

# Confederation: How Canada Was Born — Knowledge Organiser

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## Key facts

- On 1 July 1867, several British colonies joined together to form the Dominion of Canada.
- The first four provinces were Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.
- Sir John A. Macdonald became Canada's first Prime Minister.
- More provinces and territories joined over the following years.

## Key vocabulary

- Confederation — the joining of colonies into one country.
- Province — a region with its own government within Canada.
- Dominion — the name given to the new country of Canada.
- Parliament — the group that makes Canada's laws, based in Ottawa.

## Why join together?

The colonies wanted to trade more easily, defend themselves together, and build a railway linking the country from east to west. Confederation made them stronger as one nation. Canada Day, on 1 July, celebrates this each year.

## A growing country

Canada grew over time as more provinces and territories joined, eventually stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic.