

## Territorial Evolution, 1898

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### Abstract

The District of Yukon is separated from the Northwest Territories to become Yukon Territory with the boundaries as assigned to the district in 1895. The boundaries of Quebec are extended northward to the Eastmain River.

Canada's long and diversified settlement history is reflected in the two distinct patterns of boundaries that differentiate between eastern and western Canada. The eastern boundaries closely conform to natural features such as drainage basins, while the boundaries of western and northern Canada. reflect the administrative organisation of these lands by, first, the Hudson's Bay Company and later the Government of Canada.

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### Canada

In 1898, the Yukon District was separated from the Northwest Territories and established as a separate territory. The northern boundaries of the province of Quebec also changed in 1898.



**Figure 1:** Photograph of the Town of MacLeod, Alberta

**Source:** Dawson, G.M., 1898. Geological Survey of Canada.

## **Yukon**

Although the government of Canada had created the Yukon District because of the need for law and order in the area, it was soon found that further provision was needed because over 90 percent of the people in the district were foreigners who had no wish to settle in the area.

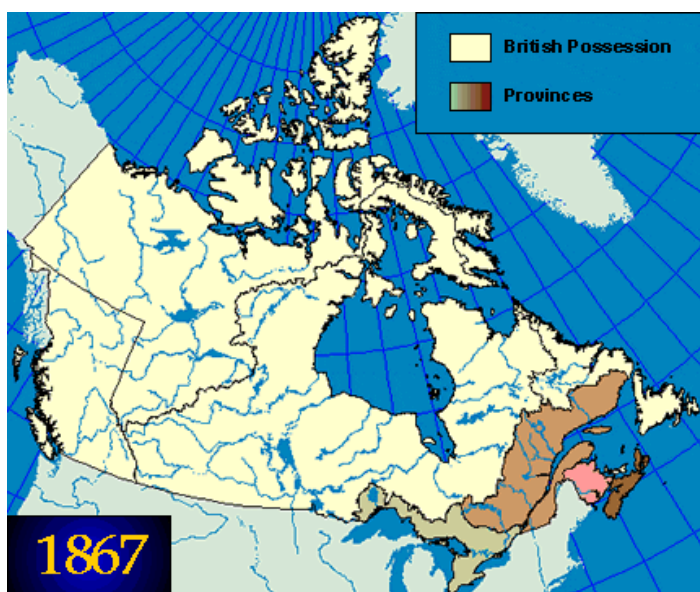
In 1898, by an Act of Parliament, the Yukon was established as a separate territory, in order to ensure the proper administration of the area. The boundaries of the new territory were the ones established in 1895.

## **Quebec**

The northern boundary of Quebec had been determined based on the boundary of the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company. This boundary had been set as the Rupert's River, but in 1701, the Company had accepted to consider the Eastmain River as the boundary; this fact gave the province of Quebec some claim to more territory. After the northern boundary of Ontario was extended in 1889, Quebec asked to have its northern boundaries extended. Before this could be done, it became necessary to survey the area to determine which branch of the Eastmain would be followed. It was only in 1895, that the Dominion Surveyor General reported that he had enough information from the surveys to determine a new northern boundary for Quebec. In 1898, new boundaries for Quebec were delimited in the north, and in the east. The eastern boundary was not very precise, because it was an international boundary with a British colony, which had never been officially defined. The western boundary followed the boundary that had been defined between the District of Ungava and the Province of Ontario.

## **Animation of the territorial evolution of Canada from 1867 to 1999**

The animation, *Territorial Evolution 1867 to 1999\_e.gif* is located in the animated gif folder.



Canada's boundaries are dynamic political structures that reflect the changing political, economic and cultural conditions of the country through time. This animation shows sequentially the history of boundary changes in Canada from Confederation to the creation of Nunavut.

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## Map Sources

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## **Related Web sites (1999 – 2009)**

### **Federal Government**

Canada: A People's History

<http://www.cbc.ca/history/webdriver?MIval=EpisodeSum2.html&lang=E>

Episode summaries of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's documentary series about the history of Canada.

Government of Canada. *Canada's Digital Collections. The Acadian Odyssey*

<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/acadian/english/toce/toce.htm>

*The History of Acadia and the Acadian Experience in Canada*

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/>

Information on the Department and on services offered to First Nations People. See "Publications and Research" for recent data on Aboriginal population, First Nations Profiles, news on treaties and land claims, etc.

National Library of Canada and National Archives of Canada

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/>

The National Archives of Canada authorizes the disposal of records by federal government institutions and specifies the terms and conditions for their long-term preservation when they have archival value or historic importance; offers advice and orientation to support government institutions in the business of information management and record keeping; and provides records storage facilities.

The National Library's Canadian Confederation Web site

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/confederation/index-e.html>



## **Provincial/Territorial Government**

### **British Columbia Archives**

<http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/index.htm>

### **Gouvernement du Québec. Archives nationales du Québec (available in French only)**

<http://www.banq.qc.ca/accueil/>

Les Archives nationales du Québec conservent des milliers de fonds : 43 km de documents écrits, 7 000 000 de photographies, 800 000 cartes et plans, 53 000 heures d'enregistrements sonores, de films.

### **Government of Manitoba. Archives of Manitoba**

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/>

Manitoba's rich documentary past is accessible to you at the Archives of Manitoba, which also houses the world-renowned archives of the Hudson's Bay Company.

### **Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Provincial Archives**

<http://www.gov.nf.ca/panl/>

### **Government of Nunavut**

<http://www.gov.nu.ca/Nunavut/English/departments/CLEY/>

### **Government of Ontario. Archives of Ontario**

<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/>

### **Government of Prince Edward Island. Department of Education. Public Archives and Records Office**

<http://www.edu.pe.ca/paro/>

The Public Archives and Records Office of Prince Edward Island (PARO) acquires, preserves, and makes available for public research the records of the government of this province and private-sector papers and records deemed to be of lasting historical value.

### **Northwest Territories Archives**

<http://pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/programs/nwtarchives.asp>

### **Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management**

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/>

### **Provincial Archives of Alberta**

[http://www.culture.alberta.ca/preserving/paa\\_2002/index.asp](http://www.culture.alberta.ca/preserving/paa_2002/index.asp)

### **Provincial Archives of New Brunswick**

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Archives/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA>

### **Saskatchewan Archives Board**

<http://www.saskarchives.com/web/index.html>

## Yukon Archives

<http://www.btc.gov.yk.ca/archives/index.html>

## Other

### Canadian Geographic's Mapping Canada

<http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/mapping/default.asp>

### Canadian Heritage Gallery

<http://www.canadianheritage.com/index2.htm>

The Canadian Heritage Gallery is a very extensive collection of historical Canadiana on the Internet.

### Historical Atlas of Canada Online Learning Project

<http://www.historicalatlas.ca/website/hacolp/>

This site is still under development but promises to be an excellent site for historical maps of Canada. All maps shown on the site have been adapted from the printed version of three-volume Historical Atlas of Canada.

### Musée McCord Museum

<http://www.mccord-museum.qc.ca/en/>

Founded in 1921 by David Ross McCord, the McCord Museum conserves, studies and presents a remarkable collection of objects, archives and historical photographs, from the 18th century to the present.

### The Hudson's Bay Company Archives

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/index.html>

The HBCA offers a wealth of information on the human and natural history of western and northern Canada and the western USA. Whether you are an historian, genealogist, ethnologist, environmental scientist or land claims researcher, the HBCA may be able to help.

### Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (ACMLA)

<http://www.acmla.org/>

ACMLA actively serves as the representative professional group for Canadian map librarians, cartographic archivists and others interested in geographic information in all formats.

