

The Development of BC




An Official Boundary:

- ▶ By 1819, US and Brits had created a permanent boundary between the two parties.
- ▶ It ran from Western Ontario westward to the Eastern foothills of the Rockies
- ▶ The remaining land westward to the Pacific Ocean was known as “Oregon Territory”.

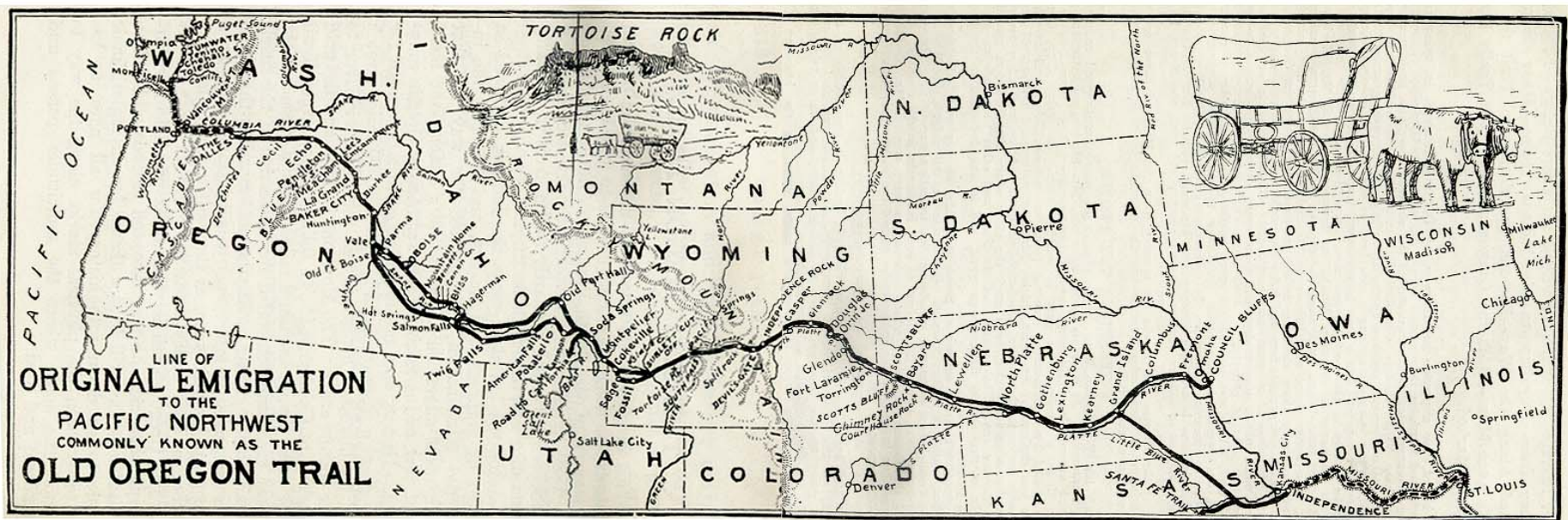


The Oregon Territory

- ▶ Several parties had an interest in this region
 - ▶ Officially, “jointly shared between” Britain and US
 - ▶ Russia also had claims as far south as northern Vancouver Island.
 - ▶ Both the US and British wanted the territory to be used for their advantage.
- 

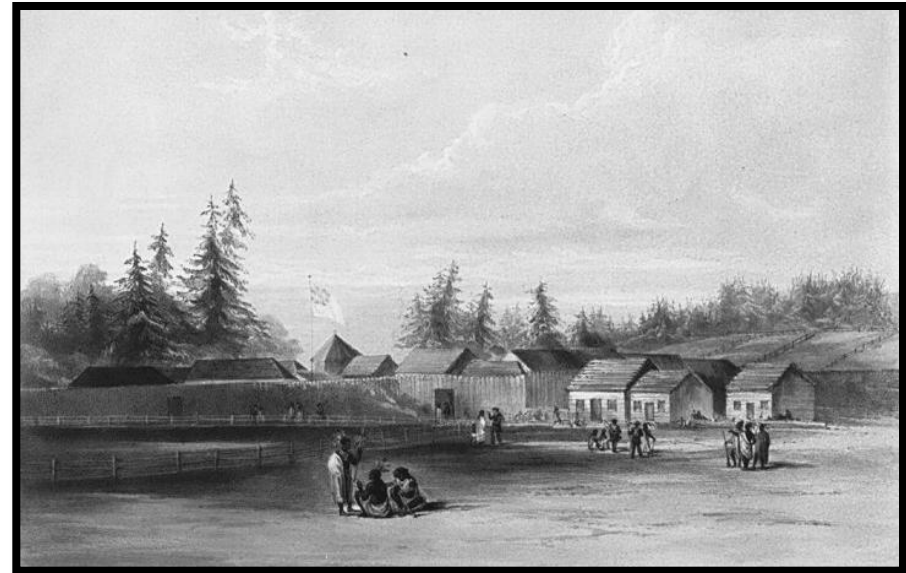
The Oregon Territory: Interests

- ▶ The HBC did not wish to disturb the fur trade
- ▶ The US population was growing rapidly and settlers were encouraged to move into the area.
- ▶ THINK! Why do these two positions conflict?




The HBC in Oregon Territory

- ▶ Many HBC forts were present throughout the territory.
- ▶ Simpson visited in 1824 and felt the company was not using the region efficiently.
- ▶ Establishes Fort Vancouver as well as numerous others on the north side of the Columbia



Fort Vancouver


- ▶ Fort Vancouver becomes the main trading post for the HBC in Oregon Territory
 - ▶ Simpson appoints John McLoughlin, a capable, efficient and realistic man, as the chief factor
 - ▶ McLoughlin worked to limit US competition with HBC trade through encouraging US settlement SOUTH of the Columbia (money and supplies)
- 

Russia in Oregon Territory


- ▶ Russia had expanded their influence down the Pacific Coast
- ▶ This created competition with the HBC.
 - In 1839, the Russians and HBC agreed the Russians would not operate south of $54^{\circ} 40' N$.
 - HBC in return would supply Russian posts with food from their company farms around Puget Sound and Fort. Vancouver



Simpson's 2nd Visit:

- ▶ 1841, Simpson discovered that the fur trade did not expand as hoped
 - ▶ Employed cost-cutting measures
 - He soon closed all the posts *on the coast* except for Fort Simpson
 - used *The Beaver* as a floating trading post to the villages that were along the coast.
 - ▶ McLoughlin was furious.
- 


The need for a boundary:

- ▶ Both Simpson and the British begin to worry about increase in US population.
 - ▶ Influx of American settlers into the Oregon Territory could be a threat to British control.
 - ▶ Britain and USA recognize need for a permanent boundary.
- 

Boundary cont.

- ▶ Suggestion of extending the already established 49th parallel further west.
- ▶ Problematic as Fort Vancouver and HBC farms fell south of this boundary.
- ▶ In 1843, Simpson wisely orders James Douglas to build a new fort on Vancouver Island.
 - Builds a trading post—Fort Victoria

A good move...


- ▶ 1844 presidency candidate James Polk ran under the slogan “54/40 or Fight!”
(*remember manifest destiny?*)
 - ▶ US wanted all of Oregon Territory up to the 54 degree latitude (Russian territory)
 - ▶ Talked tough, but no desire for war
 - ▶ Negotiations in 1845/46 between Brits and US extends the 49th parallel west (excepting Vancouver Island)
- 

The Colony of Vancouver Island


- ▶ In 1848, the British recognize the need for more presence on Pacific Coast
- ▶ Solidify their claim by creating the Colony of Vancouver Island
 - Trade monopoly given to HBC
- ▶ Douglas (chief factor) is appointed governor




The Colony of Vancouver Island

- ▶ Settlers to the new colony were required to buy land at the rate of \$5 per acre, with a min. purchase of 20 acres.
 - ▶ Best land taken by the HBC and its employees
 - ▶ In 1849, most of the settlers of Vancouver Island were related to the HBC.
- 

A growing economy...

- ▶ In 1850's Coal is discovered near Nanaimo
 - ▶ Brits build a naval base near Ft. Victoria at Esquimalt.
 - Coal would provide fuel supply for Navy
 - ▶ The navy became important to the social life of Fort Victoria.
 - ▶ Douglas encouraged the social activities, but did not approve of the upper class and class structure that was developing.
- 

The Douglas Treaties

- ▶ Douglas realized that in order for the colony to successfully grow, he needed to officially gain title to the land occupied by First Nations.
 - ▶ He decided to negotiate treaties with the aboriginal peoples.
 - ▶ 14 Treaties were negotiated between 1850–1854
 - ▶ Gave First Nations choice in determining size and location of reserves.
- 


The Douglas Treaties cont.

- ▶ These treaties were the only treaties negotiated in BC during the 19th Century.
- ▶ (except Treaty number 8 which included parts of BC, 1899)



Questions.

- ▶ Answer the following questions:
 - ▶ # 2 page 209
 - ▶ # 2 page 212

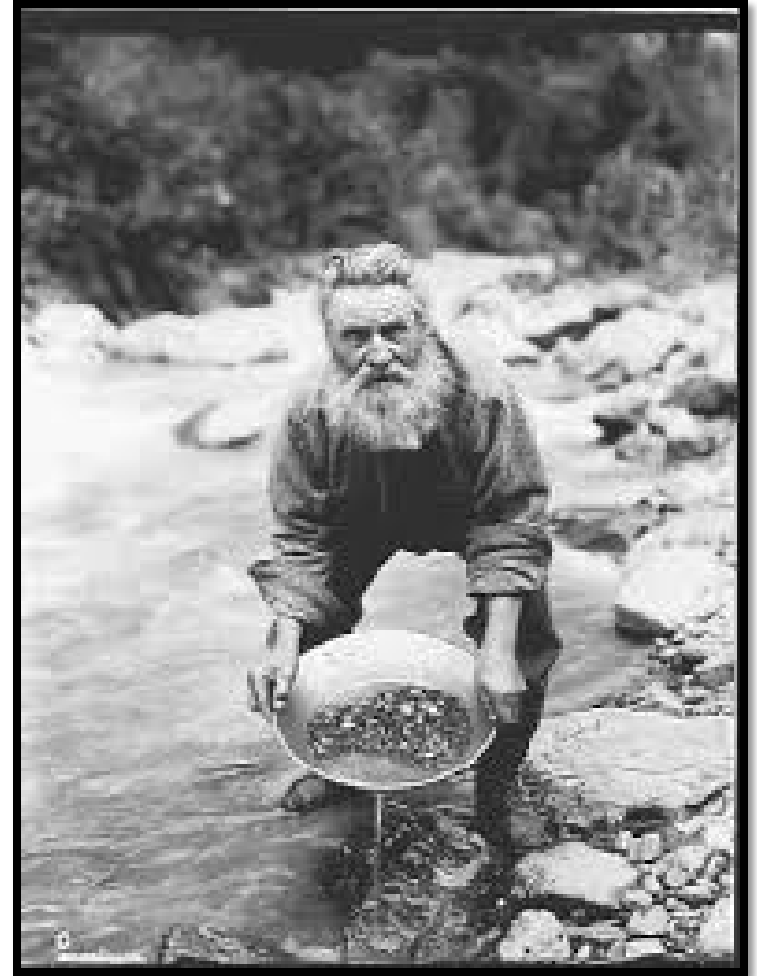
 - ▶ These will be due for homework tomorrow.
- 

THE CARIBOO GOLD RUSH




The Cariboo Gold Rush

- ▶ People have always been susceptible to the idea of get rich quick; the 19th Century was no different.
- ▶ The series of gold rushes that hit western North America between 1849 and the end of the century fueled the idea of getting rich quick.
- ▶ The Cariboo gold rush was responsible for the early development of BC.

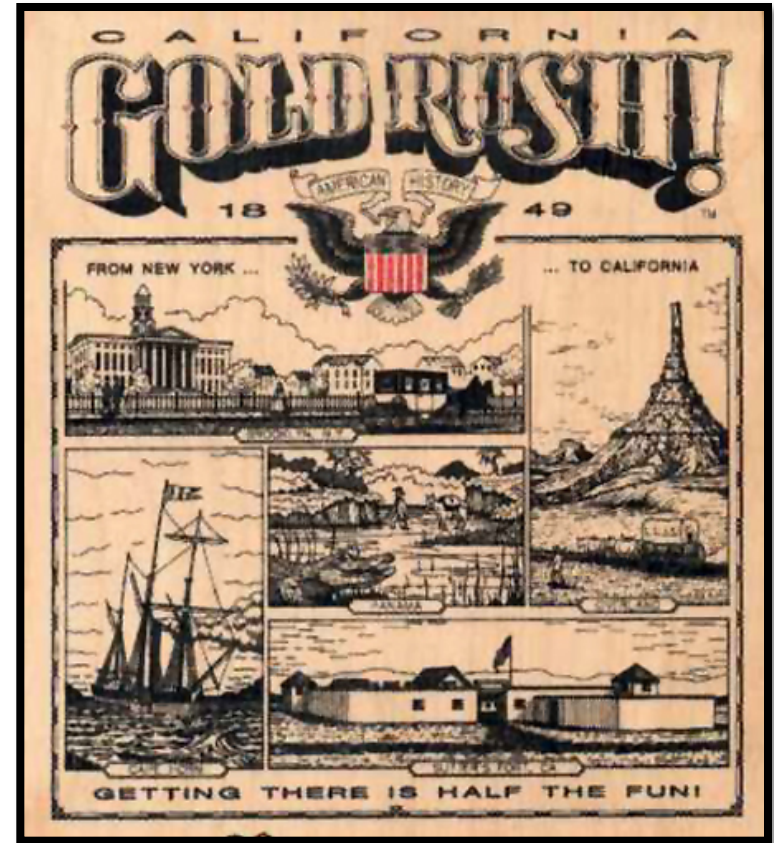


Miners Everywhere

- ▶ 1848, gold was discovered along the Sacramento River in central California.
 - ▶ By 1849 thousands of people had begun to flock to California in search of gold and wealth.
 - traveled across land or by sea (around the tip of South America.)
 - ▶ Many who sought wealth in California never did get rich, and they did not make it back home.
 - ▶ While the gold was real, the “rush” was fantasy
- 

Miners Everywhere

- ▶ Prospecting was difficult and often disappointing.
 - Time-consuming
 - Back-breaking
- ▶ Best claims had been staked by 1848
 - New arrivals wound up as labourers
- ▶ By 1850's gold mined out
 - San Francisco full of unemployed miners



Miners Everywhere

- ▶ In late '57, an HBC employee arrives at Ft. Victoria with gold dust and nuggets
 - From the Thompson River
 - Shows Douglas
- ▶ Douglas aware of social disruption in California rush.
 - Drunkenness, brawling, alcohol, prostitution...
 - ANTI-Victorian!

Worries...

- ▶ Douglas was worried that news of gold would create a influx of miners coming to his colony.
- ▶ Colony was not equipped to handle that volume.
- ▶ Only a squadron at Esquimalt if trouble, no army or militia




Miners Everywhere

- ▶ 1858, unemployed miners from California tried to find any way possible to move north
- ▶ April 25, 1858 the first ship arrived in Fort Victoria carrying 450 miners
- ▶ Most moved inland immediately, and by the end of the summer 10,000 miners had arrived.

▪

American miners cause worry:


- ▶ Most arrivals were American
 - ▶ The mainland was not under a political jurisdiction.
 - ▶ Douglas feared this, in combination with US numbers, made mainland vulnerable to annexation
 - ▶ Communicated concerns to colonial office
- 

Colonial Response:

- ▶ In response, the Colony of British Columbia is created in 1858.
- ▶ 49th Parallel to 54* 40'N
 - ▶ Douglas made governor
 - ▶ Contingent of Royal Engineers dispatched:
 - ▶ Provide military presence
 - ▶ Survey region
 - ▶ Lay out new towns and roads
 - ▶ Matthew Begbie made chief justice
 - ▶ “tough but fair”
 - ▶ The “hanging judge”




Miners Everywhere

- ▶ Prospectors believed there had to be a bigger deposit up stream.
 - Miners moved north
 - ▶ between 1860–1861, many miners arrived in the southern Cariboo region of BC.
 - ▶ Several discovered large deposits of gold
- 

Billy Barker & Barkerville

- ▶ 1862, Billy Barker struck gold in the Cariboo on Williams Creek
 - It is estimated that his mine produced an amazing total of 37 500 ounces of gold; worth about 40 million Canadian dollars at today's gold prices.
- ▶ Town of Barkerville formed.
 - Main town of the gold rush
 - Largest of 3 communities on Williams Creek
 - Mid-1860s 5000-10000 people inhabiting
 - Ethnically diverse
 - Vibrant "night life"

The Cariboo Road

- ▶ 1860's, Governor Douglas realized the profit of mining operations was leaving the colony
 - ▶ BC was not seeing a penny of the money made.
 - ▶ As a response, Douglas began to tax the gold removed, and he used this money to build a road to the goldfields.
 - This allowed for him to ensure the gold was leaving via the Fraser.
 - The road also encouraged settlement and economic development.
- 


The End of the Gold Rush:

- ▶ By the early 1870's most of the gold had been mined.
- ▶ Only large mining outfits able to afford hydraulics were able to continue.
- ▶ By 1880's the population of Barkerville was dwindling.
 - By 1920, almost a ghost town

Population Changes in the Colony:

- ▶ Smallpox had decimated FN populations
 - At least 30,000 died
- ▶ During the Cariboo Gold Rush more than 35,000 prospectors arrived in BC.
 - Few found gold and riches.
- ▶ As the Gold Rush was slowing down, people began to leave the colony.
 - Population of BOTH dwindled to 10,000 (combined)
 - created a loss in revenue.
 - Fewer people to pay taxes
 - This especially hurt BC as it had put a lot of money into the Cariboo road.


Uniting the colonies:

- ▶ Both colonies had a great deal of debt.
 - Vancouver Island--\$300,000
 - BC--\$1,000,000
 - ▶ Could not obtain loans to pay employees
 - ▶ The elected representatives in both colonies began to ask the governors to create a union between the two.
 - It seemed the only feasible solution
 - ▶ Britain agreed
 - Did not want to subsidize two colonial governments
 - ▶ United August 6, 1866
- 


The Confederation Debate:

- ▶ Uniting the colonies did not solve the economic woes.
- ▶ Confederation suggested as a solution.
- ▶ Not everyone is keen:
 - Mainland for Confederation
 - Vancouver Island **STRONGLY** against
 - A group of merchants want to join USA

The Confederation Debate

- ▶ The people of the mainland supporting Confederation were known as Confederationists.
 - ▶ they developed a series of resolutions in 1868 of how and why BC should join Canada
 - ▶ they forwarded this to the Canadian government.
 - ▶ Cdn govt. responsible for BC debt
 - ▶ A wagon road from Ont. to New Westminster
 - ▶ Responsible government
- 

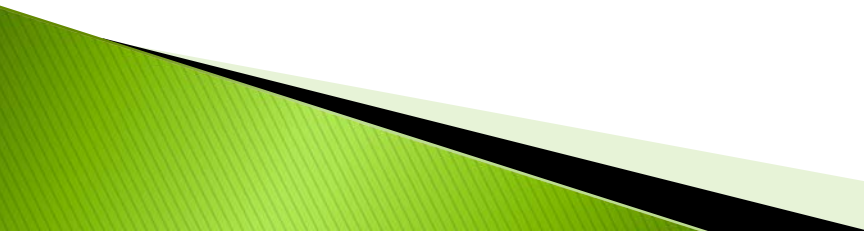
The Confederation Debate

- ▶ Those in favor of annexation with the US felt it was a better economic deal for BC
 - ▶ Canada was far away. Washington and Oregon much nearer and were prospering
 - ▶ Annexation would ensure permanent links to this market.
 - ▶ Anti-Confederationists wanted to maintain ties with Britain
- 

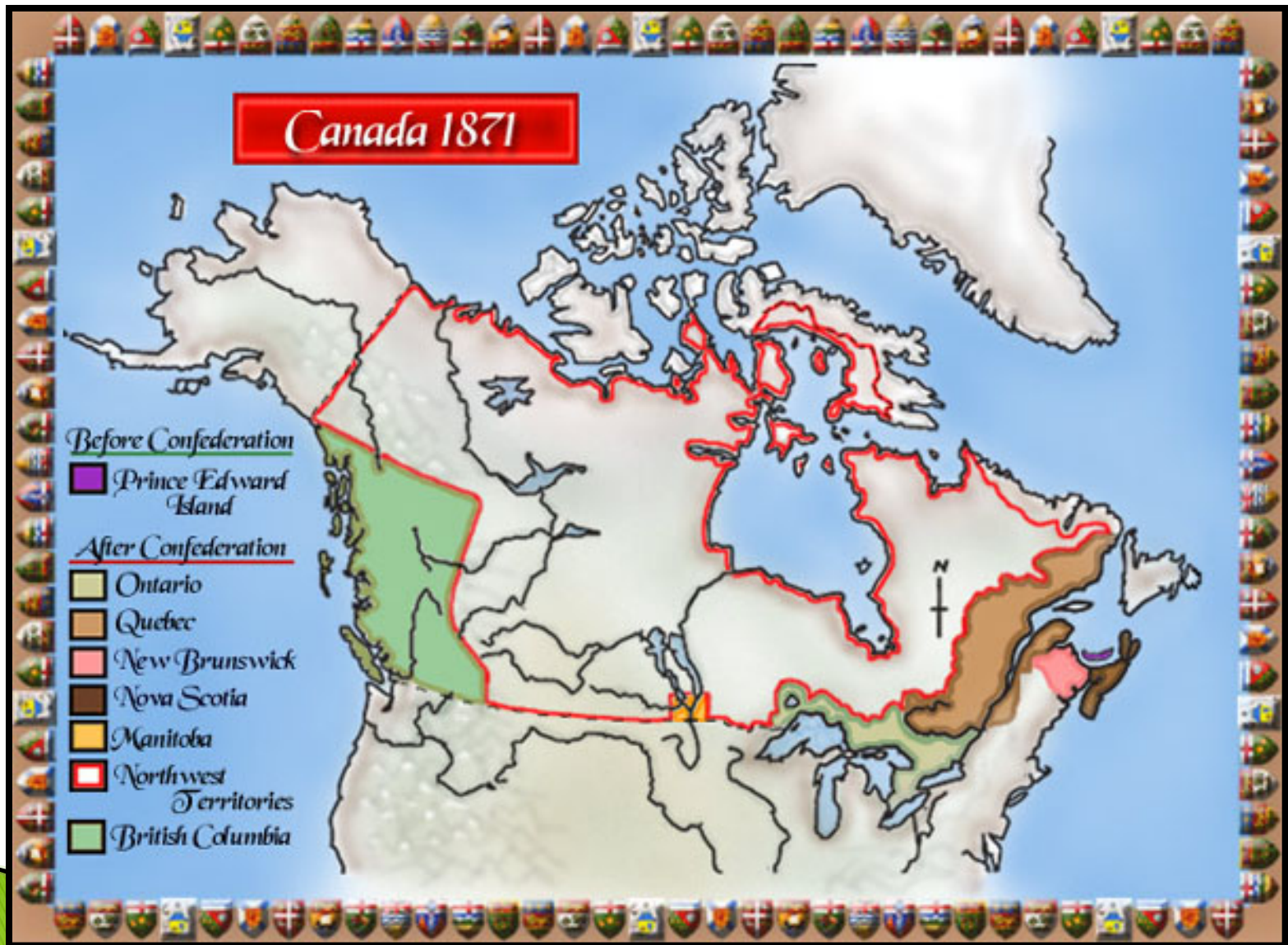
The Tide Turns:

- ▶ 1869 Governor Seymour died suddenly
- ▶ Succeeded by Anthony Musgrave
 - a personal friend of John A. Macdonald
 - Pro-Confederation
- ▶ Musgrave's instructions were simple; have BC join Canada ASAP.
- ▶ The annexationists circulated a petition in Victoria trying to get signatures.
 - They received approx. 125 signatures out of a town of 3000.

The Tide Turns

- ▶ Musgrave asked anti-confederationists to work with him.
 - Create a “wish list”
 - They would travel together to Ottawa to present the proposal.
 - ▶ Musgrave's plan was successful, and almost all of the terms were agreed to, and the railway was promised to be started within 2 years, and finished within 10.
 - ▶ On July 20, 1871, BC officially joined Canada.
- 

The Tide Turns



Questions:

- ▶ Answer question 1 and question 2 on page 219
- ▶ Due for homework

The Emergence of Vancouver

- ▶ Youngest of BC's major communities.
 - Unlike other major centres, NOT founded on fur or gold
 - People not initially interested in settling
 - No river
 - Very forested


- ▶ BUT when Colonel Moody arrives at New Westminster:
 - He is impressed by the potential of Burrard Inlet
 - Ice free port
 - Naval advantages

 - Has Royal Engineers cut trails through forest to join inlet to New Westminster

The Emergence of Vancouver



Industry and Development in Van:

- ▶ 1860's the people of Vancouver consisted of the Musqueam and Squamish people.
 - It remained as it had for thousands of years.
 - ▶ 1865 brought change when the Hastings Sawmill opened on the south side of the inlet.
 - It eventually controlled 19,000 acres, and much of the peninsula.
 - ▶ On the north side Sewell Moody opened a sawmill in an area that is now North Vancouver that specialized in sailing masts.
 - The surrounding community become know as Moodyville.
- 

The Emergence of Vancouver

- ▶ 1867, “Gassy Jack” Deighton arrived on the inlet opening a saloon about 1 ½ km away from the mill.
- ▶ Soon after, other saloons and stores opened around the saloon and the settlement of Granville was formed.
 - It was also referred to as “Gastown”.



The arrival of the CPR

- ▶ 1881 Port Moody was designated to be the terminus of the CPR. (see text page 228).
- ▶ Development shifted to the eastern end of Burrard Inlet.
 - Speculators bought up land
 - Envisioned a great future metropolis and \$\$\$\$\$\$
- ▶ Van Horne arrives in 1884
 - Determines Port Moody is **UTTERLY** unsuitable
 - Harbour is too shallow
 - Not enough flat land for rail yards


From Port Moody to Vancouver...

- ▶ Van Horne travels further down the inlet
 - Discovers deep-water anchorages close to shore
 - THINK! Why was this necessary????
 - Wide expanses of flat land
- ▶ Named the site Vancouver
- ▶ Land Speculators were OUTRAGED
- ▶ By spring 1886, CPR finished and Vancouver was incorporated.
 - By 1890, population over 5,000
 - w/in 10 years 20,000

Economic Diversity in BC

- ▶ Society in BC was dominated by white Europeans.
 - A diverse group of newcomers of a variety of ethnicities also contributed to development
- ▶ Kanakas
 - from Hawaii
 - excellent swimmers and sailors
 - Worked mainly in Oregon Territory
 - Encouraged to move North when US boundary put in place
 - Many settle in Van and Salt Spring Island

Black Immigrants:

- ▶ Asked Douglas if they could settle on Vancouver Island
 - Wanting to move from San Fran north (no slavery)
 - Douglas encouraged and assisted
 - ▶ They formed a militia unit which is authorized by Douglas
 - ▶ However, while no slavery, still intense discrimination
 - ▶ Many leave Colony to farm on Salt Spring Island
- 

Jewish Immigrants:

- ▶ First arrive in BC in 1858
- ▶ Many of English or European background
- ▶ Participated in California gold rush—not as miners, but suppliers of goods
- ▶ By 1863 a Jewish community established in Victoria
 - Oldest continually operating synagogue in Canada
- ▶ Oppenheimer family
 - German/Jewish family key to the development of Vancouver
 - David Oppenheimer “The Father of Vancouver”

The Chinese:

- ▶ Largest group of non-European immigrants in the 19th Century.
- ▶ Experienced brutal discrimination
- ▶ Initially in California for Gold Rush
- ▶ Moved north with the Fraser River Rush
 - Some mined abandoned claims
 - Others aided the development of the economy through the service industry
 - Stores, restaurants, laundries, vegetable farms


The Chinese and the CPR

- ▶ 1881, the CPR hired large amounts of Chinese labourers
- ▶ BC portion the most difficult
 - Shortage of funds and workers
 - Hired Chinese as cheap labour
- ▶ 1881–1885, 17,000+ Chinese immigrants worked on the railway.
 - paid a dollar a day (1/2 of a white mans wage).
 - Lived in separate camps
 - Had to pay food and lodging fees
- ▶ Work is dangerous and difficult
 - 600+ die due to injury or illness

Life in the Cities

- ▶ When the CPR was completed, many cannot afford to return home as planned
 - ▶ Had been misled about deductions upon hiring
- ▶ Many moved to Vancouver and Victoria looking for work.
- ▶ The influx of Chinese into major centres led to renewed discrimination and racism.
 - spontaneous and organized racist acts.
 - campaigns to have all Chinese removed from Vancouver
 - or boycotts of businesses that sold to Chinese
 - Some forced out through intimidation and violence

Discrimination

- ▶ Non-Europeans seen as inferior and dangerous
 - ▶ Strong desire for a British society
 - ▶ Chinese a threat; they “did not assimilate”
 - ▶ The government legalized discrimination against the Chinese in 1885.
- 

Life in the Cities

- ▶ Head tax of \$50 placed on Chinese immigrants
- ▶ Laws were put in place on the number of Chinese a ship could carry.
 - 1 person per 50 tonnes.
 - Most ships weighted about 2000 tonnes which would allow for about 40 Chinese.
- ▶ Head tax raised to \$100 in 1900, \$500 in 1903 and a complete ban on immigration in 1923

Economic Diversity in BC

- ▶ With the completion of the CPR, BC was no longer isolated from the rest of Canada.
- ▶ The CPR allowed for the flow of goods across the country and between Canada and the Asian markets to be much easier.
 - Vancouver experienced significant growth as a result.
- ▶ Other areas of the province grew significantly.
 - The discovery of other minerals like silver and copper allowed for small mining towns to pop up covering the map.
 - Many were in the Kootenay region 😊
 - The towns were built around the mines and the giant smelters that processed the ore of the mines.
 - i.e. Nelson grew from 400 in 1890, to 7000 in 1900.

Prosperity

- ▶ East interested in accessing western markets
- ▶ Export of natural resources ↑
 - Prairie immigration boom = ↑ need for lumber
- ▶ Population in BC increased as CPR made travel through mountains easier
 - Increased population led to increased workforce
 - = prosperous economy
- ▶ Leisure travel now an option
 - CPR becomes a mode of transport for tourists
 - Capitalizes on the Rockies
 - Builds impressive hotels

Château Frontenac



The Empress



Banff Springs Hotel

