

Manitoba History

Aboriginal peoples have inhabited what is now Manitoba for thousands of years.

In the late 17th century, fur traders arrived on two major river systems, what is now called the Nelson in northern Manitoba and in the southeast along the Winnipeg River system.



A Royal Charter in 1670 granted all the lands draining into Hudson's Bay to the



British company and they administered trade in what was then called Rupert's Land. During the next 200 years, communities continued to grow

and evolve, with a significant settlement of Michif in what is now Winnipeg.

The assertion of Métis identity and self-rule culminated in negotiations for the creation of the province of Manitoba. Many factors led to an armed

uprising of the Métis people against the Government of Canada, a conflict known as the Red River Rebellion, aka Resistance. The resolution of the assertion of the right to representation led to the Parliament of Canada passing the Manitoba Act in 1870 that created the province.



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