

Treaties in Canada

- North America, prior to newcomers, was populated by many nations of people with different languages, cultures, religions, ways of life and traditional territories.
- When First Nations met with each other they negotiated alliances that were mutually beneficial. These alliances established peaceful relationships among them which included trade, passage, peace and friendship, and other obligations and responsibilities.



First Nation Treaty-Making

- First Nations had their own process of **Treaty-making** that had existed for thousands of years.
- The ceremony and the items used within the First Nations' **Treaty-making** process differed from culture to culture it followed the general format of: introductions, gift-giving, time spent getting to know each other, negotiations and the formalization of the **Treaty** through a pipe ceremony.
- After the pipe ceremony, the **Treaty** would then be seen as a tri-party agreement between the two parties and the Creator.



Pre-Confederation Treaties

- The **Royal Proclamation** was issued by Britain's King George III in 1763. It provided for the protection of First Nation territories by establishing First Nation 'hunting grounds'. No European settlement, occupation, or infringement would be permitted in these 'hunting grounds' without the consent of the Crown.
- The Proclamation recognized First Nation occupation and use of territories not already treated.
- It also established the 'Trust Relationship' between the Crown and First Nations by stating that only the Crown could 'purchase' the land from the First Nations.



Numbered Treaties

- Between 1871 and 1921, the Crown entered into **Treaties** with various First Nations that enabled the Canadian government to actively pursue agriculture, settlement, transportation links and resource development of the Canadian West and the North.
- Because they were numbered 1 to 11, these **Treaties** were often referred to as the '**Numbered Treaties**' and covered northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, northeastern British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories.



Treaties in Manitoba

- **Treaties 1 through 5** encompass the majority of Manitoba.
- The **Treaties** were negotiated and entered into by Treaty Commissioners on behalf of the Crown and First Nations leaders.



Treaties in Manitoba

- **Treaty No. 1** was negotiated and entered into on August 1871 at Lower Fort Garry.
- **Treaty No. 2** , August 1871 at Manitoba House.
- **Treaty No. 3** , October 1873 the Northwest Angle of Lake of the Woods.
- **Treaty No. 4** , September 1874 at Fort Qu'appelle. First Nations within Manitoba entered into adhesions to Treaty No. 4 at Fort Ellice.
- **Treaty No. 5**, 1875 at Beren's River, Norway House, and Grand Rapids. Adhesions to Treaty No. 5 were entered into throughout Manitoba's north.
- **Treaty No. 6**, August 1876 at Fort Carlton.
- **Treaty No. 10** , 1906 at Canoe Lake.
- Treaties No. 6 & No. 10 have no territories in Manitoba; however, four communities are signatory to those Treaties.
- The **Dakota** people were not a part of the Numbered Treaties; however, they are recognized as having use and occupation of territories within Manitoba and have secured alliances and arrangements with the Crown and First Nations.

Treaty Benefits

- **Treaties** were negotiated and entered into to define, among other things, the respective rights of First Nation people and governments to use and enjoy lands that First Nations people traditionally occupied.
- Each side benefitted from the **Treaty** agreement.
- First Nations got: hunting and fishing rights, reserved lands, education and health rights.
- The Crown got: land for farming and settlement, natural resources, peaceful expansion.



‘We Are All Treaty People’

- All people in Manitoba have benefitted from the partnership created by the **Treaties**.

**WE ARE ALL
TREATY PEOPLE**



Winnipeg Police Service Officer **Edith Turner**, a member of a Treaty No. 5 First Nation, and President of the LadyBug Foundation **Hannah Taylor** from a Treaty No. 1 community are happy to enjoy the obligations and benefits of being a part of the Treaty relationship.