

REVIEW BOOKLET

The Proclamation of 1763*

Introduction

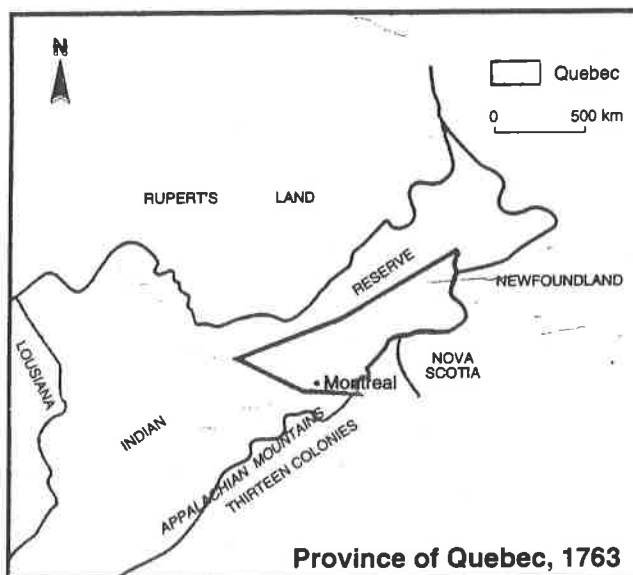
In 1763, the British government issued a royal proclamation outlining what was to be done in Quebec. This is known as the Proclamation of 1763.

Aims: to make Quebec British (Assimilation)

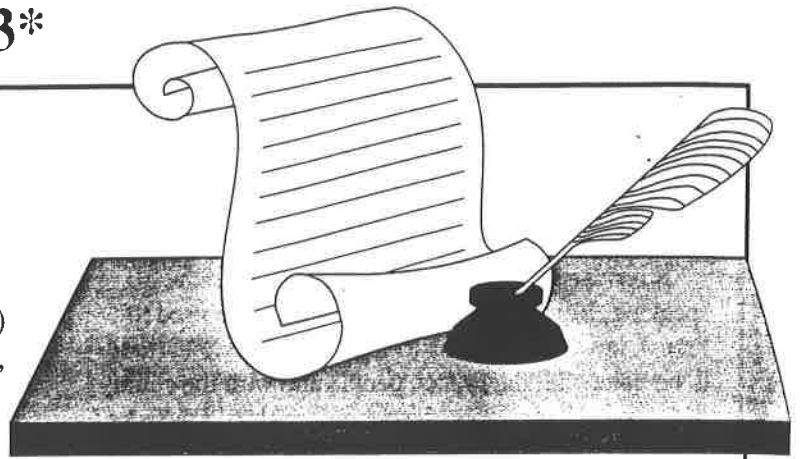
- to ensure that British institutions and laws, customs, language, and religion were enforced in Quebec
- to attract British settlers to Quebec
- to limit the size of Quebec, cutting the Montreal fur traders out of the western fur trade
- to reassure the Native peoples that their interests in the fur trade and their hunting grounds in the Ohio Valley would be protected

Part of the population in Quebec consisted of long-time British subjects, who were still loyal to Britain. Britain believed they should give these people what they wanted over the next decade or so to create a strong, loyal base. They believed that in time the French could be assimilated or absorbed into the British way of doing things.

The British government realized that the Native peoples were unhappy because of the many people from the Thirteen Colonies who were moving west across the Appalachian Mountains into their territory.** If the boundaries of Quebec were limited, the Native peoples would be happy since traders, trappers, and settlers were forbidden to enter their territory unless they had a special government licence.



The Proclamation of 1763 reduced the size of Quebec.



Key Terms

Settlement Patterns: Settlement in the Ohio and Mississippi river valleys was forbidden. Trappers, traders, and settlers had to have special government licences to enter lands set aside for the Native peoples.

Language: The French language was allowed to continue.

Religion: The Roman Catholic religion was allowed to continue but the Church had no official status; the Protestant religion was to be introduced and promoted.

Government: Quebec was to be ruled by an appointed British governor and an appointed Executive Council (to be drawn from the English-speaking military and merchant elites) and an elected Legislative Assembly (as soon as the population was large enough to warrant it).

- British laws and court system were created to replace French laws (except for French civil laws, which were allowed to continue for settling property disputes).
- Roman Catholics were to be barred from legal positions and were not allowed to be elected to the Legislative Assembly.

Exploring Further

1. In your role play groups established on page 75, predict how your "characters" (seigneurs, French clergy, Native people, habitants, and British merchants) would have felt about the Proclamation of 1763. Record your predictions on large chart paper and display on the wall.

*The Proclamation of 1763 is sometimes referred to as the Royal Proclamation of 1763.

**Also the Native peoples had lost their traditional trading partners, the French.

The Quebec Act, 1774

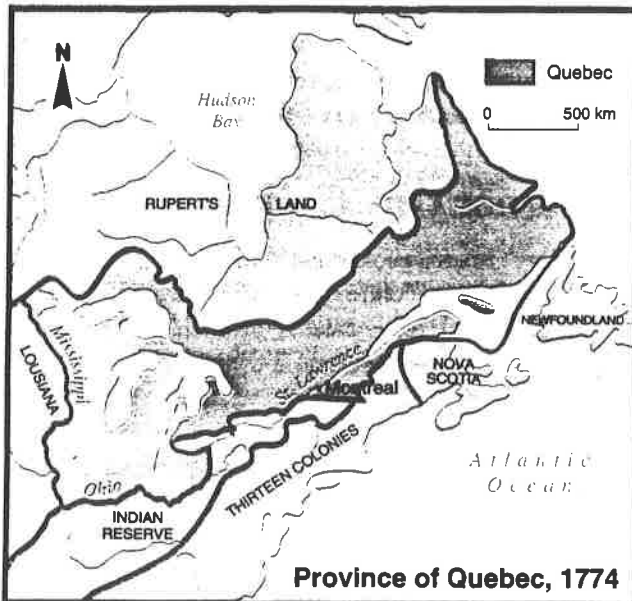
Introduction

The Quebec Act was passed by the British government in an attempt to keep the loyalty of the *Canadiens*.

Aim: to allow the French and British ways of doing things (Biculturalism)

The British hoped the Quebec Act would combine the French and British ways of doing things while maintaining the French character of the colony.

This was an example of biculturalism—where two cultures (British and French) exist side by side in the same country. The British government decided that the best way to gain the loyalty of the *Canadiens* was to allow them to maintain the French character of Quebec and preserve the French culture. Quebec was to become both British and French.

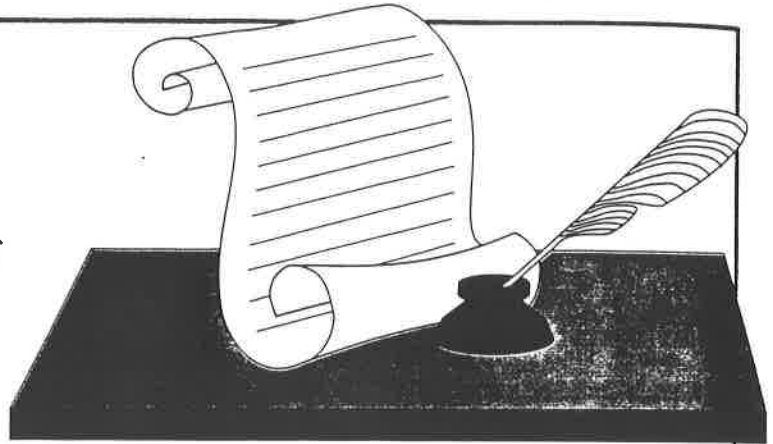


The boundaries of Quebec were enlarged to include the rich fur trading areas between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Key Terms

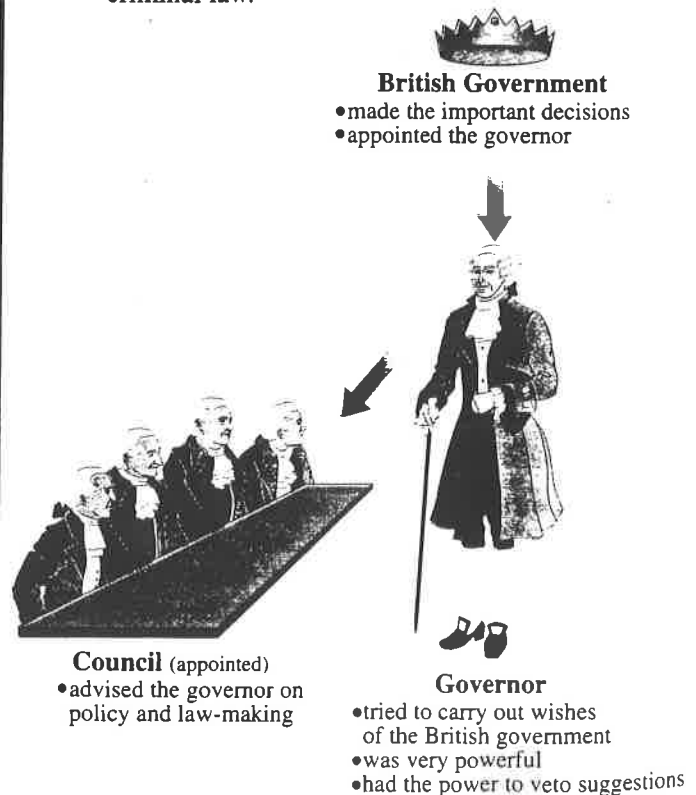
Language: The French language was allowed to continue.

Religion: The Roman Catholic Church was allowed to continue and to collect tithes (church taxes).



Government:

- Quebec was to be ruled by an appointed British governor and an appointed council.
- An elected assembly (although promised earlier) was not introduced at this time.
- Roman Catholics could hold government positions.
- French civil law was to continue along with English criminal law.



Land Holding System: The seigneurial system was allowed to remain. The governor could also grant land according to the British freehold system.

The Constitutional Act, 1791

Introduction

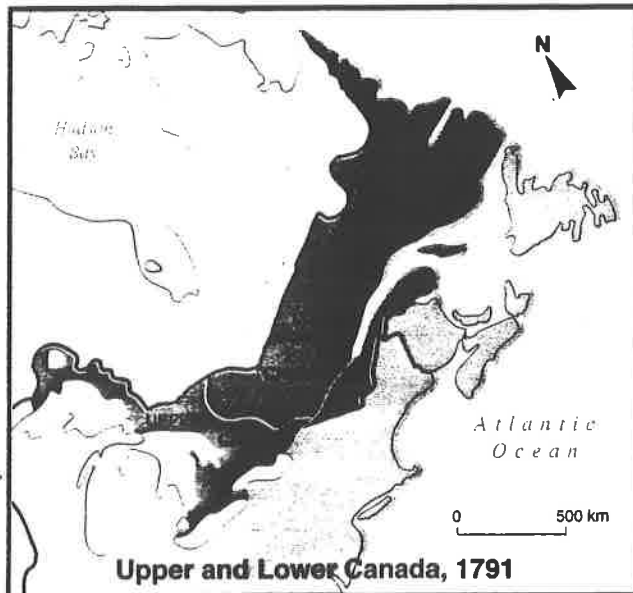


The Constitutional Act of 1791 gave the people of Upper and Lower Canada their own Legislative Assemblies, thereby giving them representative government. Because the British government did not repeal the Quebec Act, its terms continued in existence.

Aims: to recognize the bicultural nature of Quebec by dividing it into two colonies: Upper Canada and Lower Canada

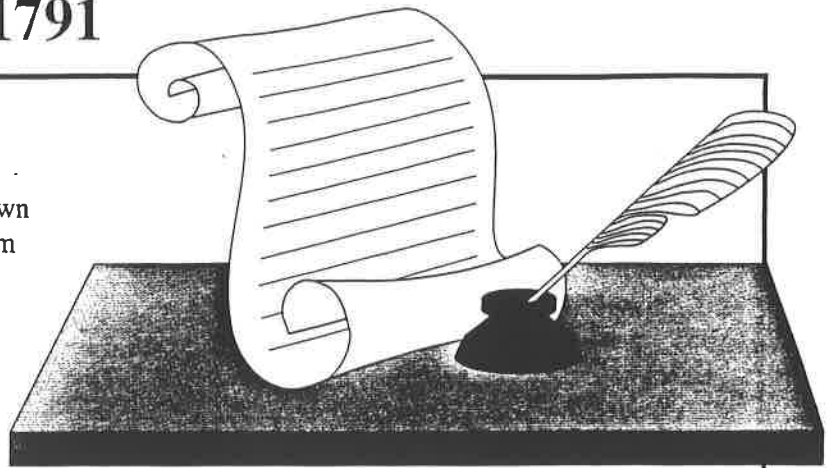
- to provide a government satisfying both British and French
- to give the people an elected Legislative Assembly, but limiting the assembly's power.

By giving the people elected assemblies with limited power, the British government attempted to ensure that the situation in the Thirteen Colonies, where the legislative assemblies had too much power and a revolution occurred, did not happen in British North America.



Quebec was divided into two colonies: Upper Canada ("up" the St. Lawrence River), which is part of the present-day province of Ontario, and Lower Canada ("down" the St. Lawrence River), which is part of the present-day province of Quebec.

Bicultural—having two cultures (British and French) existing side by side in the same country or province



Key Terms

Language: Upper Canada to be English-speaking and Lower Canada mainly French-speaking

Religion: one-seventh of all public lands in Upper Canada to be set aside for Protestant schools and churches. In Lower Canada the system established under the Quebec Act was to be continued (protection for the Roman Catholic Church).

Government—Who Makes the Laws (Legislative)

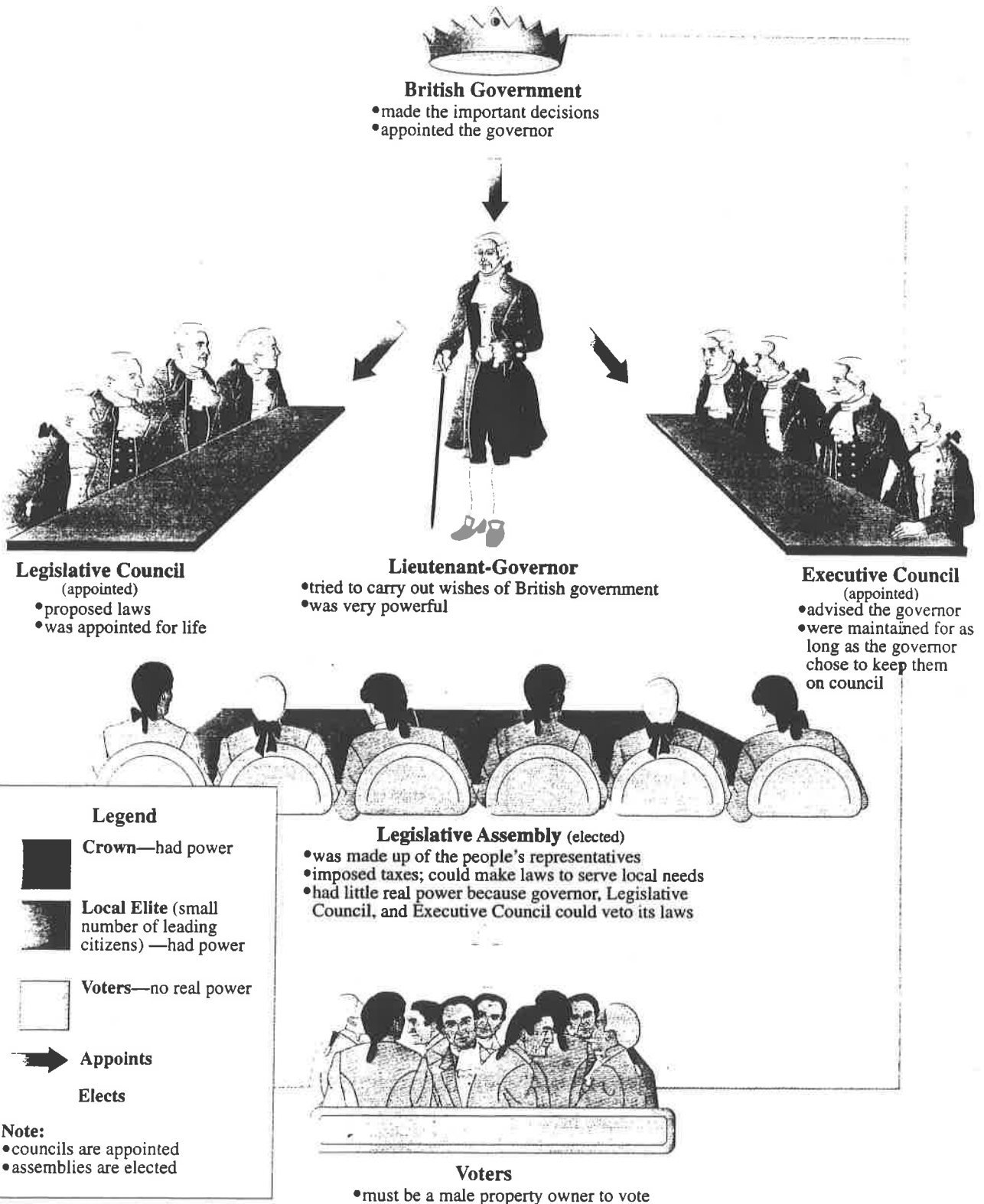
- governor general for Lower Canada would control affairs in both colonies; Upper Canada to have its own lieutenant-governor
- each colony to have an Executive Council (appointed) to advise governor, and a Legislative Council (appointed) to propose laws and approve those laws passed by the Assembly
- each colony to have representative government, with (elected) Legislative Assembly, and power to impose taxes, make laws, and serve local needs. Only male landowners allowed to vote. Women with property in Lower Canada could vote until the 1830s. Women in Upper Canada could not vote.
- power of Legislative Assembly very limited, councils and governor can block laws.

Government—Who Enforces the Laws (Executive)

- Upper Canada to have English civil law and criminal law; Lower Canada same system as Quebec Act (English criminal and Canadian [based on French] civil law)

Refer to the government diagram on page 120.

Government Structure of Upper Canada Under the Constitutional Act, 1791*



*Lower Canada had the same government structure but they had an entirely separate government. Refer to the complete government diagram on page 128. Note: The colony of Lower Canada had a representative government after the passage of the Constitutional Act in 1791.

The War of 1812



On July 12, 1812, an army of more than 1000 Americans marched into British North America. They thought it would be a quick and easy job to push the British out of North America.

Causes of the War

By 1812, Britain and France had been at war for almost 20 years. As a result European ports were **blockaded**. This angered the Americans who held a neutral position. Because of the blockade they could not deliver their cargo to the European ports. A second war practice of the British angered Americans. A number of deserters from the British navy were working aboard American ships, where the pay was higher and working conditions were better. The British began to stop American merchant ships at sea and search them for deserters. When they discovered sailors whom they suspected of being deserters, they were removed and pressed back into the British navy. A number of innocent Americans who were not British deserters were taken in this way.

There was a group of influential men in the United States who were called War Hawks because they were pushing for war. British North America had rich farmland that would be useful to the United States. Most of the good farmland in the United States was very expensive. In British North America, particularly in Upper Canada, there was plenty of inexpensive, good farmland available. Some Americans saw the British North American colonists as possible allies for the Native peoples who were resisting westward movement by American colonists. The Native leader, Tecumseh, had already gone to British North America to see if he could enlist help for the Native cause there. If the Americans could take over British North America, there would be no more danger from the Native peoples.

Modern-day historians tend to place national honour as the major cause for the War of 1812. By 1812, the British still had not accepted the Americans as their equals. They continued to look upon the Americans as colonials (as children), not as a full **sovereign nation**. The Americans reasoned that if they were equals the British would not take sailors off American ships. One nation should not treat another nation in such an insensitive manner.

Blockade—closed off; usually done to a harbour or port in wartime to prevent supplies from reaching their destination

Sovereign nation—a country that is independent of the control of other governments

A Heroine of the War of 1812



Laura Secord (1775–1868)

Laura Secord and her husband lived in Queenston in the Niagara region. She became a heroine of the War of 1812 when she fearlessly risked her life to help the British.

James Secord was injured in the Battle of Queenston Heights in October 1812. While he was at home recovering from his wounds, Laura overheard some American soldiers discussing a surprise attack on the British. Laura decided to warn the British commander, Fitzgibbon. Because the American troops guarded the roads, she walked 23 kilometres across fields and through forests. The attack occurred as planned, but the Americans ended up surrendering to Fitzgibbon.

C-10717, National Archives of Canada, Ottawa (detail)

Native Role in the War

Tecumseh (1767–1813)

Chief Tecumseh of the Shawnee was a well respected Native leader. He wanted to protect Native lands from the Americans who were pressing westward and hoped that the British would help him.

He turned out to be a powerful ally of the British forces during the War of 1812. He and his men helped General Brock capture Detroit in August of 1812. By October of 1813 the Americans were advancing well into Upper Canada while the British retreated. Tecumseh finally persuaded the British commander to take a stand at the Thames River, not far from present-day Stratford, Ontario. Forty-eight of the British were killed and the rest surrendered. The courageous Tecumseh was also killed in this battle. With him died the Native hope for their own separate territory.

Chapter 8 Focus

Chapter 7 introduced you to the many changes that occurred in Upper and Lower Canada from 1815 to 1838. Chapter 8 shows how the people's voice became increasingly important in government decision-making after 1839. Power, co-operation, decision-making, and conflict are all important concepts for this chapter. The concept of conflict is the special focus of Chapter 8.



Power



Co-operation



Decision-making



Conflict

Overview/Prediction Chart

Examine the Overview found on the previous pages. In pairs or small groups use the Overview and what you already know about the events that occurred in Canada to predict answers to the questions in the Prediction Chart. Put your predictions in the "My Predictions" column. Once you have finished the chapter, complete the "What I Found Out" column to help you review and summarize. Your teacher will provide you with a full-sized working copy of the Prediction Chart.

Prediction Chart—What Do You Think?		
Questions	My Predictions (fill out now)	What I Found Out (fill out at end of chapter)
1. What might be the major events?	SAMPLE	
2. Who might be some of the important people or groups?		
3. Who might hold power?		
4.		

Definition Review*

The British Government:

- made the important decisions; had the real power
- appointed the governor to run the colony on its behalf



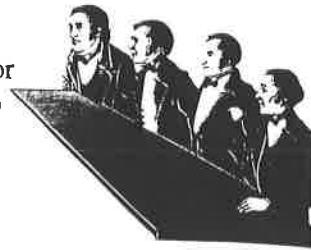
The Governor:

- was appointed by the British government
- tried to carry out the wishes of the British government
- was very powerful



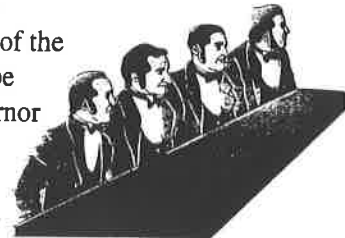
The Executive Council:

- consisted of members appointed by the governor for as long as he chose to keep them on the council
- advised the governor
- ran the government



The Legislative Council:

- consisted of members of the local elite who could be appointed by the governor for life
- advised the governor
- proposed laws



The Legislative Assembly:

- was elected by the people
- consisted of the representatives of the people
- imposed taxes and made laws to serve local needs
- had limited power since the governor, Legislative Council, and Executive Council could veto its laws



Legend and Notes

- Monarchy (Crown)
- Elite (a small number of powerful citizens)
- People (whose participation makes this government a democracy)

Note:

- Councils were appointed.
- Assemblies were elected.
- During this time period, voters had to be male property owners in order to vote.



Power was held by the monarchy and the local elite.

*The positions represented on this page are those as set out in the Constitutional Act of 1791 (see pages 119 and 120).

Upper and Lower Canada

Lord Durham was sent by the British government to study the situation in Upper and Lower Canada, investigate the grievances that had sparked rebellions, and search for a solution. Durham stayed only five months in the Canadas. During this time he and his team of experts talked to many people. Upon his return to Britain, he wrote his "Report on the Affairs of British North America," which became known as the Durham Report.

C-5456, National Archives of Canada, Ottawa.



Lord Durham (1792–1840)

John George Lambton, better known as Lord Durham, arrived in Quebec City as governor general of British North America in May of 1838.* He was sent to investigate the causes of the Rebellions of 1837.

Lord Durham was especially interested in educating the poor and giving people more control over the government. He had been nicknamed "Radical Jack" in the British House of Commons because of his **radical policies**.

His most immediate task, upon arrival, was to decide what to do with the Patriotes—those who supported the Rebellions in 1837 in Lower Canada—who were still in jail in Lower Canada. He decided to set most of them free and to **exile** the leaders to Bermuda. Louis-Joseph Papineau and others who had fled to the United States were to be executed if they tried to return to the Canadas.

Durham resigned as governor general toward the end of 1838 because he felt that he was not getting enough support from the British government. He returned to England and took two months to write his report. He died soon after, on July 28, 1840.

The Durham Report

Durham made two major recommendations in his report:

1. **The two colonies of Upper and Lower Canada should become one colony called the United Province of Canada.**

Uniting Lower and Upper Canada would place the English in the majority. This was intended as a way of uniting the English-speaking people and giving them a majority in the Legislative Assembly.

2. **The new united colony should have responsible government.**

- British imperial powers would be set out in writing. All other local powers would be handled by the colonies.
- On matters involving only colonists, the governor would be advised only by his Executive Council, with no input from the British government.
- The governor would not take sides, but would sign into law any bills recommended by the Executive Council.
- The Executive Council members would be chosen by the leader of the largest group in the Legislative Assembly rather than by the governor. This would mean that members of the Executive Council would really be chosen by the people's representatives. This is called responsible government. **
- Members of the Executive Council would keep their jobs only as long as they had the support of more than half the members of the Legislative Assembly, rather than for as long as the governor chose to keep them on the council.

*Lord Durham was appointed governor general of British North America — not lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada and Lower Canada — but governor general of all of British North America.

Radical policy — plan for extreme changes

Exile — to officially order someone to leave the country

**This is what happens in the federal or provincial government's Cabinet today.

The Act of Union, 1841

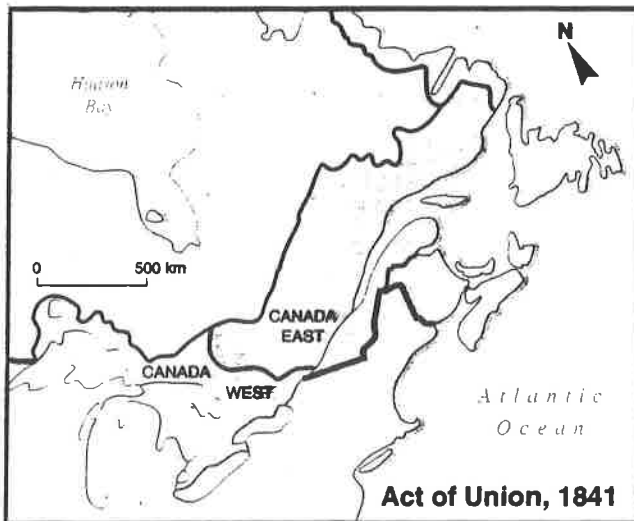
Introduction

The British government decided to act on one of Lord Durham's recommendations. The Act of Union of 1841 joined Upper and Lower Canada together as the United Province of Canada. The Act of Union was the first step toward Confederation (the union of the British North American colonies). It was hoped that the English-speaking members from both areas would unite and control the Legislative Assembly by having the majority of votes.

Aim: to unite the two colonies of Canada into a single unit, and to give the English-speaking people control of the newly named colony.

Key Terms

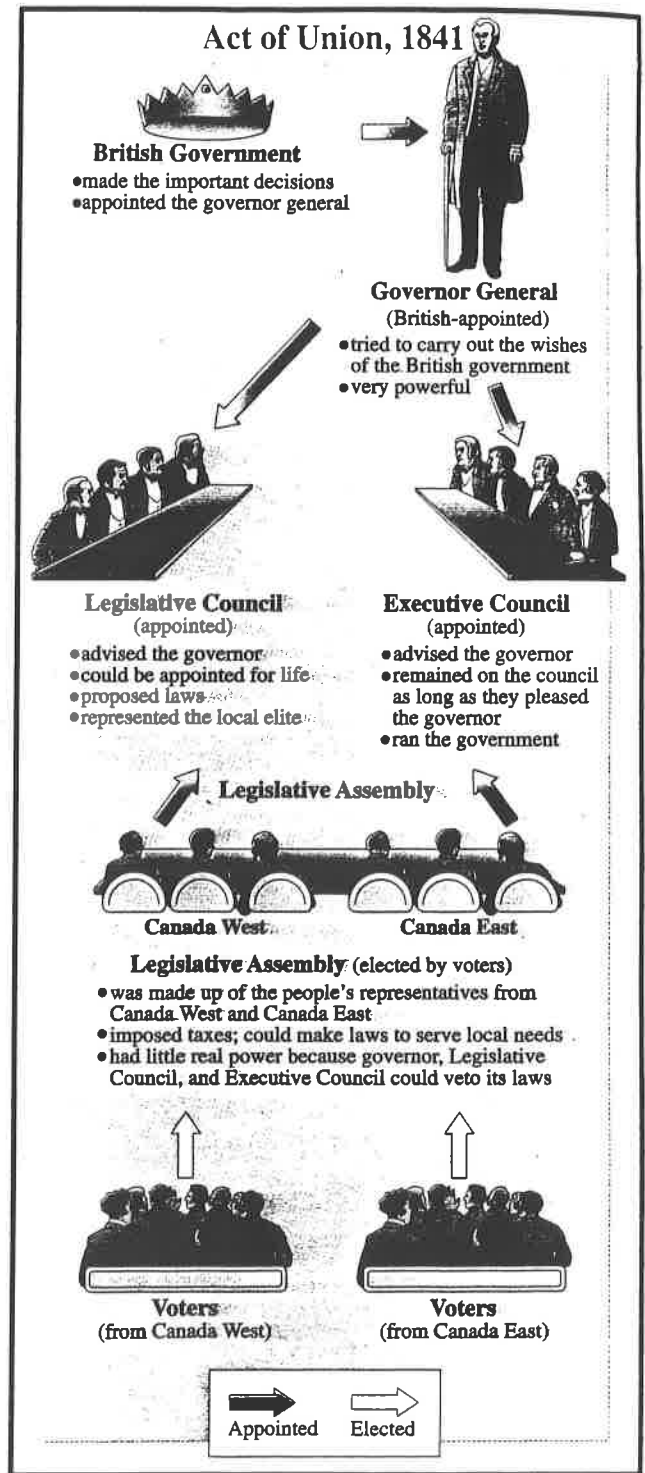
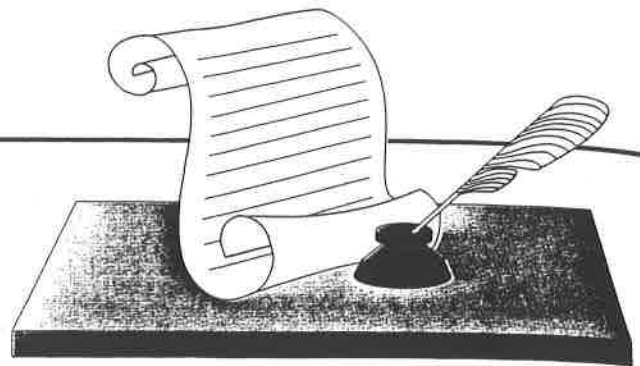
- Eliminate separate governments in Upper Canada and Lower Canada and create a single government with equal representation from Canada West and Canada East.* The system of government was to be the same as in the past.
- Establish English as the official language of government.**

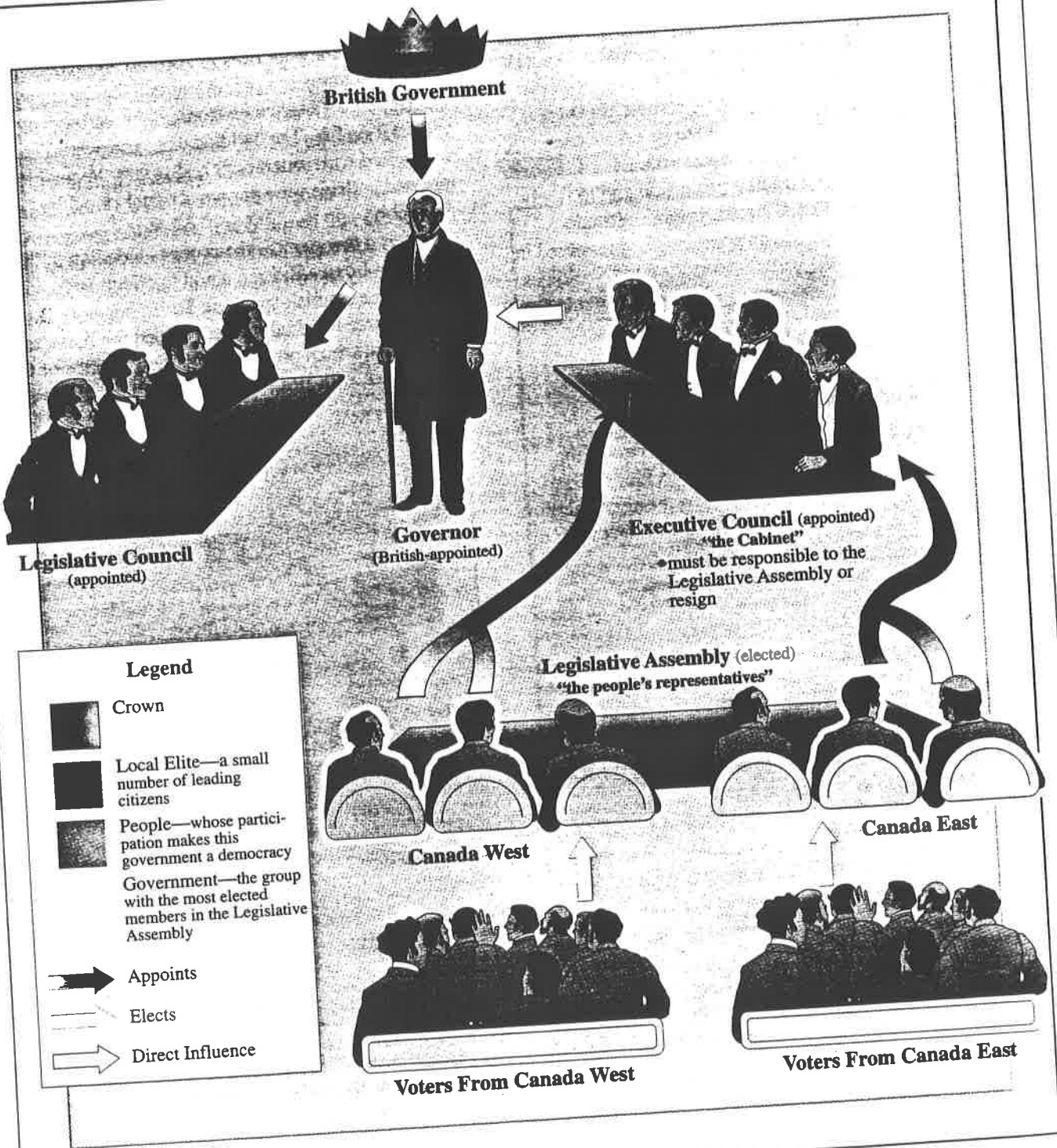


The Act of Union of 1841 joined Upper Canada and Lower Canada to become the United Province of Canada.

*Refer to pages 120 and 128 to review the type of government in existence before the Act of Union.

** By 1848 the Government of the Province of Canada recognized both English and French as the languages of government. In 1969 English and French became the official languages of Canada.





Responsible Government

Members of the Executive Council (today known as the Cabinet) are chosen from the group with the most elected members in the Legislative Assembly (rather than by the governor). The most powerful voice in the government is the Cabinet. The Cabinet is thus responsible to the representatives of the voters for its conduct of public business. If the Cabinet loses the confidence of the majority of the Legislative Assembly, it must resign. In other words, the government can function only if it has the support of the Legislature; it is *responsible* to the Legislature.