Social Studies 10-1

Unit 2: Legacies of historical globalization

Cultural contact

Goods and new rules

- Birchbark canoes and snowshoes made the inland trade possible, and they were Indigenous technologies.
- Copper pots, wool, and guns moved the other way, into Indigenous and Métis communities.
- In 1763 the Royal Proclamation said settlers needed a Crown process before taking Indigenous land.

Three impacts on river communities

- Goods and technologies moved: metal pots, guns, cloth, canoes, snowshoes, and pemmican.
- Depopulation followed epidemics that traveled the same corridors as traders.
- Governments changed as the Crown, the company, and Indigenous law all claimed a say.

Key terms

cultural contact

Cultural contact is the meeting of peoples in which goods, ideas, diseases, and institutions move between them.

depopulation

Depopulation is a sharp drop in the number of people, in this history often from epidemics after contact.

pemmican

Pemmican is a preserved food of pounded meat and fat, produced in large amounts by Métis and First Nations suppliers for the fur trade.

Royal Proclamation

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 is a British statement that recognized Indigenous title and set a process for settlement on Indigenous land.

Three impacts on a map

- Trace a good: pemmican from the plains to the brigades heading north and west.
- Trace a loss: smallpox moving along the same posts where peo-ple met.
- Trace a rule: the Proclamation line and, later, numbered treaties on those watersheds.

Map legend for three impacts

- Goods: canoes, pemmican, furs, metal, and cloth moving along rivers and cart trails.
- Depopulation: epidemic marks at meeting places where travelers shared camps.
- Institutions: company posts, the 1763 proclamation, and Indigenous councils that already governed the routes.

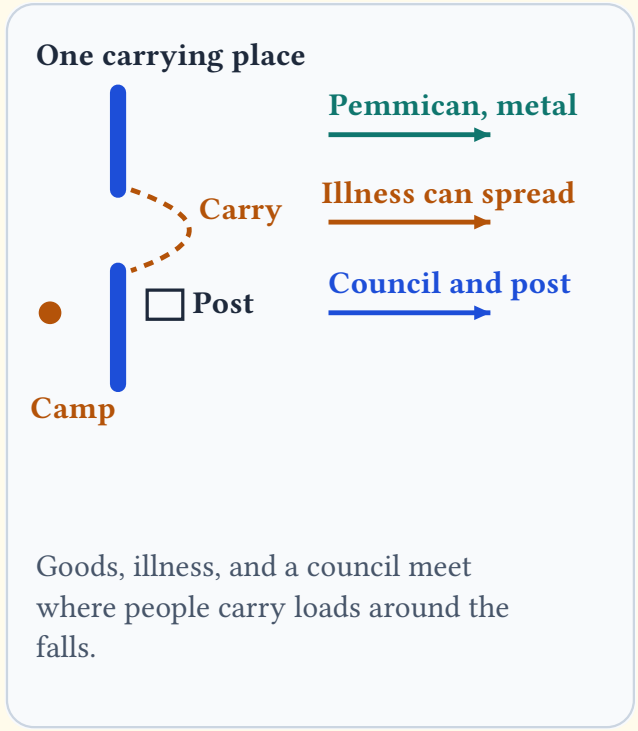
Stops on the fur route



The posts and the portage are the travel route. The 1763 mark lays a new rule on that same route.

Inference from one post

- The post sits where a river meets a carrying place, so brigades must stop.
- Stopping means trade in pemmican and metal, and it also means shared camps.
- Shared camps explain how an epidemic and a new rule can arrive with the goods.



Goods, illness, and a council meet where people carry loads around the falls.

The Red River cart trail

- Red River carts carried pemmican and trade goods across the plains.
- Métis families built that freight system and a distinct community at Red River.
- The trail also brought newcomers, surveyors, and arguments about land.



Review

- Two rivers meet and brigades must unload.
- Food, metal, and news change hands.
- The answer names goods, depopulation risk, and a governing change.

Image credits

Unknown photographer, Library and Archives Canada e011156506_s1, Métis Traders on the Plains, CC BY 2.0