Expert Group #2: The Cultural Consequences of Conquest

1. **Identify the historian and the authority of which he/she writes Alessia Donato**

- Francois – Xavier Garneau

- One of French Canada’s first historians

Authority – Garneau is an intelligent, established, identified historian.

- In comparison to other writers he is definitive in his work.

- Writes in a series, meaning he doesn’t jump from one topic to another.

- Well organized, backs up his information with proof.

- Reading his writing you know exactly what he is talking about.

- Accurate in his writing to what was happening during that time period.

**2.** **Describe the context/ time period in which he/she writes**

- Writing in the 1840’s

- Garneau is writing just after Lord Durham wrote his report – recommending the two Canada’s be joined with the goal of assimilating the French. However while they were joined French survive.

**3.** **Main thesis of the author**

- Francois – Xavier Garneau writes, despite the motives of the British the French survived the conquest.

**4.** **The arguments used to support that thesis**

- A second immigration took place: many commercialists, lawyers, ex- functionaries left for France. However there were some subaltern placemen, a few artisans, and one merchant. The members of the different religious confraternities, with the rural population, of course remained

- The British wanted to repudiate whatever was Canadian, and to deprive the habitants even of the natural advantages Canada offered to them by its extent. The colony was dismembered.

- The British passed to relegislating. The King abolished those laws of olden France, to substitute for them the jurisprudence of England.

- Durham intended Act of Union to weaken power of the French Canadian parties. However the effect was opposite. This is because no government could be formed without support of the French Canadian parties.

- Lower Canada’s reaction were outraged at the recommendations that they be assimilated and the suggestion that they had no culture or history.

**Marcel Trudel-** Mary Pereira

A French Canadian historian and professor at the University of Ottawa. Wrote in 1963, the midst of The Quiet Revolution. Was a period of intense socio-political and socio-cultural change in the Canadian province of Quebec. He wrote over 40 books on the history of New France.

Trudel believed the growing influence of the church on Canadian society didn’t necessarily have an entirely beneficial role on the people as a whole.

* Under the French regime the church was controlled by France, however under the English regime the church was run by Canadians
* While being centrally controlled strengthened the power of the church, it also limited it because it did not have the influence of any other Catholic powers.
* Under the English regime the church was expanded outside of a merely spiritual role
  + Had power politically and economically
* There was an unhappy marriage of church and state, New France became both ultramontane as well as gallacanistic.
* The church had too much power.

**Katie- Groulx:**

1. Lionel Groulx was a Canadian Roman Catholic priest as well as a Quebec nationalist.
2. Early 1900s, in 1915 he had sold-out public lectures. 1922 he had written a controversial book on French and English relations.
3. Confederation had not been beneficial to French Canada and that the British had been generous in their dealings with the conquered.
4. Groulx was one of the first Quebec historians to study Confederation: he insisted on its recognition of Quebec rights and minority rights, although he believed a combination of corrupt political parties and French Canadian minority status in the Dominion had failed to deliver on those promises like the Manitoba Conflict.

Francis Parkman: - Mackenzie Gray

1. Francis Parkman was an American historian, known for his book “The Oregon Trail: Sketches of Prairie and Rocky-Mountain Life.
2. Parkman’s views are strongly tied to Protestant pride and Anglo-Saxon racism. He reflects the dominant American class as well as the scientific view of the period.
3. Thesis: The conquest was a liberation of Canada from the oppressive weight of French despotism and bureaucratic authoritarianism.
4. Arguments:
   1. With England came Protestantism, and the Canadian church grew purer and better in the presence of an adverse faith.
   2. Canada gained material growth, education and patriotism