



As a break from the political discussions, delegates and their wives join in grand balls, banquets, and other social activities at the conferences. These social events help to support the spirit of cooperation. In the many conversations, women offer their advice and points of view on the issues.

The Québec Conference

In October, delegates from all the colonies gather together at Québec City. There are seven from New Brunswick, seven from Prince Edward Island, and five from Nova Scotia. Newfoundland, which had not been present at Charlottetown, sends two officials. All are ready to sit down and talk business with the twelve delegates from Canada East and Canada West.

The politicians have to work out all the details of a plan for union. All the Fathers of Confederation agree on one point. The union must be a strong one that could not be broken by any one province. The central government must have great power. In fact, it must be more powerful in every way than the governments of the provinces. The plan worked out is known as the **Seventy-Two Resolutions**.



Netsurfer

Find out about the important roles the wives of politicians played at this time in history by visiting this web site on the Mothers of Confederation
www.nlc-bnc.ca/confed/moc.htm

Key Points of the Seventy-Two Resolutions

- There would be a strong central (federal) government to look after affairs affecting the whole country such as defence, trade, and foreign affairs.
- Each province would have its own government to look after local matters.
- The system of government would follow the British Constitution and the head of government would be the queen or king of England.
- The federal government would be made up of an elected House of Commons and an appointed Legislative Council (Senate).
- Members in the House of Commons would be elected according to the principle of representation by population.
- Members of the Legislative Council would be appointed and each region (Canada East, Canada West, Atlantic Canada) would have 24 members.
- Newfoundland, the North-West Territories, British Columbia and Vancouver would be allowed into the union as terms could be worked out.