

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RrHAOQEL9w> (11 minutes)

Heritage Minutes

1. Sir John A. Macdonald

Canada's first Prime Minister outlines his vision for Confederation en route to the Charlottetown Conference (1864).

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/sir-john-macdonald>

2. Orphans

A French Canadian family adopts Irish children orphaned during their voyage to Canada in the 1850s.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/orphans>

3. Underground Railway

Enslaved African Americans escaped to freedom in Canada.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/underground-railroad>

4. Viola Desmond

The story of Viola Desmond, an entrepreneur who challenged segregation in Nova Scotia in the 1940s.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/viola-desmond>

5. "Boat People" Refugees

A family escapes persecution in Vietnam, traveling by boat to a Malaysian refugee camp before finding a new home in Montreal (1980).

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/boat-people-refugees>

6. Vancouver Asahi

From 1914-1941, the Vancouver Asahi were one of city's most dominant amateur baseball teams, winning multiple league titles in Vancouver and along the Northwest Coast.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/vancouver-asahi>

7. Halifax Explosion

Train dispatcher Vince Coleman sacrifices his own life to save a train from the Halifax Explosion.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/halifax-explosion>

8. Nellie McClung

Despite resistance from Premier R.P. Roblin, the famous suffragist fights for Manitoban women's right to vote (1916).

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/nellie-mcclung>

9. Joseph Tyrrell

A Canadian geologist makes an astounding discovery of dinosaur bones in the Alberta badlands (1884).

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/joseph-tyrrell>

10. Emily Carr

The British Columbia painter discovers the artistic muse that will drive her life's work (1871–1945).

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/emily-carr>

11. Nursing Sisters

Nursing Sisters serve at the No. 3 Canadian Stationary Hospital in France during the First World War.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/nursing-sisters>

12. Lucy Maud Montgomery

Lucy Maud Montgomery battled depression, rejection, and sexism to become known around the world for Anne of Green Gables and 19 other novels. This Heritage Minute tells her story in her own words, as drawn from her journals.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/lucy-maud-montgomery>

13. Peacemaker

A girl learns about the Iroquois legend of the Tree of Great Peace and the origins of the Iroquois Confederacy.

<https://www.historicacanada.ca/content/heritage-minutes/peacemaker>

High Park cherry blossoms have special significance - Trees were a gift from Japan

The Toronto cherry blossoms also have an interesting history.

In 1959, the Japanese ambassador to Canada, Toru-Hagiwara, presented the Japanese Sakura trees to the citizens of Toronto on behalf of the citizens of Tokyo. The trees were planted in appreciation of Toronto helping to re-locate Japanese-Canadians following World War Two.

In the 1940s Sid Ikeda, 76, lived in a Japanese internment camp in B.C. when he was a child. He moved to Ontario in 1947.

"It was quite a tribute for the Japanese government to donate 2,000 trees, it's all to do with the friendship and respect to the city of Toronto to look after the Japanese Canadian citizens here."

For Japanese Canadians the cherry blossoms serve as a reminder of past and current struggles.

"Sakura is the first flower to bloom in the spring time," said Moghul. "That means new life starting and the season of spring. It means hope to the people in Japan."

<https://www.takeyourseatonline.com/>