I. Introduction

A. Pacific Northwest
   1. last of North America to be explored and settled
   2. more than 25 different aboriginal groups for about 10 000
   3. mountains with spruce and fir trees; Western red cedars up
      to 60 meters; lots of fur-bearing animals
   4. Russian ship landed on coast \((1741)\); immediate success with otter fur trade
      a) Spain, Britain, US soon followed
      b) 1826, intensive fur trade rivalry \((Britain/US)\) in New Caledonia & Columbia

B. The Oregon Territory
   1. George Simpson – 1826, governor of expanded HBC
      a) New Caledonia and Columbia
         i) greatest challenge; many had interest in area
         ii) Russia claimed coast to northern Vancouver Island
         iii) boundary between US and BNA
            – west of Lake of the Woods \((49th parallel)\);
            ended at eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains

George Simpson
b) Oregon Territory (see map page 209) – claimed by US

i) US population growing; wanted area for settlement had acquired much of territory west of the Mississippi seemed destined to control all of North America (Manifest Destiny) pursued aggressive settlement policy in Oregon Territory 1830s many Americans traveled the Oregon Trail to settle in Williamette Valley

ii) HBC saw this area as part of Rupert’s Land wanted to continue lucrative fur trade in the area settlement would disrupt that and undermined their trade monopoly

c) Simpson toured forts in area; HBC not using resources fully

i) created post on north bank of Columbia River; opposite the Williamette River

ii) ordered employees to open trade in Fraser Valley and expand trade networks with natives in the area lots of furs in area; fur supplies depleting in other areas 1827, established post at Fort Langley
C. Russians on Pacific Coast

1. established trading posts in Alaska; extended influence south along the northern coast

2. 1839, HBC and Russia agreed
   a) Russians would stop operations south of the 54° 40’ N.
   b) HBC to supply Russian posts in Alaska with food
   c) the *Beaver*, an HBC steamship
      i) supplied the food to Russians
      ii) used as mobile trading base for Northwest Coast native groups
      iii) added British presence in area
d) agreement upset **McLoughlin**
   i) believed chain of posts along coast made HBC strong
   ii) eliminated 15 years of his hard work

e) anger/hatred at **Simpson** and **HBC** deepened
   i) **McLoughlin**’s son killed in fight at **Fort Stikine**
       
   ii) 1842, **Simpson** recommended charge of *justifiable homicide*
       — continued promotion of US settlement south of Columbia River and discouraged settlement north of it

   iii) **Simpson** now worried due to rising population of Americans in Oregon Territory that area including Fort Vancouver could be lost
       — ordered Chief Factor, **James Douglas** to open depot on Vancouver Island
       — 1843, named **Fort Victoria** to honour Queen Victoria

   iv) bitter, **McLoughlin** retired (1845) from HBC with decent pension settled south of Columbia River in Oregon City and became known as the **“Father of Oregon”**
II. The Colony of Vancouver Island to 1858

A. 1840s US expansion of territory
   1. James Polk -- 1844, Democratic candidate for president
      a) ran on slogan “54° 40’ or fight”
         i) meant US claimed Oregon Territory to 54° 40’N.
         ii) slogan popular enough to get Polk elected

      b) 1845, tried to negotiate with Britain for Oregon Territory
         i) not want war despite aggressive stand in 1844 election

   2. Britain refused to give up claim to area
      a) boundary of 1818 was extended along the 49th parallel to Pacific Ocean
         Vancouver Island remained in British hands all area south of the 49th parallel went to US
B. Crown colony of Vancouver Island

1. 1848, created to establish more official presence on Pacific coast
2. HBC given trade monopoly but had to sell land to British settlers
3. **James Douglas** appointed as governor
   a) not want more Americans in area so actively encouraged British settlement
      i) wanted to give free land grants to new settlers
      ii) Britain disagreed
         — wanted to recreate English class system
            • required land purchase of 20 acres
            • purchase of more than 100 acres
         — owner to bring at least 5 employees
   ii) plan to recreate Britain’s land/class system
      not very successful
      — 1849, only settlers in area were
         ex-HBC employees
         • had most of the best farmland already
C. Economic diversity in colony

1. HBC dominated in 1850s

2. 1840, coal discovered near Nanaimo
   a) immigrants came to start mining operations
      i) potential customer was the **Royal Navy**
      ii) *Esquimalt harbour (next to Victoria)* set up as naval base — war ships need coal supplies
   b) mines also set up at Cumberland in mid-1850s

3. **Royal Navy**’s role is Victoria’s social life
   a) officers from upper class
      i) partied with British landowners
   b) **Douglas** encouraged social activities but not approve of the new upper class
      i) had been fur trader and married a Métis (**Amelia**) 
      ii) dim view of Victorian high society shared by former HBC employees shunned by prejudiced, class-conscious newcomers
4. 1856, **Governor Douglas** created a **Legislative Assembly**
   a) response to ex-HBC employees complaint
      i) area becoming like club for **landed gentry**

   b) small Assembly, only 7 elected representatives
      i) only 40 of colony’s 450 adults could vote
         — had to own land to vote

   c) Assembly passed resolutions but couldn’t enforce them; **Douglas** had **veto**
      i) could also grant monies for government use

   d) 1855, population of settlers was 774; were more than 30 000 aboriginals on island
      i) **Douglas** had to **negotiate treaties** before area could attract more settlers
      ii) natives surrendered their land lands to Europeans but retained hunting and
           fishing rights *(see quote and map on p. 215)*
           — seemed land was being leased so annual compensation given to each
           native family
           — led to idea of native entitlement to the land by BC, Canada, and Britain
III. The **Cariboo Gold Rush**
A. Miners Everywhere

1. **1848**, gold discovered – *Sacramento River*, California
   a) 1,000s left homes and jobs to have the chance to get rich quick
      i) traveled by land & sea to Califorinia; many died on the way
      ii) most never got rich; many never made it home again
      iii) fantasy: gold nuggets the size of your fist laying on the river banks
      iv) reality: had to stake a claim, sink a mind shaft down to bedrock, clay and sand brought to the surface, lighter material was washed away to reveal the gold
      v) most claims already staked before people arrived for the rush of 1849
     vi) many of them ended up working as miners for original claim holder
    vii) many broke and unemployed by mid-1850s
2. late 1857, HBC trader arrived in Fort Victoria
   a) with his furs, he had 2 vials of gold dust and some nuggets that he panned along banks of Thompson River gave them to Governor James Douglas
   i) thought news of a gold strike would bring large numbers of miners

   James Houston (1823-1902)
   Langley pioneer credited with making the first gold discoveries in British Columbia.

b) winter of 1857/58, miners moved from California to Washington and Oregon
   i) moved to banks of Thompson and Fraser rivers to prospect for gold discovered best and easiest sources for gold along sandbars

3. 1858, word of gold reached San Francisco
   a) 100s tried to book tickets on any ship to get them to Fort Victoria
      i) 450 miners arrived on Apr. 25, 1858
      ii) went on to the mainland; some by raft
   b) end of summer, more than 10 000 miners worked along the Fraser River
      i) mostly Americans
4. **Douglas** worried about the number of American miners in the mainland area more vulnerable to US territorial expansion
   i) told Colonial Office of this concern
   ii) London’s response:
      — **Douglas** became governor of **new Crown colony of BC**
      — BC included mainland to as far north as 54º40’N.
   iii) 1859, **Royal Engineers** under **Colonel Richard Moody** arrived
      — provided military presence
      — also to survey region
      — provide technical assistance building roads/towns
5. 1858, gold almost gone along sandbars of the Fraser
   a) miners thought gold came from a larger deposit upstream
      i) miners move north in search of deposit
   b) 1860/61 miners arrive in Cariboo region
      i) found sizable gold deposit in creeks that fed the Fraser
B. The Cariboo Road

1. 1860, Governor Douglas realized government not benefiting from profitable mining operations in the Cariboo
   a) all gold removed from BC was taxable
   b) Douglas decided to build road to goldfields to
      i) ensure gold left area via the Fraser, not through US territory
      ii) road would also promote settlement and economic development

2. possible routes:
   a) long way was Lake Harrison and Lillooet River
      i) short but treacherous way was via Fraser Canyon
   b) 1st route longer and more costly to build so work on 2nd route started in 1862
      i) covered 650 km from Yale to Barkerville
      ii) took 4 years to build and cost $750 000
   c) gold rush was ending before road was complete
      i) government had hard time recouping cost of construction

Billy Barker
3. 1864, James Douglas retired as governor of the 2 colonies
   a) replaced by Frederick Seymour in BC and Arthur Kennedy on Vancouver Island

   b) Seymour—active, enthusiastically took charge of colony with best interests of inhabitants at heart

   c) Kennedy—autocratic, hard to get along with; often fought/disagreed with the elected Assembly

Frederick Seymour

Arthur Kennedy
IV. The Colony of British Columbia and Confederation  
A. Introduction  
1. 1858—1863, Cariboo Gold Rush, 35 000 plus miners came to BC  
   a) few got rich  
   b) mid 1860s gold depleted and many left Cariboo and BC  

2. rapid population and revenue decrease resulted in financial losses to colonies  
   a) BC suffered greatest lose — still not recovered from building Cariboo road  

3. elected representatives press governors for union  
   a) economically better for both colonies  
   b) 1866, Vancouver Island’s debts almost $300 000  
   c) BC’s debts over $1 000 000  
   d) by May, credit at banks ran out  

4. Colonial office agreed with idea of union  
   a) didn’t want to provide large subsidies to operate colonies  
      i) mainland had natural resource base that could generate revenue  
   b) August 6, 1866, colonies officially joined as British Columbia  
   c) Seymour became governor of new colony  
   d) Legislative Council established with 23 members  
      i) only 9 were elected—5 from mainland; 4 from the Island  
   e) BC didn’t get responsible government till later in century  
   f) union didn’t solve economic problems — population continued to decline
B. The Confederation Debate

1. many in BC had concerns about joining Confederation

2. 1868/70 hotly debated by 3 groups
   a) **anti-Confederationists** — strongly opposed it
   
   b) **Confederationists** — elected representatives from mainland
      i) Jan. 1868, sent a series of resolutions to Canadian government
         — wanted them to become liable for BC’s debt
         — wanted rail link to eastern Canada
      ii) resolutions not passed by Legislative Assembly
         — had to lobbied public for support
   
   c) **Annexationists** — Victoria business people favoured annexation by US
      i) like the **confederationists**, believed BC need to be part of a larger
         body to continue to operate
      ii) like the **anti-confederationists**, believed BC too far from Canada thus had little
         in common with Canada
         — believed US was better market for colony’s resources
         — believed more immigration would come from US
C. The Tide Turns

1. 1868 Legislative Assembly election
   a) mainland elected confederationists
   b) Vancouver Island elected anti-confederationists

2. June, 1869, Governor Seymour died on tour of the north

3. Anthony Musgrave appointed as successor
   a) personal friend of John A. Macdonald who recommended him for job
   b) instructed by Colonial Office to get BC to join Canada ASAP

4. annexationists circulated petition that was to go to President Grant
   a) collected only 125 signatures from population of 3,000
      i) annexation not as popular as first thought

President Grant

Social Studies 10: Horizons: Canada Moves West (pp. 225 – 227)
5. Musgrave now needed to convince anti-confederationists
   a) got them to cooperate by having them involved in drafting terms and going to
      Ottawa with delegation of confederationists
   b) government agreed to all the terms
      i) work on rail to start within 2 years; completed within 10 years

6. 1871, Legislative Assembly voted to accept the Canadian offer after Musgrave
    promised a wholly elected Legislature (responsible government) when
    Confederation was achieved

7. July 20, 1871—BC officially joined Canada
V. The Railway Survey
A. Optimistic future soon dimmed
   1. federal government promised railway to BC without knowing the cost

   2. geography of BC interior not well known — route for rail questionable
      a) only major centers — Vancouver Island, New Westminster, Fraser Valley
         i) surveys sent to search for all possible routes gave government time to
            arrange financing

   3. **Battle of the Routes** — rival for route between Vancouver Island and mainland
      a) interior route that would cross the Strait of Georgia better for Island
      b) Fraser Canyon to Burrard Inlet better for mainland
      c) battle raged throughout the 1870s; both groups pressured the government
      d) Mackenzie’s Liberal party in power—reluctant to build railway
         i) battle for routes allowed government to delay
         ii) let survey to continue — surveyors also entered the route debate
         iii) 1878, 21 routes were considered
      e) **Sandford Fleming**, Chief Surveyor, promoted **Yellowhead Pass** to
         Burrard Inlet route
      f) **Marcus Smith**, Fleming’s deputy, behind Fleming’s back promoted a
         more northern route with a terminus 900 km closer to Asia
VI. The Emergence of Vancouver
A. Youngest major BC community

1. unlike other major centres didn’t start with fur trade or Cariboo Gold Rush

2. not fed by major river and was on a peninsula covered by thick forest which discouraged settlement

3. **Colonel Moody** found Fraser River froze in winter
   a) defending **New Westminster** needed an ice-free harbour
      i) had 3 trails cut from New Westminster to Burrard Inlet
      ii) set aside land on Inlet as military reserves

4. early 1860s, **Vancouver** still home of **Musqueam** and **Squamish** peoples

5. by 1865, area changed
   a) **Hastings Sawmill** opened on south side of Inlet
      i) community got timber rights to most of the southern peninsula
   b) **Sewell Mood** opened mill in present day **North Vancouver**
      i) area known as **Moodyville**
      ii) mill logged in **Lynn Valley**, specialized in poles for sailing masts
6. 1868, “Gassy Jack” Deighton arrived on Inlet
   a) opened a saloon 1.5 km from Hastings mill (officially a dry mill)
   b) other saloons and stores soon opened
   c) area was officially known as Granville then called Gastown after founder
7. 1881, **Port Moody** *(named after Colonel Moody)* named **terminus of CPR**
   a) speculators quickly bought up land, surveyed and sold lots

8. 1884, **William Van Horne** came to Port Moody to set location of terminus
   a) found harbour made up of **tidal flats**
      i) couldn’t accommodate large ships, i.e. dock, load and unload cargo
   b) went to **Gastown** — found deep-water anchorage with a lot of flat
      and ideal for rail yards
      i) named the area **Vancouver**
   c) Port Moody speculators outraged but could do nothing

9. 1885, **CPR** completed and town of **Vancouver** was laid out
   a) June 13, 1886 fire leveled the new city in less than an hour
   b) Vancouver rebuilt quickly
      i) population grew to 5,000 by 1890
VII. The Chinese in British Columbia

A. Introduction

1. first Chinese came to NA in 1850s during California Gold Rush
2. moved up do BC during Cariboo Gold Rush
   a) faced much prejudice/discrimination
      i) colour, language, dress, religion, customs different
      ii) re-worked deserted white miner’s claims

b) 1883, 1,500 of the 2,000 miners were Chinese
   i) some opened stores, restaurants in mining towns
   ii) others operated vegetable farms in the interior and in coast towns
   iii) some worked for wealthy White families all kept close ties with their Chinese community
3. 1881, **CPR** faced labour shortage for BC section of rail line
   a) 1881 — 85 hired great number of Chinese labourers
      i) 17 000 Chinese immigrants brought to work on CPR
         — paid $1/day (*1/2 wage of white workers*)
         — food/lodging deducted from wages
         — lived separate from whites, provided own food/lodging
         — given most dangerous jobs; 600 plus died in 4 years
B. Life in the Cities

1. post CPR construction, most Chinese couldn’t afford to return to China
   a) moved to Vancouver and Victoria to find work
      i) influx led to renewed acts of organized and spontaneous discrimination

2. Knights of Labour campaigned to have all Chinese removed from Vancouver
   a) often used intimidation and violence to force Chinese out
   b) organized boycott against all businesses that sold goods to Chinese
3. in urban areas did labour that whites avoided
   a) English-speaking Chinese contractors bid on jobs
      i) recruited Chinese workers
         — paid and housed them, kept balance of money
         — workers often cheated while contractors made a fortune
   b) did displace some white workers (*brick manufacturing*) but system of labour contracting ensured lower wages for Chinese workers
      i) whites still complained that their wages were being undercut

4. discrimination also social
   a) British in BC wanted to recreate a homogeneous British culture
      i) impossible with presence of Chinese
   b) Chinese depicted as inferior, dangerous, and unable to assimilate
   c) government legalized discrimination after CPR built
   d) Chinese immigrants had to pay $50 head tax
   e) ships allowed 1 person/2000 tones (*only 40 Chinese per ship*)
      i) nearly impossible for whole families to come to BC
VIII. Economic Diversity in British Columbia
A. BC no longer isolated
   1. goods flowed easily through province, to and from rest of Canada and Asia

   2. Vancouver experienced rapid growth as did other areas

   3. gold continued to be mined; mining of other minerals increased
      a) silver, copper, etc. in the Kootenay region
      b) smelters like Hall Mines Smelter in Nelson opened

   4. Okanagan region grew as agricultural region; first grew wheat then fruit

   5. CPR built to haul freight yet managers saw value in scenic Rocky Mountains
      a) to attract tourist, CPR built large hotels at major stops