

Colonial Government in New France



Crossroads 2nd Edition Pages 28-37

&

Canada Revisited Pages 44-53

Establishing Government



- ❧ Before 1663, New France was governed by private companies
- ❧ King Louis XIV turned New France into a royal province
- ❧ As an **absolute monarch**, he set up a government that was directly responsible to him.
- ❧ The new government had **three** parts:
 1. The Governor -
 2. The Intendant - **Sovereign Council**
 3. The Bishop -

The Governor – Comte de Frontenac

- ☞ Represented the king in New France
- ☞ Served as a figurehead (symbol of the king's authority)
- ☞ Highest ranking official in New France
- ☞ Appointed from nobility
- ☞ Responsible for military planning, relations with First Nations, ensuring that other officials did their jobs

Comte de Frontenac



The Intendant – Jean Talon

- ❧ Chief administrator of the colony
- ❧ Looked after law and order in the colony
- ❧ Developed the economy of the colony
- ❧ Ran the day to day government of New France
- ❧ Wanted to change foundation from fur trade to agriculture and industry (shipbuilding, brewing, shoemaking)
- ❧ Wanted to grow the population of New France:
- ❧ Brought over 800 *filles du roi* (king's daughters)
- ❧ The king paid their dowries

Arrival of the filles du roi



Jean Talon



The Bishop – François de Laval

- ☞ Represented the Roman Catholic Church in New France
- ☞ Ruled over parish priests and nuns
- ☞ In charge of missionaries, churches, hospitals, and schools



Seigneurial System



- ❧ King wanted New France to be a copy of France
- ❧ France was a feudal society
 1. Monarch grants land to nobles
 2. Nobles bring in peasants to farm the land
 3. Peasants pay fees to the nobles (sometimes crops)
- ❧ In England, land was sold to anyone who could afford it. This wouldn't work in New France.

Assignment:

☞ *Refer to pages 33-35 of Crossroads, and pages 65-66 of the Hosford Atlas to complete the following:*

☞ **Describe:**

☞ The Seigneur

☞ Habitants

☞ The cycles of the year

☞ The Church

☞ Rotures

☞ **Draw:** a detailed map of a seigneurie with an inset of a roture. Include a title, legend, and colour. Your drawing should also include descriptions of the features of your seigneurie and roture.