

# Activity 3

## FOUNDING FRIENDS AND FOES

### Objectives

To become familiar with:

- the various points of view that have contributed to our uniquely Canadian form of democracy;
- how forces of conflict and compromise affect the course of a country's history and its government; and
- terms like "language rights," and "provincial powers."

### Suggested Sources:

Textbooks, library resources, and the Web sites listed at the back of this guide such as *The Canadian Encyclopedia*.

As well, *Canada in the Making* at <http://www.canadiana.org/citm/>;

*Canadian Confederation: People* at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/confederation/h18-2300-e.html>;

*Confederation for Kids: People* at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/2/2/h2-1500-e.html>; and

*The Canadiana Scrapbook Series* are useful resources.

### Directions

1. Have pairs choose two notable figures from Canada's past. They should conduct research on people to find an issue or event related to how Canadians should be governed and about which both personalities felt strongly. They should then research each person's point of view, and their reasons, based on their background and circumstances.

*Suggestions:*

General James Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm

Tecumseh and Major-General Sir Isaac Brock

Sir Francis Bond Head and William Lyon Mackenzie

Lord Durham or Governor General Charles Metcalfe and Sir Charles Bagot

Henri Bourassa and Sir Wilfrid Laurier

Louis Riel and Crowfoot

Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir George-Étienne Cartier

Sir John A. Macdonald and Queen Victoria

Sir John A. Macdonald and Oliver Mowat

Various pairings from the Fathers of Confederation

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Queen Victoria

Robert Baldwin and Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine

The Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau and René Lévesque

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney and the Honourable Lucien Bouchard

The Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King and Lord Byng

The Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent and Joseph Smallwood

Others from your province/territory/community

2. Users have a choice of outcomes from their research. They may choose to:
  - a) Script an interview with or brief informal debate between the pair. The interview/debate could be reported in newspaper format, conducted live in front of the group, or videotaped. The length and depth of the debate should vary according to grade level and ability. A benchmark would be a newspaper article with 250 words of text produced by *each* individual or 500 words combined, or a debate of four to six minutes based on a dialogue script of three to five pages.
  - b) Draw (as a direct representation or political cartoon) an encounter between these two with clear reference to their personalities, politics and a significant event in their political lives. The cartoon should include a caption and speech balloons. An individual working alone may choose to draw an editorial-style cartoon.
  - c) Write a song or poem describing an encounter or debate between the two figures.