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The Canadian State: Documents & Dialogue

Educational Resources

Canadian Globe

Government is about more than administering policies and guiding the state's internal needs. The Canadian government has an important role to play in the international community. Trade, technology, human rights, security, and culture all inform the relationship between states. Skilful diplomacy is required to promote Canadian values at home and around the world.

Use Further Research and Canadian Documents to help you with the activities below.

Activity 10: Money Doesn't Grow On Trees!

What comes to mind when you think of the "global economy"? Think of the various products that Canada exports (such as electricity, water, and grain) and some of the responsibilities and consequences that come with participation in a global economy (like NAFTA, softwood lumber agreements, and copyright laws). Use Further Research and Canadian Documents for examples of important issues.

In 250 words, your challenge is to examine Canada's economic independence. How independent are we? Should we be more or less interdependent with other countries? Do we have a choice? Based on your findings, what policies for international relations and trade would



your political party develop? What challenges or obstacles to your plans do you foresee?

Compose Your Thoughts

This document describes a constitution for "The United States of Canada." Does Canada have distinctive characteristics other countries should emulate?

Program of the "Club de l'indépendance du Canada," listing political resolutions entitled "Canada for Canadians," ca. 1880-1889 [[Source](#)]



Club de l'Indépendance DU CANADA



PROGRAMME

Le Canada aux Canadiens

- I. Rupture du lien colonial et déclaration de l'Indépendance du Canada.
- II. Le nom de la nouvelle fédération sera les "États-Unis du Canada."
- III. Les Provinces deviendront des *États* avec des pouvoirs souverains.
- IV. L'autorité fédérale aura seulement les pouvoirs qui lui seront spécialement délégués par les *États Souverains*.
- V. Aucun pouvoir ne sera délégué par les États Souverains au Gouvernement Fédéral sans l'assentiment de la majorité des délégués de chacun des États Souverains convoqués en Assemblée Nationale.
- VI. Création de milices d'États sous le haut commandement d'un officier fédéral, aidé d'un Chef d'État-Major.
- VII. Suffrage Universel.
- VIII. Les grandes voies de communication (chemin de fer, canaux, télégraphes, etc.), appartiendront à l'État.
- IX. Les mines seront exploitées sous le contrôle de chaque État, ainsi que les forêts et les pouvoirs d'eau.
- X. Chaque État aura le contrôle de tous les monopoles et un impôt progressif sera établi sur les profits dépassant 5 pour cent.
- XI. Établissement d'une Banque Nationale, et tout argent sera mis en circulation par l'autorité fédérale.
- XII. Établissement de banques de Crédit Agricole sous le contrôle des États. Des prêts seront faits aux cultivateurs et colons *bona fide* au taux de 3 pour cent.
- XIII. Les municipalités auront la propriété des tramways, aqueducs, gaz, industrie électrique, y compris les téléphones et tous les services publics.
- XIV. Loi fixant les heures de travail et le minimum des gages. Création d'un système de pension de retraite pour les ouvriers âgés de 60 ans.
- XV. Toutes les lois devront être sanctionnées par un *referendum* de tous les électeurs.
- XVI. L'arbitrage sera obligatoire entre capitalistes et travailleurs.
- XVII. Éducation gratuite et obligatoire.
- XVIII. L'Île de Terre-Neuve pourra être admis dans les États-Unis du Canada comme état souverain.

Canada for Canadians

- I. Dissolution of the Colonial relation, and declaration of the Independence of Canada.
- II. The title of the new federation to be "The United States of Canada."
- III. The Provinces to become States with Sovereign Power.
- IV. The Federal Authority to have only such powers as shall be specially delegated to it by the Sovereign States.
- V. No power shall be delegated to the Federal Authority except with the assent of the majority of the Delegates of each of the Sovereign States convened in a National Assembly.
- VI. Creation of a State Militia under command of a Federal Officer assisted by a Chief of the General Staff.
- VII. Universal Suffrage.
- VIII. The great highways and services (railways, canals, telegraphs, etc.) to be public property.
- IX. The mines to be worked under the control of each State, as also the forests and water powers.
- X. Each state to have the control of all monopolies, and a progressive tax to be placed on all profits over and above 5 per cent.
- XI. Establishment of a National Bank, and all money to be issued by the Federal Authority.
- XII. Establishment of Agricultural Banks of Credit under the Control of each State, Loans to be made to *bona fide* farmers and settlers at 3 per cent.
- XIII. Municipalities to own the tramways, waterworks, gasworks, electrical works, including telephones and other public services.
- XIV. Laws to be enacted fixing hours of work, minimum wages, and old age pensions for workers at 60 years of age.
- XV. All laws to be sanctioned by a Referendum to the whole electorate.
- XVI. Compulsory arbitration of all differences between capital and labor.
- XVII. Free compulsory education
- XVIII. The Island of Newfoundland to enter the Federal Union as a Sovereign State.