

## The National Policy

Recall that the Conservative Government won the 1878 election on the basis of a platform that Macdonald called the "National Policy". This platform carried the Conservative Party to political power in Canada until 1896.

In this assignment, you will assess the historical significance of the National Policy in a new Microsoft Word document. You will summarize and explain the details of Macdonald's National Policy, and you will assess its effects on the new Dominion of Canada. Include in your essay answers to the following questions:

1. How did Macdonald find himself out of office before the election of 1878? What role did the Pacific Scandal play in the end of his first term?
2. What were the three main elements of the National Policy, and what did Macdonald hope to achieve with each of them?
3. What were the principal problems Macdonald hoped to overcome with the National Policy?
4. In your opinion, was the National Policy a political and economic success? Explain.
5. What were **three (3)** major effects on Canada as a result of the National Policy? Explain.

To complete this assignment, you **must** conduct—and cite—independent research. The course content alone is not enough to answer these questions. You might find these websites useful in researching your responses:

- [Nation-Building: The Transcontinental Railway | CBC Archives](#) (*listen to the audio clip and click on the tabs*)
- [Provinces and Territories | Canadian Archives](#)
- [Building the National Railways | Canada in the Making](#)
- [Pacific Scandal | Canadian Encyclopedia](#)
- [Canadian Pacific Railway | Canadian Encyclopedia](#)
- [Pacific Scandal | Canadian Archives](#)
- [Railways | Canada Science and Technology Museum](#) (*Follow the next three screens*)
- [National Policy | Canadian Encyclopedia](#)
- [National Policy and Canadian Federalism | Marianopolis College](#)
- [The Ties That Bind | Multicultural History Society of Ontario](#)
- [Building the Canadian Railway | Via Rail](#)

This assignment should be approximately **six (6)** pages long, plus references where applicable.

### Expectations



- Students will examine both the reasons for and the consequences of Macdonald's National Policy with respect to the building of the Nation.
- Students will assess the significance of the National Policy in Canadian history.

## Criteria

	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
<p><b>Understanding/ Knowledge</b></p> <p>Student work demonstrates a basic understanding of the pertinent historical events surrounding the National Policy and the building of the railway in terms of accuracy, sequencing and interconnectedness of events.</p> <p>Student work demonstrates a plausible, basic use of facts, examples and historical evidence to support reasonable arguments.</p> <p>Student work demonstrates a basic understanding of cause and consequence by recognizing there is more than one cause for an event, identifying underlying factors as causes and recognizing that actions have unintended consequences.</p> <p>Student work clearly expresses the importance of the National Policy (including the impact of the Policy on the future, as well as its contribution to understanding the past and/or present).</p> <p>66%</p>	<p>6–8</p>	<p>9–10</p> <p>Student work is insightful and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the relevant historical events in terms of accuracy, sequencing and interconnectedness of events.</p> <p>Precise use of relevant facts, examples and historical evidence supports compelling arguments.</p> <p>Student work is insightful and demonstrates a deep understanding of cause and consequence by recognizing there is more than one cause for an event, identifying underlying factors as causes and recognizing that actions have unintended consequences.</p> <p>Student provides evidence with numerous examples which clearly establish the significance of the National Policy to Canada past and present.</p>
<p><b>Communicating Information</b></p> <p>Student work is presented in a straightforward manner.</p> <p>Use of transition words, links or lead-ins provides unity and coherence.</p> <p>All information sources used are credible and most are cited correctly (where citation is applicable).</p> <p>33%</p>	<p>3–4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Student work is presented in an engaging manner.</p> <p>Skilful use of transition words, links, or lead-ins provide unity and coherence.</p> <p>All information sources used are credible and cited correctly (where citation is applicable).</p>