

Chapter 2: Entering a New Century: 1900 – 1914 (pgs. 19 – 62)

Introduction:

- **Sir Wilfred Laurier** the new Prime Minister, elected in 1896.
- 1st French P.M.
- His term in office known as the “*GOLDEN ERA*.”

Positive Things Going On At the Turn of the Century:

- Upswing in economy, and a confidence in the future.
- Relations with the U.S. improving.
- Growth of new industries in the cities.
- Canada was recognized as one of the most important countries in British Commonwealth.

Negative Things Going On At the Turn of the Century:

- Still a lot of hard work on the Prairies.
- Urban slums.
- Working conditions were horrible.
- Still heated debate between French and English.
- The Aboriginals’ still not part of Canadian Society.

Canada: Land of Opportunity:

Terms:

Immigration: people coming **IN** a country to live.

Emigration: the act of **LEAVING** one country or region to settle in another.

Push Factors: in migration theory, the forces that drive people from their previous locations to search for new ones.

Pull Factors: in migration theory, the forces that draw people away from their previous locations to a new location.

Assimilation: to make or become a uniform part of a larger group.

- 1901 – 1914, population rose from 5 000 000 to 6 000 000.

British Empire	40.2%
U.S.A	31.8%
Europe	19.2%
Northern Europe	3.8%
Russia	2.3%
Asia	2.3%

- These immigrants have changed our **ETHNIC COMPOSITION**.

How did Canada Attract All These New People?

- The Federal Government sets our **IMMIGRATION POLICY** (rules/regulations on who gets in).
- **CLIFFORD SIFTON** was appointed **MINISTER of the INTERIOR**.
- It was his job to encourage settlers to come to Canada. Where????
- His immigration policy at the time was **OPEN DOOR**.
- But what he really wanted were **farmers**. Why????
- He sent flyers/posters to the desired countries, promising **FREE LAND**.
- Each family was offered 160 acres of free land, and the opportunity to buy more at cheap rates.
- During his time about 1 000 000 immigrants came o the West.

What was life like here when they arrived?

- Very difficult.
- Land was hard to clear, especially before winter set in.
- A lot not were farmers, came from the cities in search of free land.