1700s

1722 British Privy Council memorandum sets out doctrines of discovery & conquest
1740s Russians begin trading on BC coast
1741 Danish explorer Vitus Bering explores the BC coast
1763 Royal Proclamation of King George III recognizes aboriginal title and rights to land
1770s Captain Cook explores the West Coast
1774-9 Spanish explorer Juan Perez sights Queen Charlotte Islands & visits off Vancouver Island
1775 Juan Francisco de Bodega y Quadra penetrates close to the Nass River
1776 Small pox epidemic
1778 Captain Cook charts Nootka Sound on his third expedition to the Pacific
1785 Maritime trading voyages begin along Pacific coast (to 1820s)
1787 Captain George Dixon meets Haida and names the Queen Charlotte Islands
1788 Alaska is claimed as Russian territory
1789 Alexander Mackenzie reaches Arctic Ocean and explores Slave & Mackenzie Rivers
1789 Spanish build fort in Nootka Sound
1790 Nootka convention between Spain and Britain
1792 Captain George Vancouver charts most of Georgia Straight
1793 Alexander Mackenzie reaches Pacific in first overland crossing of North America
1780s Epidemics appear on the Pacific Northwest coast

1800s

1803 Maquinna'a people attack and kill most of the crew of the Boston
1804 Fort Simpson established by Northwest Company
1805 Lewis & Clark expedition first to travel overland in US from Atlantic to Pacific
1805 Fort St. John established by Northwest Company
1805 Mcleod's Lake post established by Simon Fraser
1805 Fort Nelson established on Liard River
1805 Hudson Hope post established at Rocky Mountain Portage
1806 Fort St. James established on Stuart Lake
1806-7 Fort Fraser post established by HBC at Fraser Lake
1807 Road built from Fort St. James to Fort McLeod
1807 David Thompson visits the Kutenai. Kutenai House established
1808 Simon Fraser explores Fraser River and meets Indians at Lytton
1811 David Thompson reaches the mouth of the Columbia River
1811 The ship Tonquin is captured and the crew killed in the Clayoquot area
1812 Fort Astoria acquired and renamed Fort George after War of 1812
1812 Astorian and Northwest Company establish posts in Kamloops
1820 Permanent HBC post established at Fort George
1821 Northwest Company and Hudson's Bay Company merge, known as HBC
1822 Fort Kilmaurs (Babine) established
1824 Fatal epidemic (cause unidentified) in Columbia River drainage (to 1825)
1824 54° 40’ established as boundary separating American and Russian spheres of influence
1825 HBC becomes active on the northwest coast
1826 Fort Vancouver established by HBC on Columbia River
1827 Fort Langley established
1828 Chief Factor John McLoughlin takes charge of area west of the Rockies
1828 James Douglas is captured in Carrier territory and released after negotiations
1828 Clallum village shelled by HBC gunboat
1828 Fort Alexandria established
1829 Fort Halkett established by HBC on Liard River
1829 Rev. Jonathan Smith Green (Protestant) tours Northwest coast
1830 Indian Affairs transferred from military to civilian jurisdiction in the Canadas (east)
1830 First Chilcotin post established by HBC
1830s HBC begins innoculating Native people against small pox
1831 Fort Simpson built on Nass River then moved to Tsimshian Peninsula
1832 A.C. Anderson of the HBC arrives at the Columbia River
1833 Fort McLoughlin established in 1833 in Lama Passage, it was later abandoned in 1843
1834 James Douglas becomes Chief Trader of the HBC
1835 Coal deposit at Fort Rupert publicized
1836 HBC Chaplain and missionary Reverend Herbert Beaven arrives at Fort Vancouver
1836 Small pox epidemic in northern BC and southern Alaskan coast (to 1838)
1836 Indian reports of coal on Vancouver Island confirmed
1837 Dease Lake post established by HBC
1838 HBC granted 21 year exclusive hunting and trading license to northwest coast
1838 First Roman Catholic priests arrive at Fort Vancouver (F. Blanchet and M. Demers)
1839 James Douglas becomes Chief Factor of HBC
1840s Jesuit Priest Father Pierre De Smet is in Kootenays and Okanagan
1840s Father John Nobilis active in northern New Caledonia
1842 Fort Victoria established by HBC
1842 Father Demers established in New Caledonia
1843 HBC begins laying out land boundaries
1846 Oregon Treaty establishes 49th parallel as US-British boundary
1846 HBC’s Pacific Headquarters shifts from Oregon (Columbia River) to Victoria
1846–7 A.C. Anderson explores routes between Thompson and Lower Fraser Rivers
1847 Measles epidemic (to 1850)
1848–9 Fort Hope established by HCB
1849 Royal Charter grants Vancouver Island to the HBC
1849 Richard Blanshard becomes first Governor of the Colony of Vancouver Island
1849 Chief Factor James Douglas receives direction to negotiate with VI Tribes
1849 Fort Rupert established by HBC to supply coal to an American steamship line
1849 Coal deposits at Nanaimo publicized
1850 Douglas concludes treaties in Victoria, Sooke & Metchosin
1850 Measles epidemic spreads from coast to interior
1850s OMI Bishop Pierre Paul Durieu comes to the Northwest coast
1850s Peter O'Reilly is Stipendiary Magistrate in Langley, then Fort Hope
1850-1 Royal Navy destroys Newitti Village
1851 Douglas becomes Governor but remains Chief Factor of the HBC (to 1858)
1851 Douglas concludes treaties in Fort Rupert
1851 Joseph Despard Pemberton becomes Colonial Surveyor
1851 Gunter's Chain unit of land measurement introduced
1851 Gold found on Queen Charlotte Islands. Gunboats sent to Queen Charlotte Islands
1852 Douglas concludes treaties on Saanich peninsula
1852-3 Cowichan crisis. Gunboat dispatched
1853 Peak of the California gold rush
1852 James Douglas becomes Lieutenant-Governor of the Queen Charlotte Islands
1854 Douglas concludes treaty in Nanaimo
1855 Nanaimo coalfields purchased by HBC
1856-7 Nlaka'pamux force American miners to retreat
1857 Anglican missionary William Duncan arrives in Victoria
1857 Anglicans establish Indian school at Fort Simpson
1857 Methodists establish Indian school in Nanaimo
1857 British Parliamentary inquiry into the affairs of the HBC
1857 Colonial proclamation claims all gold mines. Gold mining licences introduced
1858 Edward Bulwer-Lytton is Secretary of State for the Colonies
1858 British Columbia Act. New Caledonia becomes Colony of British Columbia
1858 James Douglas resigns from HBC to become Governor of mainland Colony of BC
1858 British government passes act establishing direct rule on the mainland
1858 Colonel R. C. Moody is Commissioner of Lands & Works (CLW) to 1864
1858 Royal Engineers undertake mapping of BC mainland
1858 Douglas reserves are laid out on BC mainland (to 1864) under Douglas’ policy
1858 Colonial proclamation states that all land is vested in the crown
1858 Indian people have right to pre-empt vacant crown land during Douglas's governorship
1858 Oblates of Mary Immaculate establish a centre at Esquimalt
1858 Gunboats sent to New Caledonia (BC)
1858 Fraser River Gold Rush
1858 Steam boats penetrate Fraser River as far as Yale
1858 Pack trail is established between Yale and Lytton
1858 Construction of Harrison-Lillooet road commenced
1859 Gold Fields Act sets out Gold Commissioner's duties and miners’ water rights
1859 HBC trading license on Vancouver Island expires. James Douglas becomes Governor
1859 J.D. Pemberton becomes Surveyor General of Vancouver Island
1859 Douglas appoints first Gold Commissioners & Stipendiary Magistrates
1859 Douglas reduces price of surveyed land
1859 First Methodist missionaries at work in BC
1859 Father Charles Pandosy (OMI) active in the Okanagan. Catholic mission established
1859 Peter O'Reilly (Joseph Trutch's brother-in-law) becomes Assistant Gold Commissioner
1859 Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (Anglican) comes to BC
1859 Methodists E. Evans, A. Browning, E. Robson and E. White active in Victoria
1860s Douglas or pre-Confederation reserves laid out (mostly to 1864; none after 1871)
1860s William Cox is Gold Commissioner at Rock Creek
1860s Commercial fishing begins to develop
1860 Edgar Dewdney and Walter Moberly open Dewdney trail between Hope & Similkameen
1860 Royal Engineers widen Douglas-Lilloet trail into wagon road
1860 Similkameen post established by HBC
1860 Proclamation establishes procedures for pre-emption of unsurveyed agricultural land
1860 J.D. Pemberton is Surveyor-General Vancouver Island (to 1864)
1860 Victoria Gas Company founded
1860 Anglicans establish Indian school near Victoria
1861 Legislative Assembly of VI asks England for funds to extinguish aboriginal title; denied
1861 Pre-emption Amendment Act
1861 St. Mary's Catholic mission established near Mission City (to 1984)
1861 Gold discovered in the Upper Peace River region
1861 Harrison-Lillooet wagon road completed
1861 Proclamation consolidates laws relating to the settlement of unsurveyed crown lands
1861 Country Land Purchase Act
1861 Gold Commissioners also become Assistant Commissioner of Lands
1861 John Carmichael Haynes is Gold Commissioner at Rock Creek
1861 Coqualeetza residential school established at Sardis (to 1940)
1861 Pre-Emption Purchase Act
1861 Colonial policy: Reserves to be defined as pointed out by the natives themselves
1861 Pre-Emption Consolidation Act
1862 Cariboo region divided into two parts, Cariboo East & West (to 1865)
1862 Metlakatla mission established (to 1887)
1862 Thomas Crosby (Protestant) active in Nanaimo
1862 Indians allowed to pre-empt land conditionally
1862 Smallpox epidemic reduces aboriginal populations in BC (to 1863)
1862 Peak of the Cariboo Gold Rush
1862 Gold rush on Stikine
1862 Building of Cariboo Road between Yale and Barkerville commenced (completed in 1865)
1863 Royal Engineers recalled to England; some individuals stay in BC
1863 Mining District Act
1863 William Cox is Justice of the Peace and Gold Commissioner for the Cariboo
1863 Road between Spence's Bridge and Clinton completed
1863 Peter O'Reilly is a member of the BC Legislative Council (to 1871)
1863 St. Mary's mission established by the Oblates
1863 Peter O'Reilly becomes Chief Gold Commissioner
1864 Western Union Telegraph Company decides to build telegraph through BC
1864 First Telegraph Act
1864 Rev. Robert Doolan begins mission among the Nishga
1864 B.W. Pearse is Surveyor General of Vancouver Island (to 1866)
1864 Governor Douglas retires
1864 Wagon road to Cottonwood completed
1864 Ahousat villages destroyed by Royal Navy
1864 Burrard mission established in Squamish territory
1864 Joseph Trutch is Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works (to 1871)
1864 Douglas policy is reversed. Douglas reserves cut back by CCLW Trutch
1864 Joseph Trutch is Surveyor General for BC
1864 J.C. Haynes is Gold Commissioner for Kootenay area
1864 Chilcotin Nation uprising against Bute Inlet wagon road building party. Manhunt follows
1864 Some members of the Chilcotin Nation tried and hanged for uprising deaths
1864 Vancouver Island Exploring Expedition
1864 Legislative Council resolution calls for adjustment of Fraser Valley reserves
1864 Queen's birthday celebration. Indians ask Governor Seymour to protect their lands
1864 British Vancouver Island Coal Mining Company buys HBC coal fields at Nanaimo
1865 Construction of Dewdney Trail completed
1865 An Ordinance for regulating the Acquisition of Land in BC
1865 International Telegraph Ordinance
1865 New Westminster is connected by telegraph to the United States
1865 Indian Graves Ordinance
1865 Western Union builds telegraph line north to Quesnel
1865 First grazing legislation enacted
1865 Philip Nind is Gold Commissioner at Lytton
1865 Vancouver Island Legislative Assembly calls for reserves to be opened up to settlement
1865 Fort Rupert village destroyed by HMS Clio
1866 Chilliwack is connected by telegraph to the United States
1866 Post established at Hagwilget by HBC
1866 Post established at Quesnel by HBC
1866 Union of colonies of Vancouver Island and BC
1866 Western Union Telegraph line & trail reaches Kispiox River
1866 Legislative Council discusses the adjustment of Indian reserves
1866 Pre-Emption Ordinance bars Indian people from pre-empting land (to 1953)
1866 New Westminster becomes capital of new colony of BC
1866 North America and Europe connected by cable
1867 Conveyance of Vancouver Island from HBC to the crown
1867 St. Joseph's mission established in Williams Lake
1867 Constitution Act s.91(24). Canada responsible for Indians and lands reserved for Indians
1867 Barkerville post established by HBC
1867 An Ordinance to prevent the violation of Indian Graves
1867 Reverend Good establishes St. Paul's mission in Lytton area
1867 Petition from 70 BC Indian Chiefs forwarded by Governor Seymour to England
1867 Legislative Council motion calls for Lower Fraser reserves to be defined & reduced
1867 Governor Seymour says reserves will not be reduced without his personal inspection
1867 Alaska is transferred to the US from Russia
1867 Gold Mining Ordinance
1868 Capital of BC moved to Victoria from New Westminster
1868 Fisheries Act of Canada does not affect BC Fisheries
1868 Matsqui Indians forward petition protesting the reduction of their reserve by Trutch
1868 Dominion passes Rupert's Land Act
1869 Anthony Musgrave is Governor of united colony (to 1871)
1869 HBC acquires post at Masset
1869 Superintendent General of Indian Affairs empowered to grant location tickets
1869 Transcontinental railway link completed in American territory
1869 An Ordinance respecting Indian Reserves empowers local officials to settle land disputes
1869 Mineral Ordinance
1869 Omineca gold rush begins
1870s Economic depression in BC
1870s Methodists active in Victoria and Nanaimo areas
1870 Terms of Union confirms Dominion government's responsibility for Indians
1870 Transfer of HBC lands to Canada
1870 Land Ordinance. Crown reserves right to resume land for roads
1870 British North America (BNA) Act gives province control over land (s. 92)
1870 Timber lands begin to be leased
1870 Fort Grahame established by HBC
1870 Mission established at Cowichan
1870 Pelagic sealing industry established (to 1911)
1871 Bella Bella post established by HBC at old Ft. Loughlin site
1871 Telegraph line from New Westminster to Quesnel comes under Dominion jurisdiction
1871 Joseph Trutch is Lieutenant-Governor (to 1876)
1871 BC enters Confederation. Indians remain the responsibility of the federal government
1871 Indian Affairs administered by the Secretary of State (to 1873)
1871 BC Government agents take over all non-mining duties from Gold Commissioners
1871 Exploratory surveys to determine route of CPR begun (to 1879)
1871 BC and Canada begin debate about the size of Indian reserves. Issue never resolved
1871 Constitution Act establishes authority of provincial departments and officials
1871 Lands and Works Department created to survey, map and administer BC Lands
1871 Peter O'Reilly works in Ominica as Gold Commissioner, tax collector and Indian Agent
1871 Canning Industry begins with establishment of Fraser River Canners
1871 Mission established at Sechelt
1871 Indian people not allowed to fish commercially (to 1923)
1871 Schedule of All Indian Reserves (Surveyed) in the Province of BC (BC)
1871 Port Essington shipping and canning centre founded
1871 Bishop George Hills protests Indian policy to the Dominon
1872 Small pox epidemic in BC
1872 First Central Registry File system called the Red Series (Eastern Canada) established
1872 The right to vote in BC elections withdrawn from Indian people in BC (to 1949)
1872 Dr. Israel Wood Powell appointed (Victoria-based) Indian Superintendent (to 1889)
1872 Dominion Homestead Act
1872 G. A. Walkem is briefly CCLW
1872 Robert Beaven becomes CCLW (to 1876)
1872 First railway survey party enters Peace River region
1872 Province makes public education free
1872 San Juan Island becomes part of US
1873 July 1 deadline for starting construction on the CPR expires
1873 Report of J.W. Powell on various tribes in BC including a Schedule of Reserves & Leases
1873 Matthew Baillie Begbie is Chief Justice in BC
1873 Indian Superintendent granted magisterial (enforcement) powers
1873 Sir Alexander Campbell represents the Department of the Interior
1873 Methodist mission established at Fort Simpson.
1873 Metlakatla residential school established (to 1908)
1873 Northwest Mounted Police formed
1873 Mission established at Fort St. James
1873 Bill providing for destitute Indians and halfbreeds of BC
1873 I.W. Powell visits coastal Indians
1873 Department of the Interior created. David Laird responsible (to 1876)
1873 Indian & Indian Lands branch set up under the Dept. of the Interior (to 1880)
1874 Petition of chiefs of the Lower Fraser expressing discontent over land settlement in BC
1874 BC Indians concerns presented to Privy Council by Interior Minister David Laird
1874 BC Land Act lets province alienate land without regard for aboriginal title. Disallowed
1874 BC Gazette notice reserving 20-mile wide strip along east coast of VI for a railway
1874 Glenora post established by HBC at Telegraph Creek
1874 St. Eugene mission established at Cranbrook
1874 Indian Board established in BC (to 1875)
1874 L. Vankoughnet is the Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in Ottawa
1874 Earl of Carnarvon is Secretary of State for the Colonies
1874 I.W. Powell is Visiting Superintendent & Indian Commissioner (to 1880)
1874 James Lenihan is New Westminster-based Assistant Indian Superintendent (to 1875)
1874 Father Grandidier expresses concern about the grievances of BC Indians
1874 Crosby Girls Home in Port Simpson established (to 1948)
1875 BC land Act of 1874 is disallowed by Canada because it disregards aboriginal title
1875 Papers Connected with the Indian Land Question published as BC Sessional Papers
1875 Canadian Geological Survey’s G.M. Dawson begins explorations in BC (to 1878)
1875 Revised BC Land Act provides for Indian reserves (s. 60)
1875 Esquimalt and Naniamo Railway Act (grant of lands for railway purposes to Canada)
1875 Sub-agents are hired in various districts
1875 Land is available to settlers free of charge (to 1879)
1875 G.M. Dawson explores BC for the Canadian Geological Survey (through 1878)
1875 Indian Board abolished in favour of Indian superintendency system
1875 BC divided into two superintendencies, Victoria & Fraser (located in New Westminster)
1875 James Lenihan is Superintendent of the Fraser (Mainland) Superintendency
1875 I.W. Powell is Superintendent of the Victoria (VI & N. Coast) Superintendency
1875 Superintendents report to Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in Ottawa
1875 Superintendents required to submit yearly activity reports to headquarters
1876 David Mills represents the Department of the Interior (to 1878)
1876 Canadian Governor General Lord Dufferin appeals for fair treatment of Indian claims
1876 Joint Indian Reserve Commission is established; reversionary interest is shared equally
1876 A.C. Anderson represents Dominion on Joint Indian Reserve Commission (to 1877)
1876 A. McKinley represents the province on the Joint Indian Reserve Commision (to 1877)
1876 G.M. Sproat is the joint federal/provincial representative on the JIRC (to 1880)
1876 First Federal Indian Act passed; consolidates all previous legislation concerning Indians
1876 Federal proclamation excludes Indian lands and resources in BC from the Indian Act
1876 James Lenihan makes a confidential report on the Indians of BC
1876 G.M. Sproat memorandum on Minister of Interior on Indian rights
1876 Federal PCOC extends federal Fisheries Act to BC; A.C. Anderson is Fisheries Inspector
1876 F.G. Vernon is CCLW (to 1878)
1876 Lower Post established by HBC on Liard River; McDame's Creek Post on Dease River
1876 Order-in-council proclaims that the Fisheries Act of Canada extends to BC
1876 Indian people excluded from voting in municipal elections
1876 Anglican mission established at Masset village
1877 Indian reserve allotments require Executive Council approval (in addition to CCLW)
1877 Joint Reserve Commission issues report with some census information
1877 Powell appointed medical officer for Victoria Superintendency
1877 Kimsquit (Bella Coola) village destroyed by Royal Navy gunboat
1877 Federal Fisheries Act takes effect in BC
1877 St. Louis mission established near Kamloops
1877 Cannery industry established on the Skeena River
1878 A. C. Anderson's Census report of the Shuswap and Okanagan Tribes
1878 G.M. Sproat is sole Reserve Commissioner (to 1880)
1878 G.M. Sproat reports on Indian fishing places
1878 G.M. Sproat reports on arable and grazing lands for the Indians
1878 Sir John A. Macdonald represents the Department of the Interior (to 1883)
1878 Forty-mile wide Railway Belt area from Yellowhead Pass to Burrard Inlet is reserved
1878 Anglican Church establishes presence in Alert Bay
1878 Telephone is used in BC for the first time
1878 G.A. Walkem is CCLW (to 1882)
1878 George Anthony Walkem is Lieutenant-Governor (to 1882)
1878 Federal fishing regulations introduced in BC
1878 Chiefs & Headmen of the Lower Fraser express desire to have IRC settle their affairs
1878 IRC Sproat advises no water allotments for settlers until Indian water rights dealt with
1879 Crown Lands Amendment Act
1879 Surveyors instructed to show all Indian villages, cabins and fields on their plans
1879 Surveyors instructed to accurately show all roads & trails (and their directions) in plans
1879 Federal government announces CPR will follow Fraser River route in BC
1879 Lower Fraser (Yale, New Westminster & Coast Districts) Agency census (to 1880)
1879 Cemetery Act
1879 Nlaka'pamux assembly at Lytton discusses Indian Land Question
1879 Tsimshian confiscate nets of a cannery trespassing on their land
1879 Burrard Inlet chosen as CPR line terminus
1879 Victoria linked to Nanaimo by telegraph
1879 Order-in-council introduces salmon fishing licences in Canada
1879 Indian Superintendent given authority over Indian Reserve Commissioner (to 1898)
1880s I.W. Powell is Dominion's Inspector of Indian Agents
1880s Rev. T. Crosby protests the treatment of Indians & the way reserves are being laid out
1880s Dogfish oil industry established
1880 G.M. Sproat resigns from Indian Reserve Commission
1880 Peter O'Reilly is sole IRC; reports to Visiting Superintendent (to 1898)
1880 Joseph Trutch is Dominion agent in BC on railway and Indian matters
1880 DIA is created; Superintendent General is the Minister of the Interior (to 1936)
1880 Canning industry begins on the Skeena River
1880 An Act to further amend the Indian Act prohibits Indians from assembling (to 1927)
1880 W.S. Gore is Surveyor-General of BC (to 1891)
1880 Construction of BC portion of the CPR begins; contributes to increased immigration
1880 Two superintendencies are abolished to make way for Indian agency structure
1880 Powell is sole Visiting Superintendent & Commissioner for all of BC (to 1889)
1881 DIA forms six Indian agencies
1881 Cowichan agency created
1881 Fraser River (or Lower Fraser) agency created (to 1910)
1881 West Coast agency created
1881 First Kamloops agency created (to 1884)
1881 Kwawkewlth agency created
1881 First Okanagan agency created (to 1884)
1881 Indian agents report directly to Indian Superintendent for BC (until 1910)
1881 Canneries established in the Nass River and Vancouver Island (East) Regions
1881 Construction on BC CPR line begins (to 1886)
1881 Chief Mountain leads a Nisga’a protest delegation to Victoria
1882 Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Act repealed
1882 Census of Indians taken in BC (through 1883)
1882 Second Central Registry File system called the Black Series established (includes BC)
1882 Robert Beaven is CCLW (to 1883)
1882 Deacon Charles Harrison sent to Metlakatla
1882 Blue Bell and Silver King mines in operation. Nelson established
1883 Province starts granting crown lands for railway purposes
1883 BC Gazette notice regarding E & N Railway Land Grant rescinded & amended
1883 William Smithe is CCLW (to 1887)
1883 Northwest Coast agency created, but not active until 1888 (to 1910)
1883 Lillooet agency created
1883 Williams Lake agency created
1883 Railway Belt and Peace River lands are transferred from BC to Canada (to 1930)
1883 Federal Railway Act
1883 Act to Encourage Coal Mining
1883 Discussion commences about levying poll tax on Indians living off-reserve (to 1919)
1884 Settlement Act transfers first land grant for Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway
1884 Dominion Lands Act
1884 Vancouver Island Settlers Rights Agreement
1884 BC Land Act (posted notices required for diversion of water)
1884 Kamloops & Okanagan agencies amalgamated into Kamloops-Okanagan agency (to 1910)
1884 Motion in BC Legislature to remove Indians from valuable land. Defeated
1884 A.S. Farwell and G.M. Sproat reports on Indians in the Kootenays
1884 Indian Advancement Act introduces annual elections system
1884 Timber licences introduced
1884 Kamloops and Okanagan Agencies amalgamated (to 1910)
1884 All Hallow's School for Girls established at Yale (to 1918)
1885 Changes to the Indian Act prohibit potlatching (to 1951)
1885 Return (Schedule) or Indian Reserves in BC tabled (BC)
1885 Steamers and ferry in operation on Thompson River
1885 Thomas White represents the Department of the Interior (to 1888)
1885 Tsimshiam delegation goes to Ottawa to discuss the Indian Land Question
1885 DIA creates Statistics & School, Correspondence, Registry and Technical branches
1885 Completion of the CPR from Montreal to Port Moody
1885 Father A.G. Morice active in northern BC
1885 Dominion adapts regulations for surveying and administering Railway Belt lands
1885-6 Bella Coola representatives tour Germany to exhibit their culture
1886 Nisga'a holding meetings on the Indian Land Question & resist surveyors
1886 Act to amend the Land Act
1886 Franz Boas begins to focus on Indians of Northwest coast
1886 Department empowered to execute Letters Patent conveying Indian lands to third parties
1886 Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway is operational
1886 Stony Creek post established near Vanderhoof
1886 Kootenay agency created
1886 DIA empowered to register Letters Patent conveying Indian land to third parties
1887 Nisga’a and Tsimshian delegation travels to Victoria to discuss Indian Land Question
1887 Commission of Enquiry into the condition of the Indians of the Northwest coast
1887 Northwest Coast Agency established
1887 White-Robson Conference addresses Indian water rights & other issues
1887 Regulations re: mining on abandoned or surrendered lands in Railway Belt introduced
1887 F.G. Vernon is CCLW (to 1894)
1887 CPR reaches Vancouver
1887 First American Railway line (Great Northern) reaches into BC
1887 Federal PCOC #1887 provides for access roads within the Railway Belt
1887 Victoria Electric Illuminating Company formed
1887 William Duncan and many Tsimshian move from Metlakatla to Alaska
1888 St. Catherine's Milling Case - Privy Council recognizes Indian rights to land
1888 An Act to Amend the Land Act of 1884 requires gazetted notices for water diversion
1888 Report on the Enquiry into condition of Indians of the Northwest Coast published
1888 Spirit River post established by HBC
1888 Boarding school for girls established at Alert Bay (to 1905)
1888 BC passes first forestry legislation
1888 Fishing licences or permits become a requirement on the Fraser River
1888 Federal policy creates Indian food fishery. Indians not allowed to fish commercially
1888 Skeena River uprising
1888 Indian Graves Ordinance repealed by federal government
1888 Small pox outbreak (to 1889)
1888 Dr. Arthur Pearse, based in Yale, becomes "Missionary Doctor to the Indians"
1889 Small pox epidemic
1889 DIA creates Land & Timber, Statistical, Supply & School branches
1889 Precious Metals Case establishes provincial jurisdiction over precious metals in RB
1889 A.W.Vowell replaces Powell as Visiting Superintendent & IR Commissioner (to 1910)
1889 All hallows boarding school established at Yale (to 1918)
1889 Telegraph line constructed along west coast of Vancouver Island (to 1890)
1889 Federal fishing permit system introduced
1889 Babine & Upper Skeena agency created (usually called simply the Babine agency)
1890s Federal fishing regulations affecting BC Indians enforced
1890s Mining boom in the Kootenays (to World War One)
1890 Nisga’a establish a Land Committee
1890 Black River post established by HBC
1890 Kuper Island Indian residential school established (to 1975)
1890 Kamloops Indian residential school established (to 1978)
1890 Indian Reserve Commissioner O'Reilly directed not to allot fishing privileges
1890 St. Joseph’s residential school opens in Williams Lake (to 1981)
1891 Alberni day school (later residential school) established by Presbyterians
1891 Hagaga newspaper published
1891 Kamloops Wawa newspaper published (to 1917)
1891 Connolly (Bear Lake) post established by HBC
1891 BC railways granted 100-foot rights-of-way through crown lands
1891 Halibut fishing industry established (to 1924)
1891 Vernon & Nelson Telephone Company incorporated (becomes BC Telephone in 1904)
1892 Federal government passes PCOC to regulate the operation of residential schools
1892 List of Reserves within the Railway Belt drawn up
1892 Aboriginal people from BC participate in Chicago Columbian Exposition
1893 Report on the Census of Indians (to 1895)
1893 Hayter Reed appointed Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs
1893 Boarding school for girls established at Port Simosn (to 1920s)
1893 Nanakwa Indian newspaper published out of Kitamaat (to 1906)
1893-4 Economic depression
1894 Federal regulations restrict Indian fishing devices. Permission required to fish for food
1894 Peak of pelagic sealing industry in BC
1894 Dominion runs out of funds for surveys of Indian reserves in BC
1895 Indian Act amended
1895 Department of Indian Affairs starts mandatory band elections in some parts of Canada
1895 Boundaries of the Railway Belt are defined
1895 Headquarters introduces first file subject index
1895 Day school established at Ahousat by Presbyterians
1895 Smelter built in Trail
1895 Provincial Registry Act allows landowners in RB to register titles with the province
1896 Discovery of gold in the Klondike
1896 BC ceases alienating crown timber
1896 Sir Clifford Sifton is responsible for the Department of the Interior (to 1905)
1896 BC advised by Canada not to grant water rights within Railway Belt
1896 Elizabeth Long Memorial Girls Home established in Kitamat village (to 1941)
1896 BC Indians request that the federal government protect their chum fishery
1897 Canada Sessional Papers indicate the total acreage allotted for IRs in nine BC agencies
1897 Water Clauses Consolidation Act (standard form developed for recording water rights)
1897 Bonnington Falls hydro-electric installation becomes operational on Kootenay River
1897 Incorporation of BC Electric Railway Co. Ltd.
1897 James A. Smart appointed Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs
1897 DIA departmental reorganization
1897 Indian fishing devices destroyed by federal officials
1897 Crowsnest Pass Agreement reached regarding a second CPR trunk line
1897 BC passes Companies Act
1898 Schedule of Fisheries allotted to Indians in BC by the IRC prepared
1898 Assembly of Beaver Indians at Ft. St. John demand a treaty
1898 Hydro-electric plant built at Goldstream, near Victoria
1898 Silver Plate mine opened in Hedley
1898 Aschcroft Water, Electric & Improvement Co. builds dam on Bonaparte River
1898 Indian Reserve Commissioner Peter O'Reilly retires
1898 St. Eugene's residential school established in Cranbrook (to 1970)
1898 St. Francis/Squamish residential school established in North Vancouver (to 1959)
1898 A. W. Vowell is Indian Commissioner and Dominion Superintendent for BC (to 1910)
1898 W.S. Gore is Surveyor General of BC (to 1905)
1899 Lands and Works Branch of Department of Lands separate
1899 Treaty 8 is concluded; adhesions continue until 1914
1899 Boer (South African) War. Indian soldiers from BC participate (to 1902)

1900s

1900 Forest sector begins to dominate BC economy
1900 Beaver Indians sign Treaty 8 at Fort St. John
1900 Christie/Kakawis residential school established (to 1983)
1901 BC premier requests Terms of Union be renegotiated and that reserve sizes be re-assessed
1901 National census
1901 Incorporation of Kootenay Central Railway Company
1901 Incorporation of Kettle River Valley Railway Company
1901 Board of Fishery Commissioners & BC Department of Fisheries established (to 1957)
1901 Largest sockeye run for the Fraser River recorded
1901 Stave Lake Power Company Incorporated
1901 St. George's residential school established (to 1979)
1902 Dominion of Canada Schedule of all Indian Reserves published
1902 BC Packers established
1903 Songhees people displaced from their Victoria-area reserve by special act of Parliament
1903 Incorporation of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway
1903 Boarding school established at Ahousaht (to 1907)
1903 Richard McBride is premier of BC (to 1915)
1903 Boarding school for boys established at Port Simpson (to 1920s)
1903 Alaskan boundary dispute and award
1903 Buntzen Lake (Coquitlam) power plant begins supplying power to Lower Mainland
1904 Vancouver Island Settlers Rights Act
1904 American companies buy up timber licences in southern interior and coast (to 1911)
1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Indian people from BC participate
1905 Second grant of land from BC to Canada for the E & N Railway
1905 Province reserves all unalienated timber lands
1905 St. Georges Industrial School for Boys established in Lytton
1905 Britannia Mining & Smelting commences operations on Howe Sound
1905 Frank Oliver is responsible for the Department of the Interior (to 1911)
1905 Prince Commission studies BC fisheries (to 1907)
1905 Province of Alberta formed
1906 Barricade (fishing) agreement negotiated with Babine Nation
1906 Assembly of coastal and interior Indian people at Cowichan
1906 Delegation of BC chiefs meet with King Edward to discuss the Indian Land Question
1906 Dominion Forest Reserves Act defined eight forest reserves in BC
1906 The western boundary of the Railway Belt is defined
1906 Railway Belt Act
1907 Economic recession
1907 BC passes OIC regarding reversionary interest
1907 Nisga’a form Nisga’a Land Committee
1907 Automobiles begin to be used in BC
1907 First Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway train reaches Keremeos
1907 GTPR begins construction along Skeena and Bulkley Rivers
1908 BC’s Executive Council decides it will not make any further reserve allotments
1908 BC’s Executive Council refers query about aboriginal title to SCC, but is not entertained
1908 Canada-US border begins to be monitored by federal officials
1908 Federal government starts to regulate the canneries industry in BC
1908 Consolidated Land Act. s. 80 grants province reversionary interest
1909 Petition by Cowichan Tribes to the King of England. Referred back to Canada
1906 Second delegation of BC chiefs to England
1909 Indian Rights Association formed in BC (to 1916)
1909 Interior Tribes of BC formed
1909 Boarding school established at Alberni (to 1920s)
1909 Timber & Forestry Commission appointed to study timber land tenure in BC
1909 Northwest Coast Agency subdivided into Nass, Bella Coola and Q. Charlotte Agencies
1909 Water Act creates Board of Investigation (to 1939)
1910 Some northern nations sign adhesion to Treaty 8
1910 Rev. O'Meara submits Nisga'a Statement of Facts and Claims to the federal DOJ
1910 BC refuses to submit question of aboriginal title in BC to British Privy Council
1910 Vancouver Island Settlers' Rights Agreement Ratification Act
1910 Declaration of the Tahltan Tribe
1910 Amendment to the Water Act defines the powers of the Water Commissioner
1910 Conference of Friends of the Indians of BC is formed
1910 Burrard Power Case clarifies water rights in BC
1910 Indian Reserve Commission is dismantled
1910 Indian Superintendent's office in Victoria is closed and position abolished
1910 W.E. Ditchburn appointed to head Southwestern Inspectorate
1910 Interior Chiefs sign declaration setting out their position on aboriginal title and rights
1910 While in BC, Laurier visits Kamloops. Learning that he is in favour of larger reserves and recognition of Aboriginal Title, the Chiefs of Shuswap, Okanagan & Thompson Tribes present a Memorial to Sir Wilfred Laurier, Premier of the Dominion of Canada from the Chiefs of the Shuswap, Okanagan and Thompson Tribes, condemning BC land policies and game laws and rejecting BC's takeover of their lands. Believing that the Queen's laws will guarantee their rights, they request treaties with Canada

1910 BC divided into three inspectorates: Northern, Southwestern and Southeastern
1910 Fraser River Agency is divided into New Westminster and Lytton Agencies
1910 Okanagan Agency is split off from Kamloops Okanagan Agency
1910 First stage of development of Stave Lake Falls begins (to 1916)
1910 Canada & US sign international pact ending pelagic sealing; Indians exempt from ban
1910 Burrard Power Co. vs. Regina clarifies Indian water rights
1910 Royal Commission on Timber & Forestry in BC (Fulton Commission)
1910 E & N Railway line extended to Alberni
1910 Lejac residential school established at Fraser Lake (to 1976)
1911 Barricade (fishing) agreements negotiated with Fort Fraser & Fort St. James bands
1911 BC offers to buy back Railway Belt and Peace River Block from the Dominion
1911 Dominion transfers jurisdiction over water rights in the Railway Belt to BC
1911 Federal election (Conservative victory)
1911 The Interior Tribes, now consisting of the Secwepemc, Nlaka'pamux, Okanagan, St'at'imc, Tsilhqot'in, Dakelh Tahltn, and the coastal Sto:lo chiefs submits a Memorial to the Honourable Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, Ottawa. That same day, the St'at'imc release the Declaration of the Lillooet Tribe, asserting ownership of their territories and reminding Canada that though BC lays claim to their lands, they have defended their land “at the cost of their blood” and have never surrendered or deserted it.
1911 Coastal and interior chiefs meet with BC Premier McBride to discuss aboriginal title

1911 Over sixty delegates of the Interior Tribes, the Indian Rights Association and the Nisga'a Land Committee meet with Premier McBride to protest BC land policies and demand to be heard by Canadian courts. McBride declines, asserting that they do not have a legal case and that Indigenous people, in general, are satisfied with BC policies. In response, the Interior Tribes issues a Memorial and Declaration, reiterating their July 1910 declaration

1911 Amendments to the Indian Act
1911 Kettle River Valley Railway Co. renamed Kettle Valley Railway Company
1911 An Act respecting the taking of Lands for Highway Purposes
1911 Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway extended to Port Alberni
1911 First cannery built in the Queen Charlotte Islands
1911 Provincial Forest Branch is established
1911 Provincial Department of Lands and Works re-organized (to 1913)
1912 BC premier asserts province's reversionary interest; calls for readjustment of IRs
1912 Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway extended to Lake Cowichan
1912 Dr. J.A. J. McKenna memo to BC premier agreeing to set aside aboriginal title question
1912 Economic depression in BC
1912 Sechelt residential school established (to 1975)
1912 CPR acquires Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway
1912 Delegation of Interior Tribes travels to Ottawa to discuss land matters with the PM. The Interior Tribes meets with McKenna and, after receiving a copy of the McKenna-McBride agreement, submits a Statement of the Chiefs of the Interior Tribes of British Columbia to the Honourable Mr. Borden, Prime Minister of Canada and Members of the Dominion Government, clarifying that their main concern is not the size of reserves, but the “stealing of our lands by the BC government.” The chiefs assert ownership of their territories and demand a Privy Council hearing, rejecting the mandate of the Commission and its ability to reach fair and unbiased decisions.

1912 Delegates of the Interior Tribes, Indian Rights Association and the Nisga’a Land Committee agree to unite under the Indian Rights Association on all matters related to the McKenna-McBride agreement.

1912 Indian Rights Association petition to Prime Minister Borden
1912 Friends of the Indians of BC present a memorial to the Governor General
1912 Provincial Water Rights Branch is established
1912 Pacific Great Eastern Railway (PGER) is incorporated
1912 Bridge River Power Company formed
1912 Provincial Forest Act passed
1912 Province begins selling timber by auction (rights retained by the provincial crown)
1912 Indian fishing devices destroyed by federal officials
1912 BC Fish & Wildlife Branch requires the registration of traplines
1912 Jordan River project supplies power to Victoria area
1912 Province repurchases railway land grants
1913 McKenna-McBride Royal Commission is established
1913 McKenna-McBride Royal Commission estimates BC Indian population to be 21,489
1913 Nisga’a Land Committee petition presented to the British Privy Council
1913 Nass Indians sign declaration
1913 Provincial Museum of Natural History and Anthropology Act
1913 Canada Geographic Board’s Handbook of Indians of Canada lists BC reserve acreages
1913 Interior Tribes statement addressed to PM Robert Borden
1913 McKenna-McBride agreement means Nisga’a petition not referred to Judicial Committee
1913 H. Cathcart becomes Superintendent of Inspection Branch (to 1917)
1913 Railway Belt Water Act (Amendment to the Water Act)
1913 Schedule of Indian Reserves in the Dominion
1913 Railway Belt Water Act
1913 Alaska Highway completed
1913 BC makes third grant of land to Dominion for E & N Railway
1913 Preliminary survey work on BC-Alberta boundary
1913 Deputy Superintendent D.C. Scott distributes circular to Indian agents re: procedures
1913 Approximately one ninth of BC’s land mass surveyed to date
1913 Approximately 500,000 acres in BC alienated for mining purposes
1913 Approximately 8.5 million acres in BC alienated for timber purposes
1914 Federal PCOC asking Indian Tribes to accept the findings of the Royal Commission
1914 Federal PCOC recommends Exchequer Court of Canada rule on aboriginal title
1914 BC Chiefs reject extinguishment clauses recommended by Dominion
1914 War Measures Act gives federal cabinet emergency powers
1914 Interior Chiefs request their claims be put to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council
1914 First World War begins (to 1918)
1914 BC Water Act
1914 Grand Trunk Pacific Railway completes construction in Northern BC
1914 Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway extended to Courtenay
1914 Communities situated along railway lines are linked by telegraph
1914 Railway construction causes slide at Hell's Gate and contributes to Indian famine
1915 Interior Tribes assembly
1915 Nisga'a delegation to Ottawa
1915 Canadian National rail line reaches West Coast
1915 Indian Rights Association statement on lands made to Minister of the Interior
1915 Canadian Northern Railway reaches Vancouver
1916 Nisga'a delegation to Ottawa
1916 Migratory Birds Convention Act
1916 Indian Conference statement refusing to accept McKenna-McBride Commission findings
1916 Allied Indian Tribes of British Columbia formed to press Indian Land Question (to 1927). The Nisga'a and the Interior Tribes form the Allied Tribes during a meeting in Vancouver, in which the position of the Indian Rights Association is formally rejected and the organization dissolved. The executive of the Allied Tribes is elected to represent the Interior and Coast Salish, Kootenay, Tsilhqot'in, Dakelh, Kaska-Dene, Q'uwit'sun, Nuxalk, Nisga'a, Tsimshian, Haida and Gitksan peoples.

1916 McKenna-McBride Commission Final Report is published
1916 McKenna-McBride Commission resolution regarding water rights
1916 Duncan Campbell Scott is Superintendent of Indian Education
1916 Second stage of Stave Lake Falls development begins (to 1925)
1917 W.E. Ditchburn becomes Chief Inspector for BC
1917 Southwestern Inspectorate of BC abolished
1917 H. Cathcart is Superintendent of Lands (to 1929)
1917 Federal government requires fishing permits; imposes further restrictions for Indians
1917 Federal Soldier Settlement Act
1917 Provincial Soldiers Land Act and Soldiers Homestead Repeal Act
1918 Water Act amendments - Soldiers Land Act includes involvement of Water Rights Branch
1918 DIA and Department of Interior agree on policy to review and protect Indian water rights
1918 First World War ends
1918 Spanish Flu (influenza) epidemic kills many Indian people in BC
1918 Northern Inspectorate of BC abolished
1918 Report on BC forest resources Forests in British Columbia issued
1918 Federal PCOC #1509 issued regarding road allowances within the Railway Belt
1918 PGER reaches Quesnel. PGER taken over by BC Government (becomes BC Rail)
1919 Allied Tribes formally reject McKenna-McBride findings. After an assembly in Spences Bridge and large intertribal meetings throughout BC, the Allied Tribes drafts a Statement of the Allied Indian Tribes of BC for the Government of British Columbia, outlining the “present position of the Indian land controversy” in BC, emphasizing Indigenous territorial ownership and rejecting the McKenna-McBride recommendations. The Statement is distributed to Indigenous communities throughout BC before it is presented to Premier John Oliver in December.

1919 BC Indians table 20 Conditions proposed as a basis of settlement
1919 Provincial Indian Affairs Settlement Act (SBC 1919-c.32)
1919 CNR and CNPR incorporate as Canadian National Railway Company
1919 British Judicial Committee of the Privy Council ruling Re: Southern Rhodesia
1920 Federal British Columbia Lands Settlement Act (SC 1920-c.51)
1920 Federal legislation permits enfranchisement of Indians without their consent. Repealed
1920 Ditchburn-Clark review of the McKenna-McBride Royal Commission's work (to 1923)
1920 Duncan C. Scott makes it mandatory for Indian children (7-15 yrs) to attend school
1920 Alberni residential school established (to 1973)
1920s Seine licences not granted to Indians until now as a matter of departmental policy
1920s BC Indian population reaches lowest point
1920s Fire at Indian Affairs Williams Lake office. All records destroyed.
1921 British Judicial Committee of Privy Council ruling Amodu Tijani v. Southern Nigeria
1921 Pacific Great Eastern Railway (BC Rail) reaches Quesnel
1921 Indian Water Claims Act (BC)
1922 Assembly of the Allied Indian Tribes of BC held. The Allied Tribes meets in North Vancouver to continue lobbying British, Canadian and BC governments for a judicial hearing regarding Aboriginal Title
1922 Federal government removes some salmon fishing restrictions
1922 Stl'Atl'lmx (Lillooet) Tribe petition Dominion government to address aboriginal title
1922 GTPR and Canadian Northern Railway merge to form the Canadian National Railway
1922 Nass Agency amalgamated with Skeena Agency to become Skeena River Agency
1922 Vancouver Agency is split from New Westminster Agency
1922 Duff Commission studies fishing restrictions in BC
1923 Indian boarding schools become industrial and/or residential schools
1923 W.E. Ditchburn is Indian Commissioner for BC (to 1932)
1923 Provincial OIC 911 approves McKenna-McBride cut-offs of reserve land
1923 Indians permitted to participate in commercial fishery. Gas boats allowed on North Coast
1924 Federal PCOC 1265 approves McKenna-McBride reserves but not cut-offs in RB
1924 The elective system is introduced to replace the hereditary leadership system
1924 BC Electric Co. purchases stock in Bridge River Power Co.
1924 BC Premier John Oliver assures the SGIA that Indian foreshore rights will be protected
1924 Federal/provincial agreement on public harbours in BC
1924 W.E. Ditchburn becomes Indian Commissioner for BC (to 1929)
1924 Government prohibits unauthorized soliciting by Indians of outside funds
1924 International agreement between Canada & US restricts halibut fishing
1925 Historic Objects Preservation Act
1926 Allied Tribes of BC ask Parliament to examine question of aboriginal title in BC. The Allied Tribes petitions the Canadian Parliament for an inquiry, outlining the “Indian land controversy” since BC entered confederation. Due to government approval of the McKenna-McBride recommendations, the Allied Tribes declares that they are entitled to a hearing at the Privy Council and demands the funding and sanction to do so.
1926 BC Electric Power and Gas Co. Ltd. incorporate

1926 BC introduces trapline regulations. Trapline boundaries established
1926 Chief William Pierrish of Neskonlith tables statement with King of England
1927 Special joint committee holds hearings and rejects claims of the BC Allied Tribes. Canada appoints a Joint Special Committee of the Senate and House of Commons to inquire into Claims of the Allied Tribes as set out in their 1926 petition. The Committee considers the position of the Allied Tribes for two weeks, then declares that they had not proven any rights to the land based on Aboriginal or other title. The Committee recommends that the matter be closed, and blaming outside agitators for Indigenous resistance, recommends a ban on obtaining funds or legal counsel to advance Aboriginal Title cases. The Committee further recommends that Indians in BC receive an annual allotment of $100,000 to be spent on education, medical care and the promotion of agriculture, ranching and irrigation on reserves.
1927 Indian Act prohibits raising money or hiring lawyers to pursue land claims (to 1951). Canada amends the Indian Act to make it illegal to obtain funds or legal counsel to advance Aboriginal Title cases. This ends the Allied Tribes’ hope of having a case heard at
the Privy Council in London and the Allied Tribes dissolves. Indigenous resistance goes underground.

1927 BC legislates all defunct (non-operational) railways out of existence
1928 Special Funding Vote, a $100,00 annual payment for BC Indians, commences
1928 BC Electric Railway Co. taken over by the Montreal-based Power Corporation
1928 Influenza epidemic in Mackenzie Valley. Many deaths
1929 Scott-Cathcart agreement reached on measures for transferring Indian reserves to Canada
1929 Stock market crash. Beginning of the Great Depression (to World War Two)
1929 Board of Investigation renamed Water Board
1929 Judicial Committee of the Privy Council rules BC has jurisdiction over fish processing
1929 C.C. Perry becomes Indian Commissioner for BC (to 1936)
1929 St. Michael's residential school established in Alert Bay (to 1975)
1930 F.C. Green is Surveyor-General of BC (to 1946)
1930 Canada - BC Natural Resources Transfer Agreement
1930 Federal PCOC 208 transfers Railway Belt & Peace River Block from Canada back to BC
1930 Ruskin Dam operational
1931 Native Brotherhood of British Columbia formed. The Haida and Tsimshian form the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia (NBBC). NBBC organizes protests on fishing, lands, taxation and social issues. The founding declaration is similar to the Allied Tribes' statement, but avoids mentioning Aboriginal Title. Its official mandate is to improve the socio-economic conditions of Indian people in BC. Unofficially, the NBBC seek recognition of Aboriginal Title.

1931 Native Brotherhood organizes protests about fishing, lands and social issues
1932 Position of Grazing Commissioner dissolved - duties passed to Chief Forester
1932 Fire at the Indian Affairs Lytton Agency office. All records are destroyed.
1935 Position of Indian Commissioner for BC abolished but re-established in 1936
1936 Major D.M. McKay becomes Indian Commissioner for BC (to 1948)
1936 Indian administration absorbed by the Department of Mines and Resources (to
1949)
1937 Canada and US ratify Fraser Salmon Convention
1938 Provincial OIC 1036 transfers Indian reserves outside the RB & PRB to the federal
crown
1939 Cathcart-Taggart report on ordnance and admiralty lands in BC (government reserves)
1939 Second World War begins (to 1945)
1939 Fire destroys much of BC Attorney General ministry's letterbooks for 1872-1917
1939 Indian Water Claims Act partly repealed. Water Act is revised
1941 Crerar-Gray (federal-provincial) agreement on measures for dealing with cut-off lands
1942 Census of various bands in Stuart Lake Agency
1942 Indian commercial fishermen obliged to pay federal income tax
1943 Andrew Paull becomes president of fledgling North American Indian Brotherhood.
Squamish political leader, Andrew Paull, establishes the North American Indian
Brotherhood (NAIB). Paull had figured prominently in the Allied Tribes and the NBBC.
The NAIB aims to organize Indians across Canada to fight for civil rights without loss of
Indian rights.

1943 British Columbia Indian Reserves Mineral Resources Act
1943 Schedule of Indian Reserves in the Dominion of Canada-Reserves in the Prov. of
BC
1945 Inquiry into provincial forest resources commenced
1945 Provincial Department of Lands is divided into Land Service and Forest Service
1945 Provincial Government creates the BC Power Commission to replace smaller utilities
1945 Second World War ends
1945 United States Indian Claims Commission is created (to 1978)
1946 Peter Kelly & Andrew Paull press for revisions to the Indian Act (to 1951)
1948 BC Region created by DIA
1948 W.S. Arneil becomes Indian Commissioner for BC (to 1955)
1949 Provincial legislation establishes Indian people's right to vote in provincial elections
1949 Trans Canada Highway Act
1949 West Coast Transmission Co. incorporated
1949 British Judicial Committee of the Privy Council replaced by Supreme Court of Canada
1949 Nisga'a Chief Frank Calder is elected to the BC Legislature
1950 Indian Affairs portfolio is part of the Department of Citizenship & Immigration (to 1965)
1950 Northern Affairs portfolio is part of the Department of Resources & Development
1950 Creation of an Indian Claims Commission discussed in House of Commons debates
1950 Carbon 14 dating technique developed
1950 Korean War (to 1953). BC Indian soldiers participate.
1951 Indian Act is revised - prohibition regarding the pursuit of land claims is removed
1951 Hope-Princeton highway opened
1951 Lower Post residential school established (to 1975)
1951 Oil & gas boom begins in Peace River District
1952 Kemano 1 project completed. Kenny dam floods Cheslatta territory
1952 Nechako Reservoir Study is first archaeological impact assessment in BC
1952 Pacific Great Eastern Railway (BC Rail) extended to Prince George
1952 Borden system for designating archaeological sites is developed
1953 Prohibition against Indians pre-empting land repealed
1953 John Hart dam near Campbell River completed
1953 Trans Mountain Oil pipeline reaches Port Moody
1953 Northern Affairs portfolio part of Department of Northern Affairs & Natural Resources
1954 Stikine Agency becomes Yukon Agency
1954 Pine Tree radar defence line completed
1955 Nisga'a form a tribal council to carry on work of the Land Committee
1955 Letter from DIA to Indian Commissioner BC declares Sinixt extinct
1956 BC Rail line from Quesnel reaches Prince George
1957 Fort St. John Agency transferred from NWT and Alberta to BC
1957 Burns Lake Agency established
1957 Viet Nam War (to 1975). BC Indian soldiers participate
1957 BC Department of Fisheries replaced by Department of Recreation & Conservation
1957 DEW (Distant Early Warning) radar line operational
1958 Burrard Thermal Generating Station commences operations
1958 Pacific Great Eastern Railway extended to Dawson Creek
1959 Nelson Commission makes recommendations on Treaty 8 provisions; no action taken
1959 Joint Committee for the review of Indian Affairs policy considers Indian claims (to 1961)
1960 Secwepemc leader, George Manuel and Nisga’a leader Frank Calder present briefs to the Joint Committee for the Review of Indian Affairs Policy. Citing the 1763 Royal Proclamation, Manuel and Calder both demand recognition of and compensation for loss of Aboriginal Title. The Committee recommends the establishment of an Indian Claims Commission to settle outstanding land claims in Canada.

1960 Federal voting rights extended to include Indian people
1960 Bridge River flooded to create Carpenter Lake reservoir
1961 Joint Committee recommends creation of an Indian Claims Commission in Canada
1961 Legislation creating an Indian Claims Commission is drafted but never enacted
1961 Transfer of 24,000 acres from province to Canada pursuant to Treaty 8 obligations
1961 Columbia River Treaty signed between Canada and US
1961 Provincial Government purchases BC Electric Company
1962 BC Electric Co. amalgamates with BC Power Commission to create BC Hydro
1962 Bill C-19, An Act respecting the Canada Court of Indians receives first reading
1962 North American Indian Brotherhood calls for legislated Indian Claims Commission
1962 Flooding at a government warehouse damages DIA records from the 40's & 50's
1963 Bill C-130, An Act to provide for the disposition of Indian Claims receives first reading
1964 Department of Indian Affairs restructured
1965 R. vs. White vs. Bob clarifies treaty and hunting rights
1965 Mid-Canada radar defence line discontinued
1965 Bill C-130 is amended and reintroduced as Bill C-123, but is not enacted
1966 Confederation of Native Indians of BC formed
1966 Government Organization Act
1966 Indian and Northern Affairs portfolios are merged under one minister
1966 BC-Yukon Region amalgamation with DIA headquarters in Vancouver
1966 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) is formed
1960s High-voltage power transmission lines begin to be erected in BC
1967 Duncan dam on Columbia River completed
1967 Mica Dam-Kinbasket Lake Reservoir construction begins
1967 Museums Act
1967 Worrall Report on mineral resources on Indian reserves in BC published
1968 Nisga’a take their land claim to court
1968 Len Marchand becomes second Indian MP after Louis Riel
1968 W.A.C. Bennett hydroelectric dam completed; creates Williston Lake Reservoir
1968 Hugh Keenleyside Dam operational. Arrow Lake Reservoir created
1968 Indian Homemakers Association formed
1968 DIA establishes and administers Indian Mining Regulations
1969 Indian Claims Commission is established under Inquiries Act (Barber Commission)
1969 BC waives reversionary interest in Indian Reserves
1969 NDP position paper acknowledges aboriginal title never extinguished in BC
1969 Nisga’a initiate litigation that results in 1973 Calder decision
1969 Federal government acknowledges McKenna-McBride cut-offs were unlawful
1969 Trudeau government’s White Paper asserts that aboriginal title does not exist.
Prime Minister Trudeau and his Minister of Indian Affairs, Jean Chretien, introduce a
white paper on Indian policy. The policy is one of aggressive assimilation and is soon
1969 The Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) forms as 144 chiefs and delegates from all
over BC meet to discuss the White Paper and its effects on Indian people in BC.
1969 Federal government takes direct control over Indian residential schools
1970s Metric system of land measurement comes into use in Canada
1970 BC-Yukon Region separates
1970 Supreme Court of Canada upholds Indians’ right to drink in public
1970 At the second General Assembly of the UBCIC, UBCIC issues A Declaration of
Indian Rights: the BC Position Paper
1970 BC Land Act eliminates the pre-emption system in BC
1970 Feet become the standard unit of land measurement
1970 INAC Membership starts transferring local administration of membership to bands
1971 BC Rail line reaches Fort Nelson
1971 UBCIC submission to federal and provincial governments on Native Title to BC
1971 The Canadian Government formally withdraws the White Paper and soon after, the
UBCIC adopts its Constitution and By-laws and is incorporated under the BC Societies
Act.

1971 Indian Fisheries Development Board
1971 George Manuel meets with New Zealand and Australian indigenous leaders
1972 George Manual meets with international indigenous groups
1972 Schedule of Indian Reserves and Settlements issued by INAC
1972 National Indian Brotherhood issues Indian Control of Indian Education paper which officially recognizes that languages and cultures are an integral part of First Nation education. In response to the recommendations from Chiefs and Elders the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) implements the Cultural Education Centres Program.
1972 UBCIC submits BC claim based on native title to the federal government. UBCIC presents a Claim Based on Native Title to the Lands now Forming British Columbia to Prime Minister Trudeau, demanding recognition of Aboriginal Title and compensation for its loss. UBCIC proposes that Canada establish a claims commission to adjust reserve size and determine the amount of compensation to be paid to Indigenous people for the loss of their territories. Trudeau ignores the proposal

1972 The BC government agrees to consider the return of reserve lands that had been cut-off by the McKenna-McBride Commission, but asserts that settling Aboriginal Title claims is a federal matter. Canada and BC begin negotiations with the Indian Bands affected in 1981.

1973 Federal Indian Affairs Minister Jean Chretien introduces federal land claims policy
1973 Aboriginal rights discussed for first time in the federal House of Commons
1973 Calder vs. A-G recognizes land rights based on aboriginal title (SCC). Calder v. Attorney General of BC. The Supreme Court of Canada recognizes that the Nisga’a held title to their land before BC was established, however the court splits evenly on whether Nisga’a title had been extinguished since the establishment of BC. In response, Trudeau changes federal policy to allow negotiation of "Comprehensive Claims" based on Aboriginal Title and "Specific Claims" based on reserve lands.
1973 Mica Dam (Kinbasket Lake Reservoir) operational
1974 INAC establishes Office of Native Claims to receive claims submissions
1974 Nisga’a comprehensive claim accepted for negotiation by the federal government
1974 Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry established
1974 BC Indian Cut-off Lands Settlement Act (federal)
1975 World Council of Indigenous Peoples founded by George Manuel at Port Alberni
1976 Mica Dam completed
1976 Province agrees to participate in Nisga’a negotiations; doesn’t acknowledge title issue
1976 Federal government adopts the comprehensive land claims policy
1977 Gitksan-Carrier comprehensive claim accepted for negotiation by Canada
1977 Kitwancool comprehensive claim accepted for negotiation by the federal government
1977 Commissioner on Indian Claims (Lloyd Barber) issues recommendations in report
1977 Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry report issued (“Berger Report”)
1977 George Manuel is nominated for Nobel Peace Prize (and again in 1978 and 1979)
1977 UBCIC proposes Aboriginal Rights Commission consider aboriginal title & rights issues
1977 Heritage Conservation Act (BC)
1977 Federal government introduces Salmonid Enhancement Program
1977 Kruger & Manuel v. The Queen
1978 Indian Nations Aboriginal Rights Position Paper formulated by UBCIC
1978 Indian Cut-off Bands Committee rejects federal-provincial cut-off lands offer
1978 Haisla Nation comprehensive claim accepted for negotiation by federal government
1979 Gerald LaForest reviews federal specific claims policy, recommends independent tribunal
1979 BC Chiefs & Elders make constitutional visit to England
1979 Aboriginal Council of BC founded
1979 Indian Cut-off Bands Committee rejects federal-provincial cut-off lands offer
1979 Baker Lake test for aboriginal title created by Baker Lake Federal Court case
1979 The UBCIC created and adopted a flag as a national symbol to represent Indian Peoples determination and power to safeguard their territories.

1979 UBCIC drafts the Aboriginal Rights Position Paper, outlining a basis for all discussions relating to land claims and Aboriginal Rights. The position paper advocates exclusive control over larger reserves and includes an Indian Government Manifesto that draws on the principles of nationhood, self-determination and equality of peoples.

1980 Canada's First Nations petition Queen to recognize aboriginal rights in the Constitution

1980 UBCIC supports the Indian Child Caravan. The Spallumcheen band passes a bylaw regarding taking ownership of the care of their children. The UBCIC provides office space, organizes the media and provides the impetus for the generation of province-wide interest in the issue. The march and demonstration led by Chief Wayne Christian, goes from Vancouver, BC and eventually led to BC's Minister of Social Services. The subsequent meeting of the Minister of Social Service, Grace McCarthy with the band led to an agreement which gave the Spallumcheen control over their own child welfare program

1980 Nisga’a submission to Special Joint Committee of the Senate & House of Commons
1980 Association of the United Tahltns comprehensive claim accepted for negotiation
1980 Nuu-Chah-Nulth Nation comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1980 Haida Nation comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1981 Heiltsuk Nation comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1981 Nuxalk Nation comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1981 Kootenay Nation comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1981 Nazko-Kluskus comprehensive claim submitted to federal government

1981 UBCIC mobilizes the Constitution Express. Trainloads of Indigenous people travel from BC to Ottawa to lobby Trudeau and the Premiers to guarantee Indigenous peoples’
right to self-determination in the Canadian Constitution. In the end, Canada passes the Canada Constitution Act, 1982 recognizing “existing aboriginal and treaty rights” (Section 35). Three years later, after a series of unsuccessful First Ministers’ Conferences, the task of defining Aboriginal Rights is left to the Canadian courts.

1981 Some McKenna-McBride cut-off lands claims are settled (into the mid-1980’s)
1981 Federal comprehensive claims policy is set out in In All Fairness
1981 Federal claims policy altered to entertain local government participation at negotiations
1981 Pearse Commission into Pacific fisheries
1982 Economic recession
1982 Kaska-Dene comprehensive claim submitted to federal government
1982 Neskonlith submission to House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs
1982 Canada Constitution Act recognizes existing aboriginal and treaty rights (s. 35)
1982 Federal specific claims policy is set out in Outstanding Business: A Native Claims Policy
1983 Christie residential school in Tofino, the last residential school, closes
1983-4 Meares Island logging controversy
1984 Indian Cut-Off Lands Disputes Act (BC)
1984 Len Marchand appointed to the Senate
1984 Declaration of the Chilcotin Nation
1984 Declaration of the Kwakiutl Nation; comprehensive claim submitted to Canada
1984 Guerin v. the Queen affirms fiduciary responsibilities of the Federal government (SCC)
1985 Task Force reviewing comprehensive claims policy issues report (Coolican Report)

1985 The UBCIC develops and adopts the Aboriginal Title and Rights Position Paper, containing four principles that remain the guiding principles of the UBCIC: 1) Recognition
that we are the original people of the land, 2) Recognition that we have the right to choose and will determine the type of authority we wish to exercise through our Indian governments, 3) Recognition that we have the right to exercise and will exercise the sufficient jurisdiction without our traditional territories to maintain our sacred connection to Mother Earth through management and conservation of the resource and the use of the resources necessary for the economic survival and well-being of our citizens and 4) Recognition that it is only through a process of informed consent that our territory, its resources or our governing authority over our lands and our people may be shared

1985 Bill C-31 An Act to Amend the Indian Act
1985 Bill C-31 passes, ending discrimination against Indian women who married non-Indians
1985 Bill C-31 results in addition of many new members to BC Indian bands
1986 Canada revises its comprehensive claims policy
1986 An Act relating to the establishment of self-government for the Sechelt Indian Band
1986 United Church of Canada first to apologize for treatment at residential schools
1988 Canadian Bar Association affirms need for claims to be submitted to an independent body
1988 Assembly of First Nations publishes Aboriginal Language Policy Study (Phases I & II).
1988 AFN hosts National conference on languages to formulate First Nation Languages Policy Framework.

1988 Bill C-115 (Kamloops amendments) establishes power of bands to tax reserve lands
1989 Cemetery and Funeral Services Act (BC)
1989 RBCM develops policy for repatriation of human remains and cultural materials
1989 Claxton vs. Saanichton Marina (BC Court of Appeal) confirms Douglas Treaty rights
1990 R. vs. Sparrow clarifies constitutionally protected aboriginal fishing rights (SCC)
1990 Assembly of First Nations (AFN) issues critique of federal land claims policies
1990 The Oka standoff begins. Mohawk warriors barricade a road to "The Pines" near Oka, Quebec to stop golf course expansion into their traditional burial ground. In July, 100 police attempt to take down the barricade. One officer is killed and the Mohawks blockade all roads and bridges leading into their territory. Local non-Indigenous residents riot at the barricades and the Canadian Army is called in. Within months, the barricades are dismantled and 150 Mohawk people are arrested. The golf course proposal is abandoned. Indigenous communities across BC erect blockades in support of the Mohawk people. People block railways and roads, slow traffic and hand out information pamphlets about Indigenous land rights and the struggle in BC.
1990 Federal government agrees to resolve outstanding TLE issues in prairies
1990 Province abandons 119-year old policy of refusing to acknowledge aboriginal title
1990 Indian Self-government Enabling Act (BC)
1990 BC joins the Nisga'a and Canada in the negotiation of the Nisga'a Comprehensive Claim. This is the first time BC agrees to negotiate a Comprehensive Claim. BC still refuses to acknowledge Aboriginal Title.
1990 UBCIC submits a draft Comprehensive Framework Treaty to Canada and BC, setting out a process for treaty negotiation in BC. The first principle is that no extinguishment of Aboriginal Title will occur with as a result of the signing of a treaty.
1990 The First Nations Congress, a splinter group from UBCIC that began to form in 1975, works with Canada and BC to develop a treaty negotiation process. UBCIC upholds its Comprehensive Framework Treaty proposal and refuses to participate.
Tripartite BC Claims Task Force is established to consider comprehensive claims issues
1991 Canada establishes a Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples to examine the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples. The Commission visits 96 communities, holds 178 days of hearings, and completes over 350 research projects over four years.
1991 Federal government agrees to consider pre-Confederation specific claims
1991 Federal government agrees to fast-track specific claims valued at less than $500,000
1991 Federal government lifts cap on the number of comprehensive claims under negotiation
1991 BC government formally acknowledges the Indian Land Question
1991 BC Court of Appeal rules that aboriginal rights were extinguished before 1871
1991 Indian Specific Claims Commission created to mediate rejected specific claims
1991 Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples established


1992 Cariboo-Chilcotin Justice Inquiry established
1992 Mabo vs. Queensland
1992 AFN & Canadian Museums Association recommend more FN participation in museums
1992 INAC considers claims of a third kind, but no written policy is ever articulated
1992 Joint First Nations/Canada Working Group discusses reforms to specific claims process
1992 Schedule of Indian Bands, Reserves and Settlements published by DIAND
1992 BC Hydro creates Aboriginal Relations Department
1992 The First Nations Congress, Canada and BC establish the First Nations Summit and the BC Treaty Commission to implement the BC Treaty Process. The Treaty Process strives for final agreements in which Indigenous Peoples surrender 95 percent of their territories to Canada in exchange for compensation and specific treaty rights. Within ten years, 120 bands enter negotiations, borrowing $250 million to be paid back out of their compensation packages. As of May 2005, no final agreements have been signed.
1993 Joint First Nations/Canada Working Group dismantled when impasse reached
1993 BC Court of Appeal rules Gitsan & Wet'suwet'en have unextinguished aboriginal title
1993 Cariboo-Chilcotin Justice Inquiry issues report
1993 Treaty Commission Act
1993 The BC Government and the UBCIC enter into a Memorandum of Understanding: Respecting the Establishment of a government-to-government Relationship between the Indian Nations Comprising the UBCIC and the Government of BC. This MOU formally established the Joint Policy Council which worked for a number of years to in negotiations around lands, resources, health and welfare and education.

1993 Liberal Red Book promises claims will be considered by an independent commission
1994 Assembly of First Nations issues report on the reform of federal land claims policies
1994 Heritage Conservation Statutes Amendment Act
1994 Native Residential School Task Force created
1995 Independent fact finder Alvin Hamilton issues report on extinguishment and certainty
1995 Blueberry vs. Her Majesty the Queen finds the crown breached its fiduciary duty
1995 Province of BC introduces its traditional use studies policy
1995 Federal government acknowledges First Nations inherent right to self-government
1995 The Gustafson Lake stand-off begins when an American rancher attempts to evict Indigenous people gathered in ceremony on Secwepemc lands. Four hundred RCMP officers use armored vehicles, ammunition and land mines to evict 21 Indigenous people.
1996 The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples releases its Final Report recommending a redistribution of political authority and economic resources to reform the relationship between Canada and Indigenous peoples. Condemning Canada's Comprehensive Claim policy, the Commission recommends a policy that recognizes
Aboriginal rights and emphasizes shared ownership and jurisdiction over land. Canada shelves the $58 million report for two years.

1996 R. vs. Van der Peet clarifies aboriginal rights
1996 R. vs. Gladstone clarifies fishing rights
1996 R. vs. Nikal, R. vs. Lewis and R. vs. NTC Smokehouse clarifies aboriginal rights
1996 The Nisga'a Tribal Council, BC, and Canada sign an agreement-in-principle that forms the basis of the first Comprehensive Claim agreement signed in BC.
1996 Joint First Nations/Canada Task Force (JTF) discuss reforming specific claims policy
1997 Delgamuuk’w vs. British Columbia upholds aboriginal title (SCC) On appeal from previous BC Court decisions, the Gitxsan and Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs amend an original assertion of ownership and control over their territories, replacing it with claims of Aboriginal Title and self-government. BC argues that Aboriginal Title does not exist. Alternatively, BC argues, Aboriginal Title is not a right of ownership, but a right to engage in traditional subsistence practices such as hunting and fishing. The Supreme Court of Canada rejects the trial judge's ruling that Aboriginal rights had been extinguished before 1871. The Court does not decide whether the Gitxsan and Wet'suwet'en still hold title to their land and instead clarifies that Aboriginal Title is not a right of absolute ownership, but a proprietary right to “exclusive use and occupation of land" that “is a burden on the Crown's underlying title." Once Aboriginal Title is proven, federal and provincial governments may infringe upon it for valid reasons, including resource extraction, economic and infrastructure development, settlement of foreign populations and environmental protection. Aboriginal people must be consulted and compensated for any infringement or extinguishment of Aboriginal Title.
1997 Federal Court of Appeal rules in band's favour in Semiahmoo Indian Band vs. Canada
1998 JTF proposes independent commission and tribunal to resolve specific claims

1998 The UBCIC Research Department publishes Stolen Lands, Broken Promises: Researching the Indian Land Question in British Columbia. It is intended as a practical,
hands-on resource for Indigenous community members wanting to conduct research on a variety of issues affecting traditional territory and reserve lands in British Columbia. The second revised edition is published in 2005.

1998 Blueberry and Doig River bands reach $147 million settlement for reserve mineral rights
1998 Minister of Indian Affairs makes statement of reconciliation re: residential school abuse
1998 $350 million Healing Fund established to address legacy of residential schools
1998 Nisga'a sign agreement with federal and provincial governments

1998 The UBCIC develops and endorses its Aboriginal Title Implementation Paper which suggests some of the ways which Indigenous Nations can begin a process of re-discovering and re-invigorating their own Laws and fully re-asserting Aboriginal Title and Right of Self-Determination

1998 United Church apologizes for its involvement with residential schools
1998 Canada selects Vancouver-Whistler (Salish-St'at'imc territories) as Canada's nominee to host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Developers prepare a number of ski resort proposals for these territories.
1999 Sechelt Agreement in Principle Signed
1999 Nisga'a Treaty ratified by BC Legislature
1999 Westbank First Nations initiates direct action by harvesting trees
1999 Bill C-9, Nisga's Final Agreement brought into House of Commons
1999 Nisga'a Treaty passed second reading of House of Commons
1999 Peace Treaty Signed by Haisla, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo, Xais Xais
1999 New Territory Officially established: Nunavut
1999 Supreme Court decides that off-reserve members should have voting rights in on-reserve elections-Corbiere Decision
2000s

2000 The Nisga’a Final Agreement becomes Canadian law. The Nisga’a surrender 92 percent of their territory in exchange for expanded reserve lands and $190 million cash. The Nisga’a Lisims government is subject to provincial and federal laws. Nisga’a living in the settlement lands will be subject to BC, Canada, and Lisims taxation.

2000 Chief Joe Mathias passed away, mourned by many

2000 Nunavut Celebrates One Year Birthday

2000 Historical Joint Statement regarding Aboriginal Title made by First Nations Summit, Assembly of First Nations, and Union of BC Indian Chiefs

2000 St’at’imc people establish a protest camp at Sutikalh to stop a proposed ski resort development in the Cayoosh Mountains.

2000 Neskonlith people establish Swelkwekwelt Protection Centre at the Sun Peaks Ski Resort in Secwepemc territory to stop resort expansion. Secwepemc youth and Elders endure 54 arrests over four years. Resort expansion continues.

2001 Nuu-chah-nulth Agreement-In-Principle

2001 Liberal Leader, Gordon Campbell proposes Aboriginal BC Treaty referendum on Aboriginal treaty principles

2002 BC holds a referendum on the principles of BC Treaty negotiations. The referendum is widely denounced as biased, divisive and unjust. Indigenous leaders across the province organize a boycott. In the end, 33 percent of BC votes, a majority of which support the BC government’s position.

2002 In September, UBCIC, the First Nations Summit, the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia, and the United Native Nations sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Province of British Columbia to establish a joint dialogue and decision making
process regarding general and systemic issues relating to the safety and well-being of Aboriginal children and families.

2003 Vancouver-Whistler is selected to host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Plans for the development of lands surrounding Vancouver-Whistler intensify.

2003 Lheidli T’enneh, BC and Canada sign the first agreement-in-principle under the BC Treaty Process. The Lheidli T’enneh agree in principle to surrender their territory in exchange for expanded reserve lands and $12.8 million. The Lheidli T’enneh will be subject to federal and provincial laws and taxation.

2004 The Songhees host a Spring Caravan to Victoria: “Moving Forward in Unity.” Over 2,500 Indigenous People converge on the BC legislature to protest BC land policies. The charge is led by the Title and Rights Alliance, representing bands inside and outside the BC Treaty Process. BC responds by denouncing those gathered as misinformed malcontents. UBCIC is a key organizing partner in this protest.

2005 Prime Minister Paul Martin promises a transformation of Indian policy in Canada before reducing the Department of Indian Affairs' budget by $260 million.

2005 BC continues to aggressively promote oil and gas drilling, ski resort development, logging, mining and other forms of resource extraction in Indigenous territories.

2005 In March, the UBCIC, FNS and BCAFN sign the Leadership Accord which commits the three organizations to work together for the benefit of all First Nations in British Columbia. The three organizations become the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC).

2005 In April, the FNLC agree to the New Relationship with the BC Government. All parties commit to recognizing Aboriginal title and rights, to respecting each other’s laws and responsibilities, and to reconciling both Aboriginal and Crown titles and jurisdictions.

2005 The Haida Nation and their non-Haida neighbours block roads, seize timber and shut down forestry operations on Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands) to protest BC
forestry policies in their territory. The Island Spirit Uprising, as it was called, pushed the provincial government to begin high level negotiations with the Haida leadership. The official agreement says Haida leaders, islanders will see a significant drop in the annual allowable cut and the way resources are managed. The bear hunt will be halted and there will be a move toward eco-forestry.

2005 In October, the FNLC and the RCMP sign a Public Safety Cooperation Protocol, demonstrating the intent of First Nations and law enforcement to develop their relationship through mutual respect and trust and outline strategies to address community safety issues. The protocol is intended to build trust and reciprocal relations between the Parties in a proactive effort to prevent situations involving conflict situations and community crisis, alternatively, resolving disputes at the earliest possible opportunity.

2005 In November, the FNLC signs the Transformative Change Accord with the federal and provincial government. The First Ministers and Aboriginal Leaders commit to strengthening relationships on a government-to-government basis, and on focusing efforts to close the gap in the areas of education, health, housing and economic opportunities. The Parties agree that by December 2006, a detailed tripartite implementation strategy will be developed laying out specific actions and building upon a shared commitment to undertake as many initiatives as possible in year one of the 10 year plan (2006 - 2016).

2006 In June, the UBCIC sends an open letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper urging “that your government actively encourage the adoption without amendment or qualification of the Chair’s proposed text of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” The UNDRIP was adopted on September 13, 2007. Canada was one of four nations to vote against its adoption.
2006 In July, Premier Gordon Campbell, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Jim Prentice, Chief Negotiator Nathan Matthew and First Nations Education Steering Committee President Deborah Jeffry signed a historic agreement to recognize First Nations’ jurisdiction over First Nations’ education in British Columbia. The Framework Agreement allows First Nations who choose to negotiate a bilateral Canada-First Nation Education Jurisdiction Agreement to remove themselves from sections 114-122 of the Indian Act. The Framework Agreement has a term of seven years, which can be renewed upon agreement of all parties.

2006 In November, the FNLC, Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia sign a First Nations Health Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), and the Leadership Council and BC release a BC First Nations Health Plan. These agreements are based on the Transformative Change Accord and the BC First Nations Health Blueprint and are designed to close the gaps in health outcomes that exist between First Nations and other British Columbians.

2007 In November, the FNLC hosted a three day strategic planning session in North Vancouver, which was attended by over 120 First Nations leaders from across British Columbia. This session was an opportunity to examine and discuss the important Tsilhqot’in Nation v. BC decision and to develop a unified strategy for the recognition of Aboriginal Title. First Nations leaders issued and signed a declaration entitled "All Our Relations" A Declaration of the Sovereign Indigenous Nations of British Columbia, affirming Aboriginal Title to their respective traditional territories across British Columbia.

2008 In January, the FNLC convened the first First Nations Chiefs’ Indigenous Child at the Centre Forum. At the forum, First Nations leaders signed an MOU with the Representative for Children and Youth, secured a commitment from Premier Campbell for the support of Jordan’s Principle and issued a declaration of commitment entitled
Walking Together to Keep Indigenous Children at the Centre, committing to the exercise of our inherent rights and responsibility for the survival, dignity and well-being of our children. The Chiefs develop an Indigenous Child at the Centre Action Plan. It is intended that this collectively developed Action Plan will assist First Nations to address issues relating to Indigenous children and families in BC.

2008 In April, the Executive of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs fast for 24 hours as a demonstration of support for the jailed Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug Band Council members in Ontario. The Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation (KI) is involved in a dispute with the Government of Ontario and Platinex Mining Inc. KI is a fly-in community located in north-western Ontario. The Band Council members are jailed for protecting not only their territory but their fundamental human rights. The court found them in contempt of a court order allowing Platinex Mining to conduct exploration in their territory. The Chief and Council made the decision not to sign the court-ordered agreement and denied Platinex free-entry to KI lands.

2008 In May, the FNLC, Province of BC and the Government of Canada signed a First Nations Housing Memorandum of Understanding to improve coordination and collaboration, and commit the parties to develop complementary on- and off-reserve housing and infrastructure action plans. The off-reserve Aboriginal housing plan will be coordinated with an on-reserve housing and infrastructure action plan that will be collaboratively developed between First Nations and the federal government.

2008 The second Indigenous Child at the Centre Forum is held in July at which the Interim First Nations Child and Family Wellness Council (IFNCFWC) is established. During this Forum, delegates develop and endorse the One Heart, One Mind Statement of Solidarity and Cooperation which affirms the commitment to work together in a Nation-to-Nation and community-driven process to secure the individual and collective survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous children.
2009 In March, the FNLC and the Province of BC sign a Recognition and Reconciliation Protocol on First Nations Children, Youth and Families. The Protocol commits the Parties to establish a common vision for child, youth and family wellness in BC, establishes the principles upon which the Parties will continue to work together, and includes a framework to support First Nations communities to exercise jurisdiction and responsibility for their children, youth and families.

2009 In May, in response to a growing number of questions, concerns and issues being raised by First Nations, Business, and Industry Leaders the FNLC and BC Government jointly decide to postpone introduction of the proposed Aboriginal Title Recognition and Reconciliation Act until after the May 12th Provincial Election. UBCIC sends an open letter to Premier Campbell and Ministers withdrawing from the legislative initiative process in July.

2010 In April, UBCIC submits a response to the Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship Division's BC Water Act Modernization Initiative. UBCIC expresses deep concerns that the submission process is highly problematic; it was designed without Indigenous involvement and treats Indigenous people as “stakeholders” in the water policy process. There is no recognition of Indigenous jurisdiction or constitutionally-enshrined and judicially-recognized Aboriginal Title and Rights.

2010 In June, UBCIC, along with 38 Aboriginal and civil society organizations across Canada, sends an open letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper urging him to endorse the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples without qualifications and in a manner consistent with international human rights law. Of the four countries that opposed the UNDRIP, Australia and New Zealand have changed their positions and the US is taking a public review of its position. Canada's position remains unchanged.
UBCIC is a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.