

PART 3

THE HISTORY

Canada's History

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Canada's History

In Units one to twelve, you will learn a little about Canada's history.



Before you work on the units, try to answer these questions:

1. When do you think Canada became an independent country?
2. A thousand years ago, who do you think lived in Canada?
3. How do you think these people lived?
4. When do you think Europeans first visited Canada?
5. When Europeans started to settle in Canada, how do you think they got along with the people who were already living there?
6. How do you think they helped each other?
7. How do you think they hurt each other?
8. How do you think the early settlers survived in Canada?
9. Which country do you think first claimed Canada as its colony?
10. Two countries went to war over parts of Canada's land. Which two countries were they?

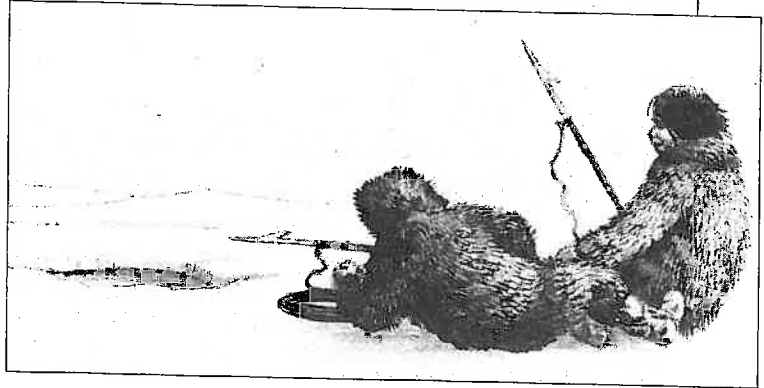
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

Aboriginal peoples were the first people to live in Canada. They are also called Native peoples. They lived in Canada for thousands of years before Europeans arrived.

There are three groups of Aboriginal peoples: the North American Indians, the Inuit and the Métis.

The North American Indians

North American Indians are sometimes called the First Nations, Native peoples or Indians. North American Indians lived all over Canada.



There are many different groups of North American Indians. These groups are called **bands**. Different bands speak different languages.

About 700,000 North American Indians live in Canada today.

The Inuit

The Inuit are Aboriginal people who mostly live in northern areas of Canada. They are also called **Eskimos** or **Native peoples**.

About 50,000 Inuit people live in Canada today. Most Inuit speak the language called Inuktitut. **Inuit** means **the people** in Inuktitut. Many Inuit people live in Nunavut. **Nunavut** means **our land** in Inuktitut.

The Métis

Métis means **mixed**. Thousands of years after the Inuit and the North American

Indians had been in Canada, Europeans arrived. Some Europeans had children with the North American Indians. These children and their families are called the Métis people.

About 390,000 Métis live in Canada today.

Understand What You Read

Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006				
Region		North American Indian	Métis	Inuit
Atlantic Region	Newfoundland and Labrador	7,765	6,470	4,715
	Prince Edward Island	1,225	385	30
	Nova Scotia	15,240	7,680	325
	New Brunswick	12,385	4,270	185
Central Canada	Quebec	65,085	27,980	10,950
	Ontario	158,395	73,605	2,035
Prairie Provinces	Manitoba	100,640	71,805	565
	Saskatchewan	91,400	48,120	215
	Alberta	97,275	85,495	1,610
The West Coast	British Columbia	129,580	59,445	795
The North	Yukon	6,280	800	255
	Northwest Territories	12,640	5,580	4,160
	Nunavut	100	130	24,635
TOTAL IN CANADA		698,025	389,780	50,480

Source: Adapted from the Statistics Canada website, Jan. 2010, <http://www12.statcan.ca/censusrecensement/2006/>.

A Answer the Questions

- In which region do most Inuit people live?

- In which region do most Métis people live?

- In which two regions do most North American Indians live?

- Many Inuit live in the northern area of two provinces. Name the provinces.

- About how many Aboriginal peoples (in total) live in Canada?

- How many North American Indians live in Canada?

- How many Inuit live in Canada?

- How many Métis live in Canada?

B Match

Write the correct letter on the lines to match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| _____ Nunavut | a) A group of North American Indian people |
| _____ Aboriginal people | b) An Aboriginal people living mostly in northern Canada |
| _____ Inuit | c) The language of the Inuit |
| _____ Band | d) Another name for North American Indians |
| _____ Inuktitut | e) Means the first people to live in a place |
| _____ Métis | f) Means our land in Inuktitut |
| _____ Eskimo | g) Another word for the Inuit |
| _____ First Nations | h) People who have a mix of Aboriginal and European ancestors. |

C Correct the Sentences

These sentences are false. Change the underlined word to correct the sentences.

1. The Inuit are sometimes called Métis.

2. North American Indians are also called Eskimos.

3. Europeans were the first people to live in Canada.

4. North American Indians live mostly in northern Canada.

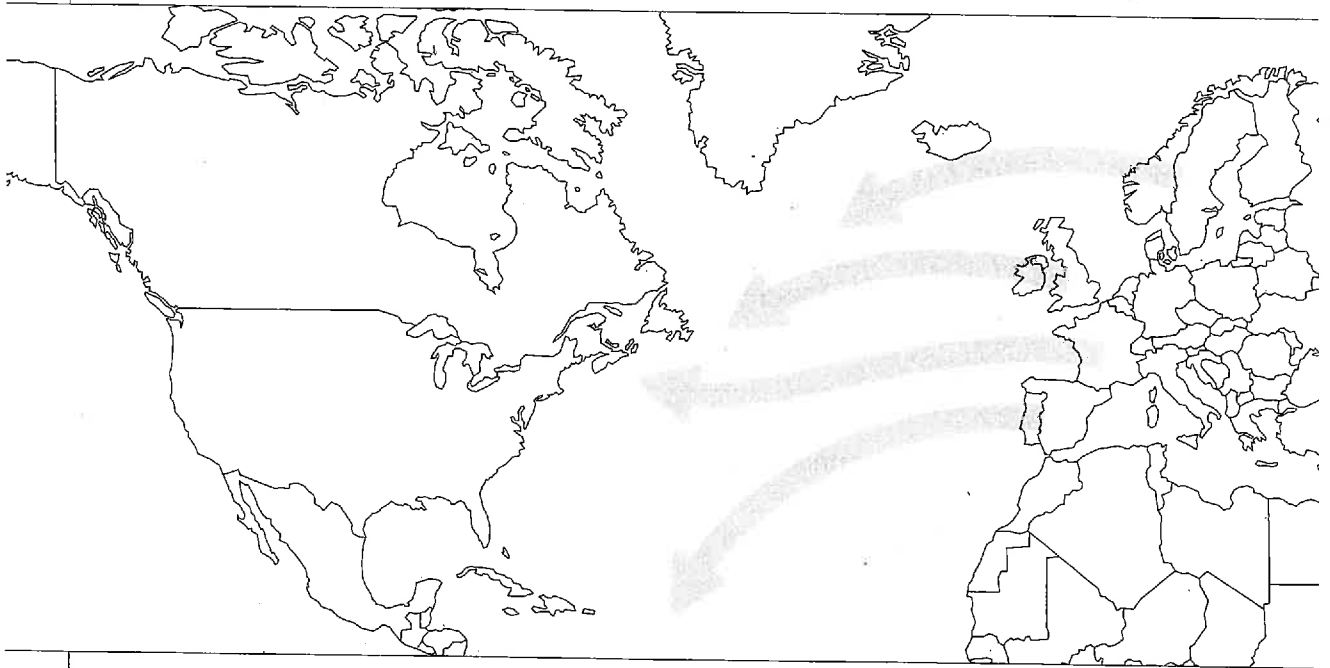
D Discuss

Is there an Aboriginal population in your country of origin? What do you know about them?

NEW FRANCE

Thousands of years after Aboriginal people lived in Canada, European explorers arrived in Canada. They sailed to eastern Canada from Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, England and France.

One famous French explorer was Jacques Cartier. He sailed to eastern Canada in 1534. He learned that the Aboriginal word for village was **Kanata**. Many people think this is why our country is called Canada.



French Settlement in the 1500s, 1600s and 1700s

The French government wanted eastern Canada to be its colony. France sent people to live in Canada. French people settled in parts of the Atlantic Region and Quebec. The French government called the settlements **New France**.

What Did the Settlers Do?

Some settlers farmed the land. Others traded with Aboriginal peoples. The most important trade was in beaver furs. Europeans wanted beaver furs to make hats. Aboriginal people wanted tools, weapons and cloth.

Some French fur traders had children with Aboriginal people. Their children and descendants are called the Métis people.

By the 1700s, thousands of French settlers lived in New France. Most of them lived in southern Quebec.

Understand What You Read

A Match

Write the correct letter on the lines to match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| _____ New France | a) A famous French explorer |
| _____ Colony | b) French colonies in Canada |
| _____ Beaver furs | c) People who move to a new undeveloped land to live |
| _____ Settlers | d) Land a country owns that is far away |
| _____ Jacques Cartier | e) Used to make hats in Europe |

B Answer the Questions

1. Where were the early European explorers from?

2. When did Jacques Cartier sail to Canada?

3. Where did the word **Canada** come from?

4. Why did the French government want people to settle in Canada?

5. What did France call its colonies in Canada?

6. Where did the French people settle in Canada?

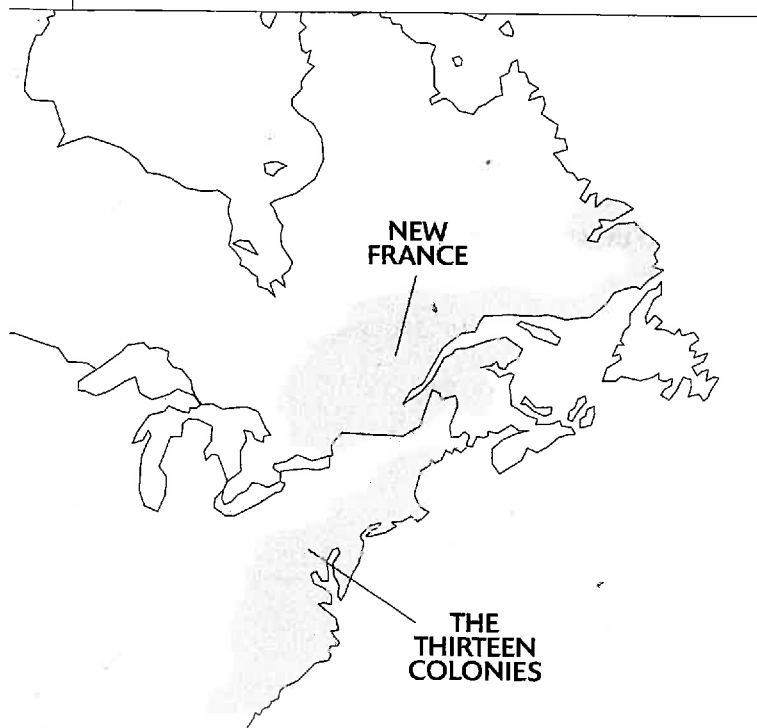
7. What did the French people do in Canada?

C Discuss

1. Why do you think countries want colonies? Was your country of origin a colony?

2. How do you think Aboriginal people felt when Europeans came to Canada?

BRITISH RULE

**French and British Settlement**

When French people were settling in Canada, British people were settling in parts of the United States. At that time, thirteen parts of the eastern United States were colonies of Britain. They were loosely called the **thirteen** colonies.

In the 1700s, Britain wanted to own the colonies in Canada, too. At that time, the colonies in parts of Canada were owned by France. They were called New France.

France and England at War

France and England both wanted to own parts of Canada. They went to war. In 1763, England won the war. The French colonies in Canada became British colonies. Britain called the colonies British North America.

The French people wanted to keep their language and customs. The British government agreed. A law called the **Quebec Act** described how the French people's way of life would be protected.

More British People Came to Canada

Later, more and more British people came to Canada. They came from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Other British people came from what is now the United States.

Why Did People Move to Canada from the United States?

Most of the people in the thirteen colonies wanted to be independent from Britain. In 1776, they became independent. The colonies became the United States of America, or the U.S.A. But some British people there didn't want independence. They wanted to stay loyal to England. They were called **Loyalists**. Many Loyalists came to Canada because Canada was still a British colony. Most of them moved to Ontario and the Atlantic provinces.

The French and the British in Canada

There were many conflicts between the French and the British in Canada. They spoke two different languages. They had different customs and different religions.

Today, there are still conflicts between French-speaking and English-speaking Canada.

Understand What You Read

A Circle the Correct Answer

1. Before 1763, French settlements in Canada were called
 - a) the thirteen colonies.
 - b) Canada.
 - c) New France.
2. British settlements in the United States were called
 - a) the thirteen colonies.
 - b) Canada.
 - c) New France.
3. New France became a British colony in
 - a) 1776.
 - b) 1763.
 - c) 1534.
4. The thirteen colonies became independent from Britain in
 - a) 1776.
 - b) 1763.
 - c) 1534.
5. The Loyalists came to Canada because they wanted
 - a) independence.
 - b) to live in the United States.
 - c) to remain British.

B Fill in the Blanks

colony * New France * United States * thirteen
independent * French * language * British

1. Before 1763, parts of Canada were _____ colonies.
2. The French colonies in Canada were called _____.
3. Parts of the United States were _____ colonies.
4. There were _____ British colonies in the United States.
5. In 1763, New France became a British _____.
6. When New France became British, French people were afraid of losing their _____.
7. In 1776, the thirteen colonies became _____ from Britain.
8. After 1776, the thirteen colonies became the _____.

C Answer the Questions

1. Why did France and England go to war in Canada?

2. Who won the war?

3. When did the French colonies become British colonies?

4. What did Britain call its new colony in what is now Canada?

5. What law made sure French people in Canada could keep their language and customs?

6. When did the thirteen colonies become independent from Britain?

7. Why did the Loyalists come to Canada?

8. Where did the Loyalists come to Canada from?

9. Where in British North America did the Loyalists settle?

10. After Canada became a British colony, more English-speaking people came to Canada. Where did they come from?

D Discuss

Today, Canada is officially bilingual. Canada's languages are English and French. Do you think it is important for all Canadians to learn to speak French and English? Why?

Canada Wants Independence

In the 1800s, more and more people settled in different parts of Canada. Canada was owned by Britain and was called British North America.

Canadian leaders talked about bringing the areas of British North America together. They talked about becoming independent from Britain. They talked about having their own government.

The leaders wanted one government for all of Canada. But each area in Canada had different concerns. Because of this, they decided that each area would also have a smaller government of its own. The government of Canada would be the **federal** government. The smaller governments in each area would be **provincial** governments. The ideas about governing Canada were written down. Canadian leaders hoped the ideas would become law.

The British Government Agrees

The British government listened to Canadian leaders. In 1867, the British government made the ideas into law for Canada. The law was called the **British North America Act**, or the BNA Act.

The First Provinces of Canada

On July 1, 1867, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick became the first provinces of Canada. We call this historic event **Confederation**. Confederation happens when different areas come together, or unite.

Canada Governs Itself

In 1867, Sir John A. Macdonald became Canada's first prime minister. The prime minister is the person who leads the federal government. Macdonald's picture is on our \$10 bill.



Other Provinces and Territories Join Confederation

Later, other provinces and the territories joined Canada. Manitoba and the Northwest Territories joined three years after Confederation in 1870. British Columbia joined in 1871. Prince Edward Island joined in 1873. Yukon Territory joined in 1898. Saskatchewan and Alberta joined in 1905. Newfoundland and Labrador joined in 1949. Nunavut joined in 1999. (Prior to 1999, Nunavut was part of the Northwest Territories.)

Understand What You Read

A Answer the Questions

1. When did Canada become independent?

2. List the first provinces that were part of Canada.

3. Who was Canada's first prime minister?

4. Which country owned Canada before Confederation?

5. What does the word **confederation** mean?

6. What was the BNA Act?

7. Which province was the last to join Confederation?

B Fill in the Blanks

Write the year each province joined Confederation. Shade the first four provinces of Canada on the map.



Ontario _____

Quebec _____

Nova Scotia _____

New Brunswick _____

Manitoba _____

Northwest Territories _____

British Columbia _____

Prince Edward Island _____

Yukon Territory _____

Saskatchewan _____

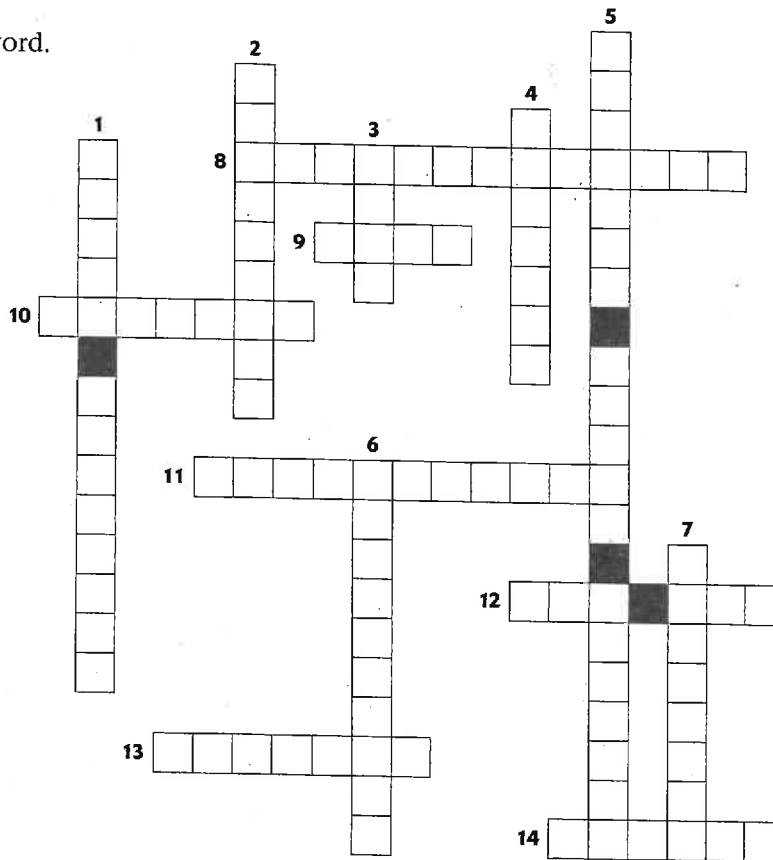
Alberta _____

Newfoundland
and Labrador _____

Nunavut _____

C Crossword

Complete the crossword.



DOWN ↓

1. The leader of Canada's federal government
2. The last name of Canada's first prime minister
3. In 1867, ___ provinces joined Canada.
4. Before 1867, ___ owned Canada.
5. The name of British-owned areas of Canada
6. The ___ government governs a province.
7. ___ joined Canada in 1870.

ACROSS →

8. ___ means to unite.
9. Canada became independent in the month of ___
10. The ___ government governs all of Canada.
11. A self-governing country
12. The law that listed the first rules of Canada's government
13. One of the first provinces of Canada
14. The name of British North America after it became independent

Word List

four • Canada • Confederation • July • prime minister
 Macdonald • Ontario • BNA Act • independent • Manitoba
 Britain • federal • British North America • provincial

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES AND EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

Aboriginal peoples lived in Canada long before the first Europeans arrived. There were many groups of Aboriginal peoples. They lived all over Canada. They survived by hunting, fishing and growing crops.

Contact with Europeans Brings Problems

Europeans and Aboriginal people learned many things from each other. But they also had many problems.

Fighting between Bands

Europeans traded with Aboriginal people. Europeans wanted beaver and buffalo furs. In Europe, the beaver furs were used to make hats. In return, Europeans gave Aboriginal people weapons, tools, cloth and other items. This exchange was called the **fur trade**. The fur trade grew. There were fights between different groups of Aboriginal groups. They fought over hunting land.

Disease

When Europeans came to Canada, some of them had contagious diseases. The diseases spread to Aboriginal people. Many Aboriginal people died from the diseases.

Land Loss

Many Aboriginal people lost the land they had lived on.

Assimilation

Many Europeans thought Aboriginal people should be more like them. They tried to teach Aboriginal people European ways of thinking. They tried to convert them to Christianity. Because of this, many Aboriginal people lost their way of life, their language and their culture.



Aboriginal Peoples Are Still Struggling

Later, Canada started respecting the rights of Aboriginal people.

Even today, Aboriginal people are fighting to get back to and to keep their land, their culture and their power.

Understand What You Read

A Answer the Questions

1. How did Aboriginal people survive in Canada?

2. Europeans caused some problems for Aboriginal people. List four problems.

3. What was the fur trade?

4. The fur trade was important to Canada's economy in the 1700s. What Canadian coin reminds us of the fur trade?

5. What did the European traders give to Aboriginal people in return for beaver furs?

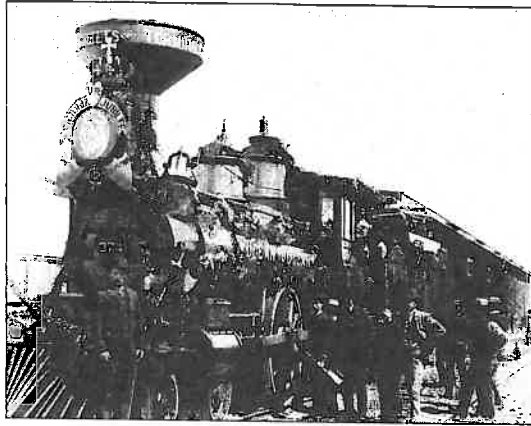
6. What did Europeans do with the beaver furs?

7. How did the fur trade hurt Aboriginal people?

8. How do you think the fur trade helped Aboriginal people?

B Discuss

European settlement in Canada caused many problems for Aboriginal people. Do you think these problems could have been avoided? How?



Canada Builds a Railway

In 1867, Canada became a country with four provinces: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Manitoba joined three years later in 1870.

The Canadian government wanted Canada to reach from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Canada asked British Columbia to join Confederation. British Columbia said it would join, but only if Canada built a railway.

Why Did British Columbia Want a Railway?

British Columbia was very far from the other provinces. The people who lived there felt isolated. A railway would bring them the things they needed for their daily lives.

Canada agreed to build the railway. It was finished in 1885.

Canada Wants More People

In 1885, Canada had a lot of land and a railway but the country needed more people. Canada promised people free land in western Canada. Many people moved to western Canada and took the land. Between 1901 and 1911, Canada grew by almost two million people! Because of this, the government created two new western provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Aboriginal Peoples

North American Indians and Métis already lived in the West. They were angry because Canada was giving away land they lived on. The government set up areas of land, called reserves, for Aboriginal people to live on. Aboriginal people didn't like this. They wanted their way of life to stay the same.

Understand What You Read

A Fill in the Blanks

people • reserves • free • grew • railway
completed • reserve • land • upset

1. A _____ is land saved for aboriginal people.
2. British Columbia agreed to join Confederation if Canada built a _____.
3. The railway was _____ in 1885.
4. Canada had a lot of land, but it wanted more _____.
5. Canada promised people _____ land if they settled in western Canada.
6. Between 1901 and 1911, Canada _____ by almost two million people.
7. Aboriginal people in western Canada were _____.
8. Canada was giving away the _____ the Aboriginal people lived on.
9. Canada set up _____ for some Aboriginal groups.

B Discuss

1. How do you think a railway helps a country grow?
2. Would you move to a new country if the government gave you free land?
Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of becoming a settler in a new country.
3. Why do you think Aboriginal people did not like the reserves?

World War I Memorial**World War I**

In 1914, Britain declared war on Germany. This was the beginning of the First World War. World War I ended on November 11, 1918.

Canada supported Britain in the war. Thousands of Canadians went to Europe to fight. More than 60,000 Canadians died in World War I.

The Peace Tower was built to honour the Canadians killed in World War I. The tower stands in front of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa.

November 11 is Remembrance Day. On Remembrance Day, we remember Canadians who died fighting in wars.

World War II

In 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany. This was the beginning of World War II. The war ended in 1945.

Canada supported Britain and declared war on Germany, too. More than one million Canadians fought in the war. About 42,000 Canadians died in World War II.

After the Wars

After the world wars, Canada's population grew. Many Europeans immigrated to Canada. Canadian women started having more babies. We call the years that followed the Second World War the **baby boom**.

During and after the wars, the Canadian government started some important programs we still have today: employment insurance, old age pensions, family allowance payments and universal health care.

Understand What You Read**A Discuss**

1. Do you think it is a good idea to have an official day to remember wars and the people who died in them? Why?
2. What do you think of Canada's social programs?

B Match

Write the correct letter on each line to match the words to their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| _____ Declared | a) Moved to a different country |
| _____ Supported | b) The years during which many women had babies |
| _____ Immigrated | c) Monthly payments to seniors |
| _____ Baby boom | d) Helped |
| _____ Employment Insurance | e) For everyone |
| _____ Old age pension | f) Honours the Canadians killed in the First World War |
| _____ Universal | g) Payments to people who lose their jobs |
| _____ The Peace Tower | h) Officially said |

C Answer the Questions

1. When did the First World War end?

2. When is Remembrance Day?

3. Why was the Peace Tower built?

4. Where is the Peace Tower?

5. About how many Canadians died during the First and Second World Wars?

6. List three programs the Canadian government started after the wars.

THE CONSTITUTION ACT

Before 1867, Canada was a British colony called British North America.

In 1867, the British government let Canada govern itself. But the British government still had some power in Canada. Canada could not change the BNA Act without permission from the British government. The BNA Act listed Canada's most important laws.

As time passed, Canadians wanted to be even more independent from Britain. In 1982, Canada became more self-governing. Canada could change its laws without asking Britain first.

How Did It Happen?

In 1982, Canadian leaders made some changes to the BNA Act. Here are three important changes:

1. They changed the name of the BNA Act to the Constitution Act.
2. Canadian leaders thought all Canadians should be free and that the law should treat everyone equally. They wrote a list of the most important rights everyone should have. The list was called the **Charter of Rights and Freedoms**. They added the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to the Constitution Act so the rights would be law.
3. Canadians thought that Canada should be free to make and change its laws about government without asking Britain.



The British government agreed with the changes. Canada's prime minister and the Queen of England signed their names. This made the changes legal. Pierre Elliott Trudeau was Canada's prime minister.

Understand What You Read

A Sequence

Number the sentences from 1 to 6, in the correct order.

- ___ New France becomes a British colony called British North America.
- ___ Europeans explore Canada.
- ___ Canada makes changes to the BNA Act.
- ___ Only Aboriginal peoples live in Canada.
- ___ Canada becomes independent and follows the rules in the BNA Act to govern itself.
- ___ Parts of Canada become French colonies called New France.

Write the sentences in the correct order.

B Match

Draw a line to match the words to their meanings.

Constitution
Act
permission
Rights
equal

the same
the laws of a government
law
consent
things we are entitled to

THE CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

What Is the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms is part of Canada's constitution. The constitution lists the most important rules of the government. The Charter lists important rights of Canadians.

Protection from Government

The Charter helps to make sure that government actions or laws respect our rights. It can protect us from anything the government does that violates our Charter rights. If you think one of your Charter rights has been violated, you can take the government to court.

Some of the rights in the Charter are language rights, legal rights and equality rights.

Other Human Rights Laws

Canada also has human rights laws. Each province has provincial human rights laws. These laws list our rights in the workplace, in hospitals, in schools, in public places, in finding housing and in buying goods and services. The human rights laws help make sure people treat each other fairly.

If you think your rights have been violated, you can complain to a human rights commission.



Understand What You Read

A Match

Here are some of the rights in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Draw a line to match the rights in the left column with the descriptions in the right column.

Language Rights

- right to vote
- right to join in political activities

Equality Rights

- right to enter and leave Canada
- right to move to any province

Legal Rights

- right to speak with the federal government in French or English
- right to speak with the provincial government of New Brunswick in French or English

Democratic Rights

- right to life
- right not to be unreasonably searched or taken away
- right not to get cruel or unusual punishment
- right to retain a lawyer

Mobility Rights

- right to be treated and protected equally by the law

B Answer the Questions

1. What does the Constitution Act list?

2. What does the Charter of Rights and Freedoms list?

3. What can you do if you think a government law violates one of your Charter rights?

4. List four places where provincial human rights laws protect us.

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY: VICTORIA DAY

Queen Elizabeth II



Canadians remember and celebrate their history every year.

Victoria Day

Canadians remember that Canada was a British colony. Every year Canadians celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday. She was born on May 24, 1819. She was the Queen of England when Canada became independent in 1867.

Every year, the third Monday in May is a holiday. We call this holiday Victoria Day.

The Queen Today

Today, the Queen of England is Queen Elizabeth II. Canada remembers and respects its history as a British colony. Canada has been an independent country since 1867, but Canada chooses to keep the Queen of England as its Head of State.

The Queen's picture is on all of our coins, some of our stamps and on our \$20 bill.



Understand What You Read

A Circle the Correct Answer

1. The Queen's picture is on all of Canada's
 - a) bills.
 - b) coins.
2. In 1867, the Queen of England was
 - a) Queen Elizabeth II.
 - b) Queen Victoria.
3. Victoria Day celebrates Queen Victoria's
 - a) birthday.
 - b) marriage.
4. Today, the Queen's name is Queen
 - a) Victoria.
 - b) Elizabeth II.
5. The Queen's picture is on Canada's
 - a) \$20 bill.
 - b) \$10 bill.
6. Victoria Day is on the third Monday in
 - a) July.
 - b) May.

B Discuss

Some people think the Queen should not have a role in Canada. They think the monarchy is old-fashioned.

Others want the Queen to remain as Canada's head of state. They say the Queen is part of Canada's history. They think Canada should stay connected to the Queen.

What do you think? Why?

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY: CANADA DAY



On July 1, 1867, Canada became independent and started to govern itself. Every year, Canada celebrates its independence.

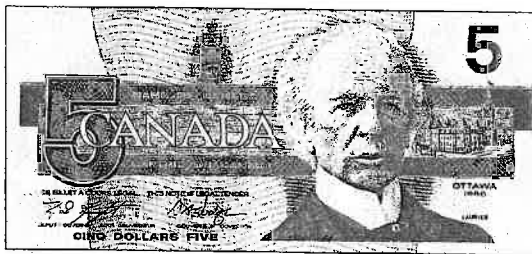
Canada Day

Every year, July 1 is a holiday. This holiday is called Canada Day. On Canada Day, we celebrate the day Canada became independent. Canada Day is also called Canada's birthday.

Canada's First Prime Minister

Canada's first prime minister was Sir John A. Macdonald. His picture is on our \$10 bill. He became prime minister in 1867.

Canada also honours other past prime ministers. Sir Wilfrid Laurier is on our \$5 bill. He became prime minister in 1896. Sir Robert Borden is on our \$100 bill. He became prime minister in 1911. William Lyon Mackenzie King is on our \$50 bill. He became prime minister in 1921.



Understand What You Read

A Answer the Questions

1. Complete the chart.

Bill	Prime Minister	Year He First Became Prime Minister
\$5 bill		
\$10 bill		
\$50 bill		
\$100 bill		

- Who was Canada's first prime minister? _____
- When is Canada Day? _____
- When did Canada become independent? _____
- Who governed Canada before independence? _____
- How old is Canada today? _____
- Who is pictured on our \$20 bill? _____
- Who is the prime minister today? _____

B Discuss

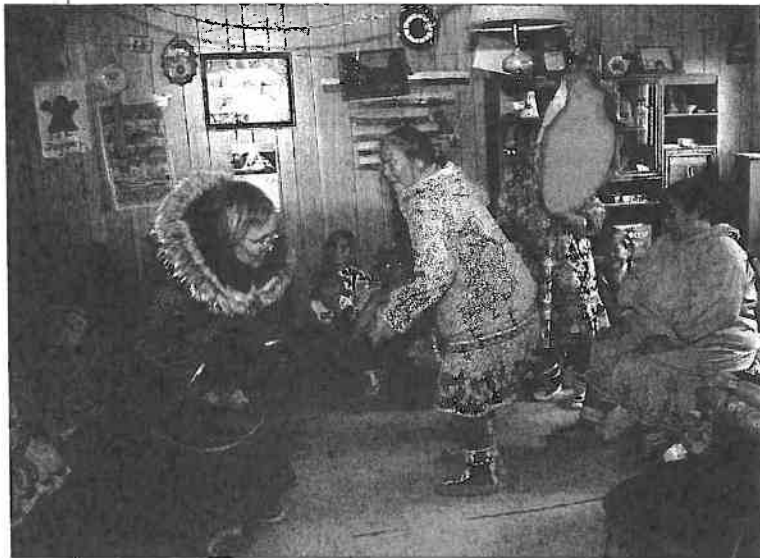
- Do you celebrate Canada Day? How?
- Does your country of origin celebrate its independence? How?

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY: ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

Every year, there is a special day to celebrate and appreciate Canada's Aboriginal peoples. It is called National Aboriginal Day. It is on June 21.

Why is National Aboriginal Day on June 21?

For many Aboriginal groups, June 21 is an important day. It is the first day of a new season. It is the first day of summer. June 21 is also the summer solstice.



What Is the Summer Solstice?

The summer solstice has more daylight hours than any other day of the year. It is the longest day of the year. Usually, June 21 is the summer solstice.

In Toronto, Ontario, there are about 15 and a half hours of daylight on June 21. In December, there are only about 9 hours of sunlight.

In the far north of Canada there are 24 hours of sunlight in June. Because of this, the land in the far north of Canada is sometimes called the **Land of the Midnight Sun**.

Understand What You Read

A Answer the Questions

1. When is National Aboriginal Day?

2. What is the summer solstice?

3. Why is the far north sometimes called the **Land of the Midnight Sun**?

4. Does your country of origin celebrate the change of seasons? How?

GLOSSARY

THE HISTORY

Aboriginal peoples:	The first people to live in a country
Band:	A group of North American Indians who share the same customs
BNA Act:	The British North American Act; a law signed by the British government in 1867 that explained how Canada would govern itself
British North America:	The land in North America that belonged to Britain (from 1763 to 1867)
Canada Day:	A holiday on July 1 celebrating Canada's birthday
Charter of Rights and Freedoms:	Part of Canada's constitution; lists basic rights of Canadians
Colony:	Land a country owns that is far away
Confederation:	The union of different areas of land
Constitution Act:	The new name for the BNA Act in 1982
Eskimo:	Another name for the Inuit
First Nations:	Another name for the North American Indians
Fur trade:	The trade in beaver furs between Aboriginal peoples and Europeans
Independent:	Self-governing
Inuit:	A group of Aboriginal people who live in the North of Canada
Inuktitut:	The language of the Inuit
Kanata:	A word that means <i>village</i> in an Aboriginal language
Loyalists:	People who moved from the United States to Canada after the United States became independent
Métis:	People descended from North American Indians and Europeans
National Aboriginal Day:	On June 21; celebrates Aboriginal peoples
New France:	French colonies in what is now Canada
North American Indians:	A group of Aboriginal peoples
Reserves:	Areas of land saved for North American Indians
Settlers:	People who move to a new undeveloped land to live
The thirteen colonies:	British colonies in parts of what is now the United States
Victoria Day:	A holiday in May that celebrates Queen Victoria's birthday