

A BRIEF HISTORY



STUDENT NAME: _____

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) was first established in 1873 under the name North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) to maintain law and order in the Canadian West during a time of rapid growth and unrest. It was tasked with keeping the peace, preventing crime, and enforcing Canadian law in the frontier regions.

You will continue exploring the history of the NWMP in order to answer the questions below.

Here are some resources to help you get started:

- RCMP timeline (www.rcmp1873.ca/timeline)
- “History of the RCMP” (www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/corporate-organisation/history-histoire/index-eng.htm)

Scan the QR code to access all the links in this worksheet

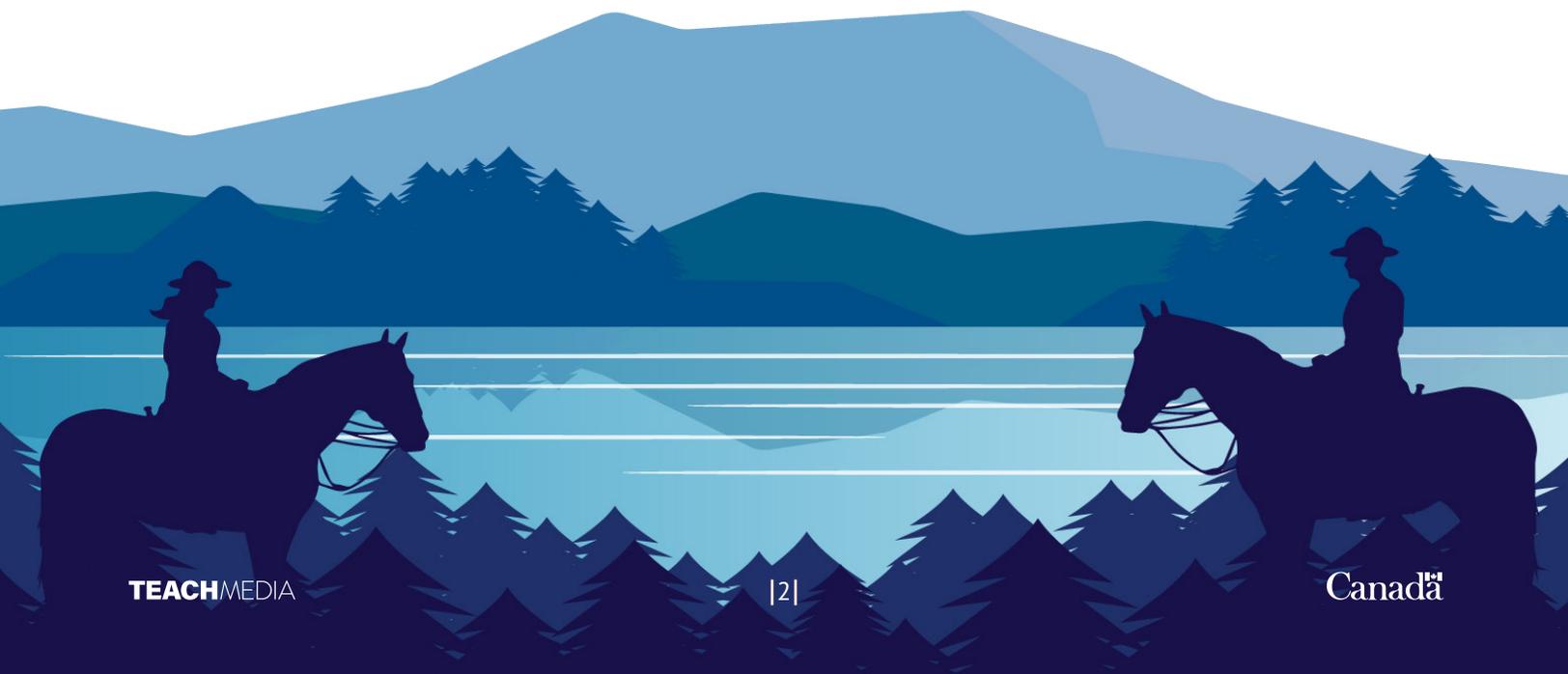


1 What were some of the NWMP’s contributions to the settlement and expansion of Canada?

2 Provide some examples of when the NWMP was responsible for peacekeeping and law enforcement on the western frontier.

3 How did the NWMP go about establishing relationships with Indigenous peoples? What were the impacts of this?

4 What were some hardships endured by members of the NWMP?



MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

STUDENT NAME: _____

Honouring RCMP members who have lost their lives in the line of duty holds great importance. It is a way to pay tribute to their memories and to develop a greater appreciation and understanding of their dedication to safeguarding our communities. There are a number of memorial programs to recognize the service of fallen RCMP members, including the following:

- Canadian Virtual War Memorial
- RCMP Cenotaph
- RCMP Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program
- RCMP Honour Roll
- RCMP Memorial Mementos
- RCMP Memorial Wall Plaques
- RCMP National Memorial Cemetery
- RCMP National Memorial Service
- The Silent Partner Program

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access all the links in
this worksheet



Using various online databases, you and your group will research your assigned program in order to complete the chart below. You will then present your findings to the class.

Here are some resources you can start with:

- RCMP website (www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca)
- Veterans Affairs Canada (www.veterans.gc.ca/en)



| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Program name | |
| Location | |
| Date created | |
| Explanation of program | |
| Additional interesting details | |



THE LEGACY OF WOMEN IN THE RCMP

STUDENT NAME: _____

PART A

The RCMP classifies four main diversity groups:

- Women
- Visible minorities
- Indigenous peoples
- People with disabilities



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As of October 2020, here is a breakdown of how these diversity groups are represented within the RCMP:

| Category of Employee | Female | Visible Minority | Indigenous | People with Disabilities |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Regular Member (police officer) | 21.7% | 12.1% | 7.1% | 1.4% |
| Civilian Member (non-police officer) | 50.7% | 14.6% | 3.5% | 2.7% |
| Indeterminate Public Service Employee | 75.6% | 14.5% | 5.4% | 3.6% |

Source: "Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the RCMP: Questions and answers." Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2021.
<https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/equity-diversity-and-inclusion-the-rcmp-questions-and-answers?wbdisable=true>

What are some challenges that you think female officers may have faced in the past, or still face today?



PART B

The history of female members in the RCMP shows perseverance, courage, and trailblazing. Official inclusion of female officers began in 1974, marking a significant milestone in Canadian law enforcement. Female RCMP officers have since contributed significantly to community safety, investigative work, and public service. They now play vital roles in all RCMP operations, reflecting the organization's values of diversity, inclusion, and excellence in policing.

Over the years, many incredible women have worked with the RCMP in one capacity or another, including:

Klondike Kate

Katherine Ryan, known as Klondike Kate, was an NWMP Special Constable during the Klondike Gold Rush in Yukon. She was one of the first women hired by the North-West Mounted Police, initially assisting with female prisoners in 1900 and later appointed as an inspector to search for smuggled gold.

**Troop 17**

On September 16, 1974, 32 women from across Canada made history when they were sworn in as the first female cadets in the RCMP. Troop 17 underwent rigorous training alongside their male counterparts, breaking barriers and challenging stereotypes. The troop's legacy serves as an example of progress within the RCMP, illustrating the commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion in policing.



Source: "50th anniversary of women police officers in the RCMP." Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2024.
<https://rcmp.ca/en/campaigns-and-promotions/50th-anniversary-women-policeofficers-rcmp-celebrating-women>

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIGENOUS OFFICERS

STUDENT NAME: _____

PART A

In the early days of the North-West Mounted Police, officers depended on assistance from Indigenous peoples and communities. They played a crucial role in helping the NWMP survive the vast and challenging territory of the Canadian West. Many Indigenous people were also hired as **Special Constables** who acted as interpreters, shared valuable knowledge of the land, helped the officers understand Indigenous customs and traditions, and forged relationships that were essential for maintaining peace and order on the frontier.

Although they were not police officers, these constables brought essential skills that contributed to the success of the NWMP and the RCMP. In 1989, Special Constables were transitioned to regular RCMP officers.

Special Constables were also essential for guiding NWMP officers through the North. To learn more, browse through the online exhibit “We Took Care of Them” from the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (www.nwtexhibits.ca/navigator/RCMP/en/chapter-1.html). After you have finished, answer the questions below.

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1 List three notable historical events that Special Constables were involved in.

2 What were three ways that Special Constables helped RCMP officers survive in the North?



3 Listen to two interviews from Special Constables or their family members and fill out the following chart:

| | Interview #1 | Interview #2 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Name of Special Constable | | |
| Where they worked | | |
| What I learned from their story | | |

4 Why is it important to recognize Indigenous contributions to police work?



PART B

Design a commemorative postage stamp as a way to recognize the contributions of Indigenous peoples to the RCMP. Your design should be thoughtful and culturally-appropriate. It can focus on one relevant historical event or figure, or can incorporate multiple elements of your learning throughout this lesson. You must also provide a brief explanation of the meaning behind your design.



RCMP 125th anniversary stamps.

Source: "Royal Canadian Mounted Police 1873- 1998." Library and Archives Canada / Canada Post.

Draw your stamp here:

A large rectangular area with a blue dotted border, intended for drawing a commemorative postage stamp.

My design represents...

Four horizontal lines provided for writing a description of the design.

HONOURING FALLEN SERVICE MEMBERS

STUDENT NAME: _____

Create a poster of an RCMP or NWMP officer who has fallen in the line of duty. You may select an officer from the RCMP Honour Roll (<https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/hon/honour-honneur-roll-tableau-eng.htm>) or choose one based on your personal connections or interests. Conduct research about the officer’s life and career through a variety of sources, including news articles, obituaries, biographies, and official reports. Then use the information you’ve uncovered to design your poster. (Note that you may choose to create a digital poster instead.)

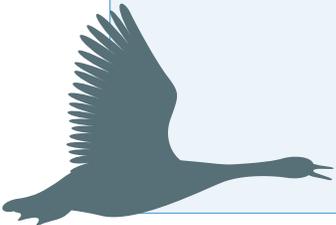
The chart below can help you organize your information and guide you in your research.

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Officer’s Full Name: _____

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><u>EARLY LIFE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date and place of birth• Family background | |
| <p><u>CAREER IN THE RCMP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date of enrollment• Training• Assignments• Promotions• Notable achievements or highlights during their service | |



| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><u>PERSONAL LIFE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family• Hobbies• Interests• Community involvement outside of work | |
| <p><u>CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date and location• Cause of death• News articles or official reports | |
| <p><u>LEGACY AND IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses from colleagues, family, and the public to the RCMP member's passing• Commemorative services or tributes organized in their memory• Lasting impacts or changes resulting from their death within the RCMP or the community | |

Design your poster on this page, or use it to brainstorm ideas for a digital poster.



A Tribute To: _____

A large rectangular frame made of small, light blue dots, intended for students to design their tribute poster within.