

SSISIM 2022

THE SEVEN YEARS WAR, REIMAGINED

**BRITISH AMERICA
BACKGROUND GUIDE**

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EQUITY DISCLAIMER

Throughout this committee, delegates will be engaging in complex debates and discussions covering a wide array of topics. As SSICsim seeks to provide an enriching educational experience that facilitates understanding of the implications of real-world issues, the content of our committees may involve sensitive or controversial subject matter for the purposes of academia and accuracy.

We ask that delegates be respectful, professional, tactful, and diplomatic when engaging with all committee content, representing their assigned country's or character's position in an equitable manner, communicating with staff and other delegates, and responding to opposing viewpoints.

This Background Guide presents topics that may be distressing to some Delegates, including but not limited to:

A live presentation from our Director General of Equity Affairs will precede the first committee session, addressing important and challenging elements of discourse within the committee and how to handle them.

Great care will be taken by staff in handling any/all of these topics should they arise.

SSICsim recognizes the sensitivity associated with many of our topics, and we encourage you to be aware of and set healthy boundaries that work for you. This may include: refraining from reading certain parts of the background guide, preparing yourself before reading this background guide, doing some self-care or seeking support after reading the background guide, or anything that can help make you feel more comfortable. We ask that all Delegates remain considerate of the boundaries that other Delegates set.

SSICsim expects that all discussions amongst delegates will remain productive and respectful of one another. If you have any equity concerns or need assistance in setting boundaries or navigating sensitive subject matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or our Director-General of Equity Affairs, Aidan Thompson, at equity@ssicsim.ca. We want you to feel safe and comfortable at SSICsim!

If you wish to switch committees after having read the content warnings for this committee, please:

- Contact your Faculty Advisor/Head Delegate with your request if you are a part of a group delegation
- Email our Director-General of Equity Affairs, Aidan Thompson, with a brief explanation of why you would like to switch committees if you are NOT a part of a group delegation.



DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EQUITY AFFAIRS

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear delegates,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this year's edition of SSICSIM, and the QCC of the Seven Years War: Reimagined. My motivations behind orchestrating this committee are equally me being extremely nerdy and wanting to be able to discuss important events in Canadian history that I feel are often glossed over. I am also acutely aware of the problems facing indigenous communities in Canada, so as a result I chose to include their perspective in the war.

It should be noted that I do not intend to rewrite history, but simply offer an alternate perspective on past events. In that same breath, I wanted to ensure somewhat equitable representation in the committees in terms of characters, however unfortunately there was not much that we could find. The committees will all start in 1754 with the taking of Fort Necessity and will be periodically updated with events as each public and private directives are passed.

There will be pre-planned events, but ultimately YOU decide the final outcome of this war which I think is the most interesting part. For those of you who are unfamiliar with crisis, you will be assigned a character and your aim is to improve their standing within the committee. Additionally your aim is to improve your camp's position in the war. This will be done by passing public directives as well as private directives in order to influence the crisis updates which will help determine your course of action during committee.

This was definitely a huge task for me and everyone else involved to see this conference and these committees come to life but I'm glad we got it done and I'm excited to help you guys all have an amazing time as delegates here at SSICSIM!



MARTIN MADIBA (HE/THEY)
DIRECTOR FOR THE SEVEN YEARS WAR, REIMAGINED

HISTORY/CONTEXT

The War of Austrian Succession

An important element in the prelude to the Seven Years' War was the War of Austrian Succession. Prussia and France won in this conflict against Great Britain and Austria. While Austria ceded land to Prussia, Britain and France's longstanding tensions went unresolved. Simmering over the following decade, these tensions erupted in the Seven Years' War when French troops took Fort Necessity in 1754.

British America

The first successful British colony in North America was what is now Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. Following its creation, many settlements were established. By the end of the 17th century, there was a sizeable British presence in North America, particularly on the east coast. The 18th century opened with the war for Spanish Succession.

This war concluded in 1713 with the treaty of Utrecht. In this agreement, France ceded Acadia, Newfoundland and the lands around Hudson's Bay to the British (Ogilvy, n.d.). Before Utrecht, there were no territorial changes in North America between the French and the British despite decades of tensions between the two.

PRESENT ISSUES

As George Washington surrenders Fort Necessity to the French, questions surrounding the continent's situation remain. The British want to protect their interests in North America by protecting their colonies on the continent. Thus, they will try to starve out the French colonists in the area. Consequently, establishing naval superiority will be vital for British American delegations.

Furthermore, British America will seek to use its allies. Historically, the success of British North American economic projects both on the continent and in Europe depended heavily on positive ties with the Indigenous communities. These projects included the fur trade.

This trade became significantly more economically viable due to the cooperation between British exporters and Indigenous hunters. On a military level, British leaders realized that they depended heavily on ties with Indigenous communities to both defend their settlements and attack enemy ones.

Religiously, commonality with the belief in spirituality and its importance was mutually beneficial for the British, who could use these similarities to forge peace and further political ties and for the Indigenous communities, protection of their beliefs was a significant factor in their cooperation with trade, peace and conflict.

Guiding Questions

1. How can British America minimize French presence in North America?
2. How can an equal distribution of land between settlers be guaranteed?
3. What actions must be taken to ensure all settlers have access to relevant trade routes?

CHARACTERS

George Washington

British commander central to the outbreak of the war; he is in charge of a contingent in the Ohio Valley roughly 400 strong.

William Cavendish, 4th Duke of Devonshire

British MP vying for the office of Prime Minister. His goal will be to increase money allocated to the war effort.

Thomas Pelham-Holles, First Duke of Newcastle

Prime Minister of Great Britain at the onset of the war, Will be tasked to ensure British Victory.

John Stuart, Third Earl of Bute

Royal favorite of the house of Stuart, has aspirations to the Prime Minister role. Wants to see France leave North America entirely

General Jeffery Amherst

Commander-in-Chief of British forces in North America during the Seven Years' War.

Admiral Hawke

Head of the British navy, central to ensuring British Naval superiority.

Earl of Loudoun

General of British forces in North America.

Marquess of Granby

British aristocrat and soldier during the Seven Years War.

William Pitt the Elder

As Britain's War Minister, at the start of the war, he was one of the most prominent leaders in Great Britain; he officially became Prime Minister in the next decade. Pitt became famous in 1756 following the news of Washington's defeat and the French victories in North America. He pursues an aggressive policy of which key highlights are conquests for French colonial possessions in America and India. He wants to take advantage of Britain's military might, and plans for Britain's allies to keep the French preoccupied in Europe.

Frederick of Prussia

Ally of Britain, Britain shipped him supplies in 1756 during Prussia's war against Austria.

Vice-Admiral Edward Boscawen

Aims to intercept French ships; Captured Alcide in 1755 alongside two other French troops ships.

Major General Edward Braddock

Sent to North America in 1755; Leader of military mission to take back Fort Duquesne; Commander of George Washington alongside "700 provincials and 1,400 British regulars".

Governor William Shirley of Massachusetts

"During King George's War (1740–48) he organized and planned Britain's one great victory, the capture in 1745 of the French fortress of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island." He was Governor of Massachusetts at the start of the war; given his past successes, he holds considerable influence in Britain's North American policy. He becomes leader of the British forces in 1755, after Braddock.

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Major-General James Abercromby

Commander of an army of approximately 15,000 American and British troops.

Major-General James Wolfe

Commander of 9,000 troops; Played a major role in the Battle of the Plains of Abraham.



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