FFT1.4 – Social Organization – Notes	Name:
The dominant religious influence in Nouvelle-I	France was the .
The Church sought to serve two purposes with	
	for the colonists themselves, and to try and convert the
indigenous peoples, who they felt needed to k	
	needs of the colony by providing,
hospitals and assistance for the poor.	recus of the colony by providing,
·	ony in hopes of spreading the Catholic faith among the
	the who arrived in 1615. They
were soon joined by another group, the Jesuit	
	esus (the) began arriving in
Nouvelle-France with the primary goal of conv	
They believed that such work was a	
	ving among the different indigenous peoples in order to
	res. In this way the Jesuits established relationships with the
Wendat (Huron), Algonquin and the Innu (Mo	
Over time, First Nations individuals did adopt	, which often led to conflict with
those who continued to practice traditional w	ays of their culture.
One practical benefit gained by those who cor	nverted to Catholicism, is that the French provided them with
, while non-Catholic in	ndigenous peoples were not.
The, which arrived in	1639, opened and operated the schools and hospitals in
Nouvelle-France.	
In 1645, missionary Jean Mance, opened the f	first hospital, the (the hostel of
God) in Montreal.	,
	e Church from the colonists in order to fund these religious
and social ventures in the growing colony.	ŭ
	nce were much better cared for than their contemporaries in
France, thanks in part to the activities of the _	•
	ance was "owned" by the King of France. It was the King who
	, and the Church for their use.
The system established is knows as the	
	olled the land and rented out parcels of the land to
	migrant from France who lived and farmed the seigneur's
land).	
The seigneur was responsible for the building	of a and a manor house and was to
be present on the land for much of the year.	
The habitant worked the land, paid a tithe to t	the Church, and paid taxes to the seigneur for the use of the
gristmill as well as for	and fishing rights on the seigneur's lands.
	ere in high demand. This demand established the economic
of Nouvelle-France.	
The forests of North America provided and ab	undant source of pelts.

NI	FFT1.4 – Social Organization – Notes Name:				
•	It was the demand for these pelts that fostered relationships b	etween French traders ar	nd		
	trappers and would lead French trade	ers to explore ever farther	into wilds of		
	North America.				
•	Beaver populations began to dwindle throughout the latter pa	rt of the	, causing		
French traders to venture further north in search of new sources of beaver pelts.					
•	Known as the (runners of the woods)	, these men would often	live among the		
	various first nations communities they traded with during the hunting season.				
•	Many developed an understanding of and appreciation for the	various First Nations			
	they interacted with. Many came to prefer life among the First Nations to life				
lived under the watchful eye French officials and priests located in the settlements.					
•	This did not put them in good favour with	community leaders.			
• When Nouvelle-France was made a Royal colony in 1663 the population numbered only around					
	people, with only 1 in 7 being women	(~ 430 women to 2570 m	ien).		
•	By this same time, the British colonies to the south numbered	nearly	people.		
• To encourage the growth of the colony the government of France searched acro			e between 1663		
and 1673 for single and widowed women. Such women, many of whom were found in					
, were offered 50 francs (about half the yearly salary of a surgeon) as in ince					
	to take a chance on a new life in Nouvelle-France.				
• The cost of this program was paid for by the King and as such the women came to be called the					
	– the King's daughters.				
•	 Upon arrival in the colony, the women would be expected to marry one of the Frenchmen of the co 				
	within a few of arrival within the colo	ny.			
•	Women were expected to marry, have children and help work	a	_, becoming		
	permanent citizens of the colony.				
•	To promote the natural growth of the colony, families who had	d	or more were		
	given money by the government.				
•	The plan worked and by 1671 there were over	within the colon	y.		

Formative Assessment

NFFT1.4 – Social Organization – Notes

- 1. If there had not been a fashion demand for beaver pelts in Europe, how do you think this would have affected colonization efforts in Nouvelle-France?
- 2. Which do you think had more consequences for everyday lives of Nouvelle-France colonists -the government or the Church? Explain.
- 3. What do you think would be some of the consequences of the coureurs de bois adopting indigenous lifestyles and living among First Nations peoples? Do you think these would be positive, negative or neutral?
- 4. Do you think the decision to send women from France to Nouvelle-France was ethically sound? Why might the women chosen to go?