

Unit 3

After Confederation

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 10, Lesson 1: Expanding Confederation - BC - Key

Fill in the blanks in the statements below with the appropriate word(s).

In the 1850s, the gold rush was on along the Fraser River. About 25,000 prospectors came to the region.

Governor James Douglas was concerned about the thousands of miners who flooded the area. He issued licences to the miners and he created a police force and appointed magistrates to keep law and order.

After conflicts between the miners and First Nations, Britain wanted to bring law and order to the region and thus created the colony of British Columbia in 1858.

The Cariboo Road was completed in 1865 to carry supplies to distant mining camps. This project had cost more than a million dollars to build.

The gold rush ended about 1868. Many of the newcomers stayed and built farms and started businesses. Logging was one of the most important industries that started.

Governor Douglas purchased 14 parcels of land on Vancouver Island from the First Nations (known as the Douglas Treaties). He set up small reserves where First Nations could live.

In 1864, conflict between the Tsilhqot'in people and a road crew erupted. British soldiers were sent to end the conflict.

Britain's Pacific colonies were valuable for their location in addition to the wealth they provided to Britain. They provided a base for the British fleet on the Pacific coast.

When the gold was almost gone, the colonies were almost bankrupt. It was very costly for Britain to run two colonies. Thus, Britain united the colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia into one colony called British Columbia.

The colony was deeply in debt. The colony did not have enough people to pay taxes or buy land. The government was unable to meet its financial needs.

The colony had to choose: remain a British colony, become a province of Canada, or join the United States.

A benefit of joining Canada was that it was part of the British Empire. Also, trade would increase among the provinces, and the colony would be part of a stronger, powerful country.

Those who were against union with Canada wondered if the colony would be dominated in the House of Commons. Also, the prosperity of the United States was a tempting choice.

The Canadian government agreed to pay the colony's debts, build a road to link British Columbia to the rest of Canada (Canada offered to build a railway), and make payments to the new colony every year.