 **How Did Cities and Factories Grow?**

**The Snowball Effect of Factory and City Growth**

* 1881, 25% of population lived in cities;
* By 1911, that number had doubled;
* Same time there was a rapid increase in number of factories manufacturing goods;
* The growth of cities and the growth of factories were related to each other.

**Immigration and Growth of Cities**

* Immigration was the most important factor in population growth;
* If the economy was doing well, the government opened the doors to more immigration;
* Cities were a natural place for many immigrants to settle and search for work.

**Industrialization and First Nations**

* Some First Nations took construction jobs in the growing cities or worked in mines, lumber mills, or canneries;
* Aboriginal women were hired for cleaning and laundry;
* Aboriginal reserves were in demand for growing towns and industry;
* The government made it possible to relocate Aboriginal people and changed the Indian Act so municipalities could use reserve land for roads or railways.

**Factories Changed the Way People Worked**

* John A. Macdonald’s National Policy increased tariffs and encouraged businesses to build factories at home;
* Factories changed the way goods were produced from the old Cottage System.

**Working Conditions in Factories**

* Factories were dangerous places to work;
* Machines were often powered by open belts running from pulleys and accidents were inevitable;
* Workers were paid poorly and worked long hours;
* Women and children worked in factories and were paid less than men;
* Wages did not go far.

**Rising Voices Demanding Change**

* Groups began to advocate for reform;
* Terrible conditions in many factories led workers to join labour unions;
* Unions worked to improve conditions through negotiations and strikes.

**Conclusion**

* Federal and provincial governments saw unions as conspiracies to hurt employees;
* Unions were generally only interested in male workers;
* Early unions were formed by skilled workers and not concerns with unskilled labourers.