

## Introductory Timeline of Settler Colonialism in Saskatchewan

- Resistance
- Missionization/Residential Schools
- Settler
- Disease
- Exploration
- Treaty
- Environment
- Infrastructure Development
- Government Policy/Census Data
- Violence/Conflict



June 12, Twenty-four year old Henry Kelsey, a HBC servant, travels to east-central Saskatchewan (likely somewhere north of present-day Yorkton) in the company's first recorded journey to the home territory of the their Cree and Assiniboine trading partners. He returned to York Factory in the late spring of 1692. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 1-17)

### 1691

Henry Kelsey sent a message to Governor Geyer at York Factory with a group of Cree traders. It reports that his efforts to increase trade was hampered by constant fighting among various groups and then requested considerably more specific trade items than he had taken with him the year before (scissors, rings, combs, etc). (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 12)

### 1692

Henry Kelsey returns to the York Factory— he refuses to enter the fort without an Indigenous woman who returned with him. It has been suggested that he had taken a wife, which was against HBC policy. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 12)

### 1695

October, Pierre le Moyne d'Iberville easily captured York Factory (renamed Fort Bourbon) during the War of the Grand Alliance (1688-97). HBC employees are left to fend for themselves outside the fort for the winter. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 18)

### 1697-1714

French occupation at Fort Bourbon (York Factory), occasionally send men into the interior to encourage trade. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 113)

### 1697

French control of the entire west side of the Hudsons Bay is confirmed by the Treaty of Ryswick. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 18)

### 1697

April, French close western trade of the Great Lakes and Mississippi— No permits to trade in the interior are issued for almost two decades. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 112)

### 1702-13

War of Spanish Succession (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 111)

### 1714

York Factory is returned to the English under the Treaty of Utrecht (War of Spanish Succession). English resume control of the Hudson Bay's east region. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 18)

### 1714

Henry Kelsey, deputy governor, at York Factory oversees the fort's reconstruction and works to expand trade north of the Churchill River while investigating rumours about copper deposits in that region. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 18-20)

### 1715-21

The HBC sponsored a series of trips inland, led by the Cree leader known as Captain Sean or Waupisoo with aims to secure trade alliances from the Churchill post with the distant Chipewyan groups, but unsuccessfully so. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 132)

**1715**

June, HBC Governor James Knight sends William Stuart (sometimes spelled Stewart) inland to secure peace between the Cree and Chipewyan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 119)

**1715**

Governor James Knight sent William Stuart, Thanadelthur (a Chipewyan woman), and a party of about 150 Cree men, women and children inland to find the Chipewyan and make peace with them. The expedition went poorly. Stuart returned a “lunatic” and died in 1719. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 18)

**1717**

Due to multi-year supply shortages, trade at the York Factory decreases by two thirds. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 116)

**1720s**

The western prairies experienced severe droughts, the South Saskatchewan River experienced its lowest flow period in the past five hundred years. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 138)

**1722-6**

The Churchill trading posts fares poorly, unable to bring in enough trade to cover operating costs. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 132)

**1730s**

By this time the Snakes (who may have included the Shoshone and other Numic speakers) traded horses with the Crow, Nez Percé, Flathead, and Kutenai. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 23)

**1730s**

Small pox outbreak begins in New England and spreads west.

**Late 1730s**

The horse reappeared in Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 149)

**1730s-40s**

Snake warriors, on horseback, drive the Blackfoot and Gros Ventres north to the North Saskatchewan River. Their reputation causes La Vérendrye’s sons (travelling on foot) to cut short their exploration of the country west of the Mandan-Hidatsa villages. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 152)

**1737**

March, La Vérendrye held council at Maurepas— Some Cree and Assiniboine become afflicted with smallpox. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 148)

**1738**

October, Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de La Vérendrye erected Fort la Reine on the Assiniboine River, near the site of Portage la Prairie and purposefully on the trail used by the Assiniboine to travel to the York Factory. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 143)

### 1741

La Vérendrye erected Fort Bourbon near Grand Rapids, at the mouth of the Saskatchewan River off Lake Winnipeg at the traditional Cree “ingathering centre” called misiapawistik. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 143-8)

### 1742

A combined Assiniboine-Cree war party attacked the “Sioux of the Prairies,” killing at least 100 and taking “a line of captives four arpents long (more than eight hundred feet).” (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 148)

### 1743

La Vérendrye erected Fort Paskoya at the traditional Cree “ingathering centre” called cimawawin northwest of Cedar Lake along the Saskatchewan River system. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 143-8)

### 1749

May, Arthur Dobbs’s request to strip the HBC of its exclusive trading privileges was put to a vote and denied. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 146-7)

### 1750s

Fort Paskoya 2 at opaskweyaw, and Fort à la Corne (first known as des Prairies, then St. Louis) at pëhonânihk, intentionally at centuries-old Cree “ingathering centres” along the Saskatchewan River system. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 147-148)

### 1750s

French occupation of the Saskatchewan River Valley (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 147)

### 1751

Fort la Jonquière is established near present-day Nipawin in central Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 147)

### 1754-75

HBC servants make fifty-six total wintering trips to the interior in this period. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 170)

### 1754

June 26, HBC employee Anthony Henday is sent into the interior with Attiackasish (also known as Little Caribou), a leading Pegogamaw trading caption, for the second time in the company’s history (the first time being Henry Kelsey). He returned June 20, 1755. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 158-68)

### 1757

The French abandon Fort à la Corne as their supply lines are impacted by the Seven Years’ War. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 173)

### 1759

The last of La Vérendrye's French forts in the North-West shut down operations. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 174)

### 1760s

By this time, HBC employees were reporting game shortages along the North Saskatchewan River. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 11)

### 1763

In the wake of the Seven Years' War, many Canadians headed west. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 29)

### 1764

HBC employees Joseph Smith and Isaac Batt made the company's first trip inland in three years. On their return trip, they recorded no sign of the French competitors who had once been set up along the routes to the English posts at the Hudsons Bay. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 174)

### 1764

French Canadian traders began pushing into the interior from Montreal. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 174-5)

### 1769

HBC winterer William Pink came across two French trading posts, one erected by James Finlay at Basquia, the other by Saswe (François Jérôme) set up at nipowwinihk near present-day Nipawin. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 176)

### 1769

The HBC adjust their trade standard in order to attract more traders to make the trip to York Factory rather than building trading posts in the interior. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 178)

### 1770s

The building of trading posts is stalled as a result of increasing violence between newcomers and Indigenous groups. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 225)

### 1770s

Ojibwa from the east side of Lake Winnipeg, on friendly terms with the Cree and Assiniboine, began moving westward up the Saskatchewan River to Cumberland House and beyond. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 281)

### 1770

December, Samuel Hearne set out on his third attempted expedition (his November 1769 and February 1770 expeditions had both been thwarted when his guides abandoned him and he got lost). His expedition through Manitoba and Saskatchewan took him north and intended to verify the value of the Coppermine in the North. When they reached the mines in July 1771, they were a disappointment. They returned to Churchill in 1772. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 184-5)

### 1772

York Factory Chief Factor Andrew Graham files a petition for an inland post to the London Committee, suggesting that Canadian competition threatened to ruin York Factory. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 197-8)

**1774**

Samuel Hearne established Cumberland House. (Waiser, *A New History*, 24). Construction began on the 3rd of September. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 197-200)

**1776**

NWC establishes post at Ile-a-la-Crosse

**1776**

Thomas Frobisher established Lac Île-à-la-Crosse (sakitawahk in Cree) to provide competition for the HBC. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 205)

**1776**

The North West Company established a pemmican deposit at Île-à-la-Crosse. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 235)

**1777**

May, the HBC allows alcohol to become an actual trade item at Cumberland House. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 208)

**1777**

Despite the HBC's official legislation prohibiting liaisons between HBC employees and Indigenous women, three company servants at Cumberland House (Robert Davey, Magnus Sclater, and John Draver) all suffered from venereal disease. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 33)

**1778**

The HBC's London Committee sent surveyor Peter Turnor to Cumberland House to determine the exact location of inland posts and map canoe routes from the Hudsons Bay. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 236)

**1778**

Peter Pond became the first non-Indigenous trader to cross Methye portage between the Churchill and Clearwater rivers. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 33)

**1778**

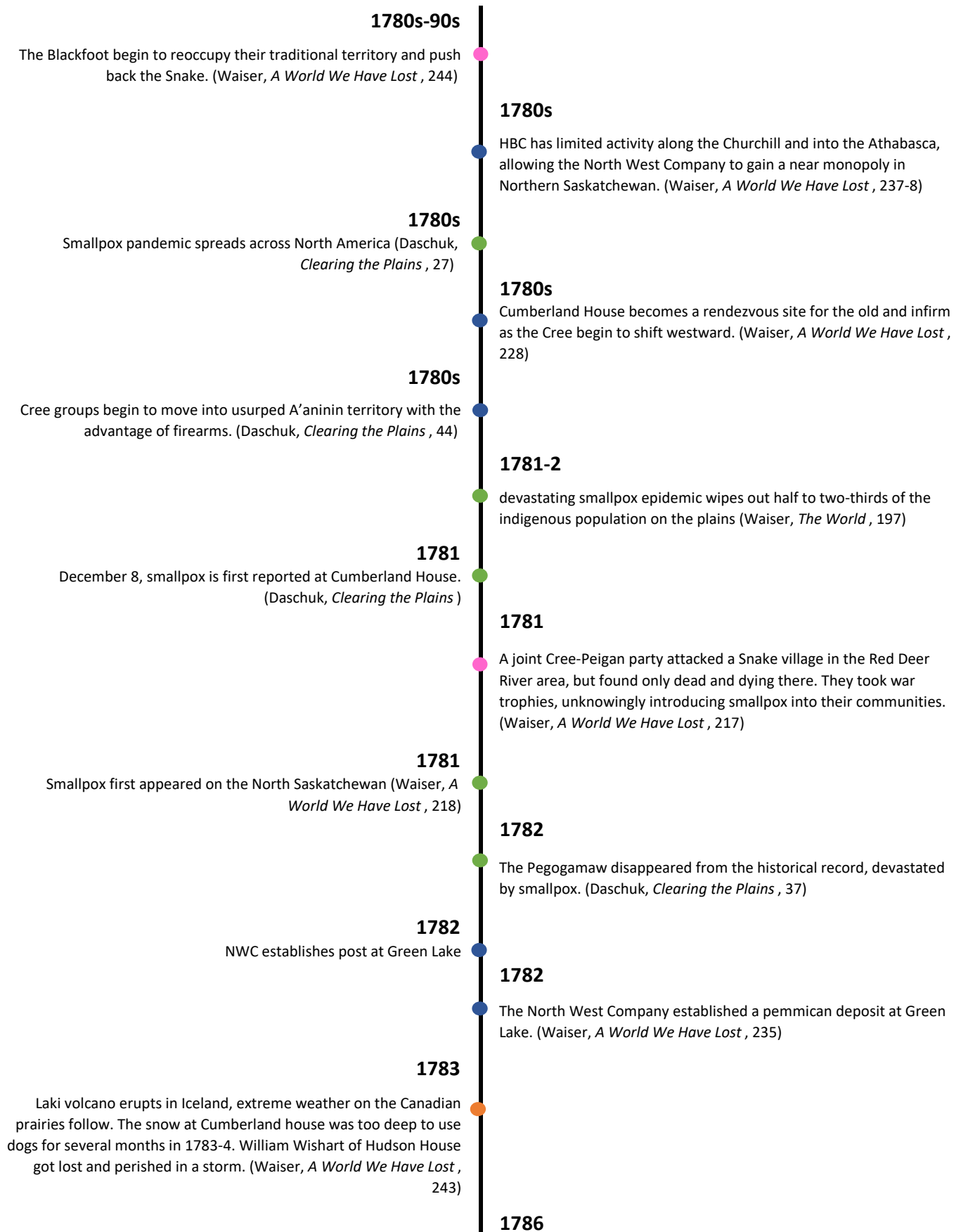
Hudson House is built but, as a result of violence between newcomers and Indigenous traders, the HBC was forced to relocate downstream from where the fighting had taken place in 1779. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 34)

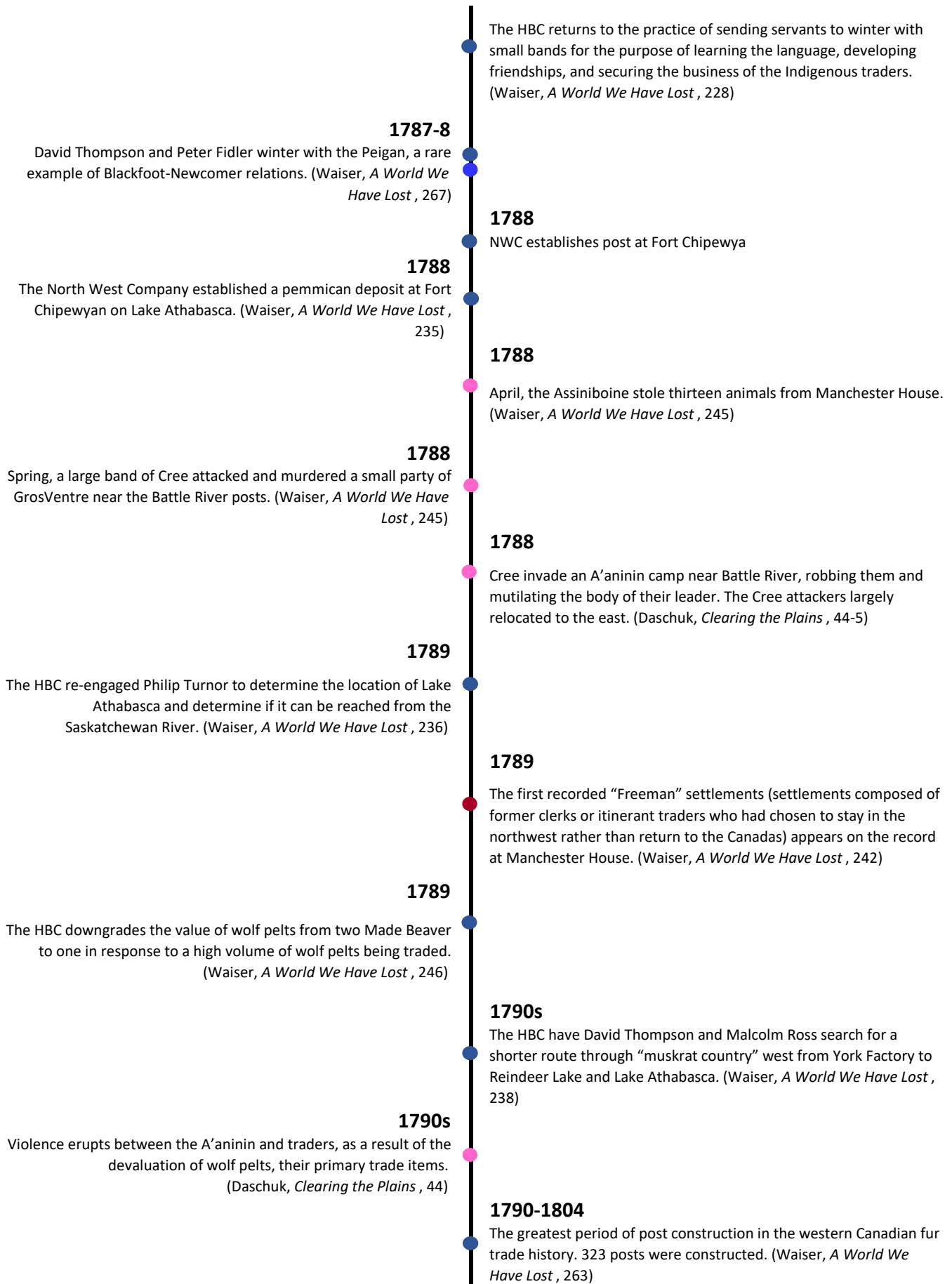
**1779**

The A'aninin have their first documented visit to a trading post in Northern Saskatchewan. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 44)

**1779**

The coalition between independent traders, a sixteen-share partnership, that was a forerunner to the North West Company came into existence. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 213)







**1790**

The HBC built several posts along the Churchill River Athabasca country in order to break the monopoly that the North West Company's enjoyed in that area in the 1780s and to attract trade with the Cree and Chipewyan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 238)

**1791**

Peter Fidler established the HBC's first settlement on the Churchill River at Île-à-la-Crosse. As a result harassment at the hands of the North West Company's Patrick Small and his band of enforcers (battaileurs), he abandoned the post soon after. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 237)

**1791**

Isaac Batt becomes the first HBC employee killed by members of the Blackfoot Alliance when he is robbed and killed by two Blood men. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 246)

**1792-1804**

Drought in the plains result in low water levels, creating the perfect conditions for tularaemia bacteria to breed, causing outbreaks. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 49)

**1792-1802**

The prairies face drought, this was the most arid decade in the past five hundred years. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 243)

**1792-6**

David Thompson attempts to find an alternative route to the Churchill river to get from Reindeer Lake to Lake Athabasca. He succeeds in 1796. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 296-7)

**1792-3**

David Thompson and Peter Fidler winter with the Peigan, a rare example of Blackfoot-Newcomer relations. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 267)

**1793**

Cree and Gros Ventre hostilities resume after a period of peace between the groups. The North Saskatchewan River ran dry in places this year, potentially contributing to hostilities. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 247-8).

**1793**

October, a Cree man killed a Blood man during a quarrel at the HBC's Buckingham House. Several days later, a group of about 40 Gros Ventre and Blackfoot attacked the HBC's Manchester House and the North West Company's Pine Island House. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 248-9)

**1793**

A party of South Branch and Swan River Cree with a number of Assiniboine attacked an A'aninin community, killing all but a few children that were taken captive. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 45)

**1794-5**

The A'aninin, faced with the continued Cree offensive, retreated to the Missouri River, where the Mandan gave them sanctuary. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains* , 45)

## 1794

January, a party of about 150 Blood, led by O-mok-apee (Big Man or Gros Blanc) attacked the North West Company's Fort George and the HBC's Buckingham House, stealing about sixty horses. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 25)

## 1794

The first reported presence of Iroquois trappers in the western interior, at the North West Company's Netting River. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 282)

## 1794

A large group of Gros Ventre and Blood stole more than fifty horses from Manchester House by night. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 250)

## 1794

June 24, between 100 and 250 Gros Ventre killed and scalped two HBC servants, Magnus Angel and Hugh Brough, on their way to South Branch House. They continued to the post, killing William Fea, Magnus Annel's wife and her two children. Three Indigenous women were taken captive. Van Driel, the other servant at the fort, escaped detection by covering himself with refuse and hiding. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 250-2)

## 1795

Spring, Duncan McGillivray of the North West Company conceded that the land around Fort George was "ruined" and offered no beaver pelts. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 258)

## 1795

November 25, the Gros Ventre seek peace for the South Branch killings of 1794 at Fort Augustus-Edmonton. HBC inland chief Tomison refused to deal with them, insisting that the perpetrators must submit themselves to British justice. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 266)

## 1795

North West Company controlled 11/14th (about 80%) of the fur trade. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 296)

## 1796

Mid-December, about 400 Gros Ventre return to Fort Augustus-Edmonton and successfully negotiate peace with the North West Company and HBC. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 266-7)

## 1796

June, two Cree men, Beardy and Little Gut, accused of murdering a trader near Île-a-la-Crosse, were pursued to Cumberland House by several Canadians. Little Gun was shot, Beardy was hanged. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 301)

## 1797

David Thompson left the HBC's Bedford House (Vermilion Point, Reindeer Lake) to join the North West Company's post about sixty miles south. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 295)

**1798**

The Montreal firms of Forsyth, Richardson and Company, and Parker, Gerald, and Olgivy launched a rival fur trade company called the "New North West Company" that became known as the XY Company (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 301-2)

**1799-1804**

Chipewyan communities largely quit the as a result of increasing disease and famine, they hunt for food rather than furs. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 51)

**1799-1800**

The cold winters of the 1790s finally abate. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 264)

**1799**

The XY Company entered the North West Company's stronghold in Athabasca. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 303)

**1799**

The North West Company erects Rocky Mountain House and the HBC builds Acton House near the headwaters of the North Saskatchewan River. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 259)

**1799**

May, three Assiniboine were caught stealing horses and held prisoner at the North West Company's Netting River post. After one man escaped, the Canadians butchered the other two and dumped their bodies in the North Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 269)

**1799**

The North West Company attempt to build a new post at "the Stonney Mountain," but the Cree actively resist construction, forcing the construction party to abandon the project twice. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 266)

**1799**

The North West Company built the first lock between Lakes Superior and Huron. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 275)

**1800**

The HBC dispatch Peter Fidler to establish Chesterfield House at the junction of the Red Deer and South Saskatchewan Rivers, deep into Blackfoot Alliance territory. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 286)

**1800**

Wolf pelts were devalued for a second time, from one Made Beaver to one-half Made Beaver. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 287)

**1801**

The North West Company brought more than 300 Iroquois to the Fort Augustus-Edmonton district on three-year contracts to collect beaver skins that the Cree no longer provided. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 282)

**1801**

Summer, the Gros Ventre suffer huge losses in two “lopsided” skirmishes with the Cree and Assiniboine and a localized smallpox epidemic that cost 100 lives. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 287-8)

**1802**

The HBC returned to the Athabasca Country after a ten-year absence, stepping into the rivalry between the North West Company and the XY Company. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 304)

**1802**

Violence breaks out between the A’aninin and a dozen Iroquois trappers in the Cyprus Hills. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 48)

**1804**

The XY Company and the North West Company formally merge. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 52)

**1804**

July, Simon McTavish opened the way to negotiations between the XY Company and the North West Company. A deal between them was reached in November and the North West Company absorbed the XY Company. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 306)

**1805**

October, a North West Company gang kidnapped HBC servant Magnus Johnson near Green Lake while he wintered with the Cree. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 308)

**1806-7**

Blackfoot did not trade at North Saskatchewan posts, Cree and Assiniboine avoided the northwestern plains south of the river. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 290)

**1806**

Canadian traders destroy the HBC post at Green Lake, between the Saskatchewan and Churchill Rivers. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 52)

**1806**

The HBC Committee announced that it was prepared to educate servants’ children at the posts in an effort to encourage mixed-race children to remain in the company’s service. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 286)

**1807**

The North West Company’s move from Grand Portage’s move to Fort William is completed. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 275)

**1807**

Late spring, Blackfoot groups reappeared at Fort Edmonton.

**1807**

Summer, Peter Fidler looked for an alternative water route to Lake Athabasca through present-day northern Saskatchewan, and fails. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 308)

**1807**

Fall, an Assiniboine group killed William Walker when he refused to surrender his horses.

**1809**

The HBC ceased collecting wolf pelts. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 287)

**1810**

The North West Company abandon their house at St. Louis, the HBC abandons theirs at Carlton on the South Saskatchewan River. They build houses together on the north branch together. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 290)

**1811-19**

Hostilities between the Cree and Niitsitapi are continuous through this period, ending abruptly in 1819 when measles and whooping cough break out simultaneously in the region. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 55)

**1811**

June, The Red River Colony (later Assiniboia) was formally established. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 315)

**1812**

NWC establishes Fort Thompson (Haig-Brown, 1988)

**1814**

David Thompson produced a map of northwestern North America. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 295)

**1814**

January, Poor harvests create a dependence on pemmican. The Selkirk Settlement's governor imposed a one year ban on the export of pemmican. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 317)

**1815**

Bison return to the northern plains. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 317)

**1816-17**

The North West Company forcibly prevent the Chipewyan from providing provisions or trading with the HBC at Fort Wedderburn. They also took HBC servant John Clarke captive and held the fort in the early new year. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 320)

**1816**

North Western traders encourage Métis hunters to harass settlers in an attempt to make the Selkirk settlers abandon the project. In June, two settlers were killed by Métis horsemen at Seven Oaks. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 317)

**1816**

The North West Company seized the HBC pemmican supplies at Brandon House and Qu'Appelle River posts. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 318)

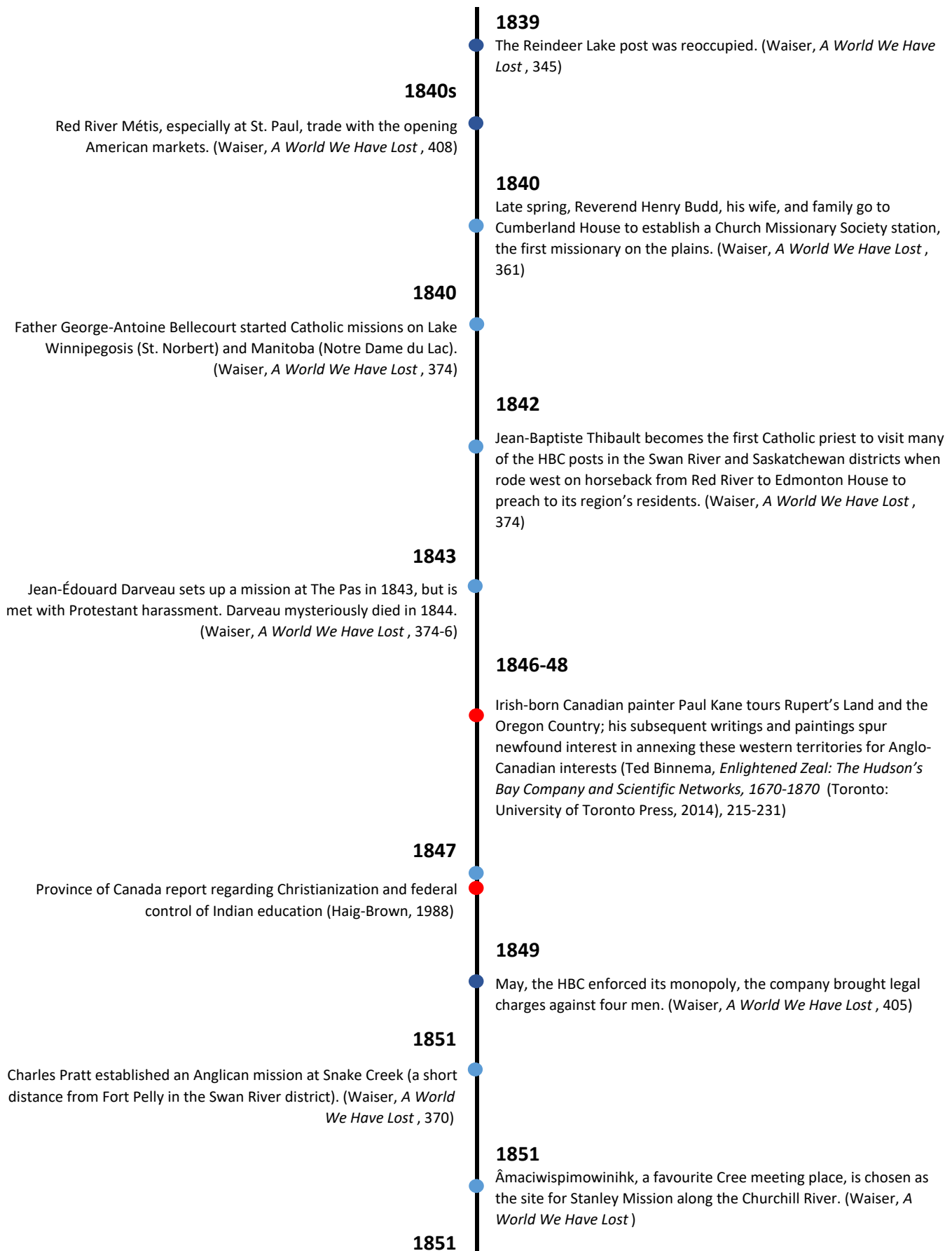
**1817**

Spring, the North West Company captures the HBC posts at Île-a-la-Crosse, Green Lake, and Reindeer Lake. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 320)

**1817**









June, a group of about 100 Métis hunters (including Gabriel Dumont) encountered, and successfully fended off, a large encampment numbering over 2,000 Sioux. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 395)

**1852**

Charles Pratt established a mission near the HBC post between the second and third of the Qu'Appelle Lakes but this station was forcibly closed (temporarily) in 1859 by warriors from Young Dog's band who objected to settlement in the hunting territory. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 370)

**1852**

Henry Budd established a new mission at "Upper Nepowewin" on the north side of the Saskatchewan river. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 368)

**1853**

The HBC's post at the mouth of the Rapid River moved to the new Stanley Mission. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 400)

**1853**

The HBC reopened Fond du Lac as a provisioning post. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 400)

**1857-60**

Palliser and Hind expeditions of Rupert's Land to gauge the region's agricultural and resource potential; affirmation of a "Fertile Belt" suitable for agricultural production spurs desire in Canada West to annex the region (Doug Owsram; *Promise of Eden: The Canadian Expansionist Movement and the Idea of the West, 1856-1900* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1980), 55-65)

**1857**

The HBC request a renewal of its exclusive trading license at a time when the company was being considered with increasing skepticism. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 386)

**1857**

July, the Palliser expedition. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 422)

**1857**

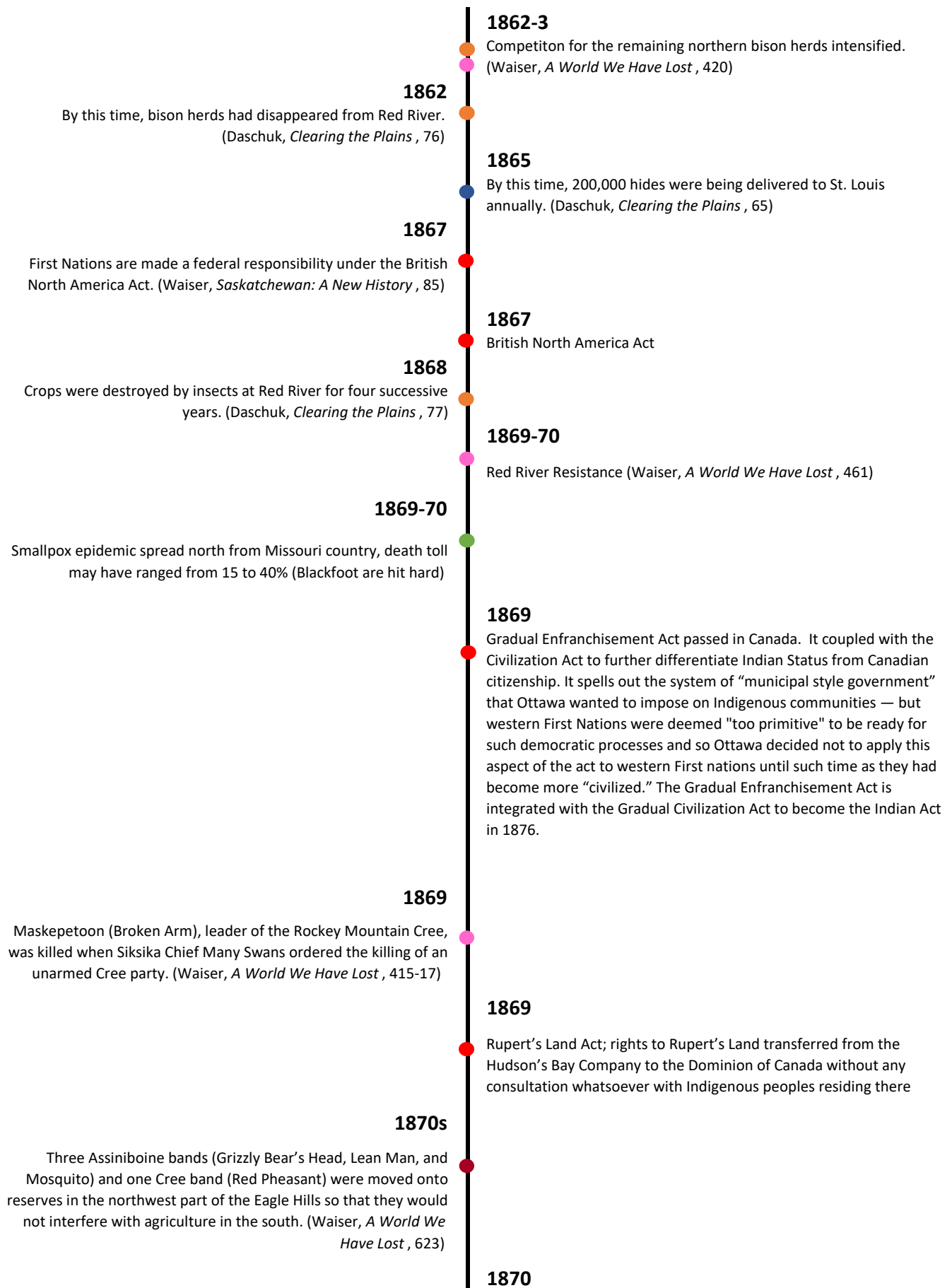
Gradual Civilization Act passed in Upper and Lower Canada. It established how an Indian can lose status if they can demonstrate that they are "free of debt, literate and of good moral character." This is the foundational document that later becomes the Canadian Indian Act of 1876.

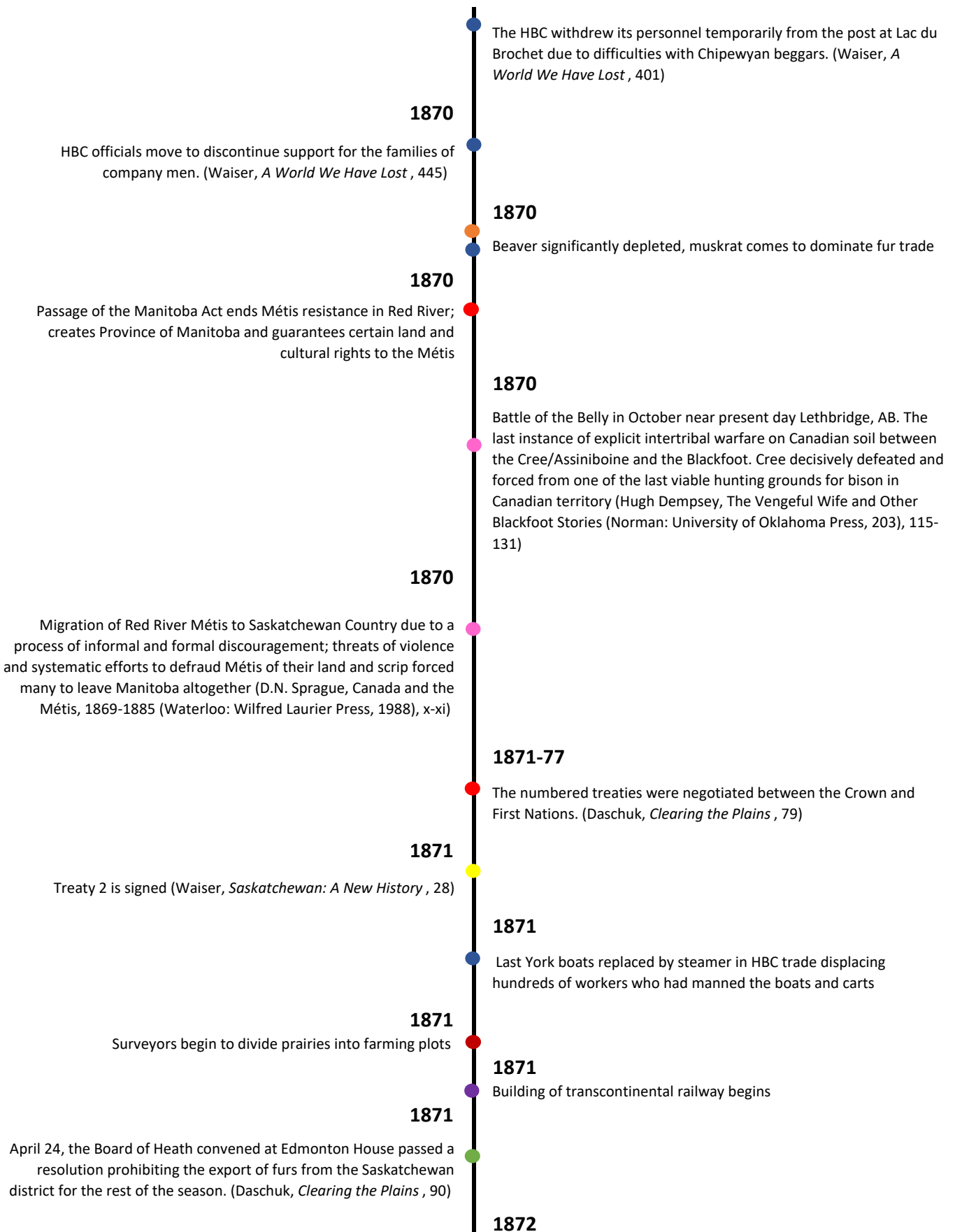
**1858**

June-November, Henry Youle Hind led an expedition that explored Assiniboine and Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 424)

**1861**

Bishop Alexandre-Antoine Taché founded St. Pierre's Mission at Brochet. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 400)





A reorganization of the company trade eliminated all credit to Indian suppliers in order to cut costs. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 93)

**1872**

International boundary with the US marked, dividing the plains

**1873-4**

The Cree at the Victoria mission (near the present Saskatchewan-Alberta border) were reduced to eating their horses, dogs, buffalo robes, and in some cases snow shoes and moccasins. The mortality rate was high. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 101)

**1873**

May, the Conservative government passed legislation to create a mounted police force. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 461)

**1873**

June 1, Battle Creek in the Cypress Hills, American wolfers attack an Assiniboine camp killing between twenty or fifty people after they assumed the Assiniboine had stolen a horse that wandered off. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 462)

**1874**

August, Northcote, a low-draft sternwheeler built at Grand Rapids and equipped to deal with the challenges of the prairie rivers, made its maiden voyage to Fort Carlton in just twelve days. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 444)

**1874**

March, Alexander Morris's council recommend the creation of the NWMP in response to the Cypress Hills Massacre. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 480)

**1874**

Fall, Assistant Commissioner Macleod arranged for the construction of the first NWMP post in the interior (Fort Macleod) on the Belly (Oldman) River. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 466)

**1874**

Treaty 4 is signed at Qu'Appelle (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 28)

**1874**

While most groups were forced out of the Cypress Hills after they signed treaty in 1874, the Cree leader Foremost Man (also Front Man or Nekaneet) and his followers remained in the area and hunted the last remaining buffalo (Waiser says buffalo, not bison). (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 168)

**1874**

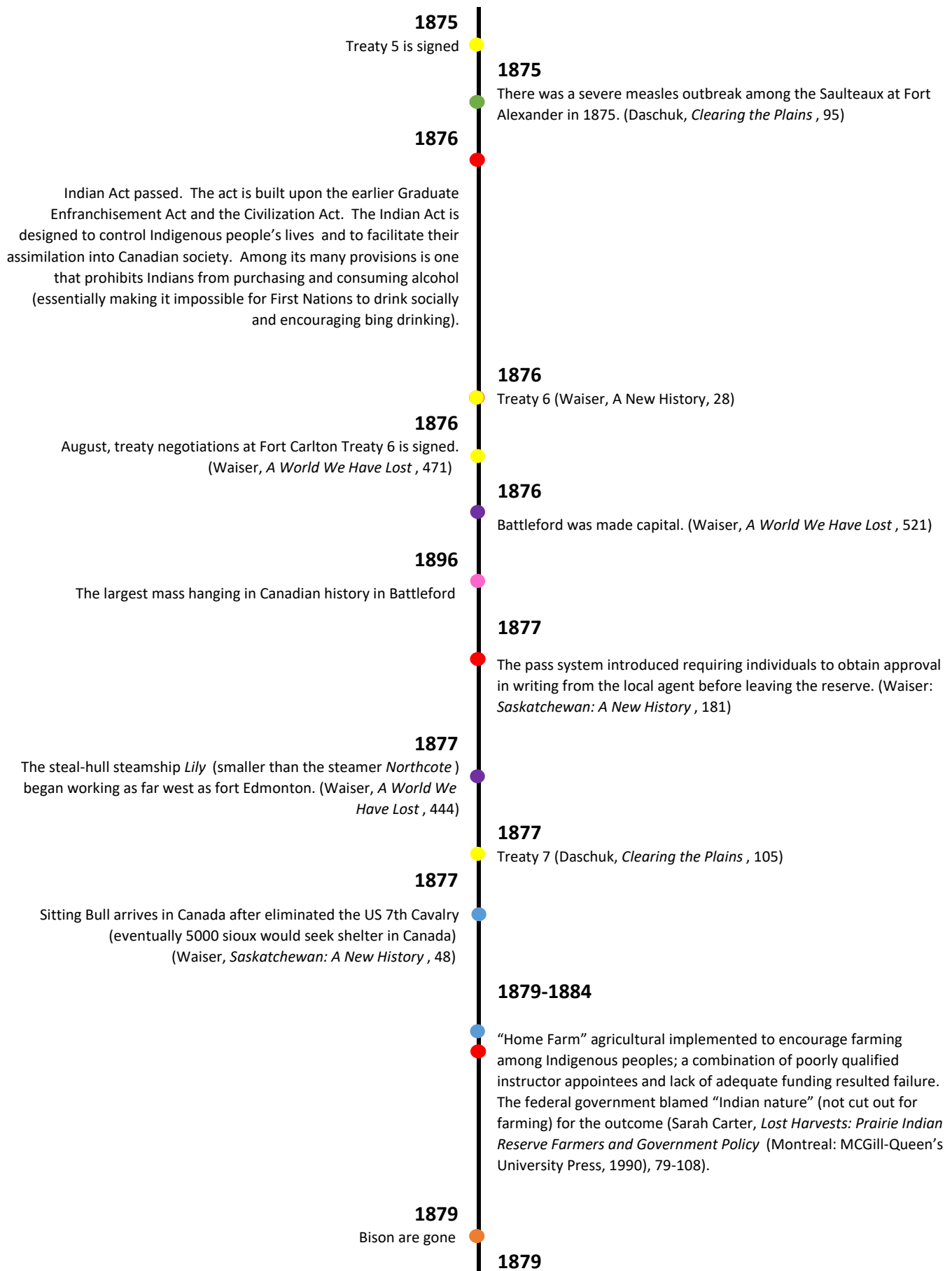
The 1874 March West refers to the 300 Mounties marched along the international border from southern Manitoba to the heart of the whisky trade in southwestern Alberta. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 46)

**1874**

First expedition of NWMP leaves for the west

**1875**

Northwest Territories Act



**1879**

Scrip policy introduced: "a form of land grant, much like a promissory note, designed to extinguish any special land rights the Metis may have enjoyed because of their Aboriginal heritage.... They had the option of taking scrip in one of two forms: a \$240 certificate that could be redeemed for land or a certificate for 240 acres of dominion land in areas still open to homesteading. Those who chose land scrip over money scrip would have to leave the region to take up their homestead land; they were required to report in person to a Dominion Lands office to have their scrip coupon converted into land. The matter was further complicated by the fact that the government allowed people of mixed ancestry to elect whether they would take scrip or enter treaty as Indians. In other words, they had to choose an ethnicity... Any decision was considered final."  
(Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 30)

Report on Industrial Schools for Indians and Halfbreeds" (Haig-Brown, 1988)

**1879**

Depleted fur and game resources cause the groups at Stanley Mission, Lac La Ronge, and Pelican Narrows to ask the lieutenant-governor of the North-West Territories for a Treaty. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 28)

**1879**

The government implements a reserve instruction program to teach Indigenous groups how to farm. The people hired were patronage employees who were unfamiliar with western conditions and unsympathetic to Indigenous peoples, so the program failed.  
(Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 122)

**1880s**

Tuberculosis becomes the primary killer on reserves, famine conditions are common. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 100)

**1880s**

West of Cumberland House the changing environment led to the opening of a new channel on the lower Saskatchewan.  
(Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 130)

**1880**

Department of Indian Affairs is created to administer the assimilationist Indian Act. Indian Agents are appointed to oversee all aspects of First Nations' people's lives.

**1881**

Marquette ascended the Assiniboine River to Fort Pelly in 1881.  
(Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 444)

**1881**

Indian Act amended to prohibit the sale of agricultural produce by Indians in Prairie Provinces without an appropriate permit from an Indian agent

**1882-5**

DIA expenditures in Manitoba and the North-West Territories exceeded \$1 million annually for relief, yet food and goods were stock piled in warehouses instead of distributed. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 128)

**1882**

Fort Walsh closed by Commissioner Dewdney to force Indians to move to their new reserves

**1882**

Completion of Canadian Pacific Railway through what is now today southern Saskatchewan (1882 Annual Report of the North-West Mounted Police, 16)

**1882**

December, the Cree and Assiniboine at Fort Walsh enter into treaty negotiations after Big Bear and his followers were starved into submission. Once the treaty was signed, the Cree and Assiniboine were evicted from Cypress Hills. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 508)

**1882**

The federal government created four provisional districts in the southern territories for administrative purposes: Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Athabasca. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 606)

**1883**

All but a few desperately holding out groups are on reserves. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 184)

**1883**

Federal Indian Commissioner Edgar Dewdney closed Fort Walsh. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*)

**1883**

The federal government established a system of federally supported denominational boarding and industrial schools. The Catholic-run Qu'Appelle Indian Industrial School at Lebret (Treaty 4) and the Anglican-run Battleford Industrial School (Treaty 6) were two of the first schools established. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 177)

**1883**

A system of boarding and industrial schools is established for indigenous children in Canada

**1884**

After extreme cold in the winter of 1883-4, crops fail. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 520)

**1884**

July 11th, Louis Riel gives a speech at Red Deer Hill. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 524)

**1884**

Big Bear and other senior Cree Chiefs seek peaceful resolution to grievances in an effort to avoid violent conflict --- “Despite their impoverished state and stinging sense of disillusionment and betrayal, Indians had made a solemn vow during the treaty negotiations to live in peace and were not prepared to break this pledge and plunge the region into war. Instead, Big Bear and other senior Cree chiefs patiently sought a peaceful resolution to their grievances. Their determination to shun violence was made clear when several prominent Cree leaders met with sub-agent Ansdell Macrae at Fort Carlton in July 1884 to discuss the continuing failure of the government to fulfill its “sweet promises.” Speaking with the force of years of bitterness and frustration, the chiefs affirmed their allegiance to the Queen, contending it was Ottawa, not the Crown, that had created the current climate of ill will. The also expressed relief that their young men had managed to keep their anger in check.”(Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 165)

**1885-7**

The North-West Half-Breed commission travelled throughout the region to adjudicate Métis claims for scrip. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 575)

**1885**

March 19th, the Métis under Riel declare a provisional government. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 527)

**1885**

Declaration of Riel provisional government

**1885**

CPR completed and promoted Prairie settlement

**1885**

The Northwest Rebellion

**1885**

April 2nd, Frog Lake massacre. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 541)

**1885**

April 24, Gabriel Dumont’s attack at Fish Creek favours the Métis. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 547)

**1885**

May 9-12, Battle at Batoche. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* )

**1885**

May 24, Chief Beardy and his headmen are forced to give up their medals after General Frederick Middleton incorrectly accused them of colluding with the Métis rebels at Batoche. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 551)

**1885**

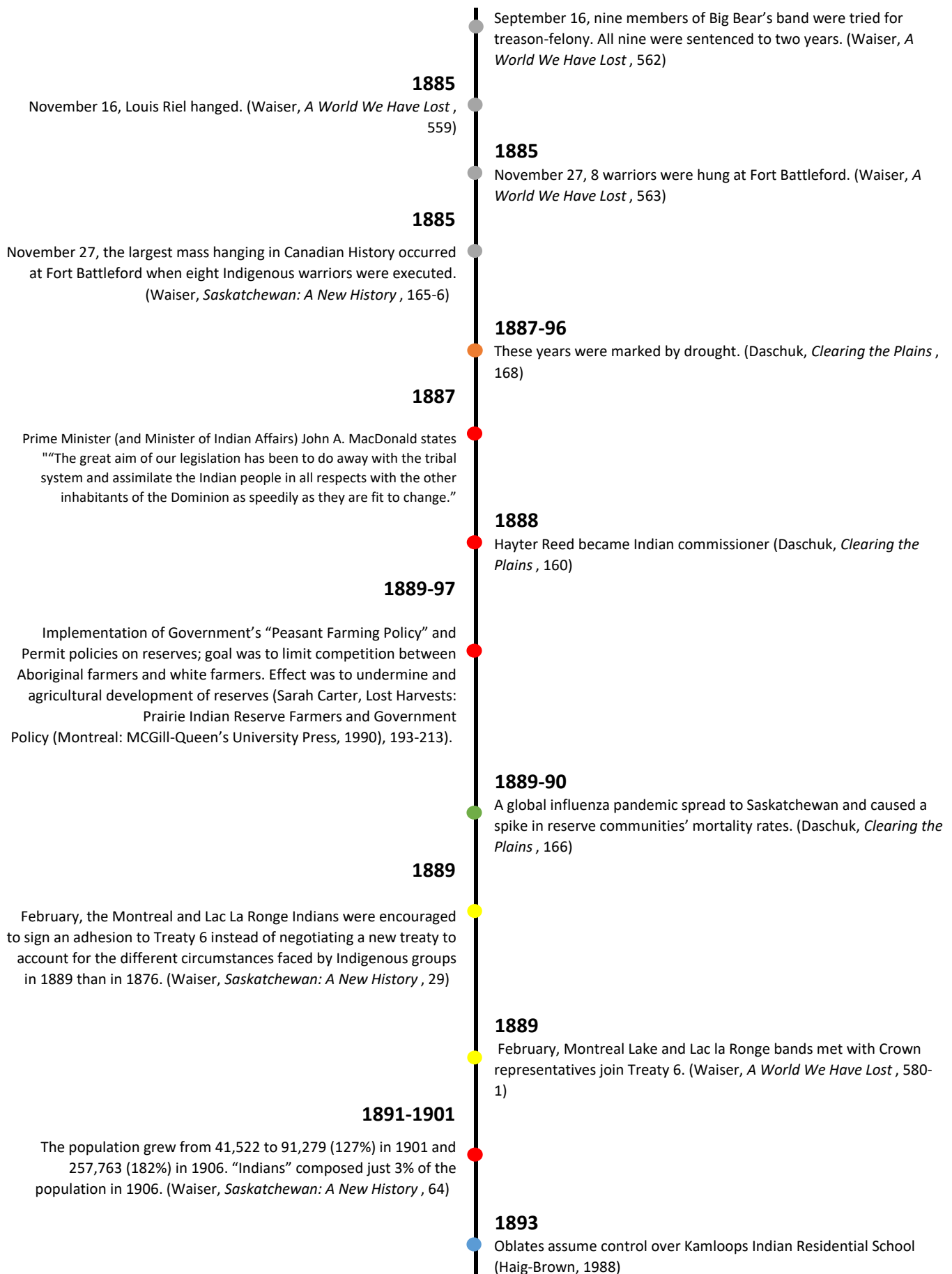
May 26, Poundmaker led his people into Battleford to meet with General Frederick Middleton. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 551)

**1885**

July 20, Louis Riel tried in a Regina Courtroom and found guilty of high treason. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost* , 558)

**1885**





**1894**

September, Julia Côté and Alex Bone ran away from the Indian Industrial School in Regina. They were charged with stealing the school clothes they were wearing at the time they ran away. After being held in custody for three weeks, Côté was discharged while Bone went on trial and was returned to the school after pleading guilty. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 598)

**Mid-1890s**

Reserve populations begin to stabilize. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 172)

**1895**

Responses to Hayter Reed's circular demonstrate that physicians were aware that there was a relationship between overcrowding and TB outbreaks in residential schools. (Daschuk, *Clearing the Plains*, 176)

**1895**

Amendment in Indian Act banned the Sun Dance of the Plains peoples, was not lifted until 1951.

**1895**

Almighty Voice, a Willow Cree man, killed a stray cow to feed his family in October. He was arrested and held at the Duck Lake jail for taking government property. He managed to escape custody and later shot a mounted policeman who had pursued him. He was the most wanted fugitive for 18 months. He was ambushed by Mounties in 1897 in his hiding place at the Minichinas Hills reserve, which resulted in two more deaths. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 599)

**1895**

Piapot, one of the Treaty 4 signatories, was arrested and imprisoned in Regina for performing a Sun Dance on his reserve. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 180)

**1897-1915**

Band economies grow with the expansion of farming on Saskatchewan reserves. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 175)

**1897**

Almighty Voice and two other Cree/Assiniboine men killed in a shoot-out with the North-West Mounted Police seventeen miles from Duck Lake. Almighty Voice had initially been arrested for killing a cow but escaped, then murdered one of the policemen who went out in pursuit. After being at large for nearly two years, Almighty Voice and his two compatriots were killed in a police barrage which included 7- and 9-pound field guns (1897 Report of the North-West Mounted Police, 22-24)

**1897**

Thunderchild, a treaty-era chief was charged for his involvement in a giveaway ceremony and sentenced to two months. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 180-1)

**1897**

A Blood Indian who had murdered a mounted policeman was hanged in 1897. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 601)

**1899**

Treaty 8 (Waiser, *A New History*, 30) -- ("The first few years on the reserves were exceedingly difficult for Indian peoples. The almost overnight disappearance of the once-great buffalo herds, combined with the dismal failure of their first crops and inadequate agricultural assistance, precipitated widespread deprivation and, in many areas, outright starvation. The Canadian government, reluctant to feed what was widely regarded as a dying race and wanting to reduce Indian expenses, grudgingly responded with minimal relief. In contravention of the treaties many bands were forced to perform menial duties to secure a meagre daily ration of meat and sometimes flour. This hunger crisis was soon eclipsed by the arrival of infectious diseases and other illnesses.") (Waiser, *Saskatchewan*, 164)

**1900s**

The deaths of several treaty-era chiefs created a leadership void (White Bear, 1900 - Lucky Man, 1901 - Moosomin, 1902 - Kahkewistahaw, 1906 - Piapot, 1908). (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 166)

**1901**

File Hills Colony established (closed in 1949)

**1901**

The "Indian" population was recorded at 7,491. This number drops to 6,380 in 1906. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 170)

**1901**

Piapot, one of the Treaty 4 signatories, was imprisoned for a second time (first time in 1895 for performing a Sun Dance) for participating in a Giveaway Dance and stripped of his chieftainship. His band refused to elect another chief until after his death in 1908. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 180)

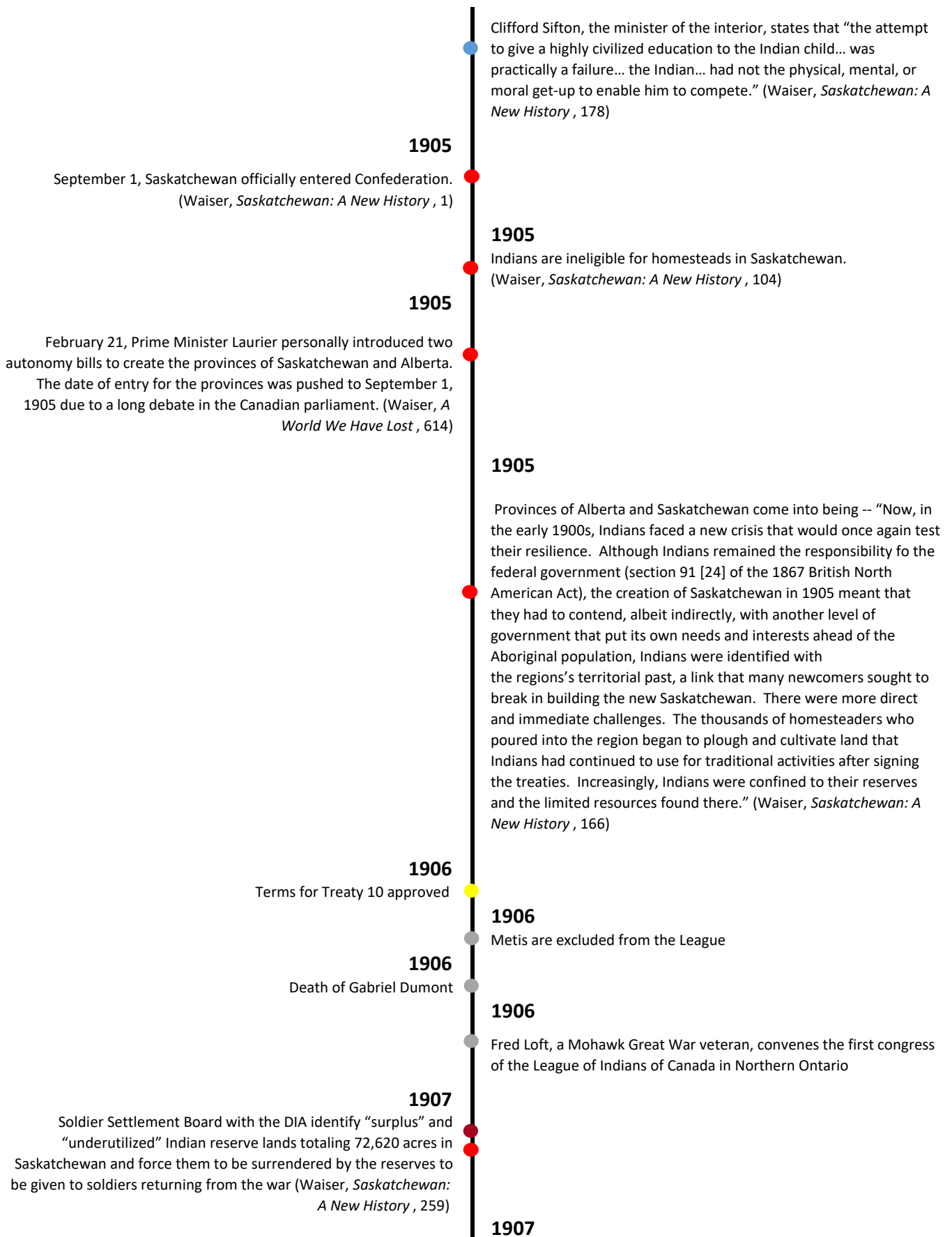
**1901**

William Graham, the agent at the Peepeekisis reserve established the File Hills Colony, which was meant to be a place for displaced residential school graduates who did not fit into white or Indigenous societies. By 1907, File Hills Colony boasted 20 families and was used as an example of what residential school students could achieve. However, the project failed and was closed in 1949. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 180)

**1903**

David Laird, Indian commissioner for Manitoba and the North-West Territories predicted in his annual report that Aboriginal peoples would "become nearly extinct" "at no distant day." (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 164)

**1904**



**1907**

Dr. P. H. Bryce, a medical inspector with the Department of the Interior found the health conditions at prairie residential schools to be appalling. Locked, crowded dormitories, inadequate ventilation, poor food, and the presence of sick students promoted the spread of disease, especially tuberculosis. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 179)

Thomas Borthwick was tasked with completing Treaty 10. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 35)

**1908**

According to the Department of Indian Affairs report for 1908, Indian subsistence hunting and fishing declined by half that year, impacted by the rising Lumber Industry and Fisheries in the province. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 174)

**1909**

Discussion of residential schools. Optimism at the beginning of the project. Two decades later optimism waning, less resources allocated, more responsibility given to churches, children made to work, standards lowered (Waiser, *Saskatchewan*, 178)

**1909**

Land surrenders in Saskatchewan reach their peak. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 169)

**1909**

La Colle Falls Hydroelectric Dam in Prince Albert begins, later abandoned in 1913 nearly bankrupting the city

**1910**

Black Hand of Beardy's Reserve near Duck Lake shot from behind by the NWMP three times, severely wounding him. Black Hand had been accused of theft and arrested but escaped custody two weeks prior before the shooting occurred (Library and Archives Canada RG18-V394-F467-10)

**1911**

January, a delegation from the Treaty 4 area travelled to Ottawa to take their complains about federal Indian policy straight to Canada's two section Indian officials (Frank Oliver and Frank Pedley). Discussions lasted 5 days. However, Oliver and Pedley privately dismissed the delegation's concerns. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 182-3)

**1912**

In 1912 Cree headman Starblanket "made an emotional appeal to the governor general during his tour of Saskatchewan following the official opening of the Legislative Building. He argued that residential schools were a violation of treaty rights and insisted that parents should not be forcibly separated from their children, in many instances never to see them again alive." (Waiser, *Saskatchewan*, 179)

**1912**

Quee Wee Zance of the Fishing Lake Reserve was shot from by the NWMP on May 3. Quee Wee Zance had been accused of horse stealing and arrested by escaped from custody. He died three days later from his wounds (Library and Archives Canada RG18-V426-F287-12)

### 1913

The last group of indigenous people settle on reserve in Western Canada, Foremost Man's people, on the Nekaneet reserve, near Cypress Hills

### 1914-18

The exact number of Indigenous volunteers in the war is uncertain by it is estimated that as many as 137 of the 400 Indigenous enlistees were from Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 188)

### 1914

Indians forbidden from wearing traditional clothing or regalia in public without permission of Indian Agent.

### 1915

The illegality of forcing indigenous communities to surrender reserve land is recognized by the Ferguson Royal Commission. This commission "found Indian officials to be in a conflict of interest, but the censure did not stop the land surrenders, which continued until after the Great War."

### 1916

McKenna-McBride Commission, establishment of day schools

### 1916

November, John Anderson and John Fisher run away from the school on Gordon's reserve and enlist to serve in the Great War at Regina. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 188)

### 1916

December, Moses Lavalley of the File Hills Colony secretly enlisted to serve in the Great War at Yorkton hoping to become a bugler. Because he was skilled with a rifle, he became one of several Indian snipers at the front. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 188)

### 1918

Proposal of the Greater Production Campaign, which would empower Indian commissioners to seize "underutilized" reserve land to lease to non-Aboriginal farmers. This violated treaty rights, so required amendments to the Indian Act. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 211)

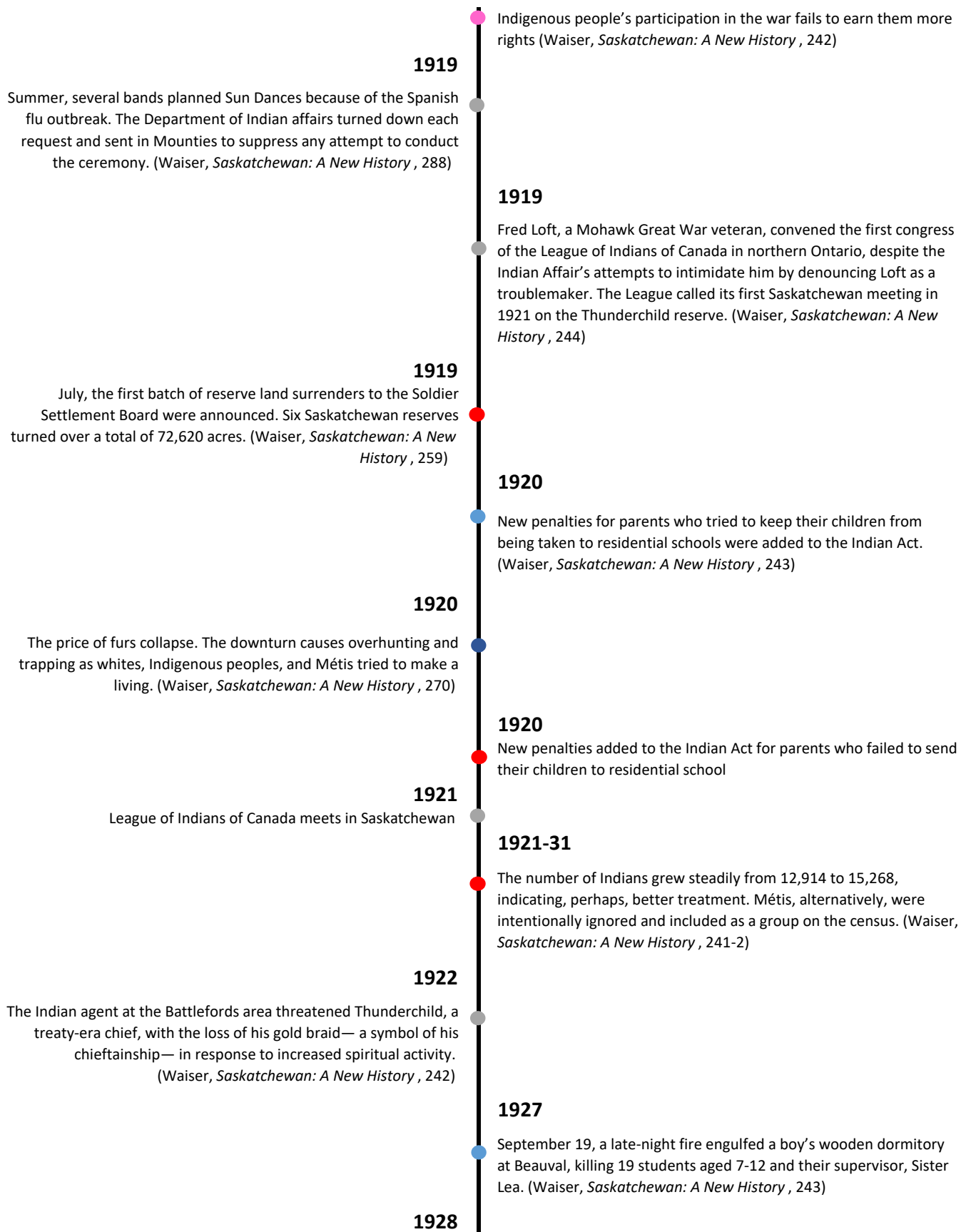
### 1918

October 6, first reported Spanish flu death in Regina. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 226)

### 1918

November, 9 Indigenous children die of Spanish flu at the Onion Lake Catholic boarding school, even though the school had been under quarantine since mid-October. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 227-8)

### 1919



The Protective Association for Indians and their Treaties, composed of the Piapot, Pasqua, and Moscowpetung reserves in the Qu'Appelle Valley sent a delegation to Ottawa to demand that a royal commission investigate the Department of Indian Affairs. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 244)

## 1932

May, Prime Minister R.B. Bennett hired Charlotte Whitton to examine the distribution of relief in some of the worst hit area in western Canada. She identified the "gypsylike" Métis as a menace to both whites and Indians. She recommended restricting their movements (in the same fashion as the Indian reserves) and offer limited assistance. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 291)

## 1935

Joseph Ross, a Regina labourer, began to call for a Métis organization to lobby the provincial and federal governments for assistance and to settle their land claims. Ross and Métis Henry McKenzie founded the Half-breeds of Saskatchewan, which would become the Saskatchewan Métis Society two years later. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 316)

## 1936

John Baptiste Tootosis, a League of Indians of Canada Secretary for Saskatchewan and the grand-nephew of Chief Poundmaker went to Ottawa to inquire about the resolutions that the League passed annually and sent to the Department of Indian Affairs. In his meeting with the department's secretary, the pair nearly came to blows. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 316)

## 1940s

Highway 1 from Walsh, Alberta to Fleming, Manitoba border created

## 1940s

CCF rounds up Indians and Metis in the north and placed in settlements to further their assimilation (a very paternalistic approach) (Waiser, Sask, pg. 348) and continued into the 1950s pg.359 "The Douglas government, meanwhile, took steps to deal with destitute Metis living on relief in shantytowns on the edge of small communities, such as Lestock. It forcibly moved large numbers of families to Green Lake, a fur-trade community northwest of Prince Albert, where each family was given a lease to forty acres of Crown land and expected to practice subsistence-level farming. Fittingly, the new settlement was known as the Green Lake experiment."(Waiser, *Saskatchewan* , 349)

## 1940s

Indigenous people and Métis were put in settlements where they were to be assimilated into a more modern society. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History* , 347)

## 1943



The northern Métis, believing the Saskatchewan Métis Society overrepresented Regina-based Métis, formed the rival Saskatchewan Métis Association. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 349)

**1944**

Joseph Dreaver of Mistawasis First Nation, a Great War veteran established the Association of Indians of Saskatchewan. The association (made up of Indigenous veterans and progressive farmers) wanted better health and educational services and the end of the restrictive pass and permit systems. This Association became the Union of Saskatchewan Indians in 1946. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 348)

**1946**

Union of Saskatchewan Indians formed for whole province

**1946**

The Northern Fur Conservation Area (NFCA) partitioned into 88 Trapping Blocks, further subdivided into zones and assigned to individuals

**1946**

The Tommy Douglas government appointed a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons to review the Indian Act and its administration. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 357)

**1947**

Highways 155 from Greenlake to La Loche created

**1949**

The Douglas administration passed the Rural Electrification Act in Saskatchewan. Fifty thousand farms and all town and villages were to be electrified by 1960. Reserves, as a federal responsibility are not included. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 370)

**1951**

Indian Act amended to removed provisions that banned dances (e.g. Sun Dance and Tamanaqwas dances) and ceremonies (e.g. potlatches and give aways) and that prohibited the pursuing of claims against the government. First Nations peoples were now permitted to raise funds to hire lawyers to represent them in legal matters against the Crown. Federal prohibition on Indians purchasing and consuming alcohol were now removed leaving it up to provinces to determine what restrictions might be applied to Indigenous people.

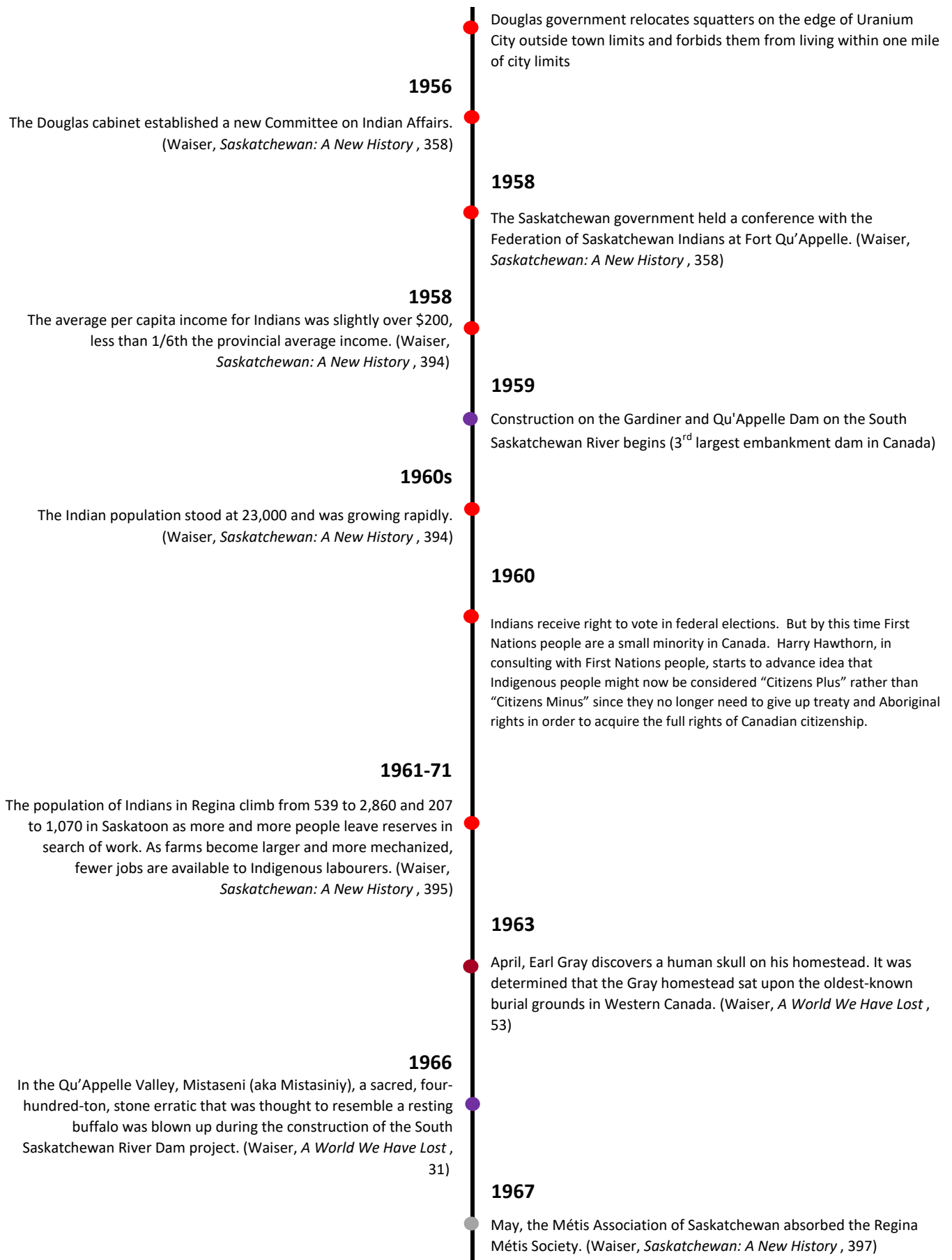
**1953**

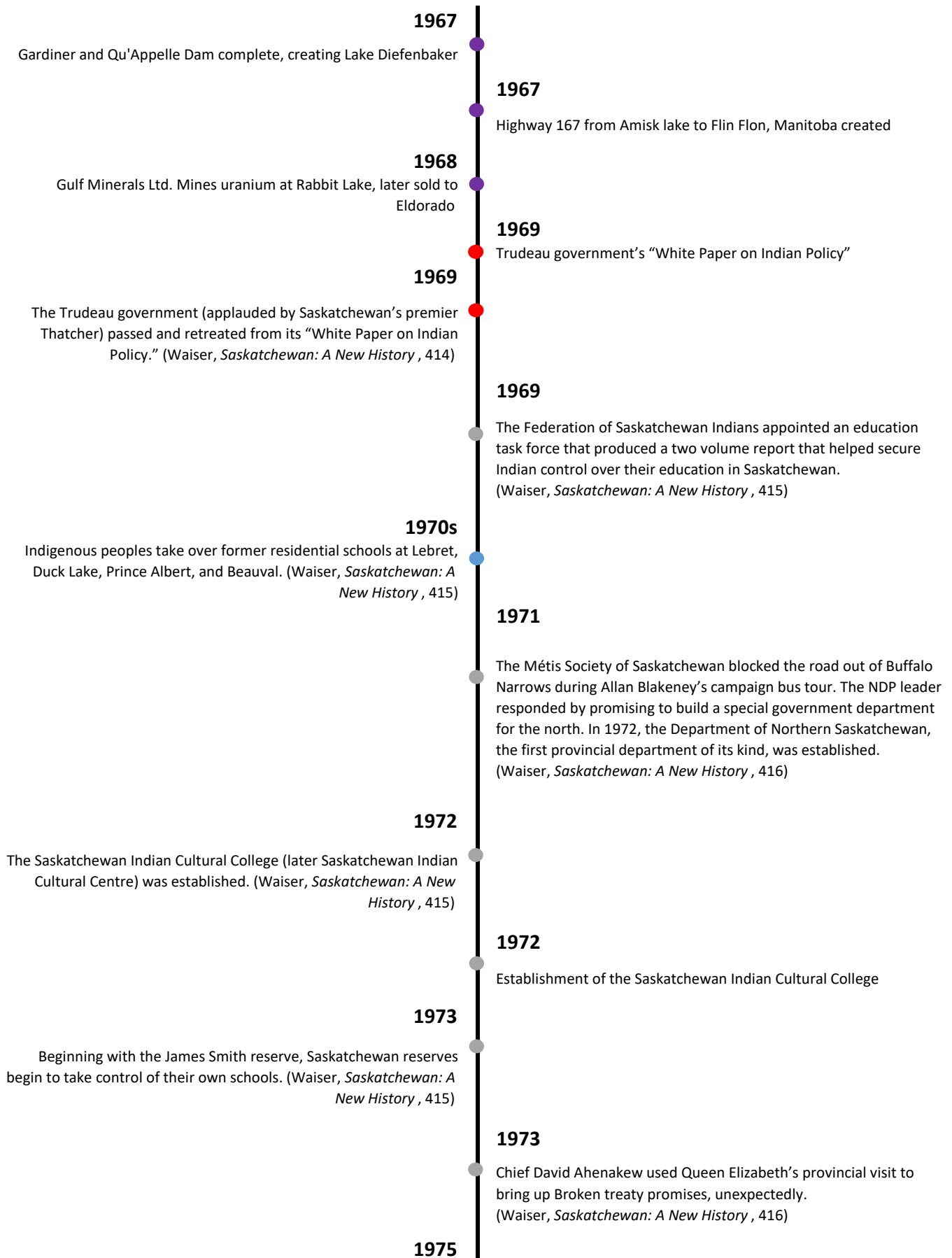
The Douglas government relocated Aboriginal squatters outside Uranium City's town limits and forbade them from living any closer than one mile to the city. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 360)

**1953**

Eldorado begins mining Uranium at Beaverlodge Mine

**1953**





Saskatchewan's NDP government worked with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians to establish the Indian Federated College (later First Nations University of Canada), Canada's first Indian-controlled educational institution in Canada. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 415)

**1976**

Highway 16 from Lloydminster, Alberta to Marchwell, Manitoba created

**1976**

First Nations University of Canada founded in Regina

**1976**

27.4 percent of Saskatchewan's Indian population lived off-reserve. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 416)

**1976**

The Blakeney government puts forward the Saskatchewan formula, which proposed that land entitlements would be based on Indigenous band populations from December 31, 1976 rather than the time that treaties were signed. Action was delayed as Ottawa and Regina fought about the land and money required. A handful of claims eventually went forward, including that of the Lucky Man band which received a reserve in the Battlefords area 110 years after it had entered treaty (1879). (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 444)

**1977**

A heavy equipment operator unearths an ancient campsite along the South Saskatchewan River (radiocarbon-dated around 6000 BP) in Saskatoon. (Waiser, *A World We Have Lost*, 63)

**1978-79**

Candle Lake Dam constructed

**1979**

The Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation asked for 41 acres of unoccupied federal land in a residential area in Prince Albert. August 1982, the Opawakoscikan Reserve was established, Saskatchewan's first urban reserve. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 444-5)

**1982**

Constitution Repatriated to Canada. First Nations and Metis and Inuit Leaders secured a clause that clarified the constitutionally protected status of Aboriginal rights. Aboriginal people are defined as First Nations (Indians), Metis, and Inuit.

**1985**

Bill C-31 brings gender equality to the Indian Act in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It restores Indian status to those who had been forcibly enfranchised due to previous discriminatory provisions, and it allows bands to control their own band membership list (an incremental step towards self-government).

**1988**

The federal and provincial government amalgamate their respective crown corporations to become Cameco Corporation, the world's largest uranium producer, McArthur River ore body discovered

**1989**

Federation of Saskatchewan Indians and the Federal government create the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC)

**1992**

September 22, 700 invited guests and dignitaries gathered at Wanuskewin Heritage Park to sign a Treaty Land Entitlement Agreement between the federal and provincial governments and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The deal provided 25 bands with the \$455 million to buy approximately 1.57 million acres of land. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 457)

**1993**

The Bear Claw Casino opened February 1993, only to be raided by RCMP who took the gaming machines away and closed its doors. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 465)

**1993**

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan renamed itself the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and adopted a constitution that declared self-government. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 466)

**1993**

June, a Saskatchewan judge set a precedent when he used a sentencing circle made up of members of the Saskatoon Métis community to determine the fate of a Métis man who had been convicted of robbing a gas station attendant. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 466)

**1994**

Alameda Dam constructed

**1994**

The Métis Nation of Saskatchewan file a claim In Beauval for a large portion of land in the northwestern part of the province. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 467)

**1995**

November, the Roy Romanow government and Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations made an agreement that would allow the new Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority to establish 4 casinos in Saskatchewan. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 465)

**1997**

Construction begins at Cigar Lake Uranium deposit

**1998**

August, Judge Jeremy Nightingale relinquished charges for illegally shooting a moose within the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range against two Dene men from the Buffalo River reserve at Dillion, recognizing their treaty right to hunt. However, the acquittal was overturned two years later by the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 466)

**2001**

● Saskatchewan's NDP government, in consultation with Aboriginal organizations, released a policy statement ("A Framework for Cooperation") which sought to address the needs and priorities of urban Indigenous peoples. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 484)

**2002**

November, the provincial government appointed a Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 477)



**2004**

● September, the Calvert government announced the future creation of a separate Department of First Nations and Métis Relations. (Waiser, *Saskatchewan: A New History*, 484)

