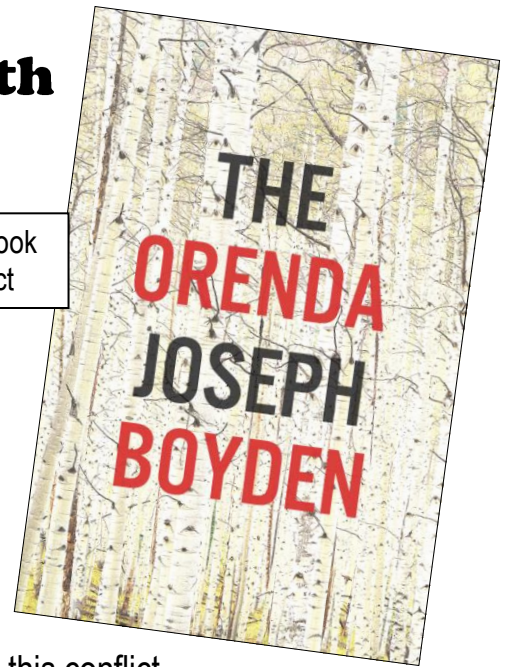


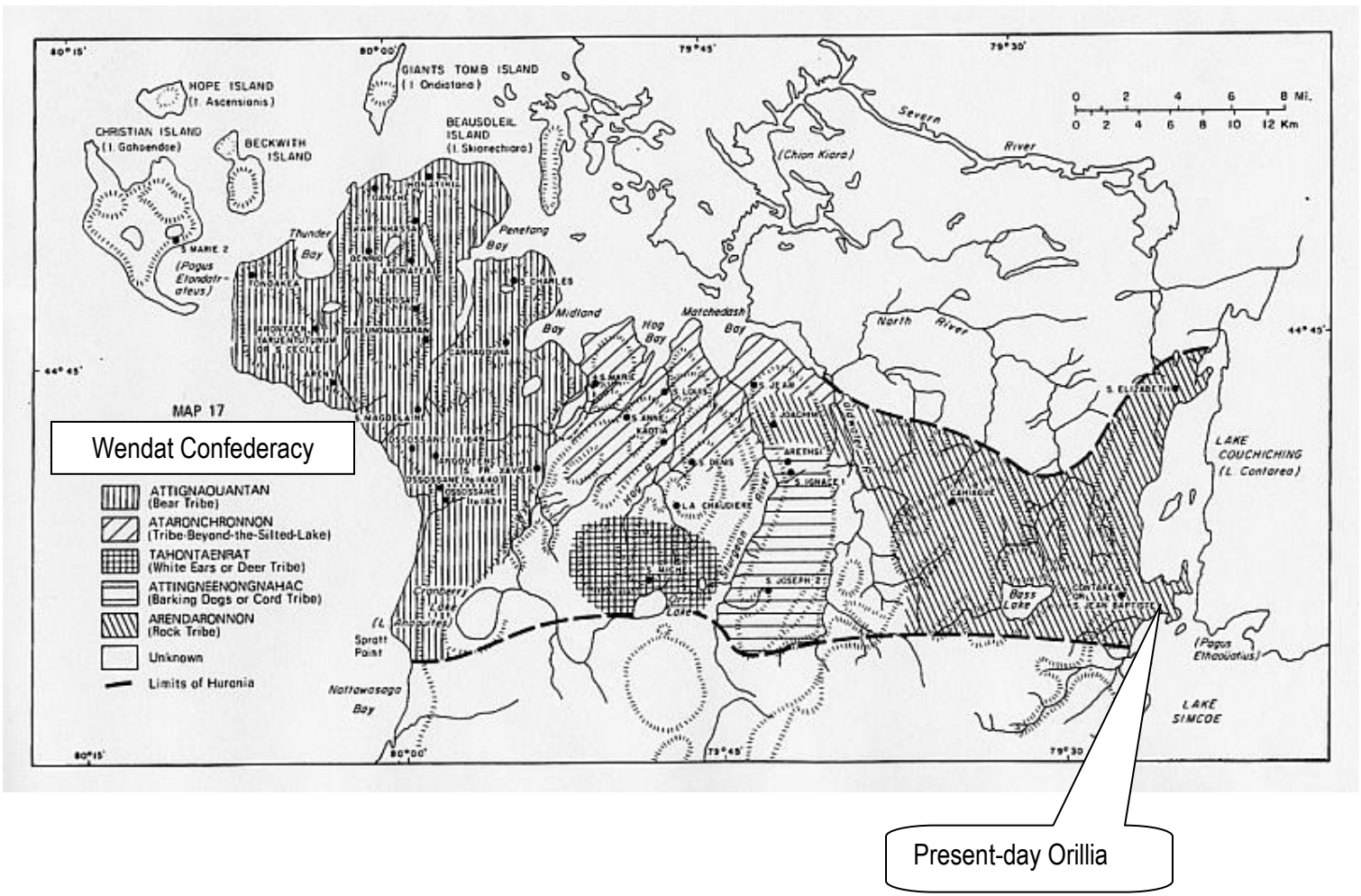
The Beaver Wars & their aftermath (aka the Huron-Iroquois War)¹

Canadian writer Joseph Boyden's 2013 book *The Orenda* takes place during this conflict



Important Information:

- Remember that the Wendat Confederacy was located north of Flamborough
- Haudenosuane territory was located along the southern shore of Lake Ontario (in modern-day upstate New York)
- The Chonnonton people living in Flamborough were called “Neutrals” by the French because they did not pick a side during this conflict.



¹ Updated March 2017

Allies:

Haudenosuantee	Wendat
English & Dutch	French

Something else you should know: New France was completely dependant on the Fur Trade at this point – an industry that depended on their relationship with the Native Peoples (in their case, the Wendat).

The Situation:

There had always been conflict between the Haudenosuantee and Wendat people – but it was fairly balanced.

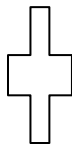
Wendat Confederacy

The Wendat population had dropped 30-50% since First Contact, settling at around 10,000.

- Disease had killed most of the nation's great leaders.
- The Wendat were divided by those who accepted the teachings of the Jesuits, and those who rejected them.
- The Wendat acted as the go-betweens for the fur trappers and the French Government.



New France was completely dependent on the fur trade, but had exhausted their lands of fur supplies – THEY NEEDED NEW HUNTING GROUNDS.



The French fur trappers needed us to help them locate new hunting grounds, as well as supply them with fur.

Haudenosuantee (led by the Mohawk people)

- Also decimated by disease
- The Jesuits had not infiltrated this population – so they were not divided by religion
- Started disrupting trade lines between the Wendat Confederacy and New France
- Were supplied weapons by the Dutch (this is what tipped the balance in favour of the Haudenosuantee) in 1648



What was the genesis (creation) of the conflict?

Where did the war take place?

- Right here – Flamborough experienced many “battles.” See pages 6-11 in *The Extraordinary History of Flamborough: East Flamborough, West Flamborough & Waterdown (Flamborough Heritage Society, 2017)*.
- The Chonnonton were caught in the middle of the two sides and virtually destroyed by 1653. Only a few scattered villages remained – at least four settlements are known to have existed between Waterdown and Carlisle.

Christian Island

- In 1649, thousands of Wendat refugees and a few Jesuit missionaries took refuge during the winter on the island during the conflict. The Jesuits called the island St. Joseph Island. With insufficient food, many of the First Nations people starved during the winter.
- The Jesuits and most of the Wendat refugees left the island and travelled to Quebec in the summer of 1650. The remaining Wendat, along with the surviving remnants of the Khionontateronon, an Iroquoian group living at the base of the Niagara Escarpment near present-day Collingwood, left the island in 1651. The Khionontateronon had suffered serious losses in Haudenosaunee raids in late 1649 and 1650. Their descendants eventually settled in the Detroit-Windsor area. Some were later forcibly resettled by U.S. authorities in Oklahoma.



The result of the war:

- The Wendat Confederacy was destroyed by the Haudenosuanees
- Surviving Wendat were adopted into Haudenosuanees communities.
- Some Huron (600) escape to settle outside of Quebec City.
- The Haudenosuanees spread out, absorbing other Native nations that had traditionally been allies of the French.
- Wampum belts, such as the **Dish With One Spoon**, were exchanged between the Haudenosuanees and Anishinaabe Peoples to bring peace to the land.
- Now vacant, the Flamborough region was resettled by the Mississaugas (Anishinaabe). **See pages 12-15 in *The Extraordinary History of Flamborough: East Flamborough, West Flamborough & Waterdown* (Flamborough Heritage Society, 2017).**

What would be the result of this new situation as far as New France is concerned?



Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation: Traditional Territory

