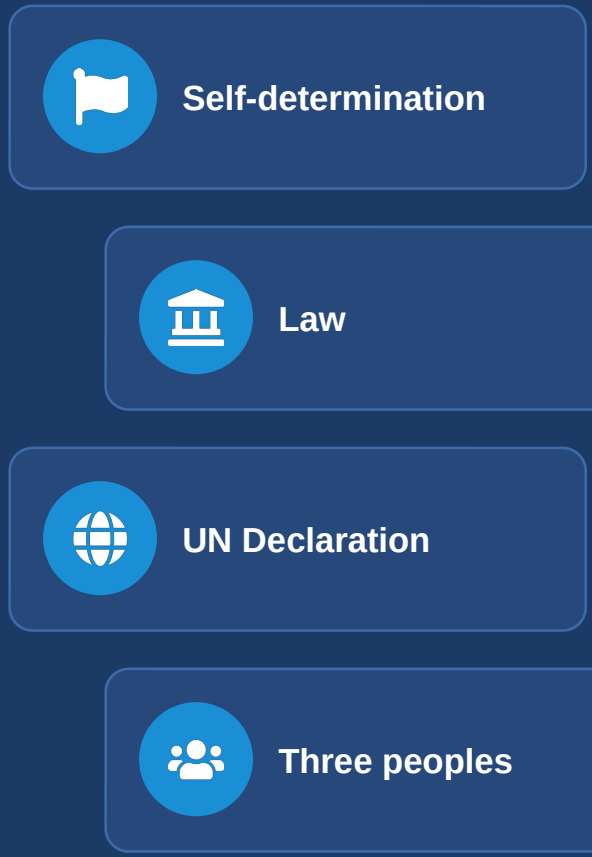
NBE3U Where We Stand, Lesson 9

Self-Determination

Who decides? Rights, governments and texts



Today's goals

We are learning…

- What self-determination, sovereignty and self-governance mean.
- To compare perspectives across time.

I can…

- Define self-determination, sovereignty and self-governance.
- Describe one example from each of the three peoples.
- Compare Canada's 2007 and 2021 positions on UNDRIP.
- Read legal texts for a purpose.

Today's plan

Time	What we're doing	You will…
0–8 min	**Warm-up**	Discuss
8–22 min	**Key texts**	Read
22–50 min	**Stations**	Rotate
50–60 min	**Perspectives**	Compare
60–75 min	**Who decides?**	Write

Warm-up



Name one decision about your life that you make, one someone else makes, and one you think you should make.

Sentence starters

“I decide…”

“Someone else decides…”

“I should decide…”

How it works

- Pairs: 3 minutes.



Big idea

Self-determination is the right of a people to decide their own future. First Nations, Métis and Inuit have governed themselves for thousands of years; in recent decades, constitutions, courts, land claims and the UN Declaration have recognized parts of that right, and Indigenous peoples continue to define it for themselves.

Three key words

self-determination	A people's right to decide its own future. *UNDRIP, Article 3.*
sovereignty	Supreme authority over a territory and its people. *Nations governed themselves before Canada existed.*
self-governance	Running your own institutions. *A Nation's own laws, schools, courts.*

Section 35

The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.

Constitution Act, 1982, section 35(1).

Think about it

What does “existing” leave open?

Who decides what the rights are?

Why “recognized,” not “granted”?

The UN Declaration, Article 3

Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), Article 3.

Think about it

What three kinds of development are named?

Who determines political status?

How is this stronger than section 35?

Station rotation

On page 1, 8 minutes per station:

1. First Nations: inherent governance, band councils, modern treaties.
2. Métis: Red River, the Manitoba Act, Powley and Daniels.
3. Inuit: land claims, Nunavut, Inuit Nunangat.
4. At each: one example, one date or text, one question.

Station: First Nations



First Nations governed themselves long before Canada. Today, governance includes band councils under the Indian Act, hereditary systems, and modern treaties and self-government agreements.

Many Nations are working to replace Indian Act rules with their own laws.

Station: Métis



At Red River in 1869–70, Métis leaders formed a provisional government, which led to the Manitoba Act (1870). Many promises of land were not kept.

R. v. Powley (2003) recognized Métis harvesting rights; Daniels v. Canada (2016) ruled that Métis are within federal jurisdiction.

Station: Inuit

Inuit land claims cover all of Inuit Nunangat, including the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1975) and the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (1984).

Nunavut became a territory on April 1, 1999. Its government works in Inuktut as well as English and French.

Canada and the Declaration

Year	What happened
2007	UN adopts the Declaration; Canada is one of four countries to vote against
2010	Canada states qualified support
2016	Canada removes its objector status
2021	A federal law to implement the Declaration receives royal assent (June 21)

Who decides?

On page 2:

1. Compare Canada's 2007 and 2021 positions.
2. Suggest reasons for the change.
3. Write 150 to 200 words: who should decide?
4. Use two examples from today.

Exit ticket

1. Self-determination in your own words.

2. One example from First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

3. One reason Canada's position changed.

Next class: The Truth We Carry.

Teacher reveal

Self-determination: key points

Terms: Self-determination: the right to decide your own future. Sovereignty: supreme authority over territory and people. Self-governance: running your own institutions.

First Nations: Inherent governance long before Canada; today, band councils under the Indian Act, hereditary systems, and modern treaties and self-government agreements.

Métis: The Red River provisional government (1869–70) led to the Manitoba Act; courts recognized Métis rights (Powley, 2003) and federal responsibility (Daniels, 2016).

Inuit: Land claims across Inuit Nunangat, including the creation of Nunavut (1999), where most residents are Inuit.

UNDRIP: Canada voted against it in 2007 and made it law to implement in 2021: a change in perspective worth explaining.