**BC First Nations 12- Chapter 6: The Indian Act & Indian Reserves (pp. 92-94)**

The first Indian Act was passed in \_\_\_\_\_1876\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What was the aim of this policy (the Indian Act)?

*To assimilate and civilize; also to destroy Native culture.*

The Indian Act combined earlier colonial and federal laws into one act, and included clauses about \_\_\_\_\_\_land\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_Indian status\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_Local government\_\_

What does it mean to be a "Status Indian"?

*It means that you are a ward of the government*

Some negative consequences of being a "status" Indian were:

* *Couldn't vote*
* *Forbidden to own/consume alcohol*
* *Couldn't own land individually*
* *Not defined as "people" (denied certain rights)*
* *The government was in control of their lives*

Could "Status Indians" give up their status? If they could, what would this mean?

*Yes they could. It would mean that they were cut off from their reserve communities, families, culture, etc.*

**Land:**

The Indian Act provided for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Reserve\_\_\_\_\_\_ land to be set aside for the use of Status Indians.

Reserve Lands are property of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_The Government\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

They were meant to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Temporary\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, lasting only until First Nations people were assimilated in to mainstream society and could buy property like other Canadians.

The first Indian Reserve Commissioner, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_G.M. Sproat\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, was sympathetic to First Nations, and as generous as he could be in allotting reserves.

He was replaced by \_\_\_\_\_Peter O'Reilly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who immediately reduced the size of many reserves.

**Local Government:**

Little control remained in the hands of local communities. Government officials exercised power over people living on reserves. An example is\_\_\_\_\_Education: determined when and where children would go to school\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local government was changed , and was now formed by a \_\_\_\_band council\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ led by a chief councillor. Imposing this electoral system over traditional forms of government created a major disruption in First Nations society.

What does DIA stand for? *Department of Indian Affairs*

Although the act gives some benefits to Aboriginal people, these have been outweighed by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_discrimination\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_oppression\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ embedded in it.

**Vocabulary:**

Assimilation: *To cause a person/group to become part of a different society; to adopt the ways of another culture or to fully become part of a different society.*

Colonialism: *Control by one country over another area and its people.*

Ward: *A person (especially a child) who is legally put under the care/protection of a person/government.*

Voluntary enfranchisement: *Giving up Indian status to be able to vote, own property, or have the rights of other Canadian citizens.*