

TOPIC 6.1

Road to Confederation

Did Newfoundland make the right choice when it joined Canada in 1949?

If Newfoundland had remained on its own as a country, what might be different today?



6.1 Smallwood campaigning for Confederation

6.2 Steps in the Confederation process, 1946-1949

THE CONFEDERATION PROCESS

Sept. 11, 1946: The National Convention opens.

April 24, 1947: The London delegation departs.

June 19, 1947: The Ottawa delegation departs.

Jan. 28, 1948: The National Convention decides not to put confederation as an option on the referendum ballot.

March 11, 1948: Overriding the National Convention's decision, Britain announces that confederation will be on the ballot after all.

June 3, 1948: First referendum is held.

July 22, 1948: Second referendum is held.

Dec. 11, 1948: Terms of Union are signed between Canada and Newfoundland.

March 31, 1949: Newfoundland officially becomes the tenth province of Canada.

April 1, 1949: Joseph R. Smallwood and his cabinet are sworn in as an interim government until the first provincial election can be held.

*This date is significant because it suggests that the confederates expected confederation to be on the referendum ballot, although this was not announced until March 11, 1948.

The Referendum Campaigns: The Confederates

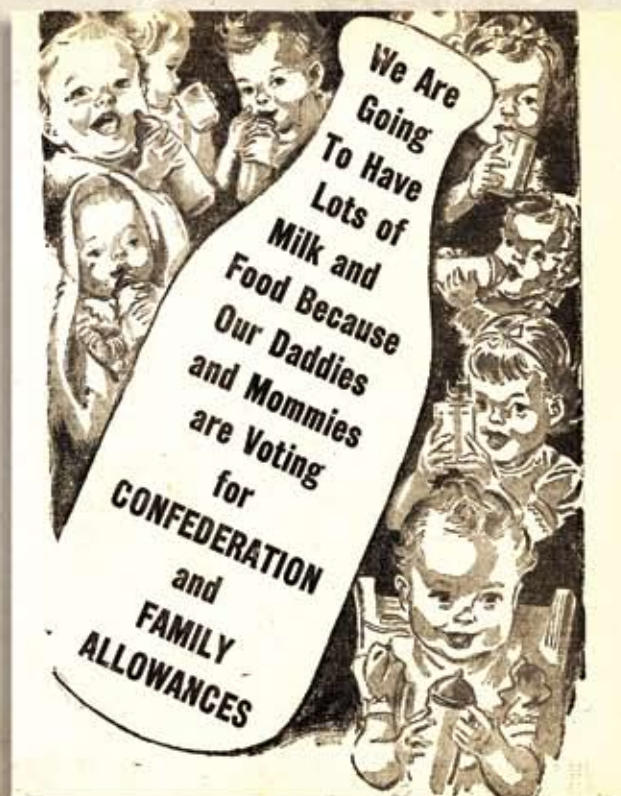
Despite the decision by the National Convention on January 28, 1948 not to include Confederation on the referendum ballot, the British government announced on March 11 that it would be placed on the ballot as an option after all. With the date of the first referendum set for June 3, this seemingly did not give either side of the debate much time to prepare for their campaigns. However, the Confederate Association, formed to advocate that Newfoundland join Canada, had a head start as it was created on February 21, 1948.*

The Confederate Association elected Gordon Bradley as president and Joseph Smallwood as campaign manager. Its campaign was officially launched on April 7, 1948, although it had really begun when the National Convention defeated Smallwood's motion to include confederation on the referendum ballot. Since that time, Bradley and Smallwood had given regular radio addresses over VONF and VOCM, condemning the delegates who had voted down confederation as the "29 dictators."

The Confederate Association was well-funded, well-organized, and had an effective island-wide network. It focused on the material advantages of confederation, especially in terms of improved social services – family allowance (the "baby bonus"), unemployment insurance, better pensions, and a lower cost of living. At the same time, the confederates convinced voters that the anti-confederates represented the mercantile elite. They reminded voters of the corruption and poverty of the 1920s and 1930s, and suggested that a vote for responsible government would signal a return to depression-era poverty. These messages were combined in the confederates' strong appeal to families and the parents of young children. The Association's newspaper, *The Confederate*, described children as the future of Newfoundland, and argued that a brighter future lay with Canada. A vote for confederation was a vote for children.

"Playing on the fears and suspicions that Newfoundlanders associated with Responsible Government, and linking those fears explicitly to the well-being of the country's children, Smallwood and his fellow Confederates utilised ... the notion that a vote against Confederation was an abdication of parental responsibility ..."

– Karen Stanbridge, "Framing Children in the Newfoundland Confederation Debate, 1948," 2007



6.3 From *The Confederate*, June 23, 1948

The confederates used the idea that if one wanted to be a good parent, he or she needed to vote for confederation.



6.4 From *The Confederate*, May 5, 1948

The confederates often depicted anti-confederates as the mercantile elite.

The Referendum Campaigns: The Anti-Confederates



6.5 Chesley Crosbie, leader of the Economic Union Party

Compared to the Confederate Association, the anti-confederates had less funding, were less organized, and lacked clear leadership. Indeed, the anti-confederates were disunited and consisted of several groups with

differing interests: the Responsible Government League, the Economic Union Party, and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese. However, despite the shortcomings of the anti-confederate campaign, it had widespread support. Its appeal was nationalistic and anti-confederates implored people: "Don't sell your country."

The Responsible Government League (RGL) argued that Newfoundland was economically and financially healthy, with rich natural resources and a strategic location in the North Atlantic. It thought that confederation was unnecessary and that the proposed terms of union posed a threat to the fisheries and the local industries that were protected by Newfoundland tariffs. Its platform was that responsible government should be restored first. Newfoundlanders could then decide whether or not confederation was the best option for the future and only then negotiate terms of union.

The Economic Union Party (EUP) argued for economic union with the United States. It was led by successful businessman Chesley Crosbie,* who believed that if Newfoundland could export its resources to the United States, the economy would be strong enough for responsible government to succeed. However, since that was not an option on the referendum ballot, the Economic Union Party supported responsible

6.6 A cartoon from *The Independent*, March 29, 1948, promoting economic union with the United States



*After confederation won the referendum, Crosbie served on the delegation from Newfoundland that negotiated terms of union. He did not sign these terms because he felt that the financial clauses would not allow Newfoundland's provincial government to balance its books.

*The Roman Catholic Church in eastern Newfoundland was largely the voice of Newfoundlanders of Irish extraction. West coast Roman Catholics seem to have been largely confederate.

government as a step towards that goal.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese also argued for the restoration of responsible government, which it had been active in attaining in 1855. At the very least, it argued, responsible government should be restored before consideration was given to confederation with Canada. In particular, the Church* was concerned with keeping the denominational school system, which it feared would be destroyed with confederation.

6.7 A letter from the Roman Catholic Archbishop of St. John's supporting responsible government, from *The Monitor*, April 1948

6.8 A cartoon from *The Independent*, April 5, 1948, suggesting joining Canada would mean extra taxes for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians

Experiencing The Arts

Wallace Ryan is a local political cartoonist. Read more about him and see his work on page 654.

ONCE

His Grace The Archbishop Speaks To Young Newfoundland

[Extract from letter to St. Bonaventure's Alumni July, 1947]

"There would seem to be ground for the criticism we sometimes hear that our people, our young people especially, are indifferent to matters vitally affecting the welfare of our country. That is due partly to the fact that the present generation of youth has grown up in an undemocratic atmosphere, and with no practical experience of democratic government. It may also be due to some extent to the prosperity which came to us as a result of the war. There is a wealth of wisdom in the well-known lines of the Irish poet Goldsmith:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

"But whatever the cause, there is a general apathy among the younger generation from which we must awake if we are to avert a national disaster. It is to the younger generation we must look for the leadership of the future. There is no dearth of men in the country eminently qualified for positions of trust and responsibility in any field, but they fail to give the leadership which the country has a right to expect from them.

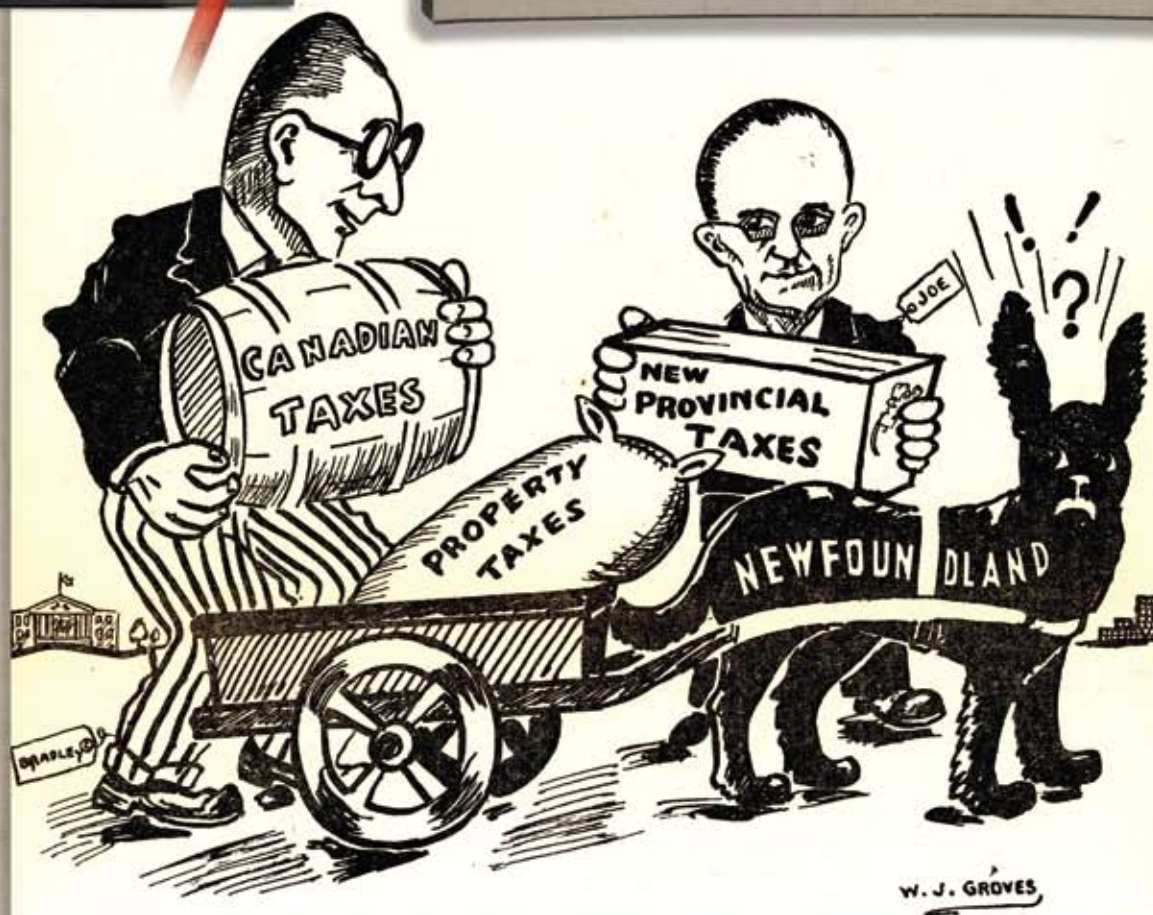
"I do not think it any exaggeration to say Newfoundland today is stronger than at any period in her history. Her strength is due to circumstances and causes which are not ephemeral or passing but are permanent and lasting. It is for this reason that the decision that Newfoundland will be called upon to make is so vitally important. The present generation are the trustees for posterity in a sense that no previous generation could claim to be. It would surely be the supreme tragedy of our history, if through apathy, indifference, lack of enlightened leadership, or the influence of sinister propaganda, we were to alienate irretrievably an inheritance which was won for us by our patriotic forebears, and which is a sacred heritage from the past. These are serious matters to which we should give grave and anxious thought, and in which the enlightened educated youth of the country should make their influence felt in the times which lie immediately ahead.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

† E. P. ROCHE,

Archbishop of St. John's.

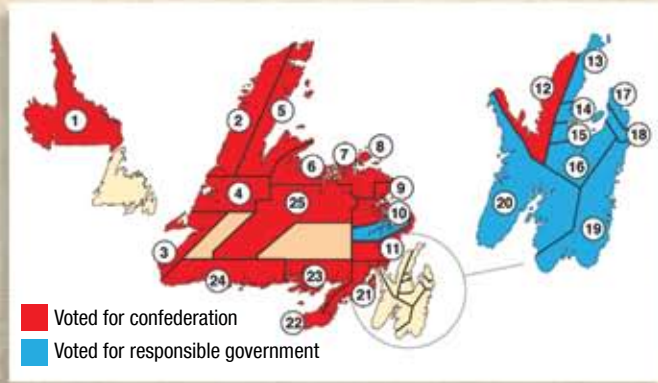


Referendum Results

The first referendum occurred on June 3, 1948. Voters had three options: responsible government, confederation, or continued Commission of Government. In the first referendum, there were more votes against than in favour of responsible government. But in order to definitively settle the matter, a second referendum was scheduled for July, this time with the last-place Commission of Government option removed. The confederates realized that victory was within their reach, and they entered the second campaign with energy and enthusiasm. In the meantime, the anti-confederates remained disorganized and their morale was shaken.

In order to win additional votes, the confederates adopted two new tactics. First, they emphasized the role played by the Roman Catholic Church in the first referendum, which they hoped would swing Protestant votes to confederation. In early July, as a result of confederate pressure, the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Loyal Orange Association issued a circular letter to all members. It cited the role played by the Roman Catholic Church, condemned "such efforts at sectional domination," and warned Orangemen of the dangers of such influence, which they should resist.

Second, the confederates attacked the members of the Economic Union Party for being disloyal, anti-British, and pro-republican. Confederation was presented as pro-British, and "British Union" became a new slogan. An anti-confederate response was to plaster St. John's with posters reading "Confederation Means



6.9 Electoral boundaries and results of the first referendum, 1948
Based on an illustration by Duleepa Wijayawardhana, 1999

1. Labrador	10. Bonavista South	18. St. John's West
2. St. Barbe	11. Trinity North	19. Ferryland
3. St. George's-Port au Port	12. Trinity South	20. Placentia-St. Mary's
4. Humber	13. Carbonear-Bay de Verde	21. Placentia West
5. White Bay	14. Harbour Grace	22. Burin
6. Green Bay	15. Port de Grave	23. Fortune Bay-Hermitage
7. Twillingate	16. Harbour Main-Bell Island	24. Burgeo-La Poile
8. Fogo	17. St. John's East	25. Grand Falls
9. Bonavista North		N/A Not applicable-no district

Note: The result shown for each district in the map above is how the majority of that district voted. Information on the percentage vote received by each option is in the tables below.

	Votes	Percentage
Responsible Government	69 400	44.6%
Confederation	64 066	41.1%
Commission Government	22 311	14.3%

	Commission Government	Responsible Government	Confederation
Avalon	8%	67%	25%
Other Districts	20%	26%	54%

6.10 From The Daily News, June 4, 1948

TWO-WAY STORES
Phone 3335-776
POTATOES, each 3.50
TOMATO JUICE, 30 oz. can 15¢
STRAWBERRY JAM 1 lb. each 30¢

THE WEATHER
Fog, light to mod. clouds late afternoon and evening.

THE TRAINS
Last express due to the city at 11 o'clock this morning.

NATIONAL SAVINGS CAMPAIGN
Build Up Your Bank Account by Saving — The Savings Stamp Way

The Daily News

Newfoundland's Only Morning Newspaper

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1948

PAGE 1

NO DECISION IN REFERENDUM

Heaviest Poll In History Of Island Recorded Yesterday

Responsible Government, Confederation Wage Stiff Battle For Leadership

COMMISSION OF GOVERNMENT REJECTED OVERWHELMINGLY

At the close of polling at the 25,000 polling stations, the result in one word summed up the referendum: **NO DECISION**. The result was a heavy poll in history of the island, recorded yesterday. The result was a heavy poll in history of the island, recorded yesterday. The result was a heavy poll in history of the island, recorded yesterday.

Standing Of Poll At 12:30 a.m.

	Commission Government	Confederation	Responsible Government
St. Barbe (1,500)	528	1,081	445
White Bay (1,000)	127	981	290
Green Bay (1,000)	497	1,081	490
Grand Falls (1,000)	2,308	6,708	5,792
Twillingate (1,000)	1,465	3,308	442
Fogo (1,000)	800	1,447	444
Bonavista North (1,000)	144	2,308	442
Bonavista South (1,000)	100	1,311	509
Trinity North (1,000)	129	971	290
Trinity South (1,000)	427	2,208	1,311
St. John's East (1,000)	231	463	1,311
St. John's West (1,000)	208	4,334	1,442
St. John's North (1,000)	207	4,111	1,311
St. John's South (1,000)	2,211	4,221	1,311
St. John's East (1,000)	1,462	3,308	1,311
St. John's West (1,000)	60	17	1,311
St. John's North (1,000)	900	712	1,311
St. John's South (1,000)	94	342	1,311
St. John's East (1,000)	94	342	1,311
St. John's West (1,000)	94	342	1,311



New President: Canadian Govt. Officials Refuse To Comment

Keep Tight Lips On Legislative Steps That Would Be Necessary To Federalize Newfoundland

OTTAWA, June 3 (C.P.)—Government officials today declined to say whether or not they would support the legislation which would be necessary to bring Newfoundland into the Canadian confederation. The officials said they would not say whether or not they would support the legislation which would be necessary to bring Newfoundland into the Canadian confederation.



New Plan For Union Of The Maritimes And Newfoundland

Creation Of One Giant Maritime Province Combining Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P.E.I. And Newfoundland Suggested

HALIFAX, June 3 (C.P.)—Whether Newfoundlanders want to confederate with Canada holds great interest for the Maritimers who have been brooding about confederation for many years.

Family News
Morning Newspaper
WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1948
10 Year Ban on Netting
Commission To Study Of Quebec Rivers

Rev. A. J. Barrett
Elected New President; Rev. G. L. Morgan Elected Secretary

The 24th session of the New Brunswick Conference of the United Church of Canada met in St. John's, Nfld., at 10 a.m. on Thursday.

Two Sisters Are Graduates In Nursing

Advances said that the Province would have a number of more than 1,000,000 and an area of approximately 400,000 square miles. It was said that the Province would have a number of more than 1,000,000 and an area of approximately 400,000 square miles.

Recovers Body Of A Recent Drowning Victim

Sergeant Charles of the Police Department said that the body of a drowning victim was recovered from the water near the shore of the Province of Nova Scotia.

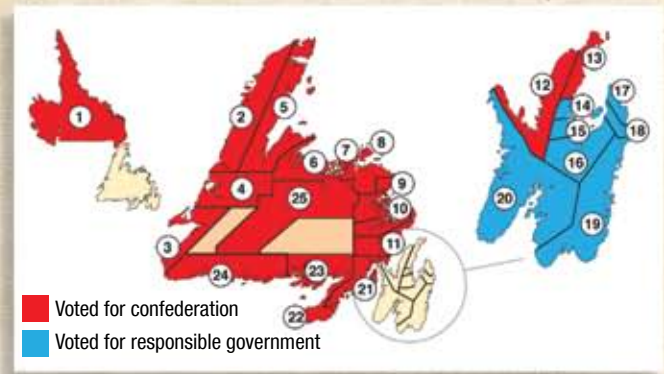
Commission To Study Of Quebec Rivers

The C.P.—A Newfoundland fish-off Port aux Basques may spoil a Quebec river 1,000 miles away.

British Union with French Canada.”

Between the two referenda, the confederates were able to convince most of the Commission of Government supporters to vote for confederation. As a result, the second referendum, held on July 22, 1948, resulted in a narrow victory for confederation over responsible government. There was a sectarian element to voting patterns – most, but not all, Roman Catholics voted for responsible government while most, but not all, Protestants voted for confederation. However, the greatest division among voters was regional – in both referenda the majority of Avalon Peninsula districts voted for responsible government, while the majority of the other districts voted for confederation.

After the second referendum, the Roman Catholic Church abandoned its opposition to confederation and the Responsible Government League disbanded. However, some of its members did try to stop confederation. They sponsored a petition calling for a return to responsible government, and gathered 50 000 signatures. Peter Cashin and others took it to London, hoping to influence British parliamentarians, but it had little or no effect. They also took court action against the Commission of Government, claiming that the legislation authorizing both the National Convention and the referenda were unconstitutional, and that confederation could only be brought about by an elected legislature. However, the action was thrown out.



6.11 Electoral boundaries and results of the second referendum, 1948
Based on an illustration by Duleepa Wijayawardhana, 1999

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Labrador | 10. Bonavista South | 18. St. John's West |
| 2. St. Barbe | 11. Trinity North | 19. Ferryland |
| 3. St. George's-Port au Port | 12. Trinity South | 20. Placentia-St. Mary's |
| 4. Humber | 13. Carbonear-Bay de Verde | 21. Placentia West |
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| 9. Bonavista North | | N/A Not applicable-no district |

Note: The result shown for each district in the map above is how the majority of that district voted. Information on the percentage vote received by each option is in the tables below.

	Votes	Percentage
Confederation	78 323	52.3%
Responsible Government	71 334	47.7%

	Responsible Government	Confederation
Avalon	66%	34%
Other Districts	30%	70%

6.12 Group of men reading newspaper headlines announcing the results of Newfoundland's second referendum, Corner Brook, July 1948.
Newspaper headline of *The Evening Telegram* reads, "Mackenzie King Accepts Confederation Decision."

6.13 From *The Daily News*, July 28, 1948



(((DIMENSIONS OF THINKING))) *PERSPECTIVE*

—Was Confederation a conspiracy?—

Did Newfoundlanders and Labradorians freely choose Confederation? Or were they herded through the National Convention and referendum process by Britain and/or Canada to ensure they arrived at a predetermined end? Historians have different views on this.

6.14 Joseph R. Smallwood
Signing Terms of Union



Most historians seem to agree that, from Britain's perspective, it was in their best interests to promote Newfoundland's confederation with Canada. In the postwar period, Britain's own financial situation was weak, which made expenditures on reconstruction in Newfoundland impossible. The British Empire and Commonwealth was also going through its first phase of decolonization (1946-49), in which the empire withdrew from colonial administration and encouraged some colonies to move towards independence. Newfoundland's Confederation with Canada must be understood within these financial and political contexts. From Britain's point of view, as historian Jeff Webb points out, "the best way of ensuring that the Newfoundland government did not look to Britain for further financial aid was therefore to have Canada take responsibility for the island."

The question for you to decide is whether or not Britain simply acted to encourage confederation or if they used inappropriate influence to shape the future for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. For instance, some historians point out that despite the National Convention's recommendation that the referendum ballot include only two options – the restoration of responsible government

versus the continuation of Commission of Government – Britain included confederation on the ballot anyway. Historian James Hiller argues that "it made the Convention seem like a waste of time, and convinced many that the British were more interested in manipulating events than listening to Newfoundlanders." Hiller suggests that the British should have restored responsible government first and then put their faith in the pro-confederates to win a general election and negotiate Newfoundland's union with Canada.

In the 60-plus years since Confederation, there has been much discussion on Britain's and Canada's involvement in these referenda and their legality and results. A few scholars have argued that Britain and Canada conspired secretly to get Newfoundland into confederation and that the outcome was somehow rigged. However, most historians reject the conspiracy theory and claim that there was nothing unlawful about the event. Indeed, some scholars suggest that, through the 1948 referenda, Newfoundlanders and Labradorians had more of a democratic say in their future than the residents of the four original provinces of Canada. What do you think?

"When the colonies of British North America united in 1867 it was primarily through accommodations made by elites, for voters in most colonies did not have the opportunity to accept or reject confederation. In Newfoundland in 1948 not only did voters have the opportunity to vote in a national referendum, but they were fully informed of the specific implications of the terms of union through the broadcasts of the debates."

Jeff Webb, *The Voice of Newfoundland: A Social History of the Broadcasting Corporation of Newfoundland, 1939-1949* (2008)

"When it came to Confederation, the United Kingdom led, Canada followed, and Newfoundland consented."

Peter Neary, *Newfoundland in the North Atlantic World, 1929-1949* (1988)

"The events of the late 1940s were finely orchestrated by the United Kingdom and Canada to produce an outcome that was legally and constitutionally correct and which Newfoundlanders and Labradorians freely voted for in the July 22, 1948 referendum."

Melvin Baker, *Falling into the Canadian Lap: The Confederation of Newfoundland and Canada, 1945-1949* (2003)

Questions:

1. Using the quotes in this dimension of thinking as evidence, whose perspective of Confederation seems most plausible?
2. What is your perspective on the quote from Dr. James Hiller that Britain should have restored responsible government and put their faith in the pro-confederates to win the election?
3. If there was a vote in Newfoundland and Labrador today to leave Confederation, what perspective would you take?

Excerpt from *A Secret Nation*, a screenplay
written by
Edward Riche

The feature film *A Secret Nation* was released in 1992. The screenplay, written by Edward Riche, follows the fictional story of history student Frieda Vokey, who stumbles upon what appears to be a conspiracy around Newfoundland's Confederation with Canada. A mix of historic facts and fictional twists, the film looks at Confederation in a different light.

6.15

063 INT. PARKINSON'S OFFICE. DAY.

CUT TO:

063

A dark, heavily furnished St. John's lawyer's office. The place looks as though it has escaped passage into the 20th century. From behind his desk the jowled lawyer, PARKINSON scans several letters of reference FRIEDA has presented. Occasionally he breathes with uncommon weight, forcing gales of wind through his hairy nostrils. The breathing actually rustles the papers on his desk. This effect adds to FRIEDA's discomfort as she sits in a chair on the opposite side of the desk. He places the letters on the desk.

PARKINSON

Well you certainly seem to have the credentials.

FRIEDA

Thank you.

PARKINSON

You understand why the Smallwood family has me screen persons such as yourself?

FRIEDA

I know that Mr. Smallwood is not in very good health.

PARKINSON

Exactly. Now then what is this thesis of yours all about?

FRIEDA

Well, the decline of the notion of the sovereign Newfoundland state. I'm investigating how a people

VISION Draft 5-B, August 25, 1990

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FRIEDA (cont'd)

with national status could so quickly be integrated into Canada.

PARKINSON

(laughing - tones of condescension)
It's not another one of these conspiracy theories is it? Another unsubstantiated claim that the confederation referendum was ... rigged ... or ... fixed?

FRIEDA

No. The vote itself is not the focus of my work.

PARKINSON

If not the focus, what then?

FRIEDA

Well, it's significant in that the confederation option received a majority of less than a two percentage points.

PARKINSON

Why now is that significant?

FRIEDA

Isn't it strange that with 48 percent of the population opposed to the idea the voice of dissent was so quickly silenced. Isn't it extremely strange that in the twentieth century ...

PARKINSON

Cutting her off.
... yes, yes, yes, I'm sure I've heard these arguments. I'm sure you see Newfoundlanders as victims awaiting some kind of emancipation, some kind of heroic, revolutionary gesture. But alas, we just weren't made for it. We just weren't made for it. What we have in Canada is far better than our lot. What is it Mr. Smallwood said? "The sport of historic misfortune, the Cinderella of empire".

FRIEDA

And confederation the glass slipper?

PARKINSON

I suppose, yes! Yes, quite clever.

PARKINSON smiles, then glances at his watch.

A SECRET NATION Draft 5-B, August 25, 1990

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PARKINSON

I'll make arrangements for a ... 7:30 visit?

FRIEDA

Yes, that will be fine. Thank you, Mr. Parkinson.

FRIEDA leaves. PARKINSON calls after her.

PARKINSON

My regards to your father.

Secret Nation/delving into the past

Intimacy Canada

Intimacy, a new Newfoundland film about the 1949 referendum on the very eve of Canada's constitutional conundrum.

Debbie McGee, Canada tour in St. John's at 7:30 p.m. at the land.

along with propriety (from Montreal) men featured in the film and Gail St. John at this special

event heralds the screenings in five Canada, all sponsored by Women's Net-Canada and the of Canada.

Alliance the Ship Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador will host a trade at The Ship

findings by Joan Bernice Morgan, Gordon Pimenton and Squires print. take place on 30.

It's both ironic and appropriate to be reviewing a film about Newfoundland's 1949 referendum on the very eve of Canada's constitutional conundrum.

Ironic, because Newfoundlanders are now helping to decide Canada's fate instead of just their own. Appropriate, due to the controversy that surrounds the '49 referendum in this movie and the warning it serves of political riptides most people never hear about until it's too late.

In a completely enthralling plot surrounding a young graduate student finishing her thesis on Newfoundland Nationalism, director Michael Jones spins a web of historical and fictional intrigue.

Cathy Jones plays Frieda Vokey, the lead character, with a forceful and compelling urgency. Her desire to uncover the truth about the 1949 referendum leads Frieda away from her comfortable academic world at a Quebec university. She adopts the shady cloak of the journalist/spy to delve into the reality surrounding that vote.

The movie blends historical segments of debates between Smallwood and Cashin, then uses fictional

characters and hypothetical details to mortar the whole thing together. In the midst of this wild mosaic, Frieda uncovers a British plot in which the 1949 political leaders are supposed to have sold Newfoundland to the Dominion of Canada.

The fact that her father is supposed to have been one of the fathers of confederation, complicates the whole mess when she uncovers the truth.

Smallwood's emaciated frame lying in a hospital tent is an excellent analogy for Newfoundland's slow death by asphyxiation after confederation. The music of Thomas Trio and the Red Albino at a wonderfully weird costume party near the climax of the film serves to heighten the tension to a screaming point.

The subplots surrounding Frieda's serious discoveries are incredibly entertaining. They serve to lighten the load of the message the movie is carrying. Rick Mercer as her brother Chris, a cab dispatcher, makes for a more than hilarious scene when he delivers an incredible advice column spiel over the air for the cabbies.

Secret Nation is



Rick Mercer and Kay Anonsen, just two of the large cast of Newfoundland stars in *Secret Nation*.



6.16 From *The Express*, Oct. 28, 1992

The Quidi Vidi Canadian Program HALLOWE'EN MASQUE "Masquerade"

A haunting evening with a palm reader hot and cold he Dan

Page 32, The Evening Telegram, Tuesday, November 27, 1990

A Secret Nation "fun look" at history of Newfoundland

The neoclassical facade of the old grey Colonial Building is obscured by a sea of cameras, lights and people talking into portable phones.

Inside the former legislature, a film crew sets the scene: a modern-day graduate student has come to comb the archives — research for her thesis on Newfoundland's vote to join Confederation.

Was the 1948 referendum rigged? Did Confederates tamper with votes to produce a narrow margin of victory?

Paul Pope, producer of *A Secret Nation*, says the film offers no conclusion to the query that has intrigued historians and politicians for over 40 years.

"She finds out stuff but it's not definitive," says Mr. Pope, a small, energetic man with windswept hair. "The film doesn't answer the question."

Besides, this movie from independent film company Black Spot is hardly a stuffy docudrama.

He describes it as an adventure-comedy about the decline of Newfoundland nationalism amid one family's troubles: "It's a fun look at our history."

The National Film Board, Telefilm Canada and the Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-operative all put up money for the project.

RETURNS TO ROCK

The lead character, p



6.17 From *The Evening Telegram*, Nov. 27, 1990

111 — Classified Display

The is
Please report
Canadian Fo
National Office: 21 St. Clair Avenue E.
Regina

B
PLEASANT
TUESD
\$3,500
19 PAGE BOO
6 - 10⁰⁰ • 9 -
PLUS
• WHEEL
• NON-SMOKING

Experiencing The Arts

Now is the time to explore film as a medium to create your final artwork for this course. Your assignment in this chapter is to select a theme related to the material you studied in this course and create a short film (four-seven minutes in length) about it. You may choose to do this solo or as part of a small group. Some possible themes include:

- Early peopling of "this place"
- The landscapes of Newfoundland and Labrador

- Your community (past, present, or future)
- Changes in the culture of this province
- A current issue

Once you identify your theme, begin the tasks of pre-production. This should include having your screenplay and storyboard prepared, as well as ensuring your actors, location, and equipment are ready for the production stage.

King's Bridge Rd
M 5097
TAXI
Licensed for Fort Pepperell

THE WEATHER
Clear, occasional clouds,
little change in temperature, light
winds.

The Daily News

Newfoundland's Only Morning Newspaper

THE TRAINS
Forty expires due to the city
at 10:40 a.m. to-day.

NATIONAL SAVINGS CAMPAIGN
Build Up Your Bank Account
by
Saving — The Savings Stamp Way

ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1948

PAGE 1

Terms Confederation Signed In 36 Minute Ceremony In Ottawa Saturday Afternoon

Ornate Senate Chamber Crowded To Capacity For History-Making Event Which May Change Whole Course Of Newfoundland's Future

(Special to The Daily News)
OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—On Saturday, December 12, 1948, an overflow crowd in Canada's ornate senate chamber watched six men of Newfoundland perform the most important act of their lives, when, beginning at seven minutes past noon, Ottawa time, these men of the Newfoundland delegation put their signatures to the final terms of union, thus virtually assuring that the island will become Canada's tenth province on March thirty-first next.

How anxious was the crowd to be seated for the historic ceremony. The chamber, located in the east wing of the parliament buildings, was crowded to capacity. The Newfoundland delegation, led by Sir Albert Walsh, chairman of the delegation, and Sir John A. G. Bennett, premier of the province, were seated in the front row. The Canadian delegation, led by Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent, was seated in the second row. The ceremony was presided over by the Speaker of the Senate, Lord Elphinstone.

Claim Ceiling Price of Salmon Is Too Low

Fish Being Caught North But Grocers Unable To Accept It
Fresh salmon cannot be bought in the city today for any price, according to some grocers, who maintain that the \$1.00 per pound ceiling price set by the Minister of Commerce is too low. The grocers claim that the salmon caught in the north is of a much higher quality than that caught in the south, and that it is worth more than \$1.00 per pound. They claim that the government should raise the ceiling price to \$1.50 per pound.

Lowered Freight Rates May Be Extended To Nfld.

Improvement of Railway System Also Called For Under Terms
OTTAWA, Dec. 12. (C.P.)—Lowered freight rates effective in the Maritime provinces were extended to Newfoundland. It was indicated Sunday in the terms of union settlement. Dominion government measures for the province included the extension of the island's transportation system were also called for. The agreement itself specifies Canada will extend the Newfoundland Railway system to the island. The railway system in Newfoundland is in a state of disrepair, and the government is planning to improve it. The railway system is a vital link between the island and the mainland, and its improvement is essential for the island's development.

Chest X-Rays To Check On TB



An indirect aspect of tuberculosis is that it has no symptoms in its early stage, when it is easiest to cure. It can be detected, however, even in the early stage by means of a chest X-ray. Those people are taking an X-ray with TB by getting their chest X-rayed. Tuberculosis associations cooperate with health departments in providing X-ray services from children's hospitals.

Confederation Is Another Step Closer To Newfoundland

Saturday's Ceremony Was A Step Nearer To Realization Of Dream Of Fathers Of Confederation

OTTAWA, Dec. 12 (C.P.)—Canada and Newfoundland on Saturday signed the historic document setting out the terms of union and thus took another step towards fulfillment of the dream held by the fathers of this great Canadian confederation. The ceremony, simple but pregnant with ramifications embodied in the signing of the terms of union, took place on the floor of the stately parliament chamber.

Full Text Of Terms Published In This Issue

The full text of the terms of agreement between the Newfoundland government and the federal government will appear in this issue commencing on page 11.

The full text of the terms of agreement between the Newfoundland government and the federal government will appear in this issue commencing on page 11. The terms of union set out the conditions under which Newfoundland will join Canada. The terms include provisions for the extension of the railway system, the extension of the island's transportation system, and the extension of the island's education system. The terms also include provisions for the extension of the island's health system, the extension of the island's social services, and the extension of the island's economic development. The terms are a landmark in the history of Newfoundland, and they will have a profound impact on the island's future.

Retroactive Wages Railway Paid

Retroactive wages totaling over \$100,000 have been paid to the Newfoundland Railway employees. The wages were paid for the period from January 1, 1948, to December 31, 1948. The wages were paid to the employees of the Newfoundland Railway, which is a subsidiary of the Canadian National Railway. The wages were paid to the employees of the Newfoundland Railway, which is a subsidiary of the Canadian National Railway. The wages were paid to the employees of the Newfoundland Railway, which is a subsidiary of the Canadian National Railway.

Buy 4 Bottles Rum Same Week

In Magistrate's Court Saturday

Storm Causes Power Shortage

St. John's power supply was cut off for several hours Saturday due to a severe storm. The storm caused a power shortage in St. John's, and the power was cut off for several hours. The power was cut off for several hours, and the power was not restored until late in the evening. The power was cut off for several hours, and the power was not restored until late in the evening.

Visiting Here From Charlottetown

On Friday night, a group of people from Charlottetown, P.E.I., arrived in St. John's. The group was led by the mayor of Charlottetown, and they were visiting St. John's for a few days. The group was led by the mayor of Charlottetown, and they were visiting St. John's for a few days.



6.18 From The Daily News, Dec. 13, 1948

6.19 Signing of the Terms of Union between Canada and Newfoundland, Dec. 11, 1948.

Sir Albert Walsh (seated, right), chairman of the Newfoundland delegation, signs the Terms of Union at the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. Seated next to him is Canadian Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent. Standing (left to right): Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Veterans' Affairs; Hon. J.J. McCann, Minister of National Revenue; Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence; F.G. Bradley; G.A. Winter; Philip Gruchy; J.R. Smallwood; and J.B. McEvoy.

6.20 Initiating the carving of Newfoundland's coat of arms at the Parliament Buildings after Newfoundland joins Confederation
Shown are sculptor C. Soucy, Newfoundland Secretary of State Gordon Bradley, and Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent.



6.21 Not everyone celebrated the result of the second referendum.
Although there was much jubilation on the confederate side after they won the second referendum in 1948, other patriotic Newfoundlanders declared it to be a dark day in Newfoundland's history. In their grief, some anti-confederates flew flags at half-mast outside their homes and businesses to symbolize mourning.



WE LET THE OLD FLAG FALL.

Terms of Union

The Terms of Union between Newfoundland and Canada were signed on December 11, 1948. The document contained 50 terms outlining how Newfoundland would fit into the existing Canadian Confederation. The first 16 of these detailed the shape of the Newfoundland provincial legislature and constitution, its electoral districts, and its representation in the Canadian House of Commons and the Senate. The remainder dealt with issues negotiated during the National Convention in 1947 – that is, the “proposed arrangements” that were offered by Canada. These terms, unique to Newfoundland, included: the protection of the denominational school system (term 17); the continuation of existing laws in Newfoundland after union (term 18); and the maintenance of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board* (term 22).

This was followed by considerable discussion about how the new province should be governed between the date of union – set for March 31 – and the first provincial election. After many consultations, Canadian Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent appointed Sir Albert Walsh,

who had served as a Commissioner for the Commission of Government, as the first lieutenant-governor. It was understood that he would in turn invite Smallwood to form an interim government. Gordon Bradley, who had been President of the Confederation Association, received a position in the federal cabinet.

On April 1, 1949, Walsh swore in Smallwood and his cabinet. On Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Bradley was sworn in as Secretary of State. He said:

This is a day which will live long in North American history ... It is a day of fulfillment – fulfillment of a vision of great men who planned the nation of Canada more than 80 years ago; and as we stand here on this day of destiny, our thoughts fly back through the years to those far-seeing men of the past – Macdonald, Brown and Cartier in Canada and Carter and Shea in Newfoundland ... In fancy we see them now, bending over this scene in silent and profound approval ... Thus we begin life as one people in an atmosphere of unity. We are all Canadians now ...



6.22 The signed Terms of Union of Newfoundland with Canada

Questions:

1. What advantages did the confederate campaign have over the anti-confederate campaign?
2. What was the most significant reason(s) why confederation won a narrow victory over responsible government in the second referendum?
3. Was the decision for Newfoundland to confederate with Canada in 1949 a good decision? Support your answer.