

PART V.—CANADIAN CHRONOLOGY, 1867-1953

Events in the General Chronology from 1497 to 1866 are given in the 1951 Year Book, pp. 46-49. References regarding federal or provincial elections or changes in legislatures or ministries are not included in the following chronology since such information is given in Chapter II on Constitution and Government and in Appendices I and II.

1867. Mar. 29, Royal Assent given to the British North America Act. July 1, The Act came into force; Union of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as the Dominion of Canada; Upper and Lower Canada made separate provinces named Ontario and Quebec; Viscount Monck, first Governor General; Sir John A. Macdonald, Prime Minister. Nov. 6, Meeting of the first Dominion Parliament.
1868. July 31, The Rupert's Land Act authorizing the acquisition by Canada of the Northwest Territories.
1869. First negotiations for union of Newfoundland with Canada end in failure. June 22, Act providing for the government of the Northwest Territories. Nov. 19, Deed of surrender to the Crown of the Hudson's Bay Company's territorial rights in the Northwest. Outbreak of the Red River Rebellion under Riel.
1870. May 12, Act to establish the Province of Manitoba. July 15, Northwest Territories transferred to Canada and Manitoba admitted into Confederation. Aug. 24, End of Red River Rebellion.
1871. Apr. 2, First Dominion Census: population 3,689,257. Apr. 14, Act establishing uniform currency in Canada. May 8, Treaty of Washington signed. July 20, British Columbia entered Confederation. The Canadian Government undertook to begin construction of a transcontinental railway within two years and to complete it within ten years.
1872. June 14, Canadian Pacific Railway general charter passed by the Canadian Parliament authorizing construction of a transcontinental line by a private company.
1873. May 23, Act establishing the North West Mounted Police (RCMP). July 1, Prince Edward Island entered Confederation.
1874. May 26, The Dominion Elections Act. Population of Newfoundland and Labrador, 161,374.
1875. Apr. 8, The Northwest Territories Act establishing a Lieutenant-Governor and a Northwest Territories Council. April-May, Work on the Canadian Pacific Railway as a Government line begun at Fort William.
1876. June 1, Opening of the Royal Military College, Kingston. June 5, First sitting of the Supreme Court of Canada. July 3, Opening of the Intercolonial Railway from Quebec to Halifax.
1877. October, First wheat exported from Manitoba to the United Kingdom.
1878. July 1, Canada joined the International Postal Union.
1879. May 15, Adoption of a protective tariff ("The National Policy").
1880. May 6, First meeting and exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. May 11, Sir A. T. Galt appointed first Canadian High Commissioner at London. Sept. 1, All British possessions in North America and adjacent islands (except Newfoundland and its dependencies) annexed to Canada by Imperial Order in Council of July 31. Oct. 21, Signing of contract with the present Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway.
1881. Apr. 4, Second Dominion Census: population 4,324,810. May 2, First sod turned for Canadian Pacific Railway as a company line.
1882. May 8, Provisional Districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Athabasca and Alberta formed. May 25, First meeting of the Royal Society of Canada. Aug. 23, Regina established as seat of government of the Northwest Territories.
1884. Aug. 11, Settlement of the boundary of Ontario and Manitoba.
1885. Mar. 26 - May 16, Riel's second rebellion in the Northwest. Apr. 24, Engagement at Fish Creek. May 2, Engagement at Cut Knife. May 12, Taking of Batoche. May 16, Surrender of Riel. July 20, The Electoral Franchise Act. Nov. 7, Last spike of Canadian Pacific Railway main line driven at Craigellachie, B.C. Nov. 16, Execution of Riel.
1886. June 13, Vancouver destroyed by fire. June 28, First through train of the Canadian Pacific Railway left Montreal for Port Moody. July 31, Census of Manitoba: population 108,640.
1887. Interprovincial Conference at Quebec. Apr. 4, First Colonial Conference at London. Apr. 16, Welland Canal opened for navigation.
1890. Mar. 31, The Manitoba School Act abolishing separate schools.
1891. Apr. 5, Third Dominion Census: population 4,833,239. June 6, Death of Sir John A. Macdonald.
1892. Feb. 29, Washington Treaty, providing for arbitration of the Bering Sea Seal Fisheries question. July 22, Boundary Convention between Canada and United States. Fire destroyed the greater part of St. John's, Newfoundland; \$20,000,000 damage.
1894. June 28, Second Colonial Conference at Ottawa.
1895. Sept. 10, Opening of new Sault Ste. Marie Canal. Second confederation talks of Canada and Newfoundland fail.
1896. August, Gold discovered in the Klondyke. Railroad completed across Newfoundland from St. John's to Port aux Basques.
1897. June 22, Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. July, Third Colonial Conference at London. Dec. 17, Award of Bering Sea Arbitration Court.
1898. June 13, The Yukon District established as a separate Territory. Aug. 1, British Preferential Tariff came into force. Aug. 23, Meeting at Quebec of the Joint High Commission between Canada and the United States. Dec. 25, Imperial penny (2-cent) postage introduced.
1899. Oct. 11, Outbreak of the South African War. Oct. 29, First Canadian Contingent left Quebec for South Africa.
1900. Feb. 27, Battle of Paardeberg. Apr. 26, Great fire at Ottawa and Hull.