

THE EXPANSION OF CANADA: 1869–1884

WHAT WERE THE CONSEQUENCES OF CONFEDERATION?

LEARNING GOALS

As you work through this chapter, you will

- analyze how different groups reacted to Confederation
- investigate the changing relationships between different groups in Canada
- evaluate past government policies and practices toward different groups
- contextualize text sources

Did you know that Canada's motto is "From Sea to Sea"? After Confederation, Canada expanded from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Prime Minister John A. Macdonald wanted to encourage settlement in the West. In order to do this, it was important to build a railway connecting British Columbia to the eastern provinces. The government also wanted a way to settle the prairie land where First Nations lived.

First Nations had seen and been affected by the changes in Canada. They negotiated treaties with the government in an effort to protect some of their land and rights. This painting is entitled *The Blackfoot Treaty (Treaty 7), 1877, Crowfoot Speaking*. It was created by A. Bruce Stapleton who lived from 1910 to 1981. The painting focuses on Crowfoot (also known as Sahpo Muxika), a Siksika chief, negotiating with Colonel James Macleod and Lieutenant-Governor David Laird, two officials from the Canadian government. A language interpreter is sitting beside Crowfoot. What point of view does this painting represent? What evidence supports your response?

As you explore this chapter, you will examine the factors and developments that contributed to this period of expansion in Canadian history. You will also investigate the challenges different groups living in Canada faced after Confederation.

