

CHAPTER 3

THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR AND THE CONQUEST OF NEW FRANCE: 1754–1774

WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR ON NORTH AMERICA?

LEARNING GOALS

As you work through this chapter, you will

- analyze the causes of conflict among the French, the British, and First Nations in North America during the Seven Years' War
- consider the significance of different key people and events throughout the war
- understand the consequences of the war and the conquest on different groups of people
- create and analyze maps related to the Seven Years' War

The conflict that took place in North America in the mid-1700s has many different names: the Seven Years' War, the War of Conquest, the French and Indian War. This war has also been called the first true world war. Conflicts between the French and British in North America heightened in 1754. By 1756, the war had spread to Europe, India, the African coast, Central America, and the Philippines.

Britain and France were competing for control of trade and commerce around the world. Each wanted control of North America's vast resources. This led to fighting over forts. Troops from one side would attack and capture their opponent's fort, only to lose control of a fort somewhere else.

The engraving seen here, *A View of the Taking of Québec, Sept 13, 1759*, by John Bowles, is based on a sketch by Hervey Smyth. Smyth was British General James Wolfe's military aid during the siege of Québec City. The painting illustrates the battle of the Plains of Abraham, one of the most important battles of the Seven Years' War. Looking at this engraving, who do you think won this battle and how?

As you explore this chapter, consider how the Seven Years' War helped to shape the Canada you live in today.

