***Society in the 1900s Video Discussion***

1. What modern day events share some parallels with the fur trade? Explain the similarities.

I believe these are the best of the similarities from then to today. 1) Just like how the natives took their canoe to the HBC, we have to drive to a store. 2) Like them we use currency today we use plastic bills, coins or a plastic card. They used beaver pelts to buy their things. 3) Just like how we buy our clothes, jewelry, food, cocking items or toys. The natives would use their beaver pelts to buy fur clothes, Beads for jewelry, string for traps, pots and pans (which were better than using rocks that were in a fire), or weapons for hunting.

1. How vital were Aboriginals to the fur trade? Who is more significant to the creation of our Canada today, the Aboriginals or the European fur traders?

I believe that the Aboriginals where the most important to the fur trade because when the HBC came to Canada to set up their trade routes to get furs it was the native men who captured the beavers and the native women who made the beaver pelts ready to trade for different goods. It was also the aboriginal women, who taught the NWC how to live using the wilderness by making shoes, clothes, preparing/cooking food, snow shoes, bags, Pemacen (food that the voyagers used the most), made maple serape, pitch tents, made pelts and taught the voyagers ways to trap animals. They were so vital that even the men realized how vital they were. Not only that but when the NWC made trades from time to time the native women might marry to a voyager which would make the native tribe have a stronger trade tie.

1. Are push (from anywhere) and pull factors (to Canada) generally the same today as it was in the 1800s? Explain why or why not with reference to the Great Migration and the Underground Railroad.

I believe that the push and pull factors are not really relevant any more. For the Irish there are no more absentee land lords and the potato famine is mostly gone, so they can now grow potatos in peace at least for the ones who still grow potatoes I imagine that there are not as many as there were before but hay what do I know maybe the Irish still live their potatoes.

For the black people still in the USA they now do not have to be forced to work in live threatening conditions, with the threat of being sold to another person who is worse or if they escaped the clutches of their “owner” they have the threat of being captured and sent back, being taken and hung, brutally murdered or if they get to Canada being taken back by a slave hunter. Today the average black person is given the same freedom as a white person; they are allowed to walk around without a note from their “owner”. They won’t be discriminated from a job by their skin color and dame they make good basketball players. But they always have to watch out for the occasional racist person that will come along.

1. Is Canada more accepting of immigrants today than it was in the 1800s? Explain how you know with reference to the Great Migration and the Underground Railroad.

I believe that Canada is more excepting of immigration then it was in the 1800s because when the Irish left their home land to immigrate here, yes they were allowed into Canada but the Canadians would not accept them completely like if an Irish man was to ask to work at a store they are more likely to be turned down than a English man. Or when the black people immigrated here no one would hire then because they were considered an even lower dominating race. But they were not hunted and hung or kept like a slave in Canada.

1. How did the fur trade and immigration in the 1800s contribute to our identity today?

The fur trade impacted Canada by bringing competition between the HBC and the NWC which got many beaver pelts which spread the word about Canada making some people to move there or to work for one of the companies.

And the immigration helped Canada’s reputation for a young, happy, exeppting and giving county, because we allowed all the Irish people and black slaves into Canada for a better and free life.