

Les femmes de la traite de fourrures

Vous allez rechercher les rôles de femmes pendant la traite de fourrures ensuite créer une affiche d'information. Vous pouvez travailler toute seule ou en partenaires de deux.

Option 1 :

Faire des recherches sur le rôle des femmes pendant la traite des fourrures.

Option 2:

Rechercher une figure historique spécifique.

- Marie-Anne Gaboury
 - Frances Ann Hopkins
 - Thanadelthur
- * Letitia MacTavish Hargrave

Quelles informations inclure dans l'affiche:

- Comment les femmes ont influencé le commerce des fourrures
- Rôle des femmes dans le commerce des fourrures (quels emplois elles avaient, comment elles ont aidé, comment elles ont contribué)
- Les images
- Les dates (si vous pouvez en trouver)
- Un bibliographie

Quelques sites pour la recherche:

Encyclopedia of the Great Plains

<http://plainshumanities.unl.edu/encyclopedia/doc/egp.gen.043>

Parcs Canada

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/fr/lhn-nhs/qc/lachine/culture/histoire-history/personnages-people/natcul4>

Louis Riel Institute

<http://www.louisrielinstitute.com/women-of-the-fur-trade.php>

Fur Trade Stories

http://www.furtradestories.ca/details.cfm?content_id=139&cat_id=2

Pour obtenir un 4 sur ce projet, vous devez:

- Avoir toutes les informations requises
- L'affiche doit être appropriée et faite avec soin
- Attention aux détails
- Bien utiliser le temps de classe
- Aucune faute d'orthographe (ponctuation et majuscule)
- Inclure une bibliographie (une liste d'où vous avez obtenu vos informations)
- Les informations doivent être dans vos propres mots (PAS DE Ctrl + C et Ctrl + V)

Liste de contrôle de vérification

- Mon nom est sur l'affiche
- Des images ou photos sont incluses
- Comment les femmes ont influencé le commerce des fourrures
- Rôle des femmes dans le commerce des fourrures (quels emplois elles avaient, comment elles ont aidé, comment elles ont contribué)
- Bibliographie
- Travail édité pour rechercher les fautes d'orthographe

CBH contre CNO

Lisez l'article ci-joint. Soulignez les idées clés et utilisez-les pour comparer les deux compagnies de traite des fourrures. Comparez les similitudes et les différences entre la CBH et la CNO

Compagnie de la baie d'HUDSON CBH	Compagnie du nord-ouest CNO

The North West Company

The North West Company, HBC's main competitor during the fur trade, was formed in 1779 by a group of Montreal-based traders. The history of conflict between the two companies, which erupted in violence, was finally resolved with a merger in 1821.



INDEPENDENT TRADER IN RUPERT'S LAND FORMING A PARTNERSHIP

THE NORTH WEST COMPANY DIFFERENCE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT

CONFRONTATION THE MERGER

Independent Trader in Rupert's Land

Not long after the founding of Hudson's Bay Company in 1670, Rupert's Land

(<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/ruperts-land/>) was penetrated by independent fur traders. In fact,

Radisson and des Groseilliers ([.../people/explorers/radisson-and-des-groseilliers](http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/radisson-and-des-groseilliers/)) were merely the first in a very long

line of such men. For the independent traders, the existence of the Hudson's Bay Company Charter ([../things/artifacts/the-royal-charter](#)) was a minor annoyance rather than a real impediment to business. Realizing that no monopoly could be enforced where the Company had no presence, they staked their claims in the interior. Meanwhile, HBC established a small chain of forts along Hudson Bay, and waited patiently for trappers to arrive each spring with another season's worth of furs.



Notwithstanding the travels of Henry Kelsey (<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/henry-kelsey/>), Anthony Henday (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/anthony-henday/>), Joseph Colen (http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/colen_joseph_5E.html), and others, who reported the presence of French traders inland, it wasn't until 1774 that the Company realized it had to protect its interests. When Samuel Hearne ([../people/explorers/samuel-hearne](#)) was sent inland that year to establish Cumberland House, HBC's first interior post, he situated it not far from Fort Pasquia (Opasquia; Paskoyac; modern day The Pas), a post founded by the sons of Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Vérendrye (<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/pierre-gaultier-de-varennes-et-de-la-verendrye/>) in 1741. HBC had begun to recognize that the amount of fur arriving at its posts on Hudson and James bays was being negatively impacted by the “pedlars” who were choking off the supply at its source.

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Forming a Partnership

By 1784, another fur trading company had begun to have a serious impact on HBC's profits. The North West Company (NWC) was a partnership of nine different fur trading groups, and soon became HBC's most powerful rival. It was founded in 1779, when the governor of Quebec's support of a British embargo of the Great Lakes — intended to deny guns, ammunition, and goods to the rebel Americans — led him to refuse to issue trading licences to the Montreal traders. Although he was eventually persuaded to change his mind, the damage was done. It was too late in the year for goods to reach the farthest regions and many merchants suffered serious losses. It occurred to one of them, Simon McTavish (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/simon-mctavish/>), that the traders' influence would be greater

if they worked together. Not only would they have more clout, but they could pool resources, minimize risks, and share the profits. Thus the North West Company was born.

For the first few years, the company existed as a series of short-term partnerships which lasted for one trading cycle each. By 1783, the NWC was a permanent entity. Led by shrewd, courageous, and enterprising Scottish-Canadian traders from Montreal, the NWC quickly built a commercial structure which spanned the continent — the first North American company to operate on such a scale. In doing so, it openly defied the Royal Charter ([../things/artifacts/the-royal-charter](#)).

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The North West Company Difference

Unlike the sedentary “Baymen”, the men of the North West Company were constantly on the move. The Nor’Westers, as they were known, lived, wintered, and worked mostly to the west of Hudson Bay. Vigorous competition led them over the Rocky Mountains and even to the Arctic Ocean. Most of the key explorers of these regions — Alexander Mackenzie (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/sir-alexander-mackenzie-explorer/>), Simon Fraser (<http://encyclopediecanadienne.ca/fr/article/fraser-simon/>), David Thompson ([../people/explorers/david-thompson](#)), and Peter Pond (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/peter-pond/>) — were Nor’Westers. They showed their disdain for HBC’s monopoly by building their forts right beside those of HBC at strategic trading points. One such location was Edmonton, where HBC’s fort and the NWC’s Fort Augustus were neighbours.

The NWC was different from HBC in several significant ways. Based in North America, it was owned and operated by men who were active in the business. Many of the partners had themselves travelled into the interior and traded there. These hivernants — or wintering partners — knew the business intimately, and had a personal stake in the company’s success. For the most part, they were Scottish and bound by ties of nationality as well as the close kinship of the clan structure. In contrast, HBC’s Directors and investors were primarily English noblemen and financiers, who governed the Company from afar. Their interest in the business was overwhelmingly financial, and their actual knowledge of the

trade was second-hand at best.

The key difference between the two companies — and the one which would ultimately prove insurmountable to the NWC — was economic. The sea route to Hudson Bay, notwithstanding its associated hardships, was a huge advantage. It enabled HBC to benefit from a short business cycle. Ships could leave England, travel to Hudson Bay, offload goods, pick up furs, and return to England in the space of about five months. A complete business cycle — from shipment of goods to return of furs in payment for those goods — normally took 14 months.

The NWC's cycle was much longer and more expensive. Its voyageurs had to cover four times the distance overland as HBC simply to reach Lake Winnipeg. Canoe brigades leaving Montreal in late spring took eight weeks to reach Fort William, the NWC's great inland depot (modern Thunder Bay). From there, the previous year's furs were loaded for the return trip to Montreal, where they arrived in September. They would not be sent on to London for auction until April of the following year — almost a full year later.

Meanwhile, the goods offloaded at Fort William were shipped further west and north, arriving at their final destinations before freeze up. Traders could not ship the season's furs out until the following summer, after the thaw, for the return journey to Fort William, and onward to Montreal. The complete business cycle was almost two years, closer to three if one accounts for the procurement of trade goods and eventual sale of the resulting furs in London. The further the distances travelled, the greater the costs incurred — and the lower the profit. As the NWC expanded to the Pacific Northwest and the Athabasca regions — both areas rich in prime furs — profit margins decreased.

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Red River Settlement

Competition was one thing, but the stakes were upped considerably when, in 1811, HBC sold over 74 million acres (300,000 km²) in the Red River valley to majority shareholder Thomas Douglas, Lord Selkirk (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/thomas-douglas-5th-earl-of-selkirk/>). Selkirk planned to use the land to

settle displaced Scottish highlanders, the first of whom arrived in 1812. The Selkirk settlement not only straddled the established NWC route to the Northwest, but also encompassed a number of important NWC forts such as Esperance, Dauphin, Souris, Pembina, Gibraltar, and Bas-de-la-Rivière. This immediately caused friction. Adding to this was the issue of settlement itself. At the best of times, the farmer and the fur trader were poor neighbours: the success of the former usually depends on clearing the forests that support the animals sought by the latter. In Red River, these tensions were exacerbated by the presence of a unique local population — the Métis (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/metis/>).

People of mixed European and Indigenous ancestry, the Métis were well established in the Red River valley. They had built a thriving local economy based on agriculture and the buffalo, producing pemmican on a large scale, which was sold to the NWC for its canoe brigades. The arrival of surveyors and settlers, neither of whom recognized the Métis claims to the land, provided the tinder for an explosive confrontation. The Métis and the Nor'Westers became natural allies in the developing struggle with Hudson's Bay Company.

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Confrontation

Events soon came to a head. In 1814, the Governor of Assiniboia (the district that was given to Lord Selkirk) Miles Macdonell (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/miles-macdonell/>) issued an edict forbidding the export of pemmican — or any other foodstuffs — from the colony, in addition to a ban on the buffalo hunt within the colony's boundaries. Enough was enough. At their annual meeting in Fort William, the NWC partners agreed that the settlement had to go. Over the next year, a series of attacks, counter-attacks, arrests, and general harassment escalated, culminating in the Battle of Seven Oaks (<http://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/seven-oaks-incident/>) in June 1816. The armed confrontation between the Métis and HBC resulted in the deaths of 22 men.

The Battle at Seven Oaks changed everything. The relationship between the two fur companies became a struggle for supremacy, rather than a contest for commercial advantage. Both companies lost sight of the trade in the process but

eventually grew weary of the strain. While expending all of their efforts competing with each other, neither organization could grow. In the final analysis, it was HBC's deep resources of credit that enabled it to weather the lean times, sit back and watch the NWC overextend itself.

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The Merger

Senior management of both companies knew something had to be done, and started to discuss a merger. The British government was also eager to see the conflict resolved. The final agreement reached on March 26, 1821 was put together by Andrew Colvile, representing Hudson's Bay Company, and Simon McGillivray (<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/simon-mcgillivray/>) and Edward "Bear" Ellice (http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/ellice_edward_9E.html), representing the North West Company.

By the terms of the agreement, the two companies pooled their assets valued at £200,000 each. The new entity would operate under the Hudson's Bay Company name and under the terms of its Charter, which was renewed for another 21 years. New shares were distributed among a joint board composed of HBC men and Nor'Westers, as well as to Ellice, McGillivray, the Montreal partners, and Lord Selkirk's estate. Chief Factors and traders from both organizations, chosen for their ability, were also given a stake. The majority of these men were former Nor'Westers.



The resulting Company was the most powerful fur trading entity in the world, spanning the continent from sea to sea to sea. HBC gained the North West Company's most valuable resource, its traders and voyageurs, as well as rich new areas beyond the Rockies and in the far north. Now all the furs gathered throughout the interior of North America could be shipped to England through the HBC-controlled route of the Hudson Strait. The Company had effectively regained its monopoly over all the lands mentioned in the Royal Charter of 1670.

This would not be the end of the NWC. In 1987, HBC sold off its Northern Stores Department, the modern successor to the Raw Fur Department, which provided retail services to northern communities. The business was bought out by a group spearheaded by senior management. When it came time to decide on a name for the new venture, one suggestion kept coming up. In 1990, it began operating as The North West Company.

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HBC Heritage is an internal department of Hudson's Bay Company. We are committed to the preservation, education, and promotion of Hudson's Bay Company's history and the ongoing care and maintenance of the Company's historical HBC Corporate Art, Artifact, Image, and Reference Collections.

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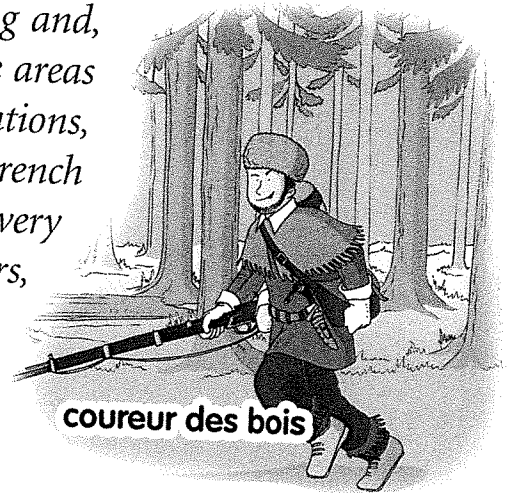


People in the Fur Trade

The Europeans were very interested in the First Nations' animal pelts, and the First Nations were interested in the Europeans' metal tools. Soon, the fur trade began.

A. Write the words in bold in the correct boxes. Then answer the questions.

The Europeans and the First Nations started trading and, very soon, the **fur trade** expanded and covered large areas of Canada. **Trading posts** were set up at various locations, usually near waterways. The **coureurs des bois** were French people who could navigate the interior lands of Canada very well. They helped the First Nations in hunting beavers, even in deep forested areas. Another group of French people, called **voyageurs**, were hired to navigate canoes briskly along some dangerous sections of waterways.



- : small stores set up in remote places for trading
 - : an important activity of buying and selling animal pelts between the Europeans and the North Americans
 - : boatmen who transported goods to and from trading posts by canoes
 - : Frenchmen who made trading agreements and collected furs; they were skilled at wilderness travel
- How did the fur trade change the First Nations' purpose of hunting?

B. Fill in the blanks and do the matching.

First Nations Women in the Fur Trade

The voyageurs travelled to Canada every 1. spring/winter to trade 2. herbs/furs. Some returned home after the trading was over while others felt more at home in the First Nations community and 3. left/stayed. Very often, these voyageurs took First Nations women as 4. wives/employees. These marriages were often 5. encouraged/discouraged because they strengthened their relationship with the First Nations and the voyageurs would 6. gain/lose benefits in trading. First Nations women brought tangible benefits to 7. survival/entertainment along the journeys between trading posts, which were unfamiliar to European women.

8.



my tasks

- sew clothing
- carry heavy cargo
- stitch moccasins for the team
- set up tents and campfires
- cook stew and prepare pemmican

