

## Unit 2 Part 3, 4 & 5

### New France 1663-1760

#### Royal Government is established

A new government is formed in New France in 1663. King Louis XIV (known as the 'Sun King') wanted New France to develop more in order to make France stronger, but he knew that the colony would have to be stronger in order for this to happen.

So King Louis and his advisors set up a new Government in New France called the Royal Government. Before 1663 the companies including the Company of 100 Associates governed the colony of New France. They proved to be inadequate.

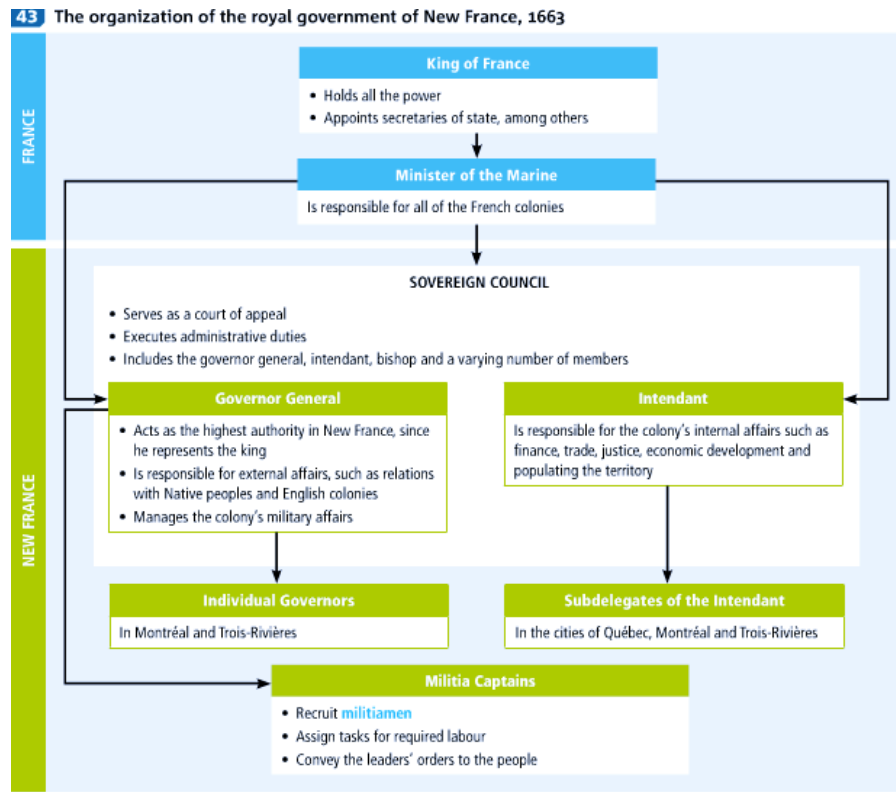
The Royal Government had 2 key objectives:

\*\* increase the population of New France

\*\* increase the exploitation of natural resources in the colony and expand its economy.

#### The Royal Government

You will notice on the chart below that the Royal Government had 2 parts to it.....a part that was in France and a part that was in New France.



In this new form of government the King held all the power. This was a popular belief in the 18<sup>th</sup> century called **Absolutism**. The king did not have to justify his decisions to anyone and his power was absolute and final. This was also known as the “divine right of kings”, where they believed they were placed in their royal position on the good graces of God.

So now that the King was the head of the government, he ruled over New France even though he had never set foot on the colony and he was thousands of km away.

### **Colonial Military**

In New France there were two types of soldiers:

Regular soldiers

Militiamen

France paid the Regular Soldiers. The high-ranking officers were most often from noble families in France.

The Militiamen were not paid most of the time. They fell under the command of the militia captain who took his orders from the Governor General.

In 1665 the King of France sent over the first large military contingent. They were known as The Carnigan-Salieres Regiment. This was 1200 well-trained, seasoned soldiers. Their main mission was to assure the security and defense of the colony especially in light of the war with the Iroquois.

While the Carnigan-Salieres fought off the Iroquois, burning their farms and forcing peace by 1667, the militiamen were called in to help build fortifications like the one in Montreal and Chambly.

### **Population Growth**

Remember that one objective of the new government was to grow the population in New France.

The member in the Royal Government responsible to grow the population in New France was the Intendant. The first Intendant was **Jean Talon**.

He did several things to help the population grow.

\*Filles de Roy. Young single women in France were offered a dowry and transportation to New France with the expectation that they would marry a colonist and start a family.

\*Carnigan-Salieres were offered a Seigneury if they stayed in the colony once the conflict with the Iroquois was finished. 400 of these men accepted the offer and became landowners on the south shore of Montreal.

\*fines and incentives were put on colonists who got married or who didn't get married and have children by a certain age.

Talon's efforts were successful in increasing the population in New France. His efforts combined with low mortality rates allowed the population to finally grow....somewhat.

### **Changing up the Economy**

The second objective of the new Royal Government was to diversify the economy. This basically means the Intendant had to find other ways for the colony to make money. Before 1663 much of New France's economy was based on the fur trade. Jean Talon tried to change that.

He wanted agriculture to grow so that the colonists produced all they needed and any extras could be sent to France.

He re-organized the fur trade expanding the region and issuing licenses called **congés de traite** to the **voyageurs** who were contracted to get the furs. By 1696 New France ended up in a Beaver Crisis because of over hunting of the animal.

Even after Jean Talon left to return to France, the efforts of the Royal Government to expand the territory and find new resources continued. They explored west past the Great Lakes and south to the Gulf of Mexico (via the Mississippi River). They found an area very rich in resources called The Ohio River Valley.

This area and the other new areas were of course already settled by various Native groups. A large meeting was set up in Montreal to find a peaceful way to achieve French objectives of exploiting the resources in these new areas and old ones as well. In 1701 the French and the Iroquois Confederacy signed "The Great Peace of Montreal".

## **Unit 2 Part 4**

### **New France's Population**

In 1713 New France had about 24000 people, but by 1752 that number grew to about 75000. Most of these people lived in rural areas and most were French speaking.

At this time, France was divided by class. The nobility was the top of the class system. The Clergy were also near the top. The third class was called the Third Estate. This was about 97% of France's population and it included everyone from the very poorest to craftsmen, merchants and small landowners.

The people who settled the colony came from France and were from all three classes, but most came from the Third Estate. Also in New France were a few slaves.

These people came over with their own practices and customs from France. Very quickly they learned that they had to adapt the way they lived in order to survive in the colony. They **Acclimatized**. Many of their practices came from Native Influence, after all the Natives had been successfully surviving in the area for thousands of years.

Some of the practices they adopted included:

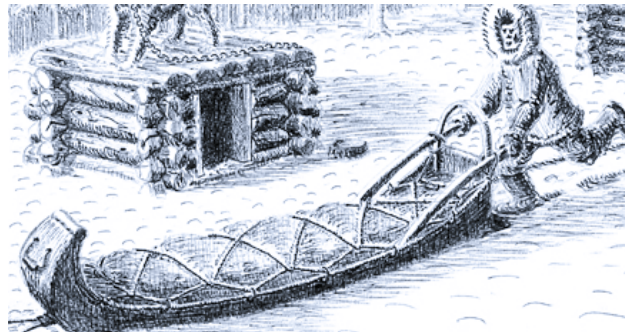
show shoes

different food available

clothing choices

home building practices

transportation modes – toboggans





France reacted quickly to this loss by:

1. Fortifying Quebec City and Montreal
2. Trying to increase settlements in Louisiana
3. Sending explorers to the Rocky Mountains in the West
4. Building forts along the Richelieu River and the Great Lakes area
5. Build a giant fortress on Ile Royale (Cape Breton today) called Louisbourg
6. Attempt to settle Ile Royale and Ile St Jean (PEI today)

England reacted by:

1. Building forts in the area of Acadia
2. Renaming the area of Acadia as "Nova Scotia"
3. Send British immigrants to Nova Scotia to balance out the population since so many there were French

## **The Seven Year's War/War of Conquest**

The peace following the Treaty of Utrecht did not last that long. By 1754 the tension between New France and the 13 Colonies (colonies of England) caused more fighting. Even in Europe France and England were at war once again. This war lasted from 1756-1763.

They fought over 3 main points:

1. control over the fur trade west of the Appalachian Mountains.
2. control over the fisheries in the Atlantic and the Gulf of St Lawrence River area
3. control over the Ohio Valley

The military strength was not balanced during this war. The 13 colonies had larger armies and their population was much larger, however their political system was slow to make decisions, unlike the politics in New France, which allowed for quick military based decisions to be made.

In 1758, General Wolfe of England captured the great French Fortress of Louisbourg securing England's control over the greatest portion of the east coast fisheries.

In 1759 General **Wolfe** had made his way into Quebec and put the city under siege. He fought the French troops who were under General **Montcalm** on the **Plains of Abraham**. Wolfe and his English troops were successful and Quebec city surrendered. Both Wolfe and Montcalm were killed.

While waiting for the war to end, England set up **a Military Regime**. This is a type of government where the military is in charge and not the elected people.

The Seven Year's War ended and the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763.

By the end of the war, England had complete control over North America. New France was now a British Colony, and France's presence in North America was reduced to three very small islands.



### **Assimilation of the French Inhabitants.**

Once England took control over all of Acadia (today this area is Nova Scotia), they met with a challenge....what to do with the French people who were already living there????

Governor Murray was given the task of assimilating the French people. However this was a very difficult task for him because of the large numbers of French people in the colony. They definitely outnumbered the English soldiers.

They tried to get the Acadians (the French people living in Acadia) to sign an agreement that they would support the King of England. Some agreed to sign this, however most Acadians just wanted to be left alone and chose neutrality.

This was not good enough for the British Governor ordered all Acadians deported.





In July 1755, English soldiers took control over the lands that had been owned by Acadians for over 150 years. They then gave them several minutes to gather up their personal belongings and escorted them to the docks where ships were waiting to take them away. Some were sent to France, while others were sent to areas along the coast of the 13 Colonies. The deportation lasted for about 8 years, and by the end about half of the Acadians were gone from Acadia. Some fled north to New Brunswick or Quebec, while others went to Ile St Jean (PEI).

