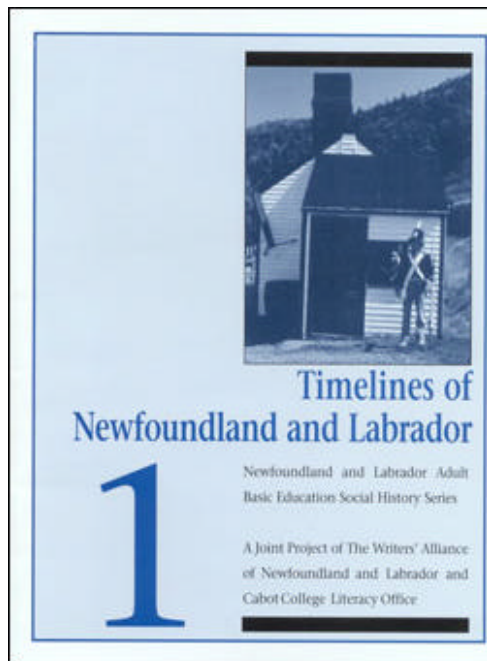




Timelines of Newfoundland and Labrador

Newfoundland and Labrador Adult
Basic Education Social History Series

A Joint Project of
The Writers' Alliance of
Newfoundland and Labrador
and Cabot College Literacy Office

In This Series...

Book 1 - Timelines of Newfoundland and Labrador

Book 2 - Facing the New Economy

Book 3 - Learning About the Past

Book 4 - Desperate Measures *The Great Depression in Newfoundland and Labrador*

Book 5 - Health and Hard Time

Book 6 - Multicultural History

Book 7 - Surviving in Rural Newfoundland

Book 8 - The Struggle for Work in the Great Depression

Book 9 - How Long do I Have to Wait?

Book 10 - William Pender *The Story of a Cooper*

Book 1: Timelines of Newfoundland and Labrador

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Foreward

In 1994, the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador and Cabot College Literacy Office combined to produce a series of Newfoundland books on tape. Under the general title *Increasing Access to Newfoundland Literature*, the tapes and accompanying book *A Woman's Labour*, offered ABE Level 1 students and instructors, as well as the blind and the general public, an accessible and proven set of local literacy materials. The success of that project led to a second collaboration: the *Newfoundland and Labrador Adult Basic Education Social History Series*.

A major difference between the two projects is that while Newfoundland Books on Tape dealt with previously existing material, the essays in the *Social History Series* have been newly created by five professional writers. The prime objective, however, remains the same: to provide adult learners with meaningful literacy materials drawn from their own vibrant culture.

Topics in the series were chosen for their human and social interest and their importance in shaping who we are today. In addition to historical topics, current social and economic issues such as the closure of fish plants are also examined in an attempt to provide a contemporary perspective.

The five writers employed on the project carried out extensive research in public and university archives and libraries. Some also conducted personal interviews. Many of the essays contain new and fascinating historical research. Often the pieces deal with controversial subject matter: the Great Depression, Commission of Government, workfare, the erosion of social programs, poaching and the future of our rural communities. In an effort to dispel the notion that history is "dry and dull," the approach is fresh and provocative. The object is to inform, entertain and, in conjunction with the accompanying notes and questions, to effectively stimulate lively discussion among literacy students. Consequently, this series will also be of interest and practical use to the general public and, especially, to students.

The intended audience for the *Social History Series* is ABE Level 1 students. Because of the disparate subject matter, however, the essays are written in varying degrees of reading difficulty. In particular, students may need help with some of the quoted source material as this sometimes involves archaic syntax and vocabulary.

Acknowledgements

The essays and accompanying notes and questions in the *Newfoundland and Labrador Adult Basic Education Social History Series* were researched and written by Ed Kavanagh, Carmelita McGrath, Janet McNaughton, Kathryn Welbourn and Kathleen Winter. The series was edited by Marian Frances White.

Funding assistance was provided by the National Literacy Secretariat. Thanks also to the Canada/Newfoundland Cooperation Agreement on Cultural Industries.

The coordinator of the project was Ed Kavanagh. Susan Hoddinott, Literacy Specialist at Cabot College, provided overall coordination.

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The *Newfoundland and Labrador Adult Basic Education Social History Series* is a joint project of the Cabot College Literacy Office and the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Introduction

Timelines list events that happened in the past. They show what happened at different times. Timelines are a starting point in understanding the past.

It is easier to understand the past if it is broken into parts. These timelines of Newfoundland and Labrador are divided into the following parts:

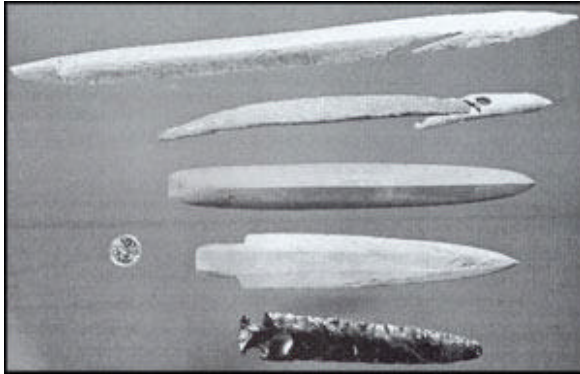
Prehistory

Exploration and Early Settlement: 1000 AD-1832

Representative and Responsible Government: 1832-1933

Commission of Government: 1934-1949

Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Tenth Province: 1949-Onward



Credit: National Film Board of Canada

Arrowheads

These tools were used by prehistoric people in Newfoundland and Labrador about 4,000 years ago. The dark tool on the bottom is a spear point made of chipped stone. It was found at a site in Bonavista Bay. The four other tools were found at burial sites at Port-aux-Choix on the Northern Peninsula. The two just above the penny are made of slate. They may have been used to kill seals and walruses or caribou. Above them is a harpoon, and the largest tool is a lance made of bone.

The harpoon is called a toggling harpoon. It was a better tool than the ones made earlier. The toggling harpoon has two parts, which you can see here. The part at the right of this picture is called the foreshaft. It is made of bone or antler. It was tied to a long wooden pole. The part with the hole in it is the point. A rope made of skin was tied through the hole. The hunter held the rope. When an animal was harpooned, the hunter pulled the foreshaft out so that only the point was left in the animal. Then, he pulled on the line and the point turned sideways. This fixed the harpoon point inside the animal. Then the hunter could hold the animal with his rope and move in to kill it with a lance.

Prehistory

What is history? How far back does it go? Usually, we say that history begins when we have written records made by people who lived in the past. But people lived without writing for thousands of years. The part of time that came before people wrote anything down is called "prehistory."

The first people probably came to central and southern Labrador about 9000 years ago. That was thousands of years before the great pyramids were built in Egypt—thousands of years before the time of the Old Testament in the Bible. Around the same time the first people arrived in Labrador, farming people in the Middle East were just beginning to make the very first towns in the world.

We have no written records of the early native peoples who came to Newfoundland and Labrador. They belong to prehistoric times. Who were these first people? They are probably not the ancestors of the native people who live here today.

Over long periods of time, many bands of people came to Newfoundland and Labrador. We know these people belonged to different groups because the tools they left behind are not the same. Tools found in some places are not the same as tools found in other places. They were made out of different materials. They were not made in the same ways. They were used to do different

things. This shows that these tools were made by people who were not related and did not meet or trade very much. At times in the past, some groups of people died out. Was this because a new group of people moved in and took over? Did they starve to death or die of some sickness? We do not know.

Archaeologists are people who try to find the answers to these questions. They do this by digging in places where prehistoric people lived. Every year, archaeologists learn more by digging carefully through very old sites where these early people lived and were buried. The archaeologists find arrow heads and harpoon tips, fireplaces and the bones of the animals that people ate. All this helps them to understand the past.

Important Dates in Newfoundland Prehistory

7000 to 5500 BC (about 9000 to 7500 years ago)

The first native people come to central and southern Labrador. They travelled along the St. Lawrence River, and probably came from what are now the Maritime provinces of Canada.

3500 BC (about 5500 years ago)

The first native people come to the island of Newfoundland. Around this time, the people who have lived in Labrador for more than 4000 years die out. We do not know why.

2000 BC (about 4000 years ago)

New and different people come to Labrador from the east. They are related to people who came to North America from Asia through Alaska. They travelled east and south across the Arctic following food animals like Musk Oxen. They were probably something like modern Inuit people. They spread through Labrador and into northern Newfoundland. The archaeological site at Port-aux-Choix is filled with small tools, bones of food animals, camping sites and even some graves of people from this group. No one knows why, but these people seem to have disappeared about 2200 years ago.

1500 BC (about 3500 years ago)

New people come to Newfoundland. They are probably the ancestors of the native peoples who were in Newfoundland when settlers arrived from Europe thousands of years later-the Beothuks and Innu people. We still do not know when the ancestors of the Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) people came to Newfoundland.

Around 900 AD

Modern Inuit people come to northern Labrador.

Exploration and Early Settlement: 1000 AD-1832

The recorded history of Newfoundland and Labrador begins around the year 1000 AD, about 1000 years ago. That was when the first Europeans came to this part of the world. They were Vikings, from Norway, Iceland and Greenland.

The Vikings were mainly explorers, not settlers. Many years after the Vikings visited Newfoundland, their stories were written down in sagas (their word for story). The Vikings built houses in at least one place in Newfoundland-at L'Anse aux Meadows on the Great Northern Peninsula. They did not stay there for very long, but we believe they brought their families with them.

Other European people came to Newfoundland and Labrador from about 1400 on. Every summer, they came from Portugal, France, Spain and England. But they did not stay. These people were almost all men. They came to fish and kill whales. Every year before winter came, they returned to their homes in Europe.

The settlement of Newfoundland and Labrador happened very slowly. Settlements were places where men and women stayed all year long and raised families. In the 1600s, the government of Britain wanted to keep people from making settlements in Newfoundland. Fishing captains could put people out of their homes and even burn the houses down.

The French and English fought wars in the 1600s and 1700s. Settlers were often put out of their homes by soldiers on both sides. Sometimes the homes would be burned. It was not easy for people to settle.

France and Britain stopped fighting, but many people still came to Newfoundland only to fish in the summer. Most settlers did not come to Newfoundland and Labrador until after 1800.

The people who lived here did not vote in elections until 1832. Before that, the government in Britain decided what would happen in Newfoundland. The leaders of the British army and navy who were sent to Newfoundland ran the courts and jails and looked after some local problems.



Credit: Parks Canada.

L'Anse aux Meadows

L'Anse aux Meadows was made into a National Historical Park in 1968 and a World Heritage Site in 1978. This house was built at L'Anse aux Meadows in the style of old Viking houses. The walls are made from peat. L'Anse aux Meadows is the only place in North America where we know that Vikings built houses. In 1960, two archaeologists from Norway found the remains of houses in L'Anse aux Meadows. They found that Vikings had come to L'Anse aux Meadows around the year 1000 AD. The houses they built were probably a lot like this one.

Some Important Dates in Early Exploration and Settlement

About 1000 AD Norse explorers come to Newfoundland and Labrador. A small settlement is made at L'Anse aux Meadows.

1400s to 1500s	Basque, Portuguese, Spanish, French and English ships fish the waters around Newfoundland and coastal Labrador.
1497	John Cabot makes a voyage for King Henry VII of England. He is believed to have sailed from Labrador to Nova Scotia, and found a "new isle" thought to be Newfoundland.
1500	The Portuguese explorer Gaspar Corte-Real sails here and names several capes and bays along the east coast of Newfoundland.
1535-36	The French explorer Jacques Cartier shows that Newfoundland is an island by sailing around it.
1540s	The Basques make a whaling station at what is now Red Bay in coastal Labrador. They use it in the summers until about 1600.

- 1583 Humphrey Gilbert arrives in St. John's to claim the territory around it for England and begins a colony. Spanish and Portuguese ships are in the harbour at the time.
- 1610 John Guy begins a settlement at Cupids, Conception Bay (called Cupers Cove). He brings 39 settlers with him.
- 1627 The French king grants Newfoundland to the Compagnie Des Cents-Associés (the Company of 100 Associates). This gives the French a claim on Newfoundland.
- 1628 John Guy sends the first iron ore samples from Bell Island to England.
- 1634 Charles I of England grants the First Western Charter. This says that the captain of the first fishing vessel to arrive in a Newfoundland harbour each spring will become the fishing admiral for that season. The fishing admiral became the ruler for that year. At this time, British fishing captains try to stop settlers from staying in Newfoundland. The government in Britain allows this. Houses are burned and people are put out of their homes.
- 1660s The French set up a colony at Placentia. The first hospital in Newfoundland is built in Placentia at this time. For the next 40 years, control of Newfoundland will pass back and forth between the French and the English.
- 1696-1697 Carbonear is the only English settlement in Newfoundland that is not ruined by French attacks.
- 1699 King William III of England gives permission for people to make settlements. The powers of the fishing admirals are limited.
- 1713 Under the Treaty of Utrecht, the French lose all the territory they have in Newfoundland, but maintain fishing rights to the north shore (or French Shore), from Cape Bonavista to Point Riche. They are the only ones who can fish there.
- 1726 A school is started in Bonavista with funding from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. This is one of the first known schools in Newfoundland.
- 1729 The first naval governor, Henry Osborne, is appointed. Now naval governors replace the fishing admirals. Osborne begins to establish courts and a police system.
- 1756-1763 The Seven Years War is fought between the French and the English. The French claim many settlements, including St. John's.
- 1763 The Treaty of Paris ends the Seven Years War. The French maintain fishing rights to the French Shore and the territory of St. Pierre and Miquelon.
- 1763 The population of settlers is about 12,000.
- 1770 George Cartwright establishes a settlement in Labrador on the Charles River.
- 1774 In Britain, the Quebec Act gives control of Labrador to Canada, making it part of Quebec.
- 1785 December: Two men are found frozen to death in the streets of St. John's during a cold spell—one on King's Road and one on the South Side.
- 1788 Dr. John Clinch, a medical missionary, gives vaccinations against smallpox in Trinity. This is the first time vaccinations are given in North America.

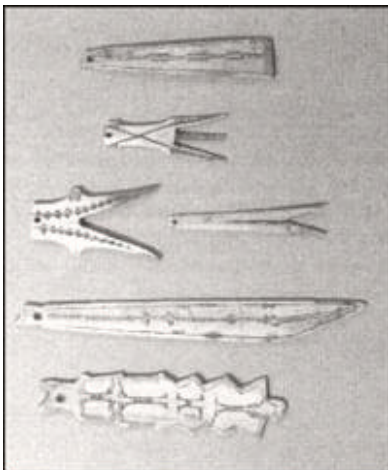
- 1791 The first civil court (not military) is established in Newfoundland. John Reeves is the magistrate.
- 1792 The first supreme court for criminal justice is established in Newfoundland. John Reeves is the acting chief justice. This ends the control of courts run by the navy over people who are not in the navy.
- 1795 A military hospital, St. George's Barracks Hospital, is established on Signal Hill.
- 1800 April: A group of soldiers plan to loot St. John's and escape to the USA. They are caught before they can do this
- 1807 The first printing firm, John Ryan and Son, sets up in St. John's and begins the first weekly newspaper, the *St. John's Royal Gazette*.
- 1808 Dr. William Carson arrives in Newfoundland. He begins to campaign for elected government.
- 1809 Labrador is re-annexed from Quebec and restored to Newfoundland.
- 1810 Around this time, a library opens in St. John's.
- 1812 The United States declares war on Britain. Most of the fighting takes place in Canada, but some American boats raid Newfoundland and Labrador. A military battery is built at Quidi Vidi, just outside St. John's at this time.
- 1814 The first hospital for civilians (people not in the army or navy) is built in St. John's. It is called the Newfoundland Hospital, later the Riverhead Hospital. It is located where Victoria Park is today.
- 1816 An English governor, Sir Francis Pickmore, is appointed. While he is governor, he will make his home in Newfoundland. (Until now, governors stayed only in the summer.)
- 1816 November: Fire destroys 140 buildings in St. John's.
- 1818 A Beothuk woman, Desmasduit, is captured and brought to St. John's.
- 1823 The Newfoundland School Society is established. This group set up schools in Newfoundland using money collected in England.
- 1824 A medical society petitions the government to prevent unqualified people from practising medicine, and asking that merchants pay for the treatment of their fishermen.
- 1827 The population of settlers is over 60,000.
- By this time, a book borrowing club is running in Carbonear. It is called the Carbonear Book Club
- 1829 Shanawdithit, the last known Beothuk, dies in St. John's.
- 1830s Several weekly and bi-weekly newspapers begin to publish in St. John's, Harbour Grace and Carbonear, including the *Carbonear Star*, the *Newfoundlander* and the *Public Ledger*.

Quidi Vidi Battery

This young man is dressed in the uniform worn by British soldiers who worked at the Battery in Quidi Vidi village, just outside St. John's, during the War of 1812. This war was fought between the British and the Americans. It lasted from 1812 to 1814. The British made forts like the Battery at Quidi Vidi to protect settlers from attacks by the Americans.



Credit: Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Newfoundland and Labrador.

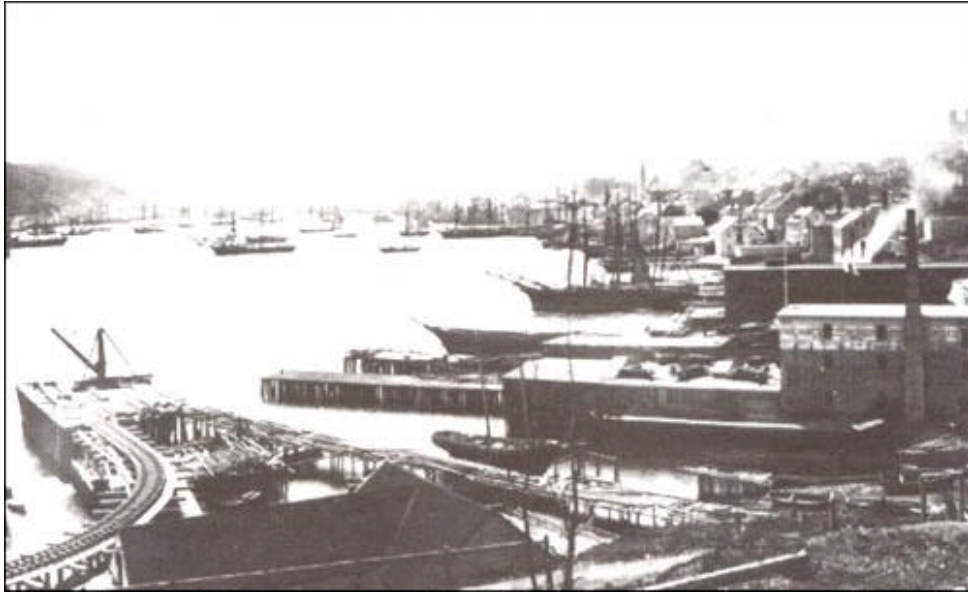


Credit: The Newfoundland Museum.

Beothuk Bone Pendants

These decorations were made by Beothuk people out of bone. They are made to be worn on a thin strip of skin tied around the neck.

We used to believe that the Beothuks died mainly because Europeans fought with them and killed them. Some Beothuks were killed. But archaeologists believe that most Beothuks went inland to get away from the Europeans. They died because they could not find enough food. Diseases that the Europeans brought with them, such as tuberculosis, may have played a part as well.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0167.

St. John's in the 1800s

In the 1800s, St. John's became the centre of trade and government in Newfoundland. The harbour was filled with long "finger piers," or docks that reached out into the water like the ones at the bottom of this picture. Sometimes, so many ships were anchored in the harbour that the masts looked like a forest. This picture was probably taken in the 1880s.

Representative and Responsible Government: 1832-1933

In the 1800s, Newfoundland began to take shape as a country. Church mission societies sent people from England to set up schools in smaller places. Most people outside St. John's depended on the fishery for a living, but there were new industries. The iron ore mine opened on Bell Island, and pulp and paper mills were built at Grand Falls and Corner Brook.

As Newfoundland was settled, people wanted to vote in elections. They wanted laws to be made by a government in Newfoundland. This happened at a time when people in many other British colonies wanted the same thing, so Britain was willing to listen.

Two different types of government were tried out. In Representative Government, the first system, the leader of the government was the governor. The governor was not elected. He was appointed by the government in Britain. This system began in 1832, but it did not make Newfoundlanders happy. They continued to demand a system called Responsible Government. In that system, all members of the government were elected. The leader was an elected prime minister. This system began in Newfoundland in 1855.

Newfoundland made an important contribution to Britain in World War I, which lasted from 1914 to 1918. Many Newfoundlanders died in the war, and Newfoundland gave money to Britain. After the war, Newfoundland began to have very serious economic problems.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0003.

The Cod Trap

These men are hauling a cod trap around 1900. The cod trap was invented in Newfoundland in the late 1860s and was first used in 1871. At that time, some fishermen thought it would ruin the fishery by catching too many fish.

Important Dates in Representative and Responsible Government

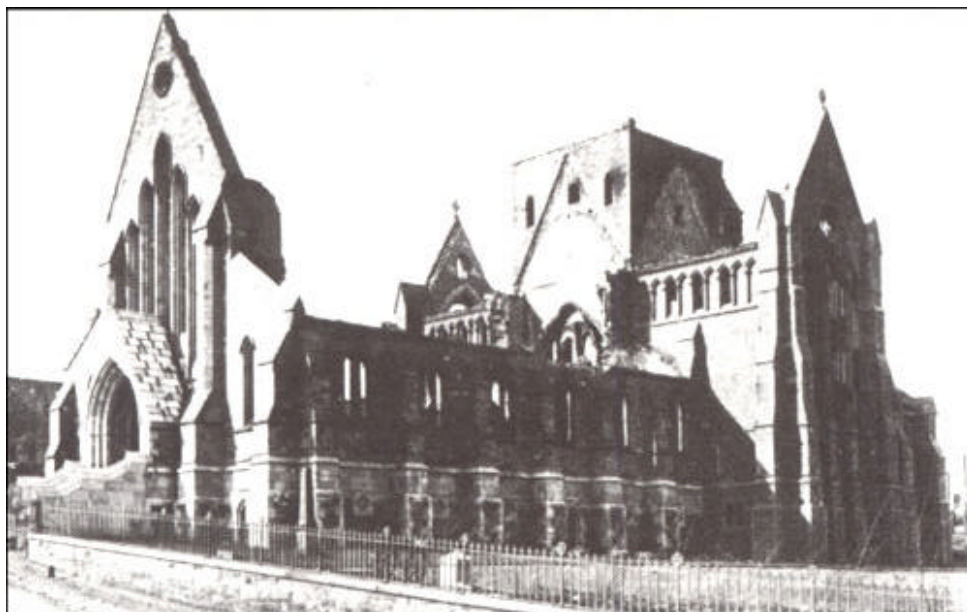
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|------------|--|
| 1832 | June: After petitioning Britain, Newfoundland is granted Representative Government.
Elections begin.

Between September and December votes are collected in the first election. |
| 1836 | The first Education Act is passed.

During the 2nd general election, riots break out at Harbour Grace. |
| 1838 | Dr. Henry Stabb becomes the first district physician for St. John's. |
| 1839 | A Roman Catholic School is established at Colliers. |
| Late 1830s | The first book bindery opens in a sailworks in St. John's |
| 1840s | Non-denominational schools are established by the Newfoundland School Society in many smaller communities |
| 1840 | November: The <i>HMS Spitfire</i> comes to St. John's. This is the first steamship to sail through the Narrows. |

- 1842 A Roman Catholic school is established at Western Bay, Conception Bay.
December: 3rd general election.
- 1843 Roman Catholic schools are established at Black Head, Freshwater Bay, Flat Rock and Northern Bay.
- 1846 The population of St. John's is 20,000.
June: Fire in St. John's leaves 12,000 homeless.
- 1847 The Provisional Lunatic Asylum is established on the present site of the Waterford Hospital.
- 1848 November: 4th general election.
- 1851 December: A sealers association is formed in St. John's.
- 1852 A military hospital is established with 41 beds in St. John's. It may have been at Military Road and Cochrane Street.
November: 5th general election.
- 1854 The New Lunatic Asylum is opened. Over the years, it will be called the Hospital for the Insane, Hospital for the Mentally Ill, and Hospital for Mental and Nervous Disorders. It will finally become the Waterford Hospital.
The first cholera epidemic comes to St. John's.
- 1855 A system of responsible government, based on British parliament, is established. From this time on, the head of government is an elected prime minister, not an appointed governor.
May: 6th general election. Philip Francis Little becomes the first prime minister of Newfoundland.
- 1859 November: 7th general election. John Kent is elected prime minister.
- 1861 May: 8th general election causes riots. The worst are at Harbour Main and Harbour Grace. Hugh Hoyles becomes prime minister.
November and December: Arthur Smith, age 8, and Warwick Smith, age 4, sons of the Reverend Benjamin Smith, die of diphtheria in Trinity.
- 1861-1864 The fishery goes through a bad time. Many people need government aid.
- 1864 The first mine in Newfoundland opens at Tilt Cove in Notre Dame Bay. It is a copper mine.
February: Anna Smith, daughter of the Reverend Benjamin Smith, dies of diphtheria at the age of 24 in Trinity.
- 1865 November: 9th general election. Frederick T.B. Carter becomes prime minister. He urges Newfoundland to become part of Canada.
- 1866 September: The first successful trans-Atlantic telegraph cable is established. The Heart's Content Cable Station opens.
- 1867 July: Confederation in Canada. Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick unite to form a single country.

- October: Captain William Jackman saves the lives of 27 people at Spotted Islands, Labrador.
- 1869 November: 10th general election. Charles Fox Bennett becomes prime minister.
- 1871 The Military Hospital on Forest Road is taken over by the government.
- Captain William Whiteley uses his invention, the cod trap, for the first time.
- 1872 Fisheries Warden Henry Camp reports he has arrested a Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) man for illegally setting a salmon net on the Conne River. Mr. Camp complains that the Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) people in the area believe they have special rights to fish salmon.
- 1873 November: 11th general election. Charles Fox Bennett is reelected, but he resigns after a few months.
- 1874 November: 12th general election. Frederick T.B. Carter is reelected prime minister.
- 1876 The first settlers arrive in Lewisporte.
- December: Labrador sharemen are paid for their summer's work. Earnings range from \$240 to \$412.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0317.

The Anglican Cathedral

This is what the Anglican Cathedral in St. John's looked like after the fire of 1892. This fire destroyed most of the downtown and left 11,000 people homeless. No one was killed. The fire was said to have started at Pennywell and Freshwater Roads, when a man dropped a pipe into some hay in a stable.

- 1878 November: 13th general election. William V. Whiteway is elected prime minister.
- 1879 March: Robert Holloway, a science teacher and photographer in St. John's, shows some experiments with electricity to about 900 people and talks about how electricity might be used to provide light.
- 1881 Railway construction begins in Newfoundland.
- 1881 The hospital on Forest Road becomes the General Hospital on the present-day site of the Miller Centre.
- 1882 A cordage and netting factory opens in St. John's on Ropewalk Lane.
- November: 14th general election. William V. Whiteway is reelected prime minister.
- December: Newfoundland is swept by a hurricane, 22 ships are wrecked in Notre Dame Bay.
- 1883 October: The first electric lights in Newfoundland are used at the Ropewalk in St. John's
- 1884 Floating drydock for the repair of steamships completed in St. John's.
- 1885 A generating station opens in St. John's. Electricity is available to the public for the first time. At first, it is only used for lights.
- October: 15th general election. Robert Thorburn becomes prime minister.
- November: A tidal wave and hurricane hit coastal Labrador.
- 1887 Electric lights are used in the House of Assembly for the first time.
- 1888 The city of St. John's is incorporated
- 1889 November: 16th general election. William V. Whiteway becomes prime minister.
- 1891 The population of Newfoundland and Labrador is about 200,000.
- 1892 The Poor Asylum is established west of the Riverhead Hospital in St. John's.
- July: Most of St. John's is destroyed by fire.
- 1893 Hospitals open at Battle Harbour and Indian Harbour in Labrador.
- November: 17th general election. William V. Whiteway is reelected prime minister.
- 1894 Iron ore mines open on Bell Island.
- The Salvation Army opens a Rescue Home for unwed mothers at 28 Cook Street. It also becomes a home for homeless women.
- December: Two Newfoundland banks, the Commercial and the Union, crash. This starts a depression in Newfoundland.
- 1895 The first Chinese immigrants arrive in Newfoundland.
- 1896 August: Miners at Bell Island strike for a 2 cent an hour wage raise. They do not get what they want.

November: The steamer Tiber collides with and sinks the schooner Maggie in the Narrows of St. John's Harbour. 13 lives are lost.

1897 July 15: Newfoundland's first Labour Day.

October: 18th general election. James S. Winter becomes prime minister.

1898 The railway across Newfoundland is completed.

1900 April: The hydro electric plant opens at Petty Harbour. For the first time in Newfoundland, water is used to make electricity.

November: 19th general election, Robert Bond becomes Prime Minister.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0213.

Miners at Bell Island

The iron ore mines opened on Bell Island in 1894. By 1923, Bell Island was the second largest community in Newfoundland. The mines closed in 1966.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0441.

1914 World War I

The Newfoundland Regiment's camp by Quidi Vidi Lake just outside St. John's. By February, 1916, over 2,000 men had enlisted. During the war 1,300 men in the Newfoundland Regiment would die.

- 1901 December: Marconi sends the first wireless radio signal across the Atlantic from Signal Hill in St. John's.
- 1902 Quebec and Newfoundland begin to dispute the boundary of Labrador again.
The annual salary of a school teacher is \$140.
- 1904 French fishing rights to the French Shore end.
An electric generating station opens in Victoria, near Carbonear.
October: 20th general election. Robert Bond is reelected prime minister.
- 1905 Moravian missionaries open a hospital in Okkak, Labrador. The Grenfell Mission opens the hospital in St. Anthony.
For the first time, a medical health officer is appointed for all of Newfoundland.
- 1906 The Grenfell Mission opens a hospital at Harrington, Labrador.
"An Act Respecting the Immigration of Chinese Persons" is passed in the House of Assembly. This new law means that every Chinese person coming to Newfoundland must pay a \$300 "head tax." Also, ships coming to Newfoundland are only allowed to carry one Chinese person for every 50 tons of weight. Chinese women are not allowed to come to Newfoundland.

- 1908 The first fisherman's union, the Fisherman's Protective Union (FPU), is established at Herring Neck, Notre Dame Bay.
- An electric generating station opens at Grand Falls.
- November: 21st general election. The parties led by Robert Bond and William P. Morris both elect 18 members out of 36. The confusion is not cleared up until the following May.
- 1909 May: 22nd general election. William P. Morris is elected prime minister.
- 1909 October: A pulp and paper mill opens in Grand Falls.
- 1910 Bell Islanders petition for the right to municipal government.
- The Lady Northcliff Hospital opens in Grand Falls.
- This year, about 1/4 of all the people who die in Newfoundland and Labrador will be less than one year old
- 1911 Millertown Hospital opens.
- 1912 The Bankers' Hospital opens at Grand Bank.
- 1913 October: 23rd general election. Edward P. Morris is reelected prime minister.
- 1914 April: The Newfoundland disaster. 78 sealers die and 11 others are disabled after being stranded on the ice for 53 hours.
- August: Britain enters World War I to protect Belgium from being invaded by Germany. In this war, Newfoundland will send 6,242 troops to Europe. About half of all the men who volunteer for service are turned down because they have health problems.
- 1915 Pilley's Island Cottage Hospital opens
- September: The first Newfoundlander is killed in fighting in World War I near Suvia Plain in Turkey
- 1916 Grenfell Mission opens the Emily Beaver Chamberlain Memorial Hospital in North West River, Labrador.
- William Gilbert Gosling is elected mayor of St. John's.
- July 1: Newfoundlanders fight at the battle of Beaumont Hamel in France. No regiment fighting in this battle suffers as many deaths and injuries as the Newfoundland Regiment. This day becomes Newfoundland's Memorial Day.
- October: Newfoundlanders fight at Gueudecourt in France.
- 1917 A tuberculosis sanatorium opens on Topsail Road near St. John's.
- April 6: The USA enters World War I.
- 1917 July 16: Edward P. Morris becomes prime minister. Because of the war, there is a coalition government (a government of all the parties). Morris resigns in December. An electric generator opens in Port Union.
- 1918 January: William F. Lloyd replaces Morris as prime minister. There is still a coalition government.

February: The *SS Florizel* runs aground at Cappahayden. Only 44 of the 138 people on the ship survive.

Summer: Miss Rogers, a public health nurse from New York city, comes to St. John's for the summer. She is the first public health nurse to work in Newfoundland.

November: World War I ends.

1919 June: Alcock and Brown leave Newfoundland to make the first successful flight across the Atlantic.

November: 24th general election. Richard Squires becomes prime minister.

1920 The first community nurses are sent to Newfoundland outposts.

1921 The first formal teacher training is introduced.

1922 May: St. Clare's Mercy Hospital opens in St. John's

1923 April: All women 25 years or older win the right to vote after a 25 year struggle.

May: 25th general election. William R. Warren becomes Prime Minister.

There is a gold rush at Stag Bay, Labrador.

The Grace Maternity Hospital opens in St. John's with 22 beds. Later it becomes the Grace General Hospital.

1924 May 3: General election. William Warren is re-elected prime minister, but cannot put together a government. Just four days later, he resigns.

May 10: Albert E. Hickman becomes prime minister. One week later, he resigns.

June: 26th general election. Walter S. Monroe becomes prime minister.

September: Notre Dame Bay Memorial Hospital opens in Twillingate.

An electric generator opens in Seal Cove, Conception Bay. An electric generator opens in Seal Cove, Conception Bay.

1925 Memorial University College opens.

A system of public libraries begins.

An electric generator opens in Deer Lake.

August: A pulp and paper mill opens in Corner Brook.

August: A 12 bed hospital opens in Corner Brook.

- 1927 March: The present-day boundary of Labrador is established by a British committee.
- The first movie with sound, "The Jazz Singer," comes to the screen. This ends the days of silent movies.
- 1928 A copper, lead and zinc mine opens in Buchans. The Buchans Hospital opens.
- October: 27th general election. Frederick C. Alderdice becomes prime minister.
- 1929 The Grenfell Mission opens a hospital in St. Mary's Bay, Labrador.
- A school of nursing opens in the Grace Hospital.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0739.

1929 The Burin Tidal Wave

These trucks are collecting relief supplies in St. John's for victims of the 1929 tidal wave. On November 18, 1929, an earthquake under the sea caused a tidal wave that swept on to the Burin Peninsula from Rock Harbour to Lamaline, covering about 65 kilometres of coastline. Twenty-seven people were killed.

- 1929 October: A stock market crash on Wall Street marks the beginning of a world-wide Depression.
- December: A tidal wave hits the south west coast of Newfoundland.
- 1930 An electric generating station opens at Lawn.
- 1931 March: An explosion on the sealing ship the *SS Viking* causes it to sink during the seal hunt.
- 1932 April: There is a riot at the House of Assembly to protest that members of the government have been giving money to friends.
- June: 28th general election. Frederick C. Alderdice is returned to office as prime minister.
- 1933 The fluorspar mine opens at St. Lawrence.
- The Amulree Commission is set up by the British Government to consider what should happen to Newfoundland and Labrador. This is done because Newfoundland is in debt and running out of money. This commission recommends that elected government end until the money problems are taken care of.
- December: Newfoundland runs out of money. The House of Assembly closes and Responsible Government ends.

Commission of Government: 1934—1949

The Great Depression began in 1929. All over the world, companies went out of business and people lost their jobs. In Newfoundland, the fishery was good, but people could not live on the money they got from the sale of their cod. The government had been running on borrowed money for more than ten years. At last, no one would lend more money. In December of 1933, the government shut itself down and asked Britain to take control of Newfoundland and Labrador. The result was the Commission of Government.

From 1934 until after Confederation with Canada, there were no elections in Newfoundland. Instead, all the decisions were made by commissioners. The commissioners were chosen by government officials in Britain.

World War II began in 1939 when France and Britain declared war on Germany. Germany was taking over countries around it. World War II was important to Newfoundland. Thousands of troops came from Canada and the United States. Lots of money poured into Newfoundland and the economy recovered. When the war was over, people began to talk about the future. Did they want to live in an independent country again, should they join Canada or remain a part of Britain?

Important Dates in Commission of Government

- 1934 February: Commission of Government begins.
- April: Ten men leave St. John's to begin a land settlement program at Markland.

War Poster

This notice was published to encourage Newfoundland men to enlist to fight in World War II.



Credit: *Newfoundland News-Magazine*, December 1940, Centre for Newfoundland Studies.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0634.

The Sinking of the *Caribou*

The *SS Caribou* was a ferry that carried passengers between Sydney in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and Port aux Basques, Newfoundland from 1925 to 1942. On October 14, 1942, the *Caribou* was torpedoed by a German submarine. There were 238 passengers on board. Only 101 people survived. This picture of the *Caribou* was taken around 1926.

- 1934 August 9: Pierce Power, a young dock worker from the South Side, is elected chairman of the St. John's Unemployed Committee.
- 1935 The population is about 290,000.
- January 10: As leader of the Unemployed Committee, Pierce Power leads a parade to the Colonial Building to protest the condition of people on the dole.
- About one quarter of the children between the ages of 6 and 14 in Newfoundland and Labrador do not attend school.
- May 10: Unemployed people riot in St. John's. They are led by Pierce Power.
- A minimum wage is set for loggers.
- December 25: Pierce Power, former leader of the Unemployed Committee, slashes Police Constable Michael Walsh. Later, Power is convicted of the attack and sent to prison for 5 years.
- 1936 May: The first semi-automatic traffic signal is installed at Rawlins Cross in St. John's. It is operated by a nearby policeman.
- June: Construction begins on an airfield in central Newfoundland. This is the beginning of what will become the Gander air base and later, the Gander Airport.
- The cottage hospital system begins. Eight cottage hospitals are built this year.
- 1939 About 85,000 people, one half of the workforce, is on government relief.
- September: Germany invades Poland. France and Great Britain declare war on Germany. Newfoundland follows. World War II begins.
- 1940 The Royal Canadian Air Force takes over the Gander Airfield.
- June 14: German troops enter Paris. France surrenders to Germany.
- 1940 December 24: Pierce Power, former leader of the Unemployed Committee is let out of jail 2 years before his sentence ends to fight in World War II. He dies at sea 6 months later when the ship he is serving on is torpedoed.
- 1941 January: The American troop ship *Edmund B. Alexander* arrives in St. John's with the first American troops. Construction of the American naval base at Argentia begins. During the war, more than 100,000 American troops will be stationed in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- A hospital opens in Gander.
- The land settlement at Markland is closed by the government.
- December: Japanese planes attack the American naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. The USA enters World War II.
- 1942 September: A German submarine sinks ships at Bell Island in Conception Bay, killing 29 men.

	October: The passenger ferry the Caribou is torpedoed by a German submarine and sinks in the Cabot Straits.
	November: A German submarine sinks two ships at Bell Island, killing 40.
	By the end of 1942, more than 20,000 American troops are in Newfoundland and Labrador.
1944	June 6: D-Day. Allied troops land in France and break through German lines. This is an important turning-point in World War II.
	August 25: Allied troops free Paris from the Germans.
text	1945 The population of Bell Island is 8,171.
	May: Germany surrenders. World War II ends in Europe.
	August: The Americans drop atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
1945	September: Japan surrenders. World War II ends.
	About 12% of all deaths in Newfoundland and Labrador are due to tuberculosis. This is about three times the percentage of people who died from this disease in Canada.
1946-48	The National Convention replaces Commission of Government. Newfoundland begins to decide its future.
1947	January: Drivers in Newfoundland and Labrador switch from driving on the left side of the road to the right side.
	February: St. John's businessmen and professionals form the Responsible Government League. Their goal is to make Newfoundland and Labrador an independent country with an elected government again.
	A school of nursing opens in St. Clare's Hospital.
1948	June: The first referendum on Newfoundland's future produces no clear winner.
	July: In the second referendum on Newfoundland's future, 52.34% vote for union with Canada.
	September: Electric Street cars are taken out of service in St. John's.
	December: Newfoundland and Labrador signs the Terms of Union with Canada.



Credit: Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archive, Collection 137, photo number 0464.

Grand Falls

This is a view from the roof of the pulp and paper mill in Grand Falls, taken around 1963. The falls that give the town its name can be seen on the left hand side. In 1961, Grand Falls had a population of 6,605 people.

Grand Falls was the site of the first pulp and paper mill in Newfoundland. The mill was operated by the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company (the AND) from 1909 until 1951. In the 1960s, it was gradually taken over by Price Brothers. In 1978 the company became Abitibi-Price.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Tenth Province: 1949-Onward

A referendum is a vote in which everyone is asked how they feel about one question. It took two referenda to decide what would happen to Newfoundland. Finally, 52.34% of the people said that Newfoundland should join Canada. After Newfoundland became a province, elections were finally held again. In May of 1949, the first election was held in Newfoundland since 1932. Once again, people were allowed to have their say in government.

1949 March 31: Newfoundland and Labrador becomes Canada's tenth province.

May: In the first election since 1932, the first provincial election, Liberal Joseph R. Smallwood becomes premier. Cabinet is elected rather than appointed for the first time.

There are 2,382 hospital beds in Newfoundland and Labrador. 14 cottage hospitals have been built.

- 1951 There are 41 hospitals in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- February: Under the new laws of Canada, Chinese immigrants in Newfoundland are now allowed to become citizens. The first ten Chinese Newfoundlanders are sworn in as citizens of Canada.
- November: 2nd provincial election. Joseph R. Smallwood is re-elected as premier.
- 1952 The provincial Arts and Letters competition is established.
- A hospital opens in Port aux Basques.
- The government of Newfoundland attempts to end relief for able-bodied unemployed.
- 1953 Hydro electric stations are built at Cape Broyle and Horse Chops.
- A polio epidemic sweeps Newfoundland.
- 1953-1965 A major resettlement program is undertaken. Under this program, 119 outport communities are shut down.
- 1956 The federal Unemployment Insurance Act is amended to include fishermen.
- October: 3rd provincial election. Joseph R. Smallwood is reelected as premier.
- 1957 The Carbonear Community Red Cross Hospital opens
- 1959 January to March: International Woodworkers of America strike in central Newfoundland.
- August: 4th provincial election. Joseph R. Smallwood is reelected as premier.
- 1961 The population on Bell Island is 12,281.
- October: Memorial University opens.
- 1962 July: The iron ore mine in Labrador City opens.
- November: 5th provincial election. Joseph R. Smallwood is reelected as premier.
- 1963 Central Newfoundland Hospital replaces the Lady Northcliff in Grand Falls.
- The school of nursing opens at Memorial University.
- 1964 A new hospital opens in Gander.
- 1965-1975 A joint federal/provincial resettlement program moves 4,168 households, almost 21,000 people from 461 outports.
- 1966 The iron ore mines on Bell Island close.
- 1966 The new federal Canada Assistance Plan allows the province to share the cost of social assistance with the federal government.
- September: 6th provincial election. The Smallwood Liberals are returned to power.
- 1969 The school of medicine opens at Memorial University.
- 1971 October: 7th provincial election. The Smallwood Liberals are returned to power.

- 1972 March: 8th provincial election. Smallwood government is defeated. Frank Moores becomes premier of a Progressive Conservative government.
- 1975 September: 9th provincial election. Frank Moores and the Progressive Conservatives are returned to office.
- 1976 The new General Hospital opens in Carbonear.
- 1978 The fluorspar mine at St. Lawrence closes.
- Canada adopts the metric system.
- October: The Health Science Complex opens in St. John's.
- 1979 June: 10th provincial election. Brian Peckford, new leader of the Progressive Conservatives becomes premier.
- There are 49 hospitals in Newfoundland and Labrador; 3,585 hospital beds.
- 1982 12th provincial election. Brian Peckford and his Progressive Conservative government are returned to office.
- February: The oil rig Ocean Ranger is lost with a crew of 84 men.
- The Markland Cottage Hospital closes.
- 1982 The provincial government rejects the Conne River Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) land claims proposal.
- 1983 The hospital at North West River is replaced with a clinic.
- 1984 The Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) of Conne River win recognition as status Indians from the federal government.
- 1985 Federal and provincial governments sign an agreement to jointly develop offshore oil and gas
- 1986 The population of Newfoundland and Labrador is 568,349.
- 1987 The Conne River Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) band is granted a small reserve. It is 3 square kilometres of land-the only native reserve in Newfoundland.
- 1988 The railway is closed in Newfoundland.
- 1989 13th provincial election. Tom Rideout, new leader of the Progressive Conservatives, becomes premier.
- An investigation begins into charges of abuse at the Mount Cashel Orphanage.
- 1989 Development of Hibernia oil field begins.
- 1989 14th provincial election. Clyde Wells, new leader of the Liberal party, becomes premier.
- 1993 In a provincial election, the Liberal government is returned to office.
- 1991 The population is 568,474. 76% of the population lives in incorporated towns.
- April: The two-tiered minimum wage system ends. The minimum wage becomes \$4.75 per hour for everyone in Newfoundland and Labrador.

- 1992 July: Federal government announces a complete moratorium on northern cod stocks.
- 1992 7,805 teachers serve 122,125 students from kindergarten to grade 12.
- 1994 8,000 people leave Newfoundland and Labrador to look for work in other parts of Canada.
- The food fishery is closed. For the first time in Newfoundland history, people cannot catch fish at sea for their own tables.
- July: Frank McCarthy of Too Good Arm, Notre Dame Bay becomes the first Newfoundlander ever to be charged with jigging cod for his own table. Newfoundlanders are charged with more than 3,000 fishery and wildlife offenses.
- 1995 71,000 men, women and children in Newfoundland and Labrador are living on social assistance. 4,000 of these are teenagers. 9,000 are young adults in their early 20s.
- August 15: Tony John and Jim John, two Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) men, set a salmon net on the Gander River to draw attention to the issue of native fishing rights. They are arrested.
- September: The people of Newfoundland and Labrador vote in a referendum to change the denominational school system.
- December: Clyde Wells resigns as premier of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Notes for Instructors

The Timelines are intended to give students an overview of the history of Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as a sense of time-depth. Most of us think of history as something that happened in our grandparents' time. The recorded history of Newfoundland and Labrador begins 1,000 years ago, and the archaeological record can be traced back 9,000 years-almost to the very beginnings of time for human beings.

We can stretch our imaginations even further by looking at geological time. Many archaeological sites in Labrador are found about one kilometre from the sea and more than 25 meters above sea level. But 10,000 years ago, these camps were located near the water's edge. Why the difference? Labrador is still rebounding from the weight of glacial ice from the last ice age. In terms of geological time, the glacial ice left the landmass a few moments ago.

The "Prehistory" section of this booklet may benefit students who will be using the essay based on native culture, "The Secret History of the Mi'kmaq (Mic Mac) People" (book 6), by Kathryn Welbourn, and the essay "Time Travel With Stories," (book 3), by Carmelita McGrath. Collections of prehistoric artifacts are found at the Duckworth Street Museum, and at the Port-aux-Choix national historical site.

"Exploration and Early Settlement" (from 1000 AD to 1832) may be used to understand the early history of European settlement. Ed Kavanagh's essay "Never Look Back: The Irish Migration to Newfoundland" (book 6), relates to this period. Questions about European exploration and place names raised by this section can encourage students to use maps and atlases. For information about the origins of place names in Newfoundland and Labrador, see E.R. Seary's article "The Place Names of Newfoundland," in J.R. Smallwood's, *The Book of Newfoundland*, Vol. III, and

Seary's book, *Place Names of the Avalon Peninsula of the Island of Newfoundland*, (U of T Press, 1971). Also see entries for individual communities in the *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador*.

The section "Representative and Responsible Government" will be useful for students reading "God Took Our Little Darlings" and "More Sinned Against than Sinning" (book 5), both by Janet McNaughton and "William Pender" (book 10), by Kathleen Winter.

A look at "Commission of Government" will help prepare students to read "Dole and Desperate Measures: Life in the Great Depression in Newfoundland," (book 4), "Hard Boots and a Hoe" and "Counting the Berries" (book 3), by Carmelita McGrath, "Pierce Power and the Riot of 1935" (book 4), by Kathryn Welbourn, "Those Eighty-Eight Unfortunates: Logging in Newfoundland in the 1930s" (book 8), by Ed Kavanagh and "The Markland Experiment" (book 8), by Janet McNaughton. These essays focus on the Depression of the 1930s.

Looking at "Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Tenth Province: 1949 Onward" will help prepare students for "Shift or Stay Put," (book 7), about resettlement and "How Long Do I Have to Wait for Things to Get Better: Building a Social Safety Net," (book 9), by Carmelita McGrath, "The Right to Work," (book 2), about employment and handicapped people by Ed Kavanagh, "It's Made Me Stronger: A Profile of Karen Westcott," (book 2), by Janet McNaughton, and "Portrait of a Young Woman on Welfare," (Book 2), and "The Ballad of Elizabeth O'Brien," (book 2), by Kathryn Welbourn.

A number of essays written for this project cut across two or more of the time periods proposed here. These include "Early Chinese Immigrants in Newfoundland," (book 6), and "The Silent Menace: Tuberculosis in Twentieth Century Newfoundland," (book 5), both by Ed Kavanagh and "Poachers, Jiggers and Horse Thieves," (book 7), by Kathryn Welbourn.

Book 3, "Learning About the Past," explains how archives, newspapers, interviews, and archaeology were used when researching different aspects of these essays. You may wish to use this booklet as a starting point, or refer to it as questions about research arise when looking at other essays.

Topics for Discussion

Prehistory

Students may wish to discuss the idea of "belonging" to Newfoundland in light of the fact that so many different groups of people came here over such long periods of time. Does this change the way they think about themselves as Newfoundlanders?

Does it change the way they think about native peoples? How about new Canadians?

Exploration and Early Settlement: 1000 AD-1832

We tend to think of Newfoundland as a place with British roots. But the history of early exploration and exploitation of resources involves many European countries. Students may wish to discuss this.

Representative and Responsible Government: 1832-1933

Discuss how Newfoundland gained an elected government and why people wanted this.

Commission of Government: 1934-1949

Discuss how government changed during Commission of Government.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Tenth Province: 1949-Onward

You may wish to discuss how social services expanded after Confederation and what is happening to those services today.

Questions for Discussion

Prehistory

How long ago did the first people come to Labrador?

How do we find out about people who lived before we have written records?

Exploration and Early Settlement: 1000 AD-1832

How many different countries were part of the early exploration of Newfoundland? Find these countries on a map of the world.

Many places in Newfoundland and Labrador still have names given to them by some of these early explorers and fishermen. Using a map of the province, see how many names you can find that do not sound like English. Can you find out what languages these place names came from?

Populations are given for the years 1763, 1827, 1891, 1935, 1886 and 1991. Look at these figures. What is the population of Newfoundland today? What is the population of St. John's? What do these numbers tell us about how settlement proceeded in Newfoundland and Labrador?

Representative and Responsible Government: 1832-1933

What is the difference between Representative Government and Responsible Government? Is this an important difference? Why?

Commission of Government: 1934-1949

Why did the Commission of Government start?

The Commission of Government was different from the governments that came before and after it in one important way. What was that way?

Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Tenth Province: 1949-Onward

What are the most important changes that have happened in Newfoundland and Labrador since Confederation with Canada?

Sources

Books

Melvin Baker, Robert D. Pitt and Janet Miller Pitt, *The Illustrated History of Newfoundland Light and Power*.

William Connors, *Winds of History: Notable Newfoundland Events*.

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James A. Tuck, "Newfoundland and Labrador Prehistory," in *Canada's Visual History*, National Film Board of Canada, Canadian Museum of Civilization and Canadian Heritage Information Network, 1994.