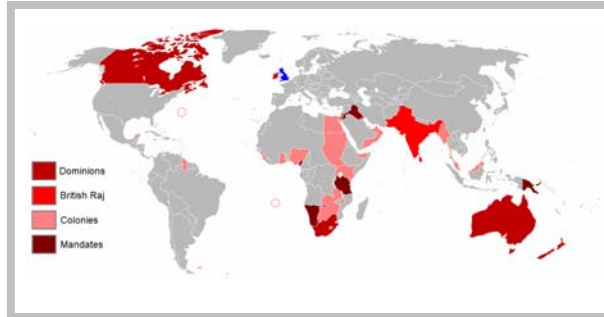
BNA Act



The Seventy Two Resolutions became part of Canada's first constitution, the British North America Act (**BNA Act**). A **constitution** is a set of rules for governing a country. These are some of the important rules of the BNA Act:

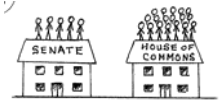
1. Canada would continue to be part of the British family of countries (the **British Commonwealth**).

British

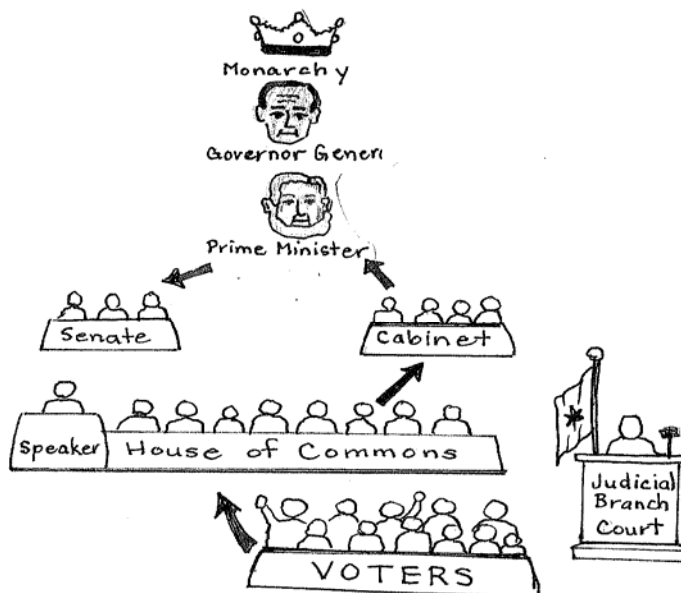


The British Commonwealth

Parliamentary government



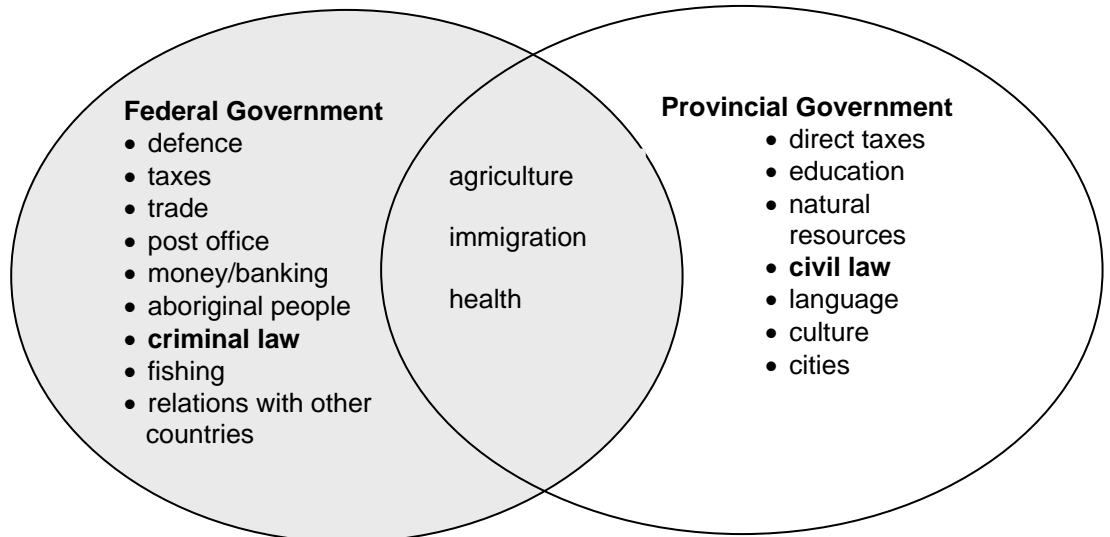
2. Canada would have a **parliamentary** system of government just like Britain. There would be two houses: a **House of Commons** and a **Senate**. The members of the House of Commons would be elected. The members of the Senate would be appointed by the governor general.



Two levels of government



3. Canada would be a confederation. It would have two levels of government: a central government to make decisions that affected the whole country and a provincial government to decide about things that affected the people living in each province. Some responsibilities would be shared.

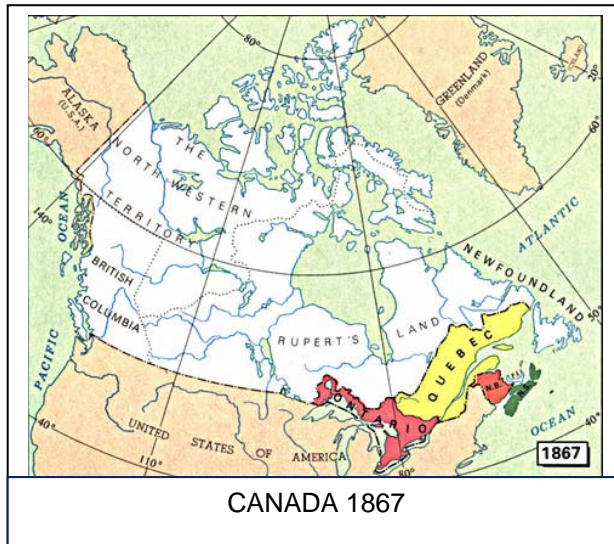
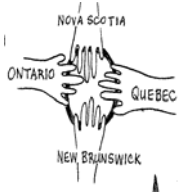


rep by pop

4. In the House of Commons, there would be representation by population.

four provinces

5. There would be four provinces in the new country: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario (Canada West), and Quebec (Canada East). Other provinces could join later so that Canada could grow “from sea to sea”.



forever joined



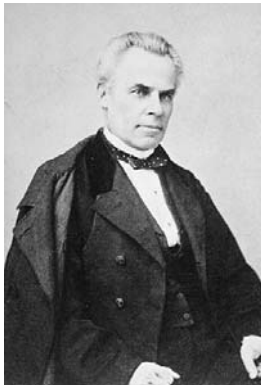
6. No province had the right to change the constitution or **secede from** (leave) the new country.

Who are some “Fathers of Confederation”?



John A. Macdonald

- Scottish lawyer
- leader of Liberal –Conservative party (Tories) in Canada West
- became part of Great Coalition
- presented Seventy Two Resolutions at Quebec conference
- became first **Prime Minister** of Canada



George Etienne Cartier

- French Canadian lawyer, businessman and poet
- had taken part in rebellion of 1837 in Lower Canada
- leader of *le Parti Bleu* in Canada East
- became part of Great Coalition
- worked to protect French culture and language in Confederation



George Brown

- Scottish immigrant, owner of Toronto *Globe* newspaper
- leader of Reform (Clear Grit) Party in Canada West
- started Great Coalition that broke political deadlock
- did not go to London Conference because he retired from politics
- killed by an unhappy newspaper worker



Charles Tupper

- doctor
- became premier of Nova Scotia in 1864
- represented Nova Scotia in Charlottetown and Quebec Conferences
- brought Nova Scotia into Confederation
- was Prime Minister of Canada in 1896 for ten weeks



Samuel Tilley

- businessman
- represented New Brunswick in Charlottetown and Quebec Conferences
- brought New Brunswick into Confederation
- became lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick in 1885

Fathers of Confederation

These five people worked very hard to convince the people of British North America that Confederation would be good for Canada. They were successful in uniting Canada West, Canada East, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in Confederation. That is why they are called the *Fathers of Confederation*. There were also other "Fathers" who worked very hard. However, they could not convince the majority of people in their colony to vote for Confederation. The other colonies would join the Dominion of Canada in later years.



(George Brown, Sir Francis Hincks, William McDougall, Sir John A. Macdonald)
© Public Domain Source: Library and Archives Canada/C-005812

Who did not have a voice in Confederation?

No voice

At the time of Confederation, many people did not have the right to vote in British North America. Only men who owned property or had money could vote in a political election. The poor could not vote. Women could not vote. Aboriginal peoples, African Americans, Chinese and other racial groups could not vote either. Many years would pass before these groups of people got a voice in the government.



the poor



women



Aboriginal peoples



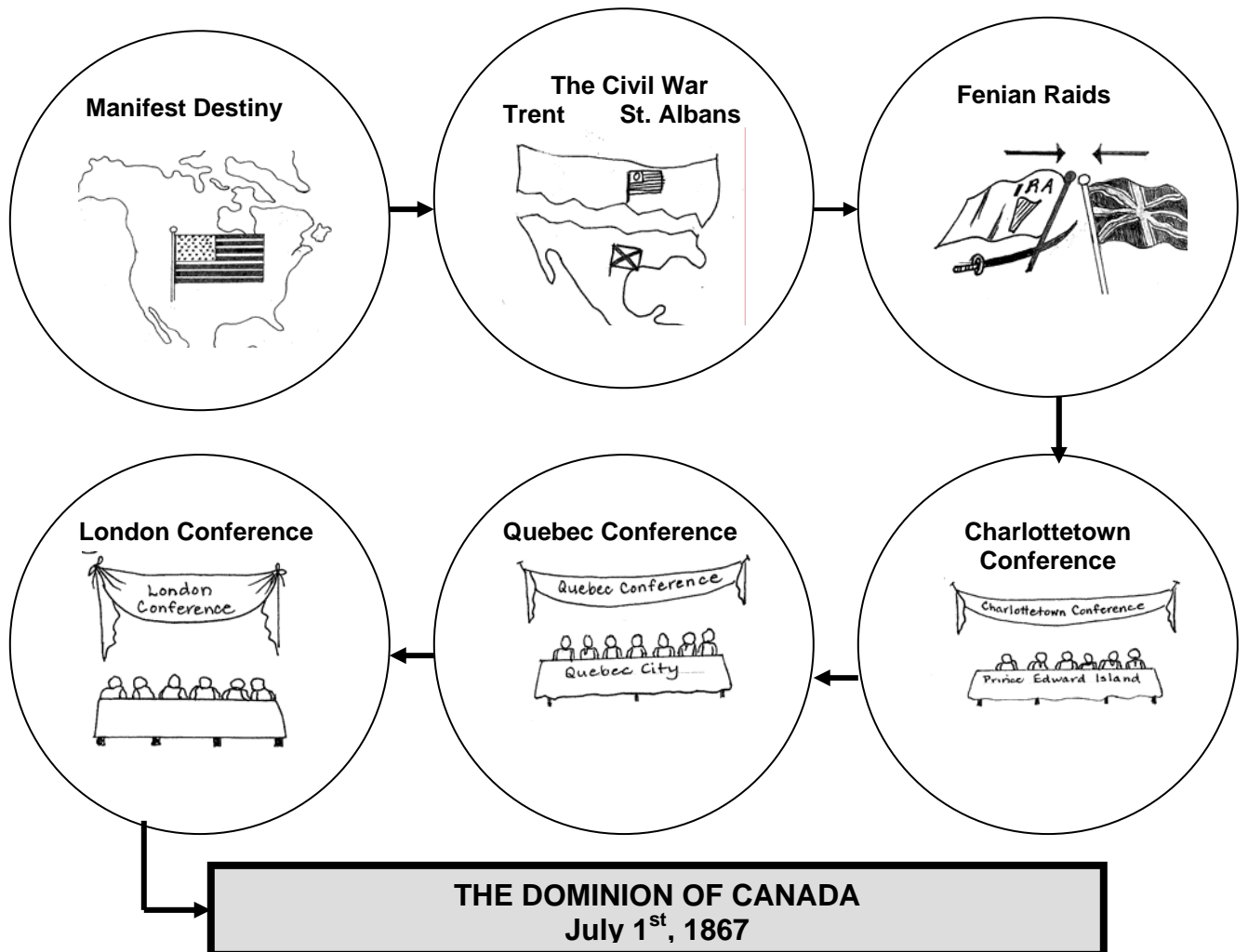
African Americans



Chinese and other racial groups

Chapter Two: Summary

Many people in British North America did not want Confederation. However, some problems developed between BNA and the United States. These problems made more people think that Confederation was a good idea. At the Charlottetown, Quebec, and London conferences, delegates from the Atlantic colonies and the United Province of Canada worked out a plan for Confederation. The *fathers of Confederation* tried to persuade the maritime colonies and the United Province of Canada to vote for the plan but some colonies did not agree. Finally, on July 1st, 1867, the Dominion of Canada was created. Four provinces, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, became part of this new country. It got its first constitution, the British North America Act (BNA Act). This constitution stated the rules for governing Canada. It said that other provinces could become part of Canada later until Canada stretched “from sea to sea”.



Chapter Three: BUILDING CONFEDERATION

Chapter Three Overview:

In 1867, only Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were part of Canada. In this chapter, you will learn:

- How did Canada grow “from sea to sea”?
- What are some disagreements in Canada today?

Chapter Three: Key Vocabulary

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ <i>trial</i>❑ <i>bi-lingual</i>❑ <i>multicultural</i>❑ <i>absentee landlords</i>❑ <i>ferry</i>❑ <i>telegraph cable</i>❑ <i>referendum</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ <i>Constitution Act</i>❑ <i>Charter of Rights and Freedoms</i>❑ <i>welfare</i>❑ <i>accord</i>❑ <i>separatists</i>❑ <i>Supreme Court</i>❑ <i>treaty</i>❑ <i>land claims</i>❑ <i>land developers</i>❑ <i>identity</i>❑ <i>negotiation</i> |
|---|---|

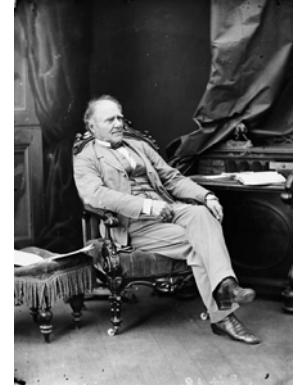
How did Canada grow “from sea to sea”?

Nova Scotia tries to leave Confederation



The people of Nova Scotia were angry. They thought their government had tricked them into joining Confederation. Joseph Howe was a newspaperman and popular politician. He tried to persuade Britain to let Nova Scotia leave Confederation. Britain refused. John A. Macdonald offered more money to Nova Scotia and made Howe a minister in his Cabinet. Howe accepted. Eventually, the people of Nova Scotia began to accept being part of Canada.

Joseph Howe



Northwest Territories become part of Canada 1869

In 1869, Canada bought Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company for about 1.5 million dollars. This made Canada six times bigger! The large area was renamed the Northwest Territories. Now, people could move west and begin to settle there. Canada could begin to build railways between the new settlements.

Manitoba joins 1870



Canada wanted to make Manitoba part of Confederation. Most of the 12,000 people living there were French Catholic Metis. There were also Aboriginal people and other settlers. Without asking permission, the Canadian government began to divide up the land for new settlers to move in. The Metis became angry and



Louis Riel

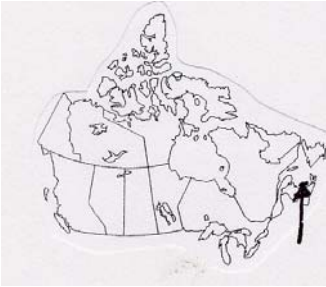
rebelled. Their leader, Louis Riel, was later put on **trial** and hanged for his part in the rebellions. The Canadian government tried to find a solution. It offered to make Manitoba a **bi-lingual** province so the language and culture of the Metis people would be protected. The government would also support Catholic schools. The Manitoba Act made the area part of Canada in 1870. The province was much smaller than it is today.

British Columbia joins 1871



In British Columbia, the population was very **multicultural**. Many Americans had come looking for gold. Now the gold rush was over and people were leaving. The government was deeply in debt. It had borrowed a lot of money to build roads. The Canadian government offered to make British Columbia a province and pay off its debts. It also promised to build a railway within the next ten years to link British Columbia to the rest of Canada. In 1871, British Columbia agreed and became the sixth province of Canada.

**Prince Edward
Island joins
1873**



In the 1870s, the economy of Prince Edward Island was suffering. The Americans had ended the Reciprocity Treaty. Britain did not want them to make any more economic agreements with the United States. The government was also in debt because the railway across the island had cost a lot of money. There was another problem. All of the land on the island was owned by landowners who were never there. The farmers rented small areas of land from these **absentee landlords**. The farmers wanted to own the land but didn't have the money to buy it. The Canadian government made them an offer. It would buy all the land from the landlords, pay the Island's debts, and give the Island a sum of money each year. It also promised to pay for a **ferry** and a **telegraph cable** to the mainland. On July 1, 1873, Prince Edward Island became the seventh –and smallest - province of Canada.

**Alberta and
Saskatchewan
created 1905**



The Northwest Territories wanted to become one large province. The population there was growing quickly. In 1891, 100,000 people lived on the land between British Columbia and Manitoba. By 1914, the population was over one million people. They wanted to have the same rights as the other provinces of Canada. Instead of making it one large province, the Canadian government decided to divide the Northwest Territories. In 1905, it created two provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan. These two provinces also became part of Canada.

**Newfoundland
joins 1949**



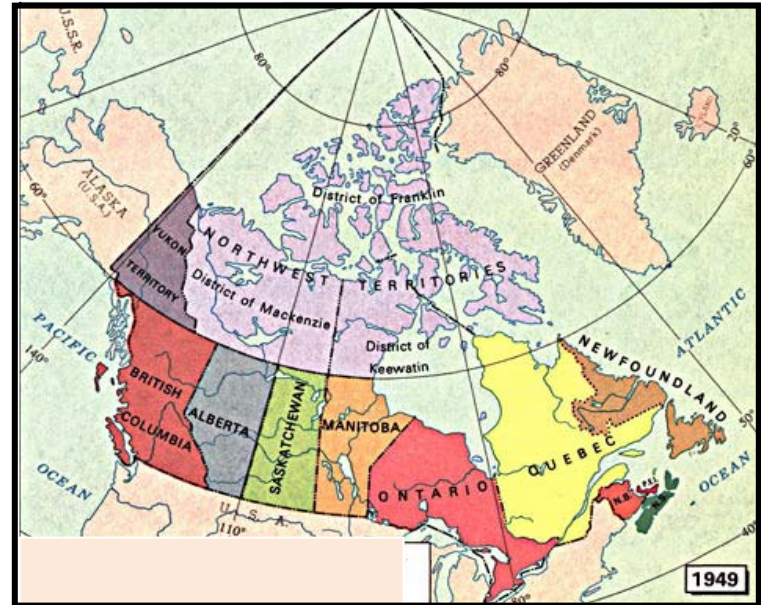
Newfoundland and Labrador continued to be a British colony. The colony's debts became so large that the British had to take over the government. During World War II, Newfoundland was used as an American and Canadian military base for ships crossing the Atlantic. This meant money for the colony. However, after the war, people lost these jobs. Britain did not want to continue ruling the colony. Canada wanted Newfoundland to enter Confederation. It offered to give each family a sum of money. It would also build new roads, ports, and railways. The people of Newfoundland had a special vote called a **referendum**. Only 52.3% of the people voted to become part of Canada. But, that was enough. Newfoundland became Canada's tenth and last province. Finally, Canada stretched from sea to sea!

Nunavut 1999



In 1999, the government of Canada created another political region of Canada by dividing the Northwest Territories. The new territory is called Nunavut. The population of Nunavut is eighty five percent Inuit. They control the land and have their own Aboriginal self-government.

The Changing Face of Canada



What are some disagreements in Canada today?

Quebec

Constitution Act
1982

In 1982, Canada got a new constitution that replaced the BNA Act. It was called the **Constitution Act**. It included a **Charter of Rights and Freedoms** for all Canadians. It recognized Canada as a multicultural country. It said the federal government would give the provinces money for education, health and **welfare**. However, the province of Quebec did not accept the new constitution. Quebec wanted the new constitution to recognize it as a special province in Confederation.

The Meech Lake
Accord
1987

In 1987, the Prime Minister and the premiers from each province met at Meech Lake, Quebec. They agreed to recognize Quebec as a province with a special culture. They also agreed to give more power to the Senate and the Supreme Court. This agreement is called the Meech Lake **Accord**. The Legislative Assemblies in all the provinces had to vote on the Meech Lake Accord. In June, 1990, Elijah Harper, an Aboriginal member of the Legislative Assembly in Manitoba, refused to accept it. He thought Canada's Aboriginal peoples should also be recognized as special. Because not all the provinces agreed, the Meech Lake Accord failed.



Charlottetown
Accord 1992

In 1992, the Prime Minister and the premiers from each province met again in Charlottetown to talk about a new accord. They agreed that both Quebec and Aboriginal peoples should have a special place in Canada's constitution. They also wanted an elected Senate and changes to the House of Commons. This time, they asked the people of Canada to vote in a referendum. More than 54% of Canadians said no to the Charlottetown accord. It failed also.



The Quebec
Referendum 1995

Many people in Quebec became angry at Canada. They elected the *Bloc Quebecois* and the *Parti Quebecois*. Both these parties were **separatists**. They wanted Quebec to break from Canada and become an independent country. In 1995, the people of Quebec had a referendum to decide if they still wanted to be part of Canada. The separatists lost but only 50.6% of Quebecers voted to stay in Canada. The separatists promised they would have another vote in the future.



The Supreme
Court decides

In 1998, the **Supreme Court** of Canada said Quebec could not separate from Canada without talking to the governments of the other provinces. They also said the other provinces of Canada could not stop Quebec from separating if the majority of the Quebec's population wanted it.



Aboriginal peoples

land claims



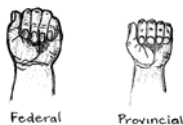
Over the years, the government of Canada has also had disagreements with Aboriginal peoples living in Canada. Many of the disagreements have been about land. Long ago, when European settlers came to Canada, they needed land to settle. Different groups of Aboriginal people were living on the land. The Aboriginal peoples believed the land was a gift from the Great Spirit for everyone to share. They did not feel land could belong to anybody. However, the Canadian government persuaded them to sign **treaties** giving away much of their land. Some of the Aboriginal land was not given away in treaties. Now, the Aboriginal peoples want the Canadian government to pay them for this land. Usually, the government and Aboriginal peoples are able to solve these **land claims** peacefully. However, sometimes, there has been violence between police, Aboriginal peoples, and **land developers**.

The United States



The United States and Canada are neighbouring countries. They share a similar history, language, and traditions. The United States is Canada's most important trading partner. In 1987, Canada and the United States signed a free trade agreement. This created even greater economic ties. However, Canada's close ties with the United States have also created problems. Many Canadians feel the United States has too much power over Canada. Many companies in Canada are owned by Americans. Canadians watch American television programs and read American magazines. Many people feel we are becoming too "Americanized" and are losing our Canadian **identity**.

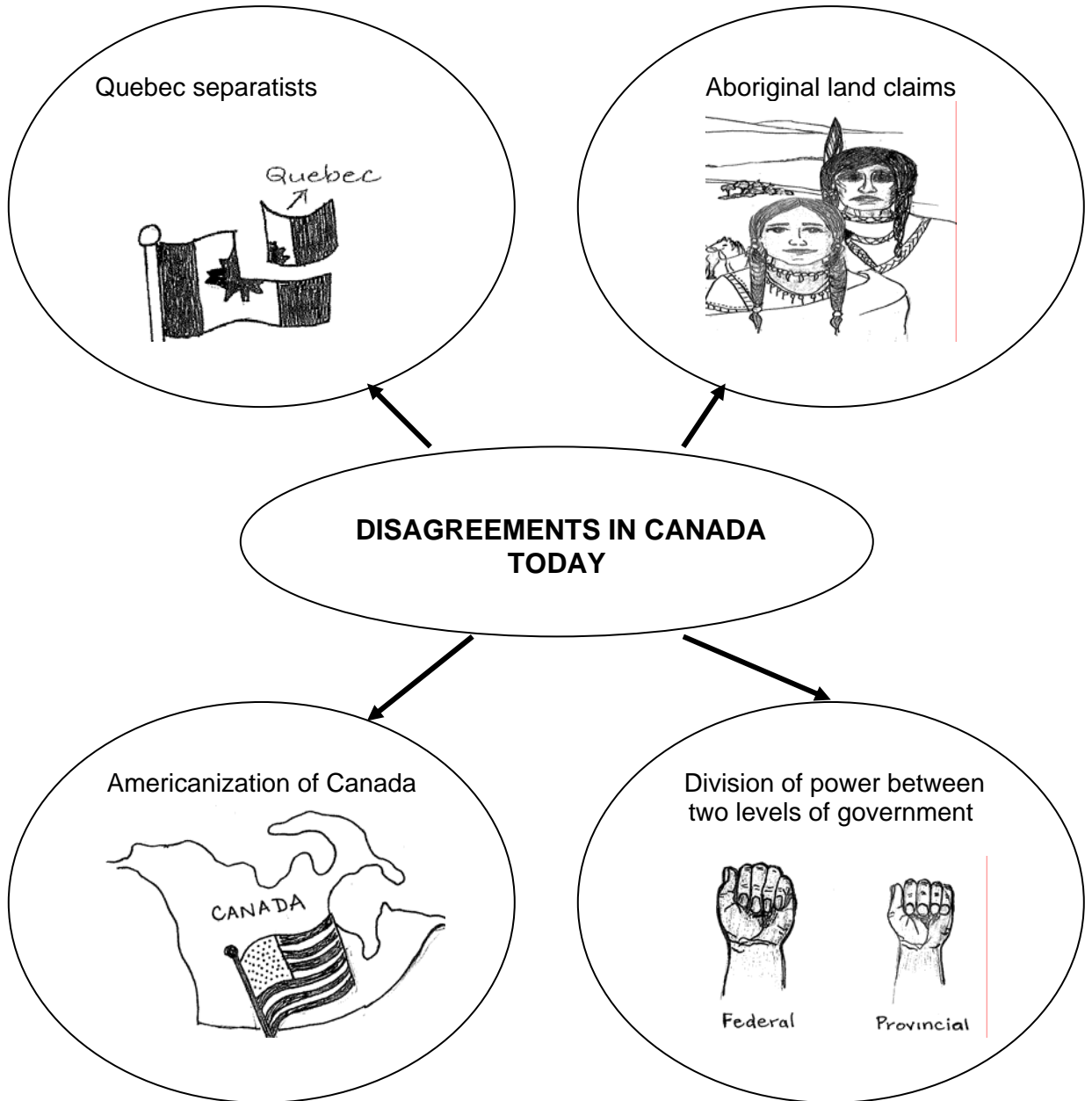
Two levels of government



The BNA Act created a confederation with two levels of government. It divided powers between the federal government and the provincial government. There are many disagreements between the two levels of government. The provinces feel that the federal government should give them more money to pay for some of their provincial responsibilities. Canada's population is getting older. More money is needed for health care. Each year, Canada welcomes hundreds of thousands of immigrants from all over the world. The provinces need federal support to teach them English and help them settle in their communities. Large cities would like money to build subways, repair roads, and help the poor find less expensive housing and child care. Often, the provinces feel that the federal government does not listen to them. This sometimes creates bad feelings between the two levels of government.

Effects of disagreements

Canada's problems today are very similar to problems in British North America at the time of Confederation. Canada is trying to solve these disagreements through **negotiation**. However, many different groups of people want change. The different regions of Canada have different problems and different ideas about what the government should do to solve their problems. It is difficult for the government of Canada to make everyone happy.



Chapter Three: Summary

In 1867, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick joined together to create the Dominion of Canada. Later, other colonies and territories became part of this new country. The colonies had different reasons for agreeing to become part of Canada. There were many problems that needed to be solved. The government of Canada made each colony a different offer to persuade them to join the union. Finally, in 1949, the last province, Newfoundland, agreed to join the Confederation. At last, Canada became a nation “from sea to sea”.

Today, however, there are many disagreements that threaten to break Canada apart. Many of these disagreements are the same as those that caused problems in 1867. Different opinions about Quebec, Aboriginal rights, the influence of the United States, and the power of the federal government still continue to divide the country. Hopefully, these disagreements can be solved in a peaceful way and Canada will stay together as a country...a country that stretches *from sea to sea*

