

Lecture 5

Regional Tensions and Faultlines

January 26, 2016

© Meghan Brooks
mbrook2@uottawa.ca

Faultlines in Canada's Early Years

- Canada's regional geography has always been defined by its faultlines
 - Have evolved over time
 - Four main faultlines have roots in Canada's historical geography
 - Pose powerful challenges to the federal government

Four Main Faultlines

- Centralist/Decentralist
- Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal
- Immigration
- English/French

Faultlines in Canada's Early Years, cont'd

- Key concerns:
 - Regional: The CPR, The National Policy
 - Political representation in a large, uneven country
 - Québec's place in Canada
 - The place of Aboriginal peoples within Canada
 - Immigrants and cultural pluralism

The Centralist/Decentralist Faultline

- Centralists argue for a strong central government, national policies that exert political dominance over provinces, and a strong national economy
- Covers defense and foreign affairs, criminal law, money and banking, trade, transportation, citizenship, and Indian affairs
- Canada's uneven population means that such an approach is often seen as favouring the populated core of southern Ontario and Québec

The Centralist/Decentralist Faultline, cont'd

- Decentralists argue for the devolution of powers to the provincial governments and diversification of regional economies
- Provinces cover education, health, welfare, highways, civil law, local government, natural resources
- Shared responsibility with provinces on: agriculture, immigration and taxation

The Centralist/Decentralist Faultline, cont'd

- Competing perspectives on programs
 - The National Energy Program (1980)
 - Equalization and transfer payments
 - Address disparities across Canada since 1957
 - 6 provinces in 2012-13:
 - Quebec
 - Ontario
 - Manitoba
 - New Brunswick
 - Nova Scotia
 - PEI

Table 3.7 Total Equalization Payments (\$ millions), 2000–1 to 2012–13

Year	PEI	NB	NL	NS	MB	QC	SK	BC	ON	Total
2000–1	269	1,260	1,112	1,404	1,314	5,380	208	0	0	10,947
2001–2	256	1,202	1,055	1,315	1,362	4,679	200	240	0	10,309
2002–3	235	1,143	875	1,122	1,303	4,004	106	71	0	8,859
2003–4	232	1,142	766	1,130	1,336	3,764	0	320	0	8,690
2004–5	277	1,326	762	1,313	1,607	4,155	652	682	0	10,774
2005–6	277	1,348	861	1,344	1,601	4,798	82	590	0	10,901
2006–7	291	1,386	632	1,451	1,709	5,539	13	260	0	11,281
2007–8	294	1,308	477	1,477	1,826	7,160	226	0	0	12,768
2008–9	322	1,584	197	1,571	2,063	8,028	0	0	0	13,765
2009–10	340	1,689	0	1,571	2,063	8,355	0	0	347	14,365
2010–11	330	1,581	0	1,110	1,826	8,552	0	0	972	14,372
2011–12	329	1,483	0	1,167	1,666	7,815	0	0	2,200	14,659
2012–13	337	1,495	0	1,268	1,671	7,391	0	0	3,261	15,482

Note: Alberta received no equalization payments over this 13-year period.

Source: Canada, Department of Finance (2011). Reproduced with the permission of the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2013.

The Centralist/Decentralist Faultline, cont'd

Advantages

Centralist:

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Decentralist:

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Disadvantages

Centralist:

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-

Decentralist:

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The Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Faultline

- Considered the most complex faultline due to the tangled historical relations between Aboriginal peoples and European settlers
- Clashes over land, failed policies, marginalization, etc., have lead to deep distrust and divide
- Key progress to be made with:
 - Recognition of government of past wrongs
 - Awareness of issues among Canadians

Defining Aboriginal Peoples

- Aboriginal Peoples: First Nations, Metis, Inuit
- Status Indian: legal term used to describe person recorded by the government and whose status carries certain rights
- Non-status Indians: not covered by the Indian Act
- Treaty Indians: are status Indians who are members of a band that signed a treaty; have legal right to live on reserve and participate in band affairs

Defining Aboriginal Peoples

- Data counts: 2011 NHS = 1, 400, 685
- 55 distinct languages, 11 language families
 - Largest is Algonkian languages
 - Most common is Cree and Ojibwa
- Largest First Nations band is Ontario's Six Nations of the Grand River (Iroquois) with 24, 384 people
- Self identification
 - Name of tribal group (ex. Cree or Iroquois)
 - Band (Cree of Lac La Ronge)

The Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Faultline, cont'd

- Key events and elements
 - The Royal Proclamation (1763)
 - The Haldimand Grant (1784)
 - The Indian Act (1876)
 - Residential schools and assimilation

Breaking Down the Indian Act with Russell Diabo

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ECi_7G0QAgw

[2:40-7:20]

Treaties

- Aboriginal treaty rights are “group or collective rights that stem from Aboriginal Peoples’ occupations of the land before contact.” (Bone, 96)
- Treaty rights set aside reserve land to be held collectively by and for the benefit of the band
- Two kinds of land rights: reserve lands and free use of Crown land

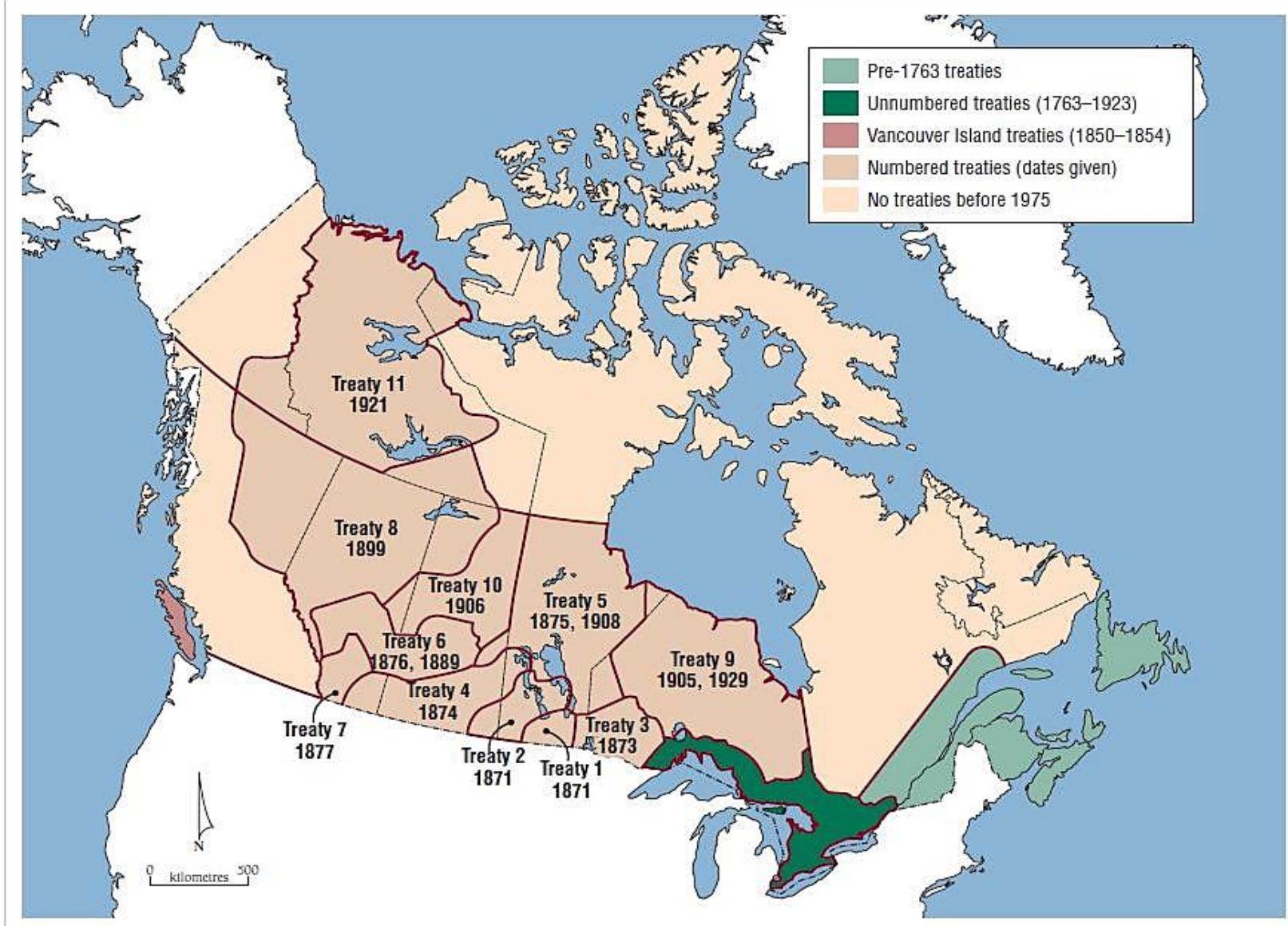


Figure 3.10 Historic treaties

The first treaties, made between the British government and Indian tribes, were “friendship” agreements. In Upper Canada the Robinson treaties of 1850 set aside reserve lands in exchange for the title to the remaining lands. With the settlement of lands in the Canadian West, Indians became concerned about their future, so many of the 11 numbered treaties, which spanned a half-century from 1871 to 1921, included provisions for agricultural supplies. When the last numbered treaty was signed, many Aboriginal peoples in Atlantic Canada, Québec, and British Columbia were without treaties.

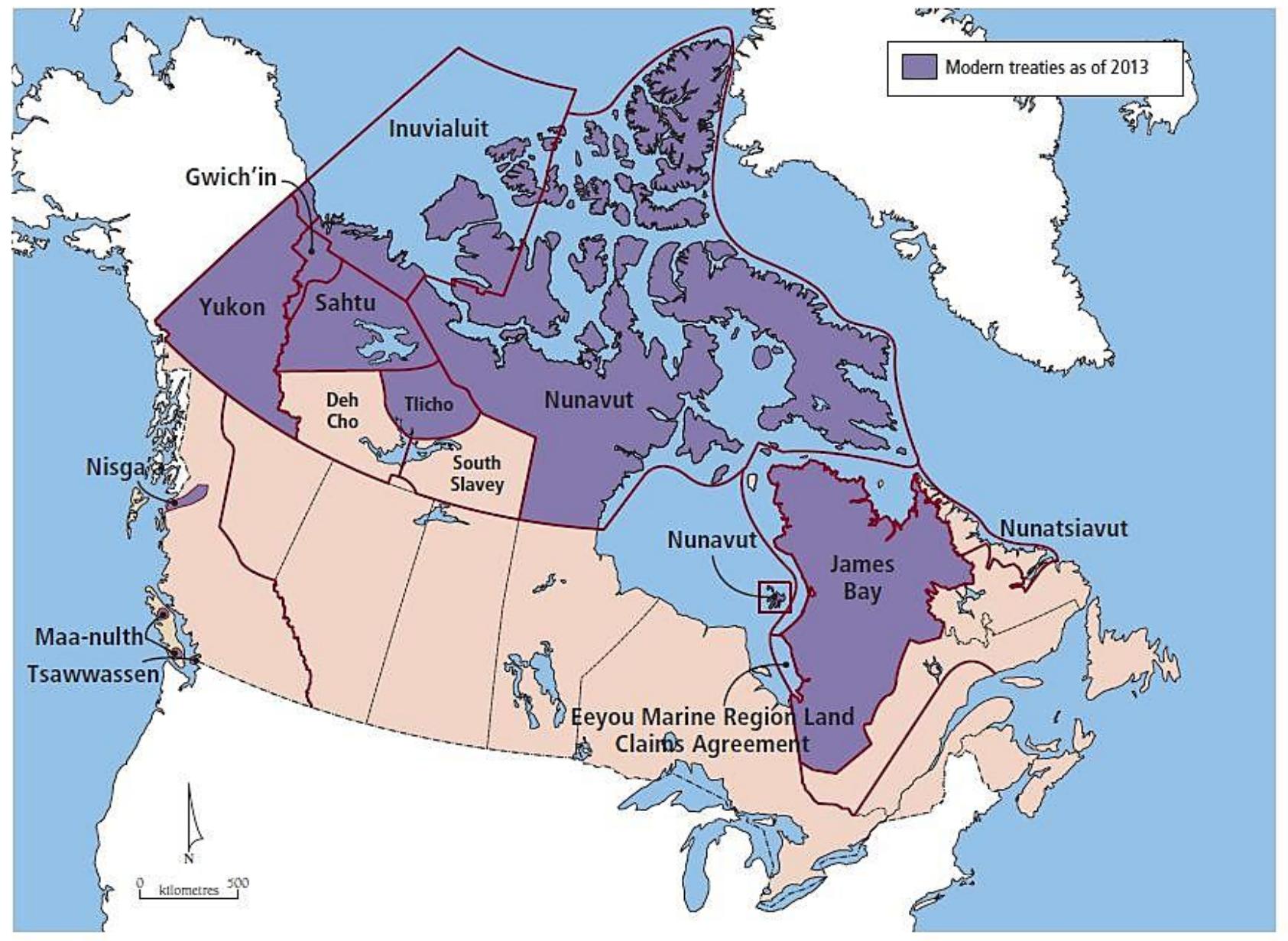


Figure 3.11 Modern treaties

The first modern treaty was the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement, signed in 1975. By 2013, the main areas without treaties were much of BC, part of Labrador, and lands in central and southern Québec.



8th Fire: Aboriginal Peoples, Canada and the Way Forward

Aboriginal 101

What does the average Canadian know about Aboriginal people? CBC reporter Connie Walker hits the streets to test their knowledge and gives an Aboriginal 101 primer. Here are some of the basic facts you need to know about Aboriginal people in Canada.

<http://www.cbc.ca/8thfire/2012/01/aboriginal-101.html>

The Immigration Faultline

- Canada has been formed by continuous waves of immigration
 - Each wave having a distinct impact on the land and society
- British colonial-style immigration generated tensions between existing population and newcomers
 - Imposed a way of life and set of institutions that marginalized people

The Immigration Faultline, cont'd

- Focus on Western Canada
 - The First Clash: Red River Rebellion (1869–70)
 - The survey system
 - Ottawa failed to acknowledge the presence and rights of the Métis
 - Existing population of the Red River Colony pitted against Ottawa
 - July 1870, Manitoba became a tiny province

The Immigration Faultline, cont'd

- The Second Clash: Making Treaty (1871–1877)
 - Objective of Ottawa to extinguish Indian rights to the land and promote assimilation into Canadian society
 - 7 treaties seen with very different goals
- The Third Clash: The Northwest Rebellion (1885)
 - Had an enduring effect on the Prairie tribes and the Métis, and soured Ottawa's relations with Québec

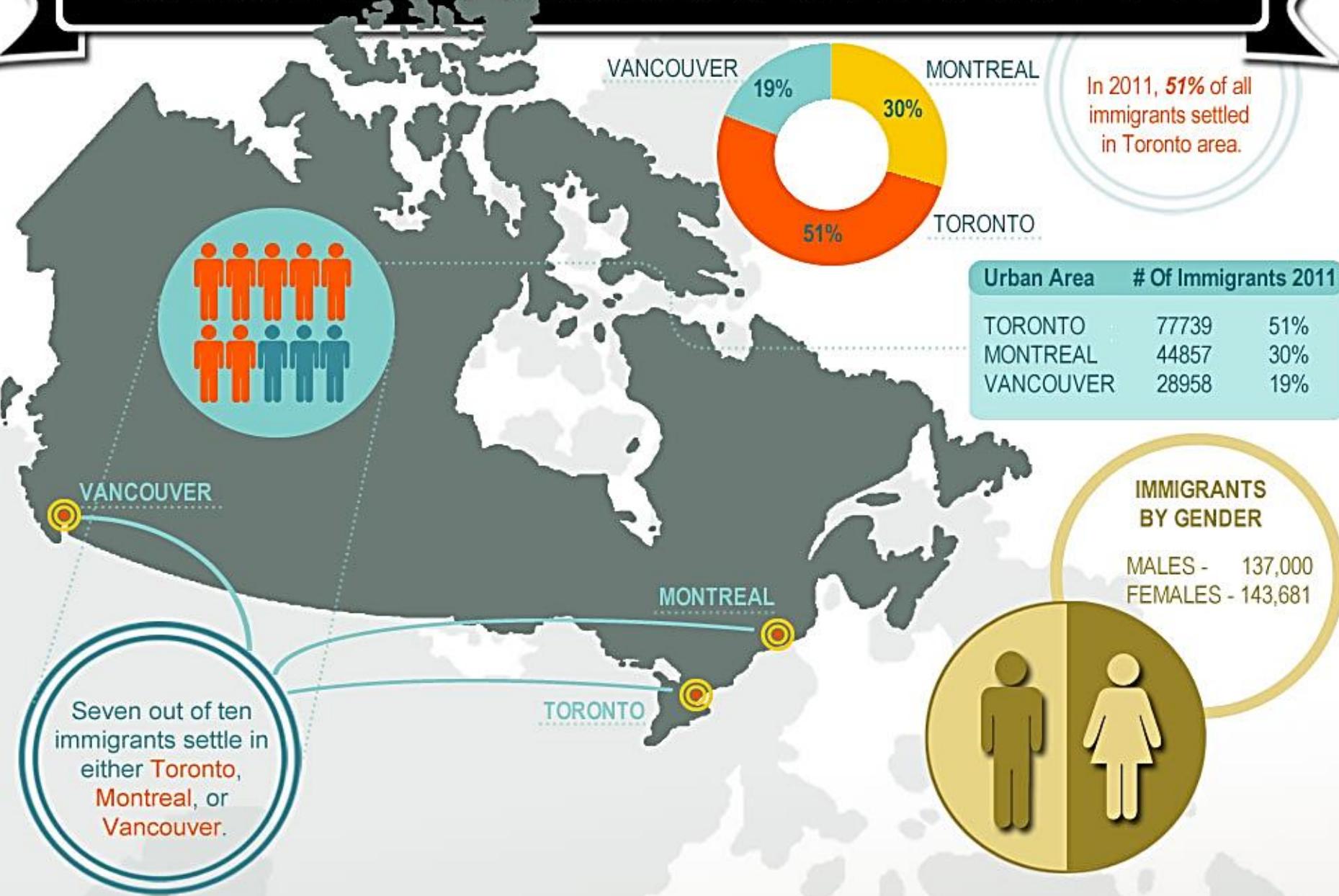
The Immigration Faultline, cont'd

- The Making of Canada
 - Western settlement put a British/Canadian brand on the landscape, marginalizing earlier occupants
- Emerging cultural landscape characterized by:
 - Rectangular appearance of rural landholdings
 - Orientation of development to the railways
 - Symbols of ethnic/religious diversity in built landscape

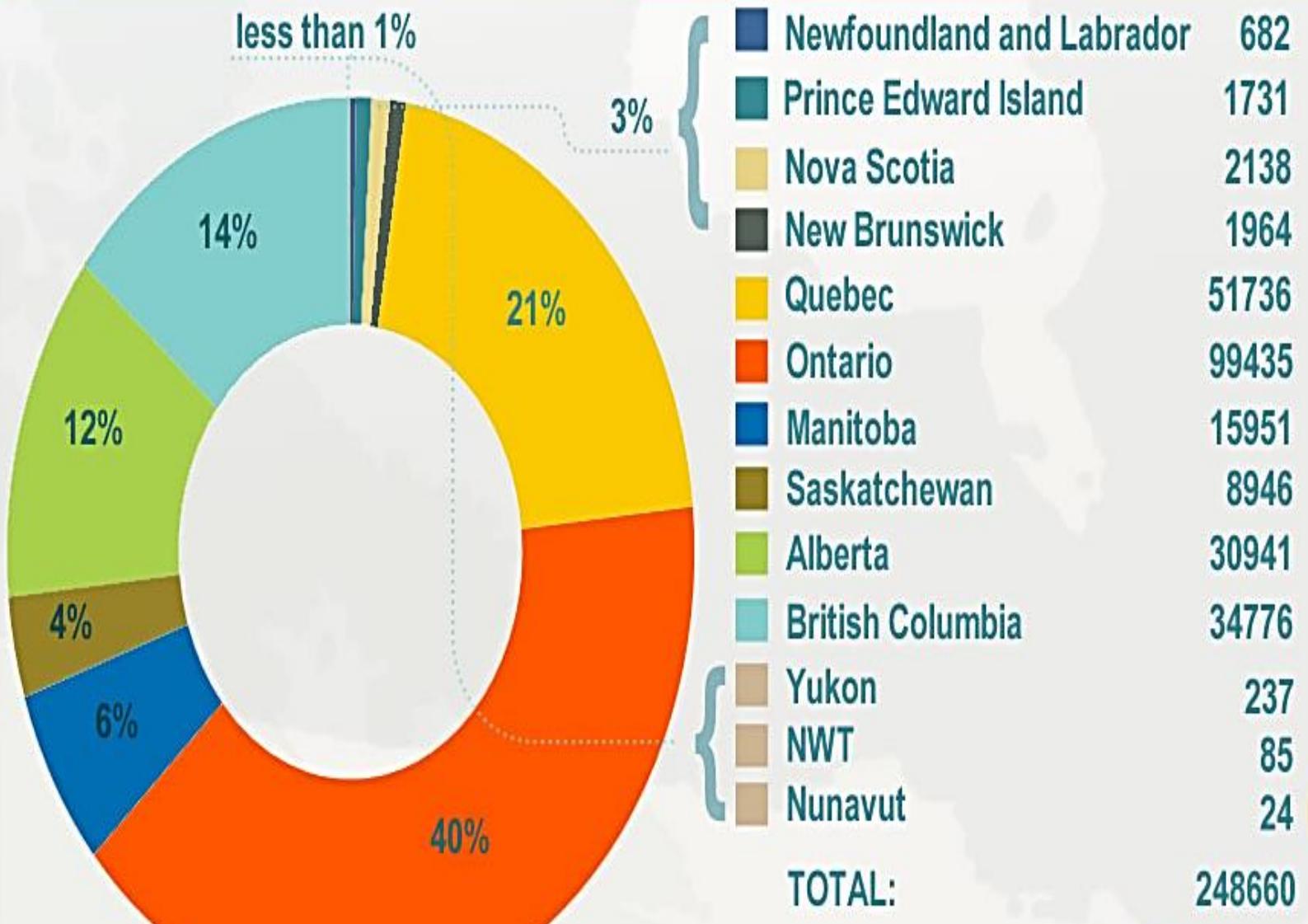
The Immigration Faultline, cont'd

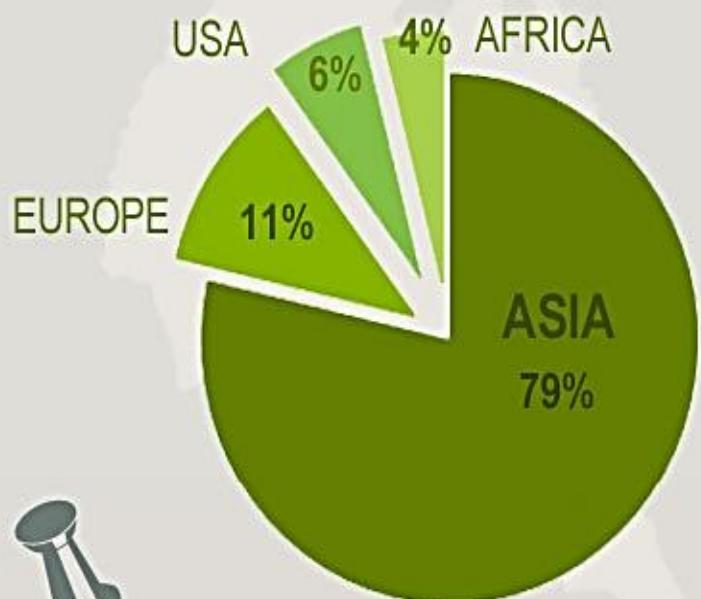
- Western Canada's population geography would evolve as non-British European migration was encouraged in the early 20th Century (Clifford Sifton)
 - Central Europe and Russia
- Not all newcomers assimilated into dominant society
 - Tensions
 - Case example: Doukhobors

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION IN 2011



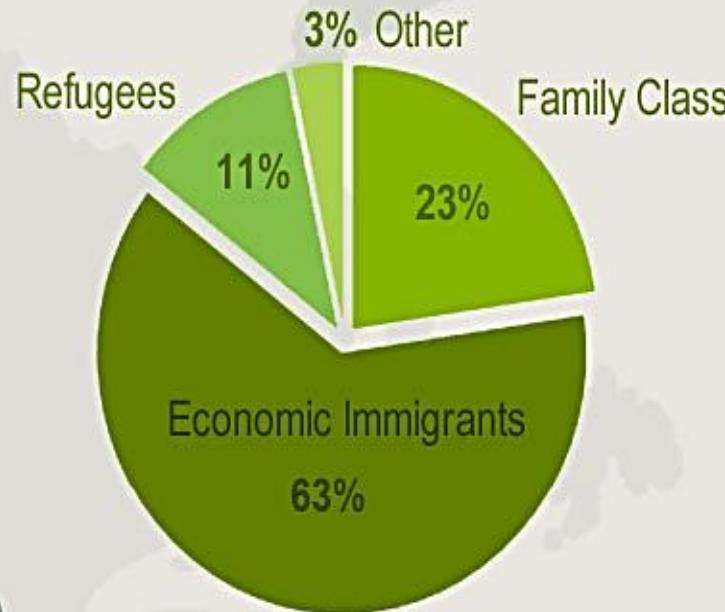
Permanent residents by Province or Territory





**Permanent Residents by Continent
from top 10 countries**

ASIA	79%
EUROPE	11%
AMERICA/USA	6%
AFRICA	4%



IMMIGRANTS BY CATEGORY

Family Class	56419	23%
Economic Immigrants	156077	63%
Refugees	27852	11%
Other Immigrants	8309	3%
Total	248660	



The Immigration Faultline, cont'd

Advantages

Pro-Immigration:

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Anti-Immigration:

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Disadvantages

Pro-Immigration:

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-

Anti-Immigration:

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-
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The French/English Faultline

- Origin of French/English struggles dates back (at least) to the Conquest (1759) and Treaty of Paris (1763)
 - Confirmed British hegemony over French-Canadian majority and its control over New France
- Canada emerged as a British dominated society with a large French population concentrated in Québec

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

- Origins of the French/English Faultline
- The British Conquest of the French on the Plains of Abraham (1759)
- The Québec Act (1774)
- Loyalist immigration
- The Constitutional Act (1791)
- Château Clique, Family Compact, popular Rebellions of 1837–1838, Durham's Report
- The Act of Union (1841)

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

- Demographic shifts
- Strained Relations
 - The Red River Rebellion (1869–70)
 - The Northwest Rebellion (1885)
 - The Manitoba Schools Question (1890)

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

- “One country, two visions”
 - A partnership between French and English
 - A collection of 10 equal provinces
- Opportunities for compromise?
 - Accommodating demands from different groups and regions
 - French Canadians, new Immigrants, and Aboriginal peoples

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

- Resurgence of Québec Nationalism
 - Gained political momentum during the Quiet Revolution of the early 1960s
 - Resurgence of ethnic nationalism, pride in being Québécois
 - Separatism grew
 - Sovereignty-association option (rejected 1980 and 1995)

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

- Moving forward after 1995
 - Separatism has lost its spark
 - But Québec is being recognized as a “distinct cultural group” or nation within Canada
 - In 2006, Québécois received recognition as a nation within Canada

The French/English Faultline, cont'd

Advantages

Pro-French:

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Pro-English:

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Disadvantages

Pro-French:

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-
-

Pro-English:

-
-
-

Other Faultines?

Small group discussion.

Turn to your neighbours and see if you can brainstorm more faultlines in Canada.

You have 5-10 mins.