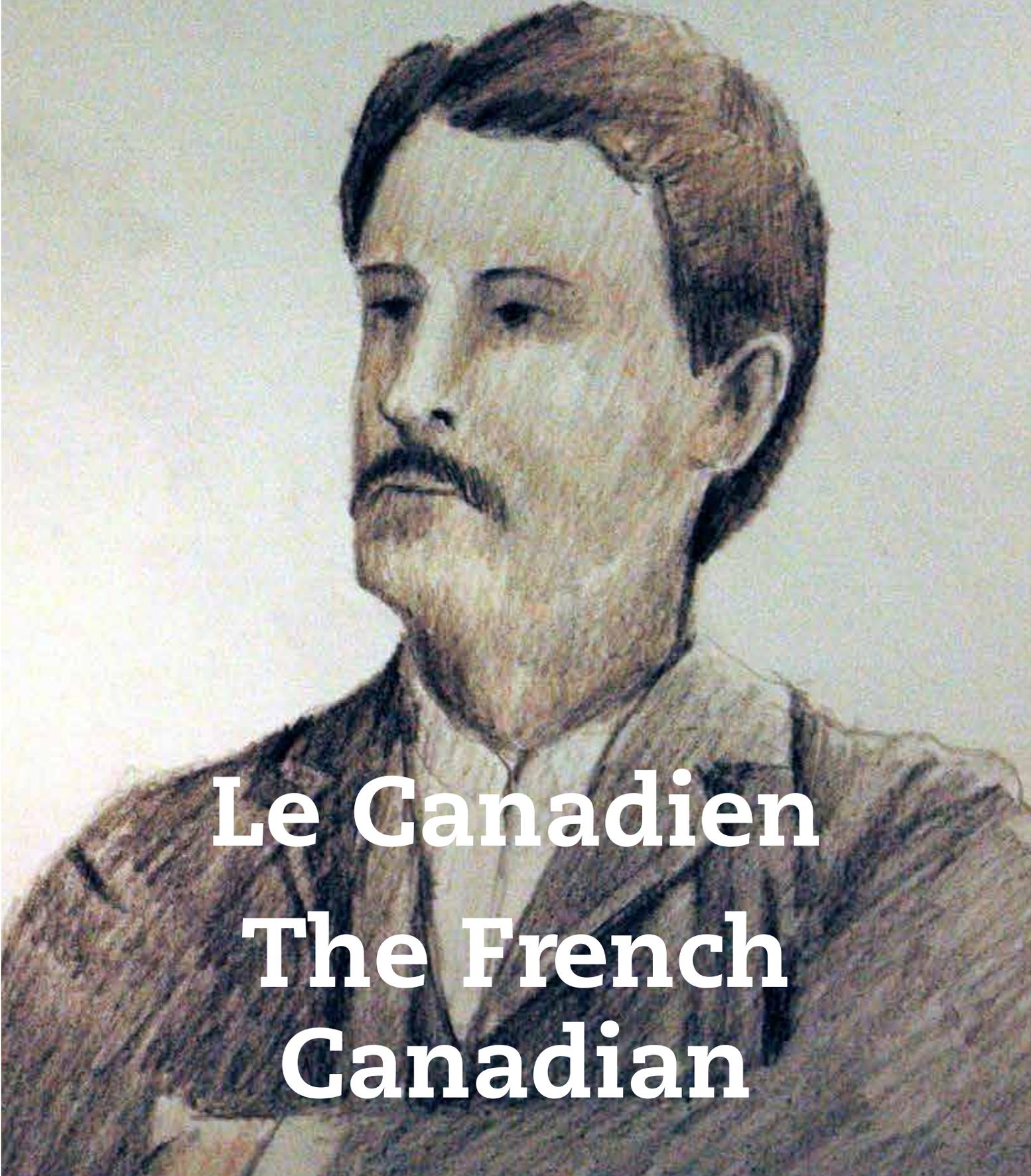


MacLeod Nine Productions Présente - Presents  
Un film de G. Scott MacLeod / A film by G. Scott MacLeod

D'après un conte de /  
A story by Mike Burns

# LEARNING GUIDE

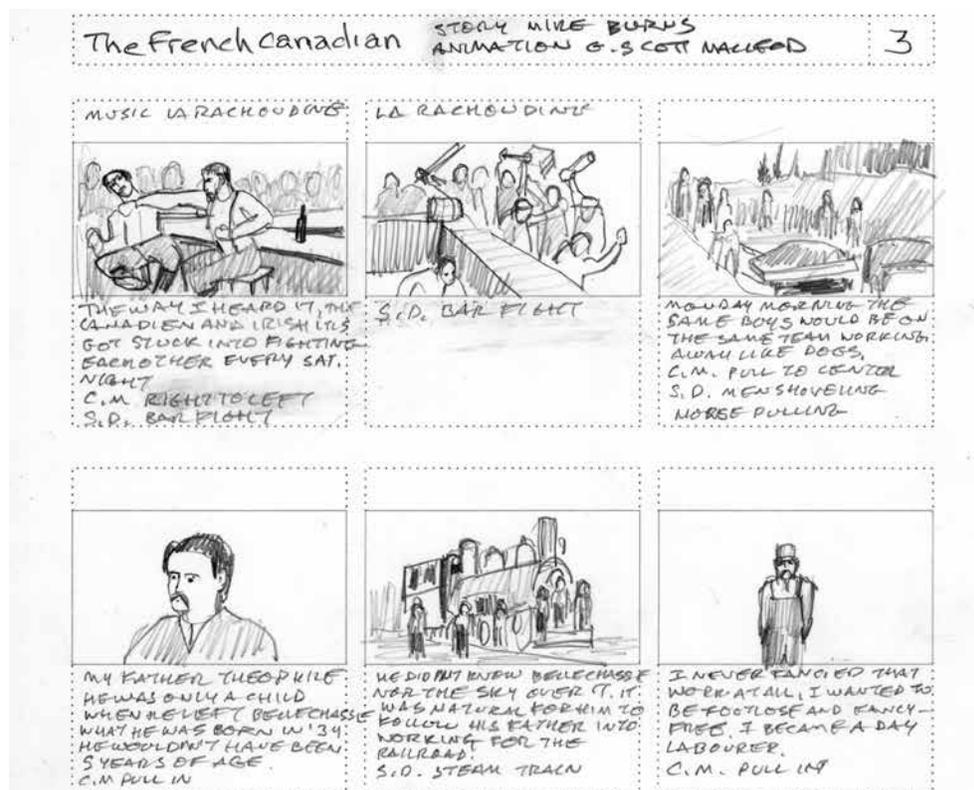


# Le Canadien The French Canadian

# Le Canadien

D'après un conte de /  
A story by Mike Burns

# The French Canadian



## Objectives

In *The French Canadian*, our narrator Jean-Pierre recounts his French ancestors' experiences in New France and Canada after arriving in the 1640s. This learning guide is designed to help educators raise awareness about this part of history and to stimulate students' curiosity regarding their own family histories.



## Before Screening the Video



- 1 What do you know about your family's arrival in Canada? When did they come and why?
- 2 What types of things do you associate with French Canadian culture? Can you name any parts of Canadian culture (traditions, events) that have been imported from France?
- 3 Why do you think the French came to New France during the 1600s? Were they coming for something new or fleeing something at home?
- 4 How did people travel great distances around the world in the 1600s? What were the risks of this travel?
- 5 What types of jobs do you think French immigrants typically performed in New France in the 1600s?
- 6 Imagine life in New France in the 1600s. What do you think would be the greatest challenges?





## After Screening the Video

- 1 What did you enjoy about the way the narrator told the story in the film? What makes a good storyteller?
- 2 What was the farming system in New France? Why were so many people finally forced off these lands? What were the advantages and disadvantages of having a very large family with many children as many of the French immigrants did?
- 3 What important piece of Canadian infrastructure did many French-Canadians work to build in the 1800s? Why was this an important project for Canada? What were the risks and benefits of different immigrant groups working together on these projects?
- 4 What prevented Jean-Pierre from marrying the woman he loved? Do these types of social rules exist today?
- 5 Where did the English send many of the captured French after the Patriotes Rebellion was defeated? What purposes did this serve for the English?
- 6 Many French immigrants eventually left Canada. Where did they go? What sort of work did they do there? What happened to their family names and their command of the French language after they left Canada?





## Follow-up Projects

- 1 Research the Patriotes Rebellion. Who were the Patriotes? Why did they revolt? Prepare a report for your class.
- 2 The seigneurie system was brought to New France by the French. Using text and images, prepare a report for your class on how the seigneurie system worked and what the seigneuries looked like. Find images that show the remnants of the system on the land of Quebec today.
- 3 The earliest French occupation of what is now Canada was not aimed at creating permanent settlements. Research these earliest French expeditions to Canada to determine their purpose. Prepare a report to deliver to your class.
- 4 Write a poem or a story or create a piece of music or an illustration inspired by the film. Share it with your class.
- 5 Write a series of journal entries as if you were the character of Jean-Pierre from the film.
- 6 Research the immigrant story of one branch of your family tree. Prepare a report to deliver to your class.





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LE  
OD  
NINE**  
PRODUCTIONS

MacLeod Nine Productions

2319 Hampton Ave #1  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H4A 2K5

[www.macleod9.com](http://www.macleod9.com)  
[www.thewateroflife.ca](http://www.thewateroflife.ca)  
[macleod\\_nine@hotmail.com](mailto:macleod_nine@hotmail.com)  
514 487 8766

Design by

*TagTeam*

[www.studiotagteam.com](http://www.studiotagteam.com)