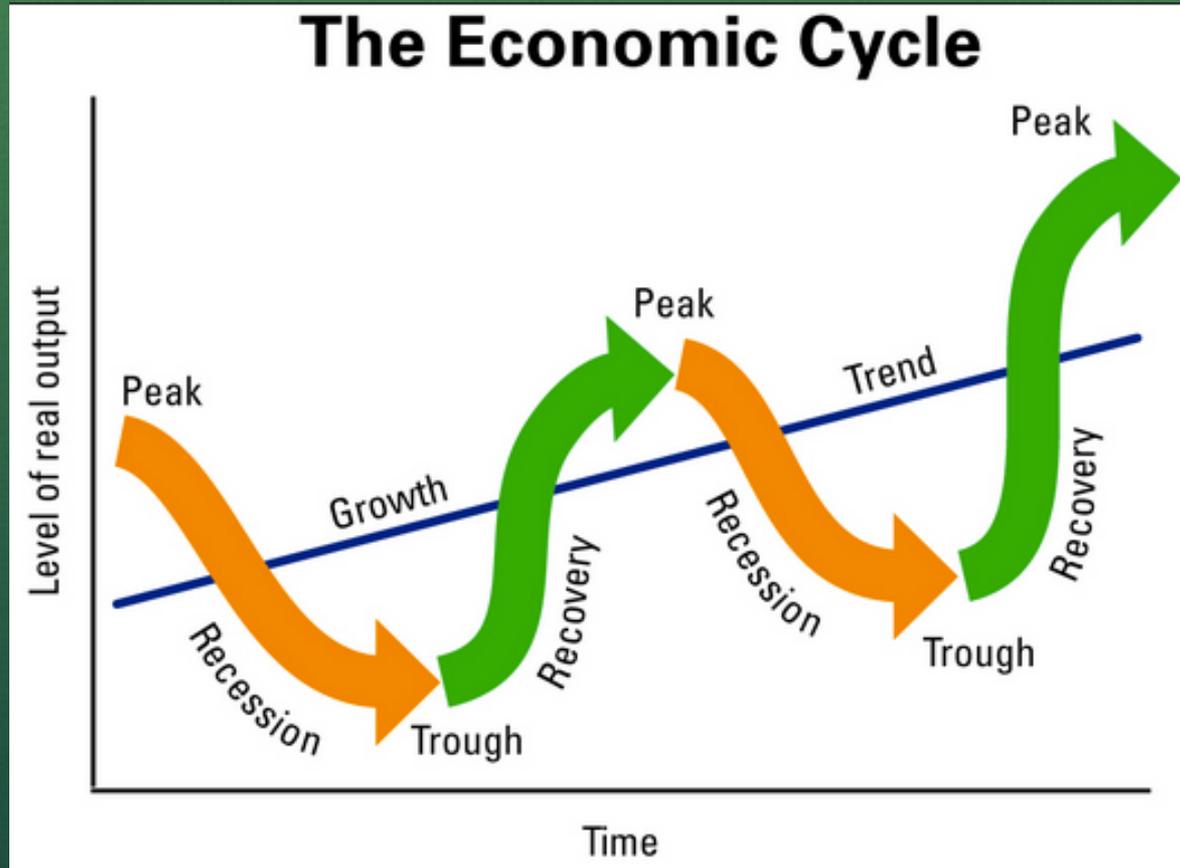




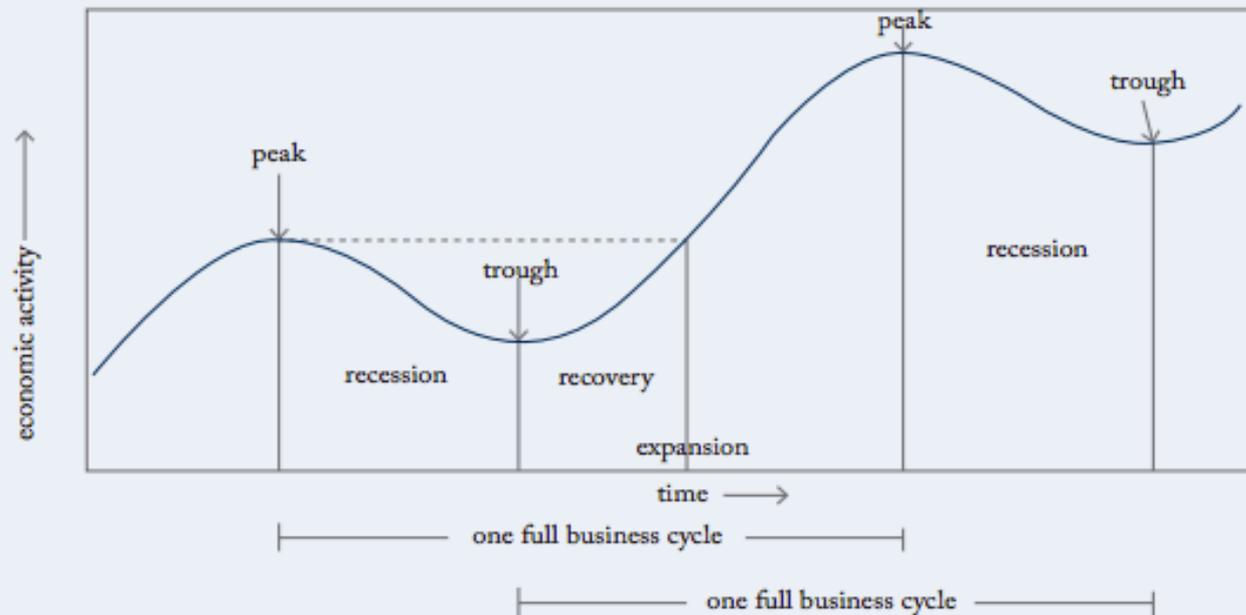
# Economic Cycles and the Labour Movement in Canada

Socials 11 Exam Review

# The Economic Cycle



**Figure 1: Time Stages of the Business Cycle**



# Recession

- A slow down in economic activity.
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product) and income levels fall.
- Unemployment rises.

# Depression

- A very long and severe recession
- Great Depression lasted 10 years (1929-1939) and unemployment reached 27% in Canada.

# Recovery and Prosperity

- Recovery: A period in which the economy regains or exceeds levels of performance before a recession.
- Prosperity: Economy is doing well. High levels of economic activity, economic growth, low unemployment.

# Deficit

- Every year the government makes a budget for how much money they will earn (revenue) and how much they will spend (expenditures).
- If they spend more than they earn, they are considered to have a deficit that year.
- The deficit is the difference between what they spent and what they earned.
- Governments try to avoid budget deficits as it can lead debt to pile up.

# Inflation

- A sustained increase in the price of goods and services. Everything starts to cost more and more.
- The currency (money) becomes less valuable because you need a lot more to buy something.
- It is normal to have some gradual inflation every year. That's why everything costs more today than it did in 1950.
- Sometimes inflation can get out of control and cause the economy to suffer greatly. Ex: Germany before WW2.

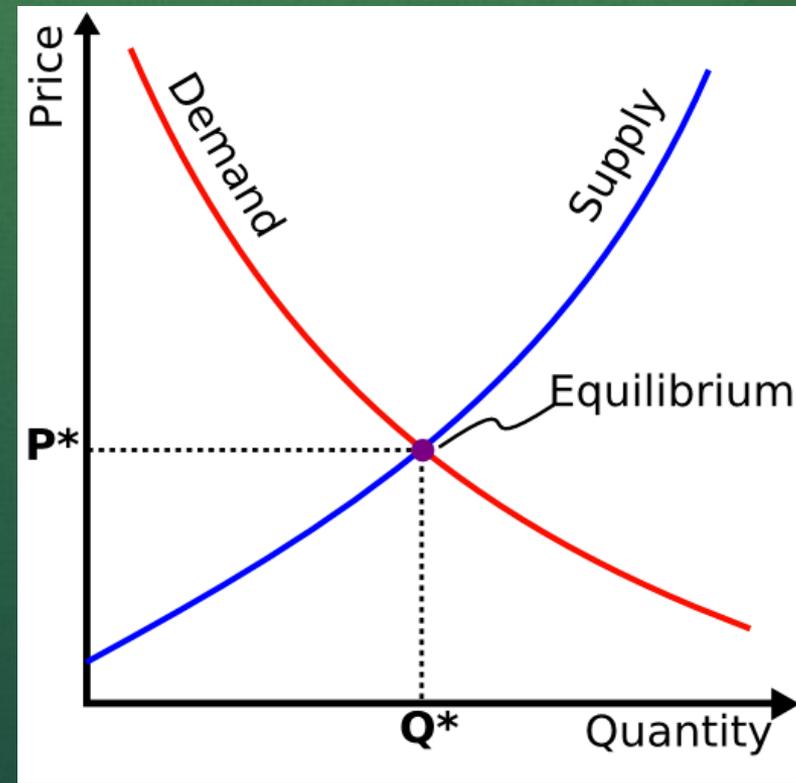
# Example of Inflation

- Bread in 1952: 12 cents
- Bread today: \$3.00



# Supply and Demand

- Economic theory
- The price of a good is determined by the supply (how much is produced) and the demand (how much consumers want to buy).
- When supply = demand then there is “economic equilibrium.
- If there is too much supply, the price will fall.
- If there is too much demand, the price will be too high.



# Great Depression

- Unemployment
- Government Intervention
- Protest Parties
- Soup Kitchens
- Origins of Social Welfare State

# Canadian Labour Movement

- During the 1920s in Canada, large numbers of workers began to demand better working conditions and wages.
- There were many strikes: When workers refuse to work and protest for better conditions.



# In the Maritime Provinces (1920s)

- Many coal and steel factories closed after WW1.
- Some communities depended on just one factory.
- Workers lost jobs or were forced to accept worse conditions and wages.
- Labour wars: 4 years of long strikes, some violent
- Company brought called in police and army to break up strikes.

# One Big Union

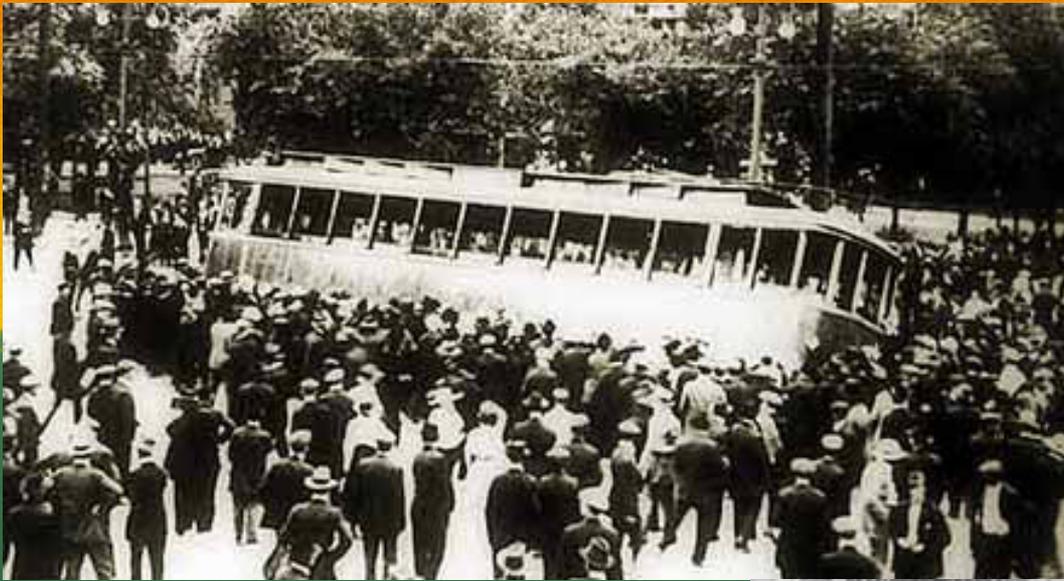
- At the Western Labour Conference in 1919, union leaders joined together to form a union that would represent all Canadian workers.
- Western Labour Movement leaders had more socialist and communist views: believed ordinary people should have a greater say in government and distribution of wealth.

# Winnipeg General Strike

- May 1919: Metal and building workers went on strike.
- Demanded better wages, shorter work week, and collective bargaining (right of union leaders to negotiate with employers on workers' behalf)
- General strike: people from all different sectors went on strike: firefighters, postal workers, newspapers, streetcars, food deliveries.
- Winnipeg was paralyzed without these services.

# Winnipeg General Strike

- Mayor of Winnipeg: Appointed special police, fired city workers, had leaders of strike arrested.
- Federal government: Amended Immigration Act so they could deport foreign-born union leaders.
- Bloody Saturday: Strikers held a parade to protest the mayor's actions. It turned violent when police charged into the crowd. Many injured and arrested.
- Strikers returned to work after 43 days.



# Results

- Short-term: Arrested leaders served time in prison, workers were not rehired, distrust between working class and employers grew.
- Long-term: Over time many of their demands were achieved. Some leaders turned to politics. Example: J.S. Woodsworth who was arrested during the strike founded the party that would later become the NDP.

# On-to-Ottawa Trek

- During the Great Depression the government set up work camps
- Examples of work included: building roads, clearing land, digging ditches
- Conditions were terrible: bad food, bug-infested beds
- In 1935 over one thousand men left camps in BC to protest conditions. They decided to take their complaints to Ottawa.

# Work Camp Conditions



- They rode trains and picked up protesters on their way.
- When they got to Regina, RCMP held them in a large stadium and only leaders could go to Ottawa to meet with PM Bennett.
- Bennett called them troublemakers and radicals, and didn't listen to their demands.



- When the RCMP ordered people to leave the stadium in Regina, there was a huge riot and people were injured, killed, and arrested.

# Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF)

- A political party formed to represent the rights of framers and labourers.
- Forerunner to today's NDP.
- Was started with by socialists with aim to end capitalism and put in place a socialist economy.
- Although didn't win many seats, was influential on ideas like public health care, Old Age pensions, unemployment insurance.

# CCF poster



CCF Election Poster

# Regina Manifesto

- The platform of the CCF, developed in 1935.
- Public ownership of key industries.
- Social programs to assist people in need: elderly, unemployed, homeless, sick.
- Government should spend money on public works to create employment.

# Workers' Rights Today

- Today there are many laws that protect worker's rights
- Employment standards in each province govern things like:
  - Hours of work and overtime
  - Minimum wage
  - Vacation time
  - Meal breaks
  - Holiday pay
  - Safety standards

# Unions Today

- There are many unions which protect the rights of workers:
  - Teachers and University professors
  - Nurses and hospital workers
  - Pilots
  - Government workers
  - Postal workers
- If employers and unions cannot agree, sometimes there is a strike.

# Teachers Strike 2014



# Analyze Political Cartoons

- captioning: a sentence or phrase that is the title for the cartoon.
- labelling: words in the drawing to identify people, ideas, or objects.
- relative size: figures are drawn much larger or smaller than others to make a point or statement.
- shading (light and dark): use of white space and dark shading to create an effect.

# Analyze Political Cartoons

- composition: the arrangement or location of figures or objects in the cartoon
- signs and symbolism: a sign such as a facial expression, gesture, or body position, and symbols, an object used to represent something else
- caricature: a distorted, oversimplified, or exaggerated stereotype used to represent something else.



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Amicable Advances!



NEW ARRIVAL: "I WANT IN, TÓO!"

Saturday Night, Toronto, 16 October 1943

# THE DYNAMITERS

