

More Settlers Arrive & Becoming a Province

- Review -

Important Terms:

You do NOT need to memorize these, just make sure you go over them!

- **Homestead** – Free land that the settlers were given by the Canadian government
- **Confederation** – The process of uniting the British colonies to form Canada
- **Economy** – the wealth and richness of an area
- **Good Economy** – one with lots of jobs, businesses, and people spending money
- **Bad Economy** – one with too few jobs, businesses closing down, people are not spending money
- **Recession** – the term used to say an economy is struggling
- **Breadbasket of Canada** – a term used for Alberta because most farmers in Alberta grew wheat
- **Dustbowl Years** – the time during the 1930's when the drought hit Alberta, and farming was severely affected
- **Dustbowl** – the new term used for Alberta. It was no longer considered Canada's breadbasket
- **Turner Valley** – the area in Alberta where oil was first found
- **Leduc** – the area in Alberta where LOTS of oil was found, which drastically improved Alberta's economy
- **Tourism** – when people vacation and visit interesting places. Tourism brings people to Alberta who spend money in our economy!
- **Demographics** – information about a population and particular groups within it
- **Population** – all the people who live in an area
- **Diverse Population** – A population that is made up of people from many different cultures and backgrounds

Extra Information:

- After the railway was built, the government wanted to advertise to settlers so that even more people would be willing to move to the west. They did this by offering free land (which was called a **homestead**), BUT the settlers had to agree to a few things first:
 - live on the land for at least three years
 - build a house there
 - prepare the land for farming

- Many immigrants who came to Canada would settle near others with the same culture, religion, or home country, so that they would not feel so alone in a new place.

- The land that we live on was not always known as Alberta. It began as part of the North West Territories until joining **Confederation** in **1905**. There was much debate over whether Alberta should join Confederation. Below are some of the considerations that the people of Alberta made!
 - As more settlers arrived in the area, more services were needed. Alberta did not want to ask for more tax money from settlers to pay for these services, but they needed to get money from somewhere. If Alberta joined Confederation, it would receive more money from the Canadian government to pay for these services, and wouldn't have to ask settlers for more tax money!
 - As well, much of the money coming from Alberta's natural resources went to the government in Ottawa! Alberta didn't get all of the money from its natural resources, even though it was money that Alberta had made. If Alberta joined Confederation, they would get the money from their natural resources
 - Some people however, did not want Alberta to become a province because then it would have to follow Canada's laws. Some of the people (mainly Francophones) did not like that in Canada, English was the language of education. They also did not like that the government of Canada did not want to give money to Catholic schools!

- Alberta's population in today is about 4.3 million! That's a huge change since 1901 when it had a population of 73,000!

- Alberta has a very diverse population, as the people who settled Alberta many years ago came from many different countries. Today, we celebrate our diversity in

many ways – we learned about festivals that are held to celebrate the many cultural backgrounds we have in Alberta!

- There are three main topics that we learned about that affect or have affected Alberta's economy:
 - Agriculture and the drought in the 1930's
 - The discovery of oil
 - Tourism