

Quebec Independence Movement



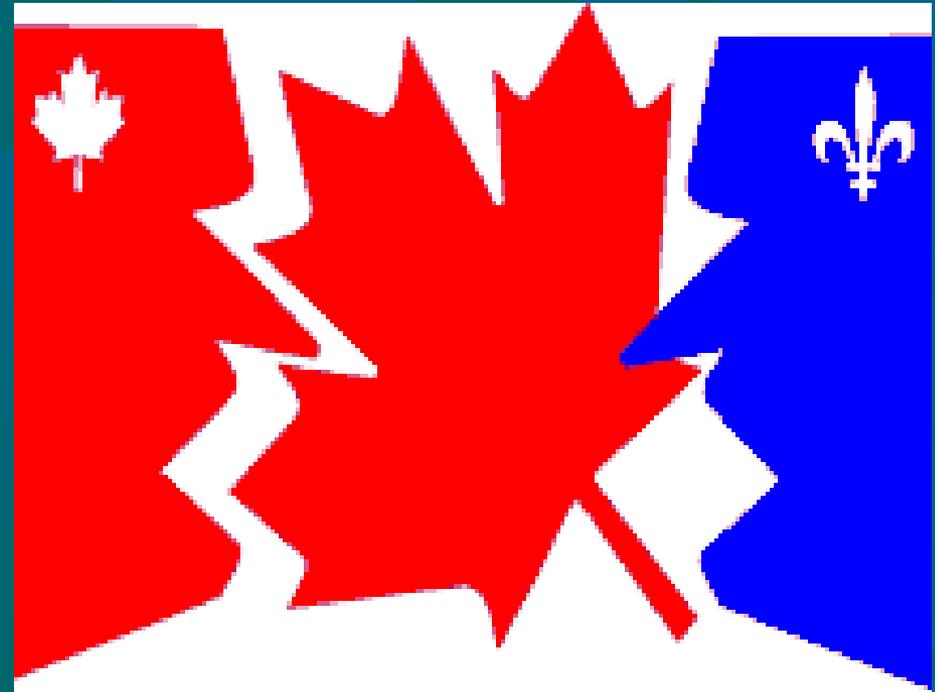
Essential Question

- What is the Quebec Independence Movement and how has it affected Canada?



After Independence

- Canada received its independence, or sovereignty.
 - Canada still had close ties to England (British Commonwealth)
- This caused problems. Many of the French in Canada felt like England had too much influence.



Rivalry

- French Canadians live mostly in Quebec
 - Since gaining independence, French Canadians and English Canadians have fought over land and resources.
- Many French Canadians have felt like 2nd Class citizens and feel they are outnumbered and don't have their voices heard.



Example: World War I

- During WWI, England and France were fighting Germany
 - Canada helped England
 - They sent raw materials
 - They sent soldiers
 - Thousands died



French Canadians in WWI

- Many French Canadians disagreed with Canada fighting in WWI
 - They thought that fighting in WWI would only help England, and hurt Canada.
- They didn't like the close ties that Canada still had with England.
- Canada fought in WWI anyway
 - Many French Canadians felt that the rest of Canada didn't care about their opinion

Change in Quebec

- Quebec used to be a French colony.
- After independence and for the next 100 years, many English speaking people began moving into Quebec
- The French people of Quebec were afraid of losing their culture.
 - They were afraid their language and culture might disappear
 - They were already outnumbered by English Canadians.



French Nationalism

- Many in Quebec became *French Nationalists*
 - They no longer thought of themselves as Canadians, but as *French Canadians*.
 - They wanted to protect their language and culture
- Many started to think that Quebec should secede from Canada.
 - Break off and become their own country



Quebec Independence Movement

- The movement spread slowly, but more and more in Quebec began following the movement.
- In 1980 and in 1995, Quebec voted on whether or not to secede.
 - Each time, more people voted to stay a part of Canada.
 - The second vote was very close
 - 49.4% of people wanted to secede
 - 50.6% of people wanted to stay
- But, Canadian government has made it a point to give French Canadians equality.



Quebec's Independence

- Even though Quebec did not secede from Canada, they have achieved equality with British Canada.
- They've kept their language and culture.
 - French is one of the official languages of Canada.

