

Essential Question:

- How did the First Peoples and European interact in the Northwest and what were the results?

Enduring Understandings:

1. Canada's history and identity have been shaped by its vast and diverse land, its northern location, and its abundant natural resources.
2. The relationship between First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples and non-Aboriginal peoples moved from autonomous coexistence to colonialism to the present stage of renegotiation and renewal.
3. Nouvelle-France, Acadie, Quebec, and francophone communities across Canada have played a role in shaping Canadian history and identity.

The Rise of the Hudson's Bay Company

- Both the French and the British established their early settlements in the eastern part of the continent. The _____ along the St. Lawrence River, the _____ along the Atlantic coast (present day US).
- While the French had ventured west as far as the _____, the majority of what is now Canada was unknown to them and the British.
- As the supply of furs began to decline east of the Great Lakes, French trappers began exploring ever further _____ in search of pelts, establishing trading forts along the rivers and the Great Lakes.
- The success of French expansion westward spurred competition between French and British trappers and traders. This escalating competition became fierce, as both countries wanted to control the vast _____ of North America.
- Two French coureurs de bois, Groseilliers and Radison, established the first European trading post on Chequamegon Bay on Lake Superior in 1654. The First Nations peoples of the area told them of vast fur-trading regions to the north and west, around the area of _____.
- In 1659, Des Groseilliers and Radison returned to Montreal with thousands of furs and plans to set up a trading post on Hudson Bay, which they hoped would be supported by the king. A trading port there would reduce the _____ of transporting furs to Europe.
- Because they were trading without a _____, Des Groseilliers and Radison were fined, put in jail and had their furs confiscated.
- Having received no help from the authorities in Nouvelle-France, and subsequently the King of France, Des Groseilliers and Radison, went to England, seeking the help of _____ in 1665.
- King Charles II was interested in the prospect of expanding England's fur trading capabilities in North America and so gave his approval for his cousin, _____ of the Rhine, to proceed with the coureurs de bois plan. Prince Rupert organized the finances for the expedition, and after three years of planning Des Groseilliers and Radison set sail for Hudson Bay aboard the Nonsuch and the Eaglet in June of 1668.
- Radison, aboard the Eaglet, was forced to turn back but the Nonsuch successfully reached the southern shore of _____, where they named the Rupert River, after their sponsor, Prince Rupert.
- After a successful trading expedition over the winter of 1668 – 1669, Des Groseilliers returned to England aboard the Nonsuch. Given its success, King Charles II granted a charter to Prince Rupert and his partners on _____, establishing the Hudson's Bay Company.

- The Hudson's Bay Company charter granted them a _____ over the fur trade in all the land whose rivers drained into Hudson Bay.
- They were also granted wide legal and trading powers over the area, as well as complete _____ and judicial control.
- The charter covered a geographical area that included northern Quebec and Ontario, all of _____, most of Saskatchewan and southern Alberta, as well as parts of the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Minnesota and North Dakota.
- Known as Rupert's Land, the area totaled _____ square kilometres, approximately 40% of modern-day Canada.
- During the 17th century, British businesses were expanding around the world. In 1600, The British East India Company had been chartered to gather the riches of _____. Prince Rupert and his company hoped to turn North America into a similar source of wealth.
- To organize their extensive operations, the organizing of fur auctions, hiring men, ordering trade goods, and making shipping arrangements, the HBC appointed a governor and a committee based in _____, England.
- By 1685, the HBC was operating trading forts at the Rupert River, Moose Factory, Albany Factory, and Port Nelson. Each Fort was commanded by a _____ and his council of officers.
- The policies that governed Rupert's Land were established in London and based on annual reports, _____ and the account books supplied by each chief factor.
- While the decisions were made and the money was collected in London, the real work of was done in the wilds of what is today, northern Quebec, Ontario and _____.
- The employees of the HBC that ventured out were known as the Baymen, many of whom were from the Orkney Islands off the coast of _____. It was felt that the men from the Orkney Islands were well suited to the fur trading life, due to their experience living in a harsh climate, being hard working and having superior boat handling skills.
- Many of these men were _____, who served the company for a period of 7-9 years.
- An _____ was a contract to work for a set period of time.
- Indentured servitude was in some ways similar to _____ but dissimilar in significant ways.
- An indentured servant would have received _____ for their work, but rather their work would pay off a debt.
- Usually, an indenture was entered into willfully, but it could be imposed upon a person as a judicial _____.
- Like other types of loan contracts, an indenture contract could be sold and with it the men associated with them. As such the services of an indentured servant could be _____.
- When an indenture contract's period of service was complete, the person was _____.
- This was a common method employed by poor Europeans to pay for the costs of _____ to North America during the 17th and 18th centuries.
- While the HBC charter theoretically granted them extensive rights to a vast area of land, in reality in the beginning the HBC didn't see much need to venture _____ from their trading forts along Hudson and James Bays.
- This made them reliant upon the Indigenous peoples of the area to bring the furs to them for trade, unlike French traders who were much more willing to venture inland to _____.

- Over time a ritualized trading protocol developed among the HBC traders and the Indigenous peoples they traded with. One such group was the _____, who once a year would travel to the HBC trading forts to trade their furs.
- The session would begin with the passing of a ceremonial _____, then a ritual exchange of gifts, then the negotiations would begin.
- Trade was nothing new for the Ininimowin, or other Indigenous peoples. They had extensive trade networks that dated back _____.
- Early on, adding the HBC to these trade networks was easy for the Ininimowin and as a result both _____ from the trade.
- The HBC would gain furs, as well as _____ and new technologies which helped them to live and travel in North America's unfamiliar environment.
- The Indigenous peoples gained metal tools, _____ and tobacco in return.
- The trading would end and the Ininimowin would leave the ceremonial pipe at the _____ as a sign that they would return the following year to trade once again.

Formative Assessment 1

1. Take the historical perspective of an HBC employee. Why would you take part in the First Nations' style of trading ceremonies?
2. Do you think the HBC's use of indentured servitude was an ethical way of gaining employees for the fur trade in North America?
3. What does the reaction in Montreal to Des Groseilliers and Radison's fur trading venture to Lake Superior tell you about French attitudes towards their position in both the fur trade and in North America?
4. If we think of the French reaction to Des Groseilliers and Radison's fur trading venture to Lake Superior as a cause, what long term effect did it have?