 **How Canada Became Involved in WWI**

**Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand**

* June 28, 1914, Heir to Austro-Hungarian Empire and wife Sophie had “goodwill” visit to Sarajevo;
* Serbian teenage nationalist shot the two in their open car;
* Within six weeks, all the major countries of Europe were at war;
* Canada and the rest of the British Empire were also at war.

**Canada Prepares for War**

* Prime Minister Borden believed Canada should fight if war broke out in Europe;
* This would improve Canada’s position in the world and gain international respect;
* A Canadian Expeditionary Force was created and 33,000 troops showed up;
* The war was a result of stubborn politicians and spoiled royals.

**Conclusion**

* The war dragged on for four years and resulted in more than 60,000 Canadian deaths;
* What began as a local dispute quickly grew into an event that affected all of Europe and most of the world;
* World War I is said to be Canada’s beginning as an independent nation.