

Note Cards: Meanwhile, Back in the West...

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1610	Henry Hudson discovers the Hudson's Bay.
1621	Étienne Brûlé, the first coureur de bois, is the first European to venture inland far enough see the Ottawa Valley, Georgian Bay, and Lake Superior.
1634	Coureur de bois, Jean Nicollet is the first European to reach Lake Michigan.
1665	The coureurs de bois, Radisson and Des Groseilliers, travel to London with a load of furs. They tell King Charles about a faster route to bring furs from northern Canada to Europe—through Hudson's Bay.
1670	The Hudson's Bay Company is formed and is given control of Rupert's Land.
1697	Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville of France takes possession of the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort York and attacks English ships in the Bay.
1731 - 1738	Pierre de La Vérendrye and his sons, in search of a water route to the western sea, explore the western prairie as far as Fort Rouge (Winnipeg) and set-up trading forts along their route west.
1769 - 1772	Samuel Hearne is the first European to reach the Arctic Ocean by land. He explores the Arctic region west of Hudson's Bay, reaching Great Slave Lake and the Mackenzie River system.
1783	The North West Company is officially formed.
1792	Alexander Mackenzie is the first European to cross the North American continent and find a pass through the Rocky Mountains.
1793	David Thompson maps most of northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan for the Hudson's Bay Company.
1808	Simon Fraser explores the Fraser River Valley in B.C.
1812	The Selkirk Settlement is founded by Hudson's Bay Company in the Red River Valley.
1812	David Thompson explores the Columbia River to its mouth at the Pacific Ocean, after exploring northern Alberta and B.C.
1820	The Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company are united under the name Hudson's Bay Company.