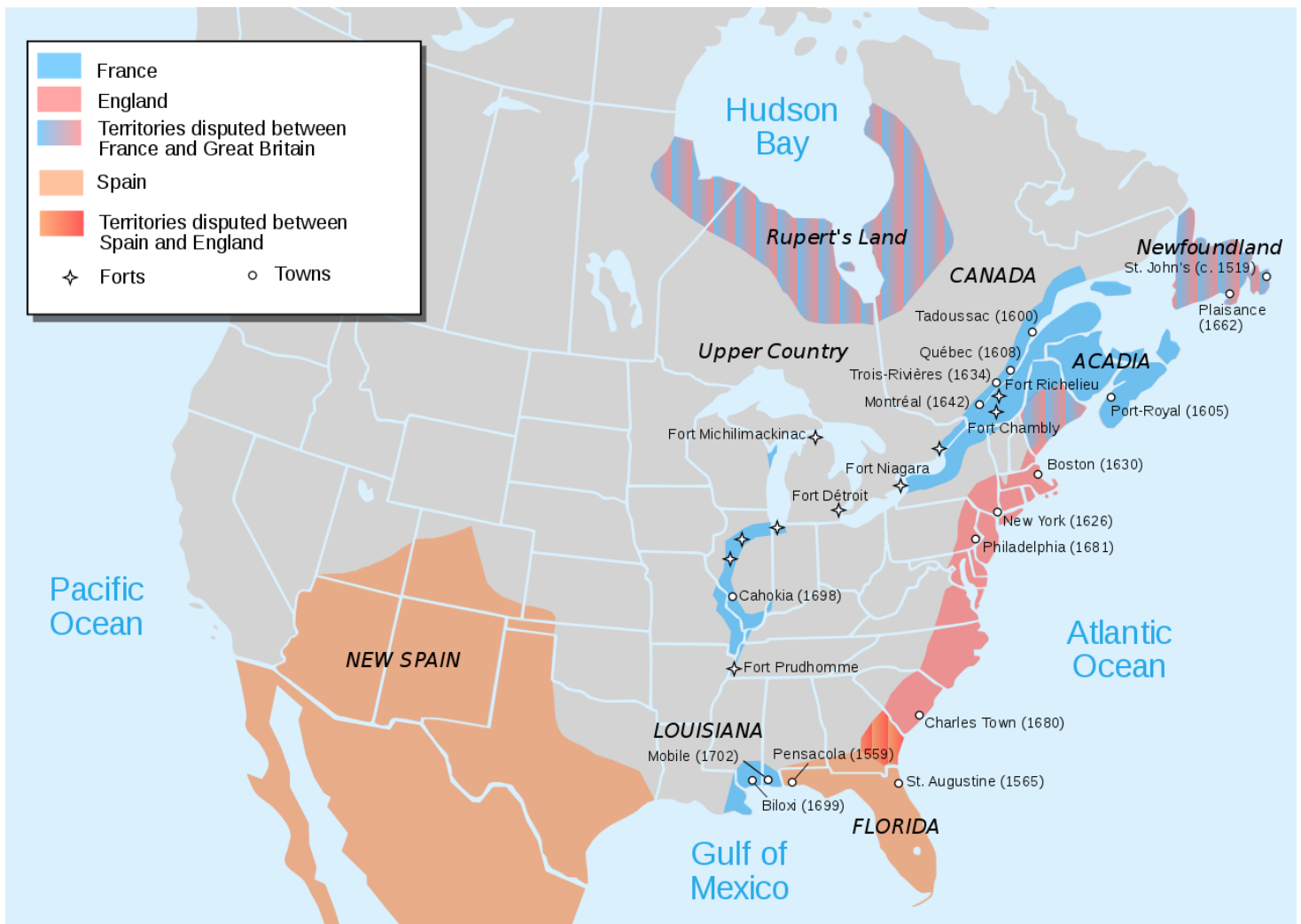


French relationships in the Pays d'en Haut (the country “up there”)



✠ The French referred to the lands that stretched west, and south, of Montreal as *pays d'en haut*. Occupied by Anishinaabe Nations, as well as the Wendat Confederacy (present-day region around Orillia) and Neutral Nation, the space was occupied by French Trading posts and forts, populated by only 500 Europeans in 1740.

✠ Flamborough and Waterdown would be considered by the French as within the *pays d'en haut*.

- ✚ French Traders, Jesuit missionaries would have been in regular contact with Indigenous Peoples and Nations. The French enjoyed much better relations with Indigenous Peoples than their English rivals. Why?

- ✚ Although the French claimed vast tracts of land, they did so by recognizing the independence and self-government of the Indigenous Nations and did not impose laws, taxes, or military service.
- ✚ Indigenous Nations and Peoples were viewed and treated as allies and not subjects.
 - A close alliance is formed between the French and the Wendat Confederacy.
- ✚ The French settlements, with a few exceptions, were confined to areas along the St. Lawrence.
- ✚ *Métissage*, or intermarriage between Frenchmen and Indigenous women, was encouraged by the government of New France to compensate for the shortage of French women in the colony.
- ✚ By 1735 New France no longer encouraged *Métissage*, by intermarriages still occurred.

It is from the word *Métissage* that a new group of half-French, half-Indigenous people began to identify themselves as *Métis*.

- ✚ These relationships in New France's *pays d'en haut* merged cultures into a hybrid between the Indigenous worldview and European.



WHO ARE THE MÉTIS?

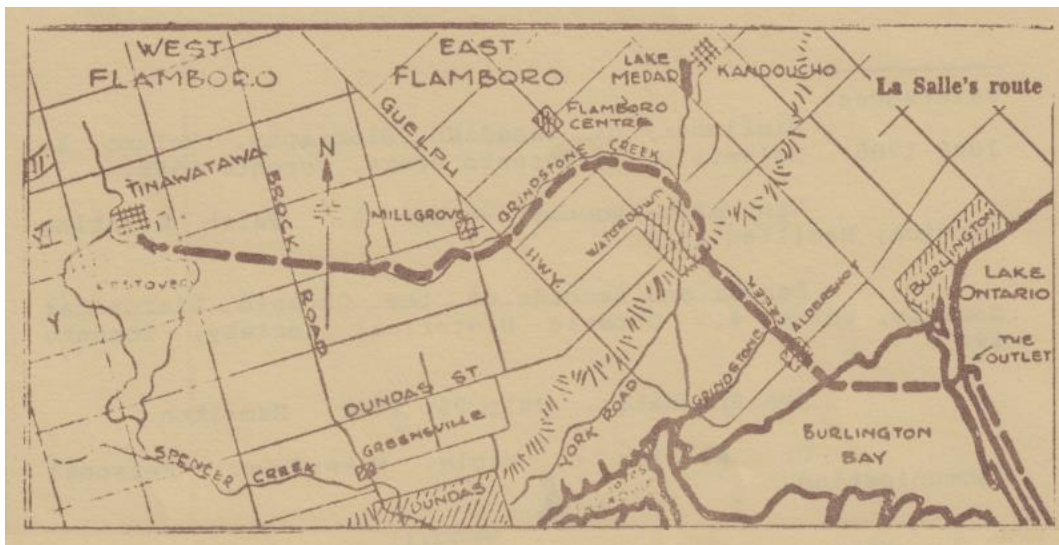
Prior to Canada's crystallization as a nation in west central North America, the Métis people emerged out of the relations of Indian women and European men. While the initial offspring of these Indian and European unions were individuals who possessed mixed ancestry, the gradual establishment of distinct Métis communities, outside of Indian and European cultures and settlements, as well as the subsequent intermarriages between Métis women and Métis men, resulted in the genesis of a new Aboriginal people - the Métis.

According to the 2016 census there were 537,855 Métis People in Canada.

Taken from the Métis National Council of Canada @ www.metisnation.ca

Lasalle in Flamborough

- ✠ In September of 1669, a French expedition from Montreal led by Robert de la Salle met up with a second French expedition coming the opposite way. Both expeditions were navigating through uncharted lands, and neither group knew of the other's existence. The site of this unlikely meeting was the Seneca settlement of Tinawatawa. Tinawatawa was strategically located on one of the important portage routes linking Lake Ontario to Lake Erie. Running from Burlington Bay to the Grand River, this was an alternate route to the more easterly portage around Niagara Falls.
- ✠ Tinawatawa had grown to become a locally important village of around 20 longhouses, and there was said to be excellent hunting in the area, especially for deer and bear. We cannot be certain of the route la Salle took to Tinawatawa, but the diaries kept by Father Galinée provide a good idea. It is likely the expedition disembarked somewhere in Cootes Paradise before heading north.



Possible location of Tinawatawa as drawn by historian T.R. Woodhouse in 1945, however his speculations were based on historian James Coyne's likely-incorrect assertion that La Salle landed at present-day La Salle Park.

- ✚ Father Galinée describes a grueling journey, wading through knee-deep swamps infested with rattlesnakes.

Slavery in New France

*This portion of the handout comes from *The Canadian Encyclopedia*¹

- ✚ In the early 17th century, colonizers in New France practiced slavery, in which people were treated as personal property that could be bought, sold, traded and inherited.
- ✚ The first slaves in New France were Indigenous peoples a large percentage of whom came from the Pawnee Nation located in present-day Nebraska, Oklahoma and Kansas. Many were captured during war and sold to other Indigenous nations or to European traders.
- ✚ Some French colonists acquired enslaved Black people through private sales, and some received Indigenous and African slaves as gifts from Indigenous allies.
 - Out of approximately 4,200 slaves in New France at the peak of slavery, about 2,700 were Indigenous people who were enslaved until 1783, and at least 1,443 were Black people who were enslaved between the late 1600s and 1831.



- ✚ The earliest written evidence of enslaved Africans in New France is the recorded sale of a boy from either Madagascar or Guinea believed to be at least six years old. In 1629, the child was brought to New France by the Kirke brothers, who were British traders and sold to a French clerk named Olivier Le Baillif (sometimes referred to as Olivier Le Tardiff). When Le Baillif left the country, the little boy was given to Guillaume Couillard, who sent the boy to school. In 1633, the enslaved boy was baptized and given the name Olivier Le Jeune.

¹ Henry, Natasha. "Black Enslavement in Canada." *The Canadian Encyclopedia* Historica Canada. Article published June 13, 2016; Last Edited June 09, 2020.

The Introduction of Alcohol

- ✚ Indigenous-European contact also introduced alcohol into the land.
- ✚ The Catholic missionaries tried to stop the spread of alcohol but were not able.

Remember that the representative of the king was the Governor General.

- ✚ The French King and Governor General deplored the use of alcohol, but officials realized the other effects of liquor in the “New World”:
 - Provided the state with revenue
 - Made some Indigenous Peoples dependent on French trade and military alliances
 - Any attempt to enforce French laws against alcohol would result in confrontation
- ✚ Soon there was competition in North America between supplies of French brandy and English Rum.

Let’s turn our attention to the English at this time . . .

- 🇬🇧 As the English settlements grew, violent conflicts ensued.
- 🇬🇧 Indigenous Peoples were frustrated with the English encroachment into their lands, as well as their violations of nature and wildlife.
- 🇬🇧 When Indigenous leaders and representatives entered into Treaties with the English they thought they were creating relationships, not granting ownership (an unknown concept) to the settlers.



Interpretation – Two very different relationships:

The French tended to develop relationships with Indigenous Peoples and Nations. New France was a vast territory under-populated by Europeans who were dependent on Indigenous Peoples for trade & military alliances, as well as information about the land.

As the English populations grew in the 13 colonies, they began occupying more and more Indigenous lands, pushing their communities deeper into the continent.