

# Toward Confederation

■ The country you live in hasn't existed forever, and it almost didn't exist at all. In this unit, you can investigate the events of the early and mid-1800s. At the time, the land that we now know as Canada was called British North America (BNA), and it was under the control of the government of Great Britain.

Some people in BNA did not like the fact that only a few individuals chosen by the government of Great Britain had all the political power. These people worked to get more say in their government. As you read about the people and events, you'll see that these were exciting times with lots of different opinions and ideas!

The big event of this time period was Confederation, in 1867. Confederation created the country of Canada. Although Canada has changed a lot since 1867, our system of government still has the basic form that was decided on back then. Once you learn more about this system, you can think about ways to encourage young people to take part in government today.