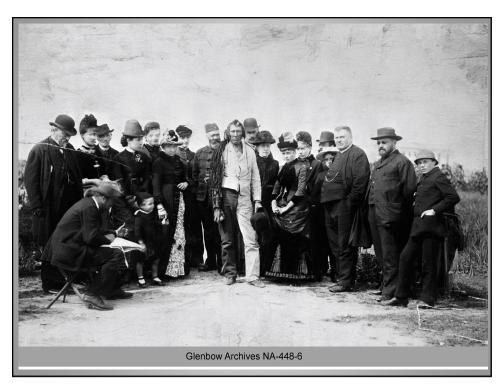


The Douglas Treaties (1850-1854)

A Lesson in Perspectives

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In pairs, discuss the following:

- What is a treaty?
- What characteristics must a treaty include in order to be considered fair?
- Whose land are we on right now? Was this land taken fairly?

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Definition

Treaty: 1a) an agreement or arrangement made by negotiation:

(1) a contract in writing between two or more political authorities (such as states or sovereigns) formally signed by representatives duly authorized and usually ratified by the lawmaking authority of the state.

-Merriam-Webster

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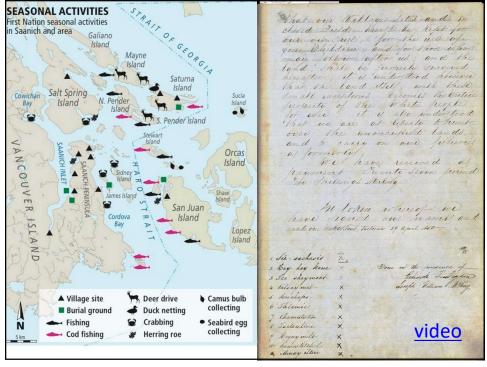


Tableau Activity

- Using tableau (a group static image)
- Recreate the 'treaty' making scene using the info in the source documents
- Things to consider in depicting the scene:
 - power dynamics
 - thoughts/feelings/motivations of participants
 - o fairness or unfairness of the negotiation

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Four Characteristics of a Fairly Negotiated Agreement

- Free Authorized Consent
- Reasonable Value Under the Circumstances
- Fundamental Understanding
- No Significant Intentional Deception

-taken from UVIC and Canadian Department of Heritage

Perspective One: Douglas and the HBC

- The Songhees were fully informed in their decision to give up their lands in return for cash, blankets and clothing.
- The treaty was permanent and signed by the chiefs of the bands, making it a legal transaction.

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Perspective Two: The Songhees

- The negotiation as they understood it was an agreement to 'rent' the land to the settlers.
- The cash, blankets and clothes they received were a form of yearly payment for use of the land.
- The land belongs to the people, and therefore it *cannot* be signed away in negotiation.



Methodology Reflection - Pros

- -empathy, imagination of others' perspectives
- -engagement/interpretation of 1° documents
- -multisensory exploration (especially kinesthetic)
- -concretized thinking (beginning with concrete before exploring abstract)
- -group collaboration/story-telling (comfort in numbers
- -contemplation of place

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Methodology Reflection - Cons

- -asks a lot of students (requires creativity, trust and involvement)
- -potential performance anxiety
- -source material may be **inadequate** or difficult to translate into a static image
- -possibility that the contrasting tableaus **will not differ**