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Creating Canada 1850-1890 Curriculum Map

Using the historical inquiry process students will investigate perspectives of different groups on some significant events, developments, and/or Canadians issues that affected Canada and/or Canadians between 1850 and 1890.

Understanding Historical Context students will describe various significant events, developments, and people in Canada between 1850 and 1890, and explain their impact.

Developed to make history curriculum accessible to students at multiple skill levels and with various learning styles.

The content covers key topics required for eighth grade history and supports the updated 2013 Ontario Curriculum: History Grade 8.

Topics are presented in a clear, concise manner, which makes the information accessible to struggling learners. There are two levels of questions for each topic. Illustrations, maps, and diagrams visually enhance each topic and provide support for visual learners. The reading passages focus on the significant people and historic events that were important to Canadian history between 1850 and 1890, giving students a good overall understanding of this time period.

Introduction:

- Introduction and Rubrics and Learning Expectations
- Answer Key
- 48 Master the Facts game cards review content learned.

Lesson Topics:

Lesson 1 - British North America

Lesson 2 - Confederation

Lesson 3 - The Road to Confederation

Lesson 4 - The Creation of Canada

Lesson 5 - Fathers of Confederation

Lesson 6 - Red River Rebellion

Lesson 7 - Red River Rebellion: Leader Louis Riel

Lesson 8 - Manitoba Joins the Confederation

Lesson 9 - Northwest Territories Joins the Confederation

Lesson 10 - British Columbia Joins the Confederation

Lesson 11 - Prince Edward Island Joins the Confederation

Lesson 12 - Canadian Pacific Railway

Lesson 13 - Northwest Rebellion

Lesson 14 - Northwest Rebellion Leaders

Lesson 15 - The North West Mounted Police

Lesson 16 - Canadian Gold Rushes



The Road to Confederation

The Great Coalition

The Coalition movement began in the Province of Canada. The political deadlock in the government became a stumbling block to a healthy economy. No advancements could be made to keep the economy alive. The two opposing parties were the **Conservatives** (Bleus) and the **Reformers** (Rouges). **John A. Macdonald** led the Conservatives and **George Brown** led the Reformers.

WORD POWER

coalition – an alliance for the purpose of combined action; a temporary coming together of opposing political parties



Coalition Ministry: Macdonald & Brown

In June of 1864, Brown surprised everyone when he declared that he would work together with Macdonald if they could form a coalition to unite all of the colonies of British North America into one nation. The time was finally right for such a union.

This government became known as the **Coalition Ministry**. It pledged to introduce at its next session a measure for the federal union of the Canadas and then to open negotiations with the other colonies so that a larger union could be created.

The Charlottetown Conference

The Maritime colonies were interested in their own union. Shortly after the Canadian government started discussing a coalition of the colonies, the Maritime colonies held a conference on September 1, 1864 to discuss their unification project.

The Canadians asked if they could send a delegation to attend the conference. **John A. Macdonald**, **George Brown**, **Alexander Galt**, and **George Etienne Cartier**, from the Canadian Parliament, attended. They each explained different parts of their coalition proposal to the Maritime leaders.



Delegates at the Charlottetown Conference

The Road to Confederation (continued)

Canadian Proposal to the Charlottetown Conference:

- ***The colonies would unite under one central government.*** This would give power to the nation as a whole to deal with defense and trade with other countries.
- ***Each of the colonies would become provinces with their own governments.*** This would allow them to deal with local matters and to preserve their own identities and cultures.
- ***The central government would build a railway to connect the colonies.***
- ***The debts of each of the colonies would be absorbed by the new government.***
- ***Subsidies for public transportation and the division of revenue sources between the federal and provincial governments would be based on population.***

A New Form of Government

The Canadians were firm supporters of “**representation by population.**” This meant that the Maritime colonies would have little say in the new government. This form of government was called a **federation**. To make it more appealing to the colonies with smaller populations, it was suggested that the **Lower House or Federal Assembly** would have representation by population, while the **Upper House or the Legislative Council** would have regional equity.

The Canadians wanted to make sure their new government would not be vulnerable to a potential civil war like the one that had occurred in the United States. Their proposal was the opposite of one of the sections of the American Constitution. It stated that any issues not directly related to the provinces would become federal issues instead of vice versa.

Even though the idea of a union was not popular with most of the Maritime colonies, the Maritime leaders agreed to put aside their own plans and meet in Québec to further discuss the possibilities of federation.



Province House – location of the Charlottetown Conference



The Road to Confederation (continued)

The Québec Conference

The Québec Conference was a serious discussion of the specific details of Confederation. Its purpose was to work out the details of a federal union that was agreed upon in Charlottetown. It was held in October of 1864 and was attended by 33 delegates from all of the colonies. Newfoundland delegates attended as observers only.

Key Recommendations:

- *It was agreed that in order for the union to be strong, no one province would be able to break the union.*
- *A draft constitution for the proposed federal union was created. It was called the “Seventy Two Resolutions.” It was the basis for how the new nation would be governed and formed the backbone of Canada’s first constitution.*
- *After many discussions and arguments, the number of seats each province would have in the new assembly was decided. For example, Canada West would have 82 seats, Canada East would have 65 seats, while Prince Edward Island would only have five seats.*

The delegates had to return home to their colonies to explain these recommendations to their assemblies. In order for the plan to be passed on to Britain for approval, each assembly had to agree to the recommendations. Prince Edward Island lost its enthusiasm for joining the union when they found out they only had five seats in the government.

Canada East accepted the terms. They liked the idea that they could have control over their own affairs and that their religion and culture would not be threatened. Since Canada West was the biggest province, they readily accepted the terms. The representation by population meant they would dominate affairs in the new country.



Delegates at the Québec Conference

The Road to Confederation (continued)

The Seventy-Two Resolutions

The Seventy-Two Resolutions was a document resulting from the Québec Conference. It set the framework for Confederation in Canada. It was designed to establish a federal government that would best serve the interests and prosperity of British North America. It followed the system of the British government with provisions to be made for colonies to join at later dates as provinces.

The government would be made up of a **federal Parliament** composed of a **Legislative Council** and **House of Commons**. For the purpose of forming a Legislative Council, the provinces would be considered as consisting of three divisions.

Legislative Council

A. The Three Divisions:

1. Upper Canada
2. Lower Canada
3. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island

B. The number of seats each province would hold:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Upper Canada – 24 seats | 4. New Brunswick – 10 seats |
| 2. Lower Canada – 24 seats | 5. Prince Edward Island – 4 seats |
| 3. Nova Scotia – 10 seats | |

(A provision was made for the entry of Newfoundland with 4 seats.)

C. The members of the Legislative Council were to be appointed by the Crown and were to hold office for life. However if they missed more than two sessions of parliament they would be replaced. The Speaker of the Council was to be appointed by the members of the council.

House of Commons

A. The number of seats each province would hold:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Upper Canada – 82 seats | 4. New Brunswick – 15 seats |
| 2. Lower Canada – 65 seats | 5. Prince Edward Island – 5 seats |
| 3. Nova Scotia – 19 seats | 6. Newfoundland – 8 seats |

B. These members were to be elected by the people and were based on representation by population.

C. The Legislature of each province was to define and draw boundaries for each electoral district. The laws already in place in each province were to continue. The elected members could sit for a period not longer than five years, and then the government was dissolved and a new election was called.



The Road to Confederation (continued)

General Parliament

A. The General Parliament was to have at least one sitting a year and was to be responsible for making laws for the peace, welfare, and good government of the provinces.

Laws made by Parliament included the following areas:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The Public Debt and Property | 17. Currency and Coinage |
| 2. Trade and Commerce | 18. Banking |
| 3. Customs Duties, Imports, Exports | 19. Weights and Measures |
| 4. Excise Duties | 20. Bills of Exchange |
| 5. Taxation | 21. Interest |
| 6. Borrowing | 22. Bankruptcy |
| 7. Postal Service | 23. Patents |
| 8. Transportation | 24. Copy Rights |
| 9. Telegraphic Communications | 25. Indian Affairs |
| 10. Census | 26. Naturalization |
| 11. Defense | 27. Marriage and Divorce |
| 12. Beacons, Buoys, Lighthouses | 28. Criminal Law |
| 13. Navigation, Shipping | 29. Property and Civil Rights |
| 14. Quarantine | 30. General Court of Appeal |
| 15. Sea Coast, Inland Ferries | 31. Immigration |
| 16. Ferries | 32. Agriculture |

B. The responsibility for the laws of each province was given to the provinces. Each province would have a Lieutenant Governor who was a representative of the Federal Government and the British Crown and was paid by the federal government. The federal government would assume the debt of each province and an **Intercolonial Railway** was to be completed.

Approval for these resolutions would have to be gained from the Crown in order for Confederation to become a reality.





The Road to Confederation

Tell whether the following statements are true or false. Write T for true or F for false.

1. George Brown surprised everyone by agreeing to work with his rival John A. Macdonald. _____
2. The Maritime colonies held the Charlottetown Conference to discuss their own union. _____
3. The Maritime colonies were not invited to the Québec conference. _____
4. The Seventy-Two Resolutions was a framework to establish a responsible government. _____
5. Newfoundland delegates were only observers at the Québec Conference. _____

Rewrite each of the following sentences to make them true.

6. George Cartier and Alexander Galt formed a coalition government.

7. In the Seventy-Two Resolutions, Lower Canada had the highest number of seats in the House of Commons.

8. In the Seventy-Two Resolutions, members of the Legislative Council were to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

Name _____

The Road to Confederation

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Name two things that the Canadians proposed to the Charlottetown Conference.

2. What was the purpose of the Québec Conference?

3. Why were the Seventy-Two Resolutions created?

4. What did the Seventy-Two Resolutions recommend the federal Parliament should be composed of?

5. Which province lost its enthusiasm for joining the union after the Québec Conference?

Name _____

Activity
Page



The Road to Confederation

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. How did the proposal for the new Canadian government differ from the American Constitution?

2. What were the three divisions of the Legislative Council in the Seventy-Two Resolutions?

3. In the Seventy-Two Resolutions, how was it decided how many seats each province would hold in the House of Commons?

4. According to the Seventy-Two Resolutions, how often would the General Parliament meet?

- 5. List ten areas that the General Parliament would be responsible for.**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Name _____

Think
About It



The Road to Confederation

Use the information pages, library resources, and the internet to complete your answers.

1. a) Name the two politicians who worked together to create a coalition.

b) What was the purpose of the Coalition Ministry?

2. a) What was the Maritime colonies' reason for holding the Charlottetown Conference?

b) Why did the Canadians ask to send a delegation to this conference?

3. Outline the five main points of the Canadian Proposal to the Charlottetown Conference.

4. In your opinion, what are the pros and cons of "representation by population"?



Name _____

Think
About It



The Road to Confederation (continued)

5. What was the purpose of the Québec Conference?

6. Who appeared to be the winner in the recommendation for number of seats? Explain your thinking.

7. Contrast the Legislative Council to the House of Commons by completing the chart.

Legislative Council	House of Commons
1. Has three major divisions	1.
2.	2. Members were to be elected by the people.
3. Total number of seats:	3. Total number of seats:

8. Read the list of areas of laws that were to be made by the General Parliament. Why is it important that one body control and devise laws in these areas?

9. Name three expenses or debts that the federal government was going to assume.

10. Uniting a group of colonies with diverse interests and concerns was a huge task. Why do you think the people involved were able to do this without too much conflict?

