

Fascism and Anti-Semitism in Canada

LÔÔK

*Answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper. Find this handout on our website (this will give you access to the hyperlinks embedded in the text)



Fascism - a political philosophy, movement, or regime that exalts nation and often race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.

[Benito Mussolini \(Italy\) and Adolph Hitler \(Germany\)](#)

Some famous fascists: What are some things Mussolini & Hitler had in common? What are some other characteristics of fascism?

Small fascist groups sprung up in Canada.

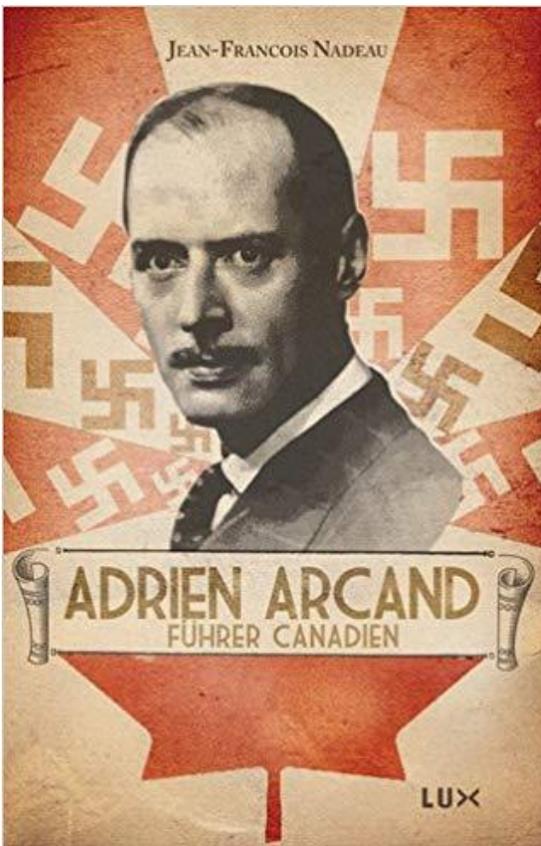
Adrien Arcand was the leader of the **National Unity Party** in Quebec, a fascist party.

He also promoted **anti-Semitism**. Definition: hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic, or racial group.

[Arcand Link](#)

Read the article.

1. List a couple facts about Arcand.
2. Click on all the pictures. What are some of the disturbing features of the pictures?
3. Hitler had his Brownshirts and Mussolini had his Blackshirts. The pictures of the uniforms are from the "Blueshirts," a Canadian Nazi uniform. What information do we learn from these pictures?





The Christie Pits' Riot

In 1933, a race riot broke out in Toronto when a group of fascists associated with the Swastika Club raised a racist banner at a baseball game in order to taunt a team with Jewish players.

[Christie Pits' Riot](#) – Listen to the radio show and watch the video. Take notes on what happened.

By the way, many think the riot inspired one of the Tragically Hip's greatest songs: [Bobcaygeon](#)

Further Reading: [Anti-Semitism Article](#)

Questions: Why do you think fascism didn't gain more popularity in Canada? What was different about Germany that helped lead to the rise of fascism? Are there any fascist leaders today? Does anti-Semitism still exist today?