

Community Cultural Traditions Role Play

Part One:

Problem: Present day Canada is being faced with rapid population growth due to immigration. As a result, new communities are being faced with the challenges of creating, and preserving their distinct cultural traditions. In order to keep your community established, the Canadian Government has requested you prove your community's cultural validity through the creation of one cultural product according to the guidelines set out by Stats Canada (CFCS) accompanied by two traditional social practices. To have the greatest chance of saving your community, community members will need to embrace their roles and work together to create all the documentation, products and information required by the Canadian Government. The Canadian Government has also requested you ensure your community has prepared possible trading procedures for your social practices and cultural products in case your community's survival depends on it.

Where to start:

1) Pick Your Roles

(Note: Your role will stay the same throughout the course of the unit.)

2) Name Your Community

3) What is a Cultural Product? Go through the guidelines for stats Canada (CFCS)

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87-542-x/2011001/section/s4-eng.htm>

4) Decide on a Cultural Product (may be tangible or intangible)

5) Work as a group to create a solution to the problem while in your chosen roles.

Checklist:

Currently the Government has requested the following from your community to be mailed in:

- Documentation showing the creation and development of your cultural product. Your community may choose how they would like to document the development of your cultural product. This may be done in the form of a photo essay, video, scrapbook, story, paper etc.
- Potential trading procedures for your cultural roles and social practices. No trading procedures are set in stone but the government would like a written document stating how your community expects to trade their cultural products and social practices with neighbouring communities.
- Documentation introducing your community and their core cultural traditions (includes both your social practices and cultural product) It may be helpful to consider the following questions: *Who are we as a community? What created and established traditions make us a unique people group? How is our cultural product used in relation to our social practices?* Your community may choose how they would like to document your cultural traditions. (ex. photo essay, video, power point, letter, newspaper article etc..)
- Note: It may be helpful to establish friendly relationships with your neighbouring communities. Keeping neighbouring communities updated on the development of your cultural product and

relational practices may be beneficial or harmful depending on future events. It is up to your community to decide what they would like to share with neighbouring communities.

Part Two:

Problem: Now that your community is established with its own cultural traditions. The Canadian Government has now decided you need to prove that your community can adapt to social change through trading one of your cultural products and one of your social practices with neighbouring communities. *You are not allowed trading both your cultural product and your social practice to the same community.* The Canadian Government has made it clear that for a trade to occur both parties need to give and receive a piece of each others' cultures traditions. In order for a trade to occur, the community must agree as a whole to the trade. The trade agreement will need to be formalized and documented in some fashion. Once trading relations are established each community is expected to modify their newly acquired social practices and uses of the cultural products to fit within their already established cultural traditions. Failure to trade (give and receive) one cultural product and one social practice may result in your community's termination.

Where to start:

- 1) Refer to roles to establish who will take the lead in negotiating trades.
- 2) Review your original views on your community's trading regulations
- 3) Solve the problem collectively while embracing the roles you have within your community.

Checklist:

- Trade one cultural produce and establish a formal trading agreement. The formal trading agreement will need to be documented in some form to be handed into the Canadian Government.
- Trade one social practice with a neighbouring community and establish a formal trading agreement. The formal trading agreement will need to be documented in some form to be handed into the Canadian Government.
- Establish as a community the ways in which your newly acquired cultural product and social practice will be modified and integrated into your community's pre-existing cultural traditions. You will need to show case the modifications made to your cultural traditions through a brief written explanation.

Part Three (In play if a community fails to complete part two)

Problem: The Canadian Government has determined that some communities were unable to trade the correct number of cultural products and social practices. As a result, the communities who failed to complete the task will be split up, territory taken, and individual members will be added to other surviving communities. The communities who receive a new member will need to give their new member, a different community role and educated them on their community's cultural traditions. The communities who were forced into taking a new community member will need to decide if they will voice their concerns regarding the disruption of their community and/or the termination of another

cultural community to the Canadian Government or accept their new community member quietly. If a community decides to vocalize their concerns to the Canadian Government they will need to decide how. (protest, letter etc.)

Checklist:

- Accept new community member (possibly learn some information about the community they came from) and give them a new role.
- Determine if you would like to vocalize any concerns to the Canadian Government over the current situation or accept your new community member quietly.
- If you are vocalizing your concerns to the Canadian Government consider the following: *How will you voice your concerns? What concerns would you like to communicate and how would you like the issues to be resolved?*