

Chapter 7: Creating a New Country

Name: KEY

Chapter Inquiry – To what extent was Confederation an attempt to solve existing problems and lay a foundation for a country?



Federalism = Government system with this setup:



Federal Gov. = Makes decisions for Canada
Prime Minister → Justin Trudeau

Provincial Gov. = Makes decisions for Provinces ^{ie. AB, BC, Sask, ONT etc}
Premier of Province AB → Jason Kenney

Municipal Gov. = Makes decisions for Cities, etc
Mayor of city/town Lethbridge → Chris Spearman

See textbook

Vocabulary: Use the glossary to define the following words & terms.

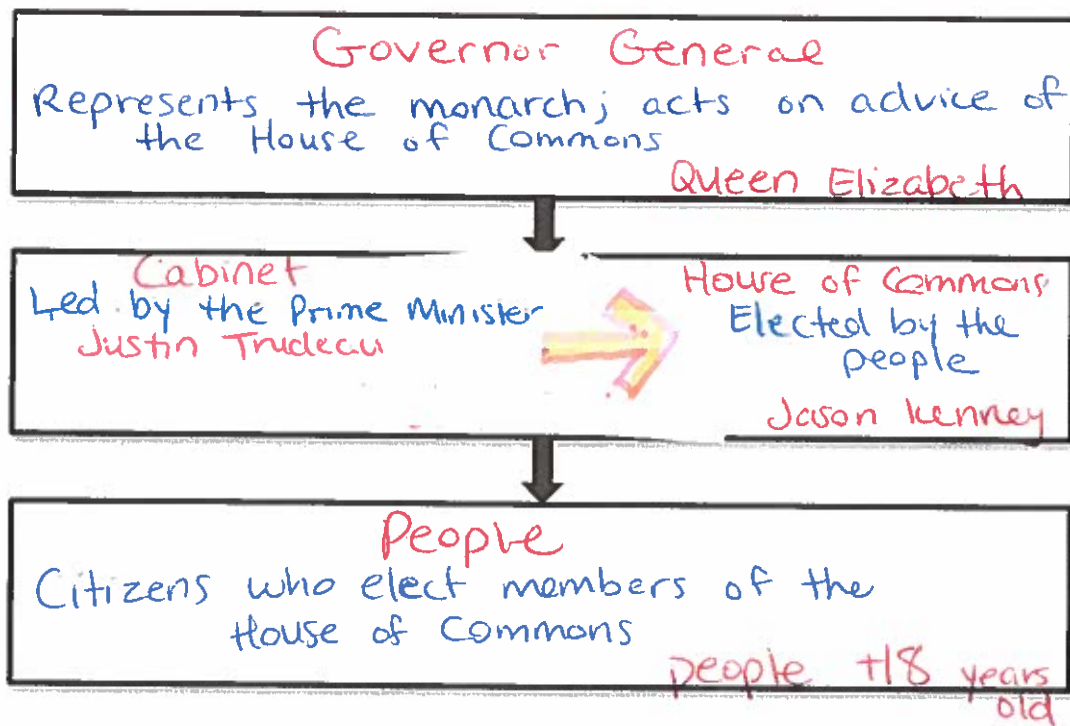
Democracy	
Representative Democracy	
Responsible Government	
Representation by Population	
Manufacturing	
Free Trade	
Reciprocity Treaty	
Manifest Destiny	
Compromise	
Consensus	
Federalism (Federal System)	

People and Government - Government is a way that Societies organize themselves to make decisions and get things done.

Canada's Government

Canada is a representative democracy. This means that the people hold the power by electing people to make decisions or laws which are in the best interest for them. Canada has a responsible government which means that the Prime Minister's cabinet must answer to the elected representatives.

Fill in the graphic organizer below with the appropriate information to explain how our **Federal Government** is organized:



Our current system of government began over 150 years ago. In the mid 1800's the colonies of British North America began to think about joining together and the new government would have to be able to give each region a say and meet the needs of the many different regions.

This process was called Confederation

Conditions for Confederation:

By 1858 there were seven colonies in British North America who were they?

1. Province of Canada
 - a. Canada West
 - b. Canada East
2. Nova Scotia
3. New Brunswick
4. Newfoundland
5. PEI
6. British Columbia
7. Vancouver Island

What did all these colonies have in common? _____

They all wondered if they could be stronger by uniting as a single country

↳ = Confederation

Political Deadlock in the Province of Canada:

What 3 main factors led the colonies to think about a union?

- Political Deadlock in the province of Canada
- Shifting Trade Relations
- Defending British North America

By the 1850s the people were very unhappy with the political system in the Province of Canada.

The single government assembly was mostly made up of English speaking members.

This meant that the French speaking Canadian members were often outvoted on matters that were important to them. Because of this, some Canadiens wanted to divide the province of Canada.

* Seatbelt story *

During the 1850s the Assembly was divided by rivalries between the groups because no one could agree on anything.

One of the issues that divided the Assembly was representation by population.
(this was not the system in Canada and it frustrated people)

The Act of Union had given Canada East and Canada West the same number of seats in the Assembly. The fight over rep by pop led to deadlocks in the Assembly and it was time for change.

* 7E class size vs. 7F class size story *

UNFAIR!

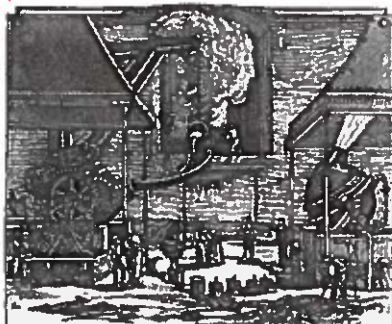
Shifting Trade Partners:

Economic problems were another reason that people wanted things to change.

The mercantile system made Britain rich and helped the colonies do well because the colonies could depend on Britain to buy their goods (because Britain placed a high tax on goods from other countries.)

MONEY FOR A COUNTRY

-----BUT THINGS CHANGED----



THE APPLAUSE PROPHET OF GREAT BRITAIN.

By 1846 the mercantile system no longer worked because Britain's new manufacturing industries were getting bigger and needed to find more places to sell its goods. Britain began free trade with all countries. This meant that the colonies no longer had an assured market for their goods.

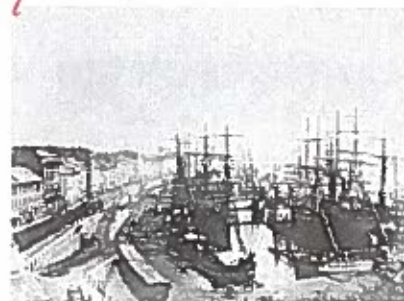
What did Britain do as a result of this?

Urged its colonies (in North America) to look for other markets around the world to trade with.

- The colonies began to trade with the United States!. In 1854 they signed a reciprocity trade agreement.
 - What is a Reciprocity Treaty? Free Trade for natural resources across the Canada / USA border. 49th parallel (Fish, wood, grain, etc = Free cross)
- In this agreement fish, timber, and grain could be sold both ways without having any import taxes. Import is when things are coming into a country

Why did business leaders have their own reasons for wanting a union of the colonies?

- Give Canada East and Canada West business access to the Maritime ports (east coast water ways)
- Use ports internationally and access + gain more customers around the world
- A united market was one way to make up for the reduced trade between USA / Britain
since these countries stopped only traded with us



Defending British North America

In 1861 the American Civil war began between the Southern and the Northern states.

The main issues of this war were:

- Slavery
- The power that each state wanted to make their own laws.

Eventually in 1865 the North won the war.

This concerned the colonists in Canada as they felt the Americans wanted to punish Britain for supporting the south. Others believed in Manifest Destiny because they wanted to take over the colonies. What is Manifest Destiny?

- American Belief that it is their Natural right to control ALL of North America.

In union the colonies could protect/defend themselves better. It was one more reason to think about union.

Choosing a Capital - Originally nobody could agree

where the capital of Canada should be. Some believed that it would be best to share it between Toronto and Quebec city.

In 1857 Queen Victoria was asked to choose the location for the new capital. She chose a small logging town called Bytown which is now called Ottawa.

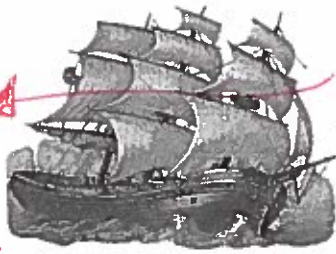
She decided this was a good location on the border between Canada East (where the French lived) and Canada West (where the English lived). Because it was located at the place where three rivers met it meant that people could get there easily. ~~Because it was located at the place where 3 rivers met it meant that people could get there easily.~~ But it was far enough away from the US border so they didn't have to worry that the Americans would attack it. On December 31, 1857 it became the Capital of Canada.



War in one country between different regions

Confederation and the Maritime Colonies

The Maritime colonies had little in common with the Province of Canada. They mostly made their living from the sea. The goods which were shipped from their ports were all heading to Britain, the United states and the Caribbean.



The Golden Age of the Maritimes - Between 1840 and 1870 it was a

"Golden Age" for the Maritime colonies. The shipbuilders were respected for the many, excellent wooden sailing ships they made.

Nova Scotia was one of the largest producers of coal in the World.

→ Canada is now (2021) #13 largest coal producer

For many however, it was not a "Golden Age". The Mi'kmaq and Maliseet First

Nations did not share in the wealth. The Black Loyalists experienced racism and discrimination. The workers in the lumber gangs experienced many hardships.

Would Union Help or Hinder? Many people opposed union because they thought it might end the good times. The people that were in favor of the union noticed that the world was changing and the union would give them access to the bigger economies of the Canadian Provinces.

In time, supporters though, trade within the union would grow.

→ Money for places

The proposal of a railway was very attractive and would be good for business and defence.

Golden Age = good times!
↑
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Write a short Biography of **Joseph Howe**

Pg. 157

Born: 1804 Died: 1873

Biography: Leading politician in Nova Scotia during Confederation period

Not in favour of union.



Joseph Howe

Confederation Discussions

* Breaking the Deadlock - In 1864 George Brown who was the leader of the Clear Grits, convinced his party to join a coalition. They would vote with the Liberal - Conservatives and Les Bleus and in return they would support his plan to unite all of the colonies.

Coalition = coming together to achieve a goal

Brown proposed federalism where each colony would have its own government to run its own affairs. FEDERALISM is: when a central government (Federal Gov) has power over matters that affect the whole country & Provincial Governments have power over local and regional matters

A central government would look after the matters that affected the whole union.

* The Talks Heat Up - In 1864 delegates from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island met in Charlottetown then again they met in Quebec City. *
Eventually they came to a compromise where everyone would give up a little and they could reach a consensus. They drafted seventy two resolutions where the foundations for a new country and government were established.

an agreement

What the Colonies Decided

- Explain what each of the colonies decided to do.

The Province of Canada

- Favored Union in Canada west, but not in Canada East
- French worried English Canadians would control
- French were given promises
- Voted for Union (91 for; 33 against)

New Brunswick

- Worried larger Canadian colonies would dominate the union
- Originally voted against but were promised a railroad soon
- Said yes and voted for union

Nova Scotia

- Joseph Howe was worried they'd have no influence in the new country BUT...
- liked the idea of a railway
- Voted to join union

Prince Edward Island

- Isolated from other colonies
- Small - would be overruled by other colonies
- ✗ - Did NOT join confederation until after (1873)

Newfoundland

- Little in common with other colonies (lots of Irish)
- Felt stronger ties with Britain
- ✗ - Did NOT join Confederation until after (1949)!!
late!!

Results

- The first four colonies who were the first to join Confederation were:
- Ontario
- Quebec
- New Brunswick
- Nova Scotia

Working Together – Sir John A. Macdonald believed that the new Canada had to be a partnership of the French Canadiens and the English Canadians. To make this happen he formed an alliance with George-Etienne Cartier from Canada East. At the London Conference of 1866 Macdonald was largely responsible for writing much of the British North America Act, which is also known as the PNA act.



Write a short Biography of George-Etienne Cartier

Born: 1814 Died: 1873

Biography: Patriote, Quebec politician

- favoured Confederation
- Worked with Macdonald
- fought for civil rights



George-Etienne Cartier

BNA ACT

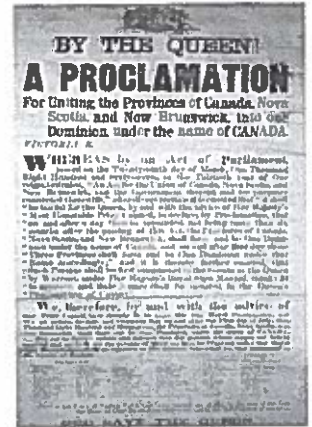
- The passing of the BNA Act established the Dominion of Canada

Confederation of Canada

At 11 o'clock in the morning on July 1st 1867 a proclamation from Queen Victoria was read aloud and the people celebrated creation of the new country of Canada.

First Prime Minister of Canada

John A. Macdonald



The Structure of Canadian Government

- Although the BNA Act proclaimed that Canada was now a country the British still controlled the defence and foreign affairs. Canada would still remain a part of the British Empire and the British Queen was Canada's Head of State. A Governor General would represent the monarch (Queen) in Canada.
- The parliament would be made up of 2 parts. An elected House of Commons and an appointed (unelected) Senate. The number of seats in the House of Commons were based on rep by pop.
- The BNA Act called for a federal system of government. This resulted in 2 levels of government. The provinces wanted to keep their unique identities. The founders wanted to have a strong central government.
- The federal government would have the power to make laws for the "peace, order, and good government" of Canada.
- Confederation originally acknowledged the 2 founding nations of:
 - English and French
- What is residual power? Power over things no one knew about 1867 ie: telephones, airplanes, internet.

A Limited Democracy - In 1867 Canada was a democracy where only citizens over the age of 21 who owned or rented property were allowed to vote. Married women were not allowed to vote and very few single women owned any property. Farm laborers, unskilled workers, First Nations, Metis or Inuit people were also not allowed to vote. Today any citizen over the age of 18 is allowed to vote.