

# Political Resurgence and Current Topics

Canada's Indigenous People in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century

# The First Nations

- Issues of citizenship:
  - Participation in the Great War
  - Right to vote
- Political Resurgence
- Right to Vote, 1960
- National Indian Brotherhood, 1968 (Assembly of First Nations, 1982)
- White Paper (Trudeau), 1969
- Drive for Self-Government 1970's - Present

How are the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples seeking a greater degree of cultural, political and economic self-determination?

- THE CONSTITUTION ACT, 1982, AND ITS EFFECTS

- Charter of Rights and Freedoms - recognition of rights of Aboriginal Peoples (Section 25)
- Bill C-31, 1985, amends the Indian Act to remove gender-based discrimination
- First Nations and the Meech Lake and Charlottetown Accords



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- PROTEST AND POLITICAL ACTION

- Oka Crisis, 1990
- Aboriginal Justice Inquiry in Manitoba, 1988 - 1991
- Donald Marshall case, 1999
- Creation of Nunavut, 1999
- Nisga'a Land Claim Agreement, 2000
- Burnt Church fisheries dispute, 2000
- Political role of the Assembly of First Nations and other Aboriginal organizations

How are the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples seeking a greater degree of cultural, political and economic self-determination?

- TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

- Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996
- Moves to reconciliation:
  - Kelowna Accord, 2005
  - Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, 2006
  - Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Canada's position, 2007
  - Indian Residential School apology in Parliament, 2008
  - Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission, 2009

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- CURRENT REALITIES OF FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT IN CANADA

- Treaty rights, status of Métis,
- Nunavut
- Land claims
- Self-governance
- Socio-economic conditions,
- Culture, education, and health