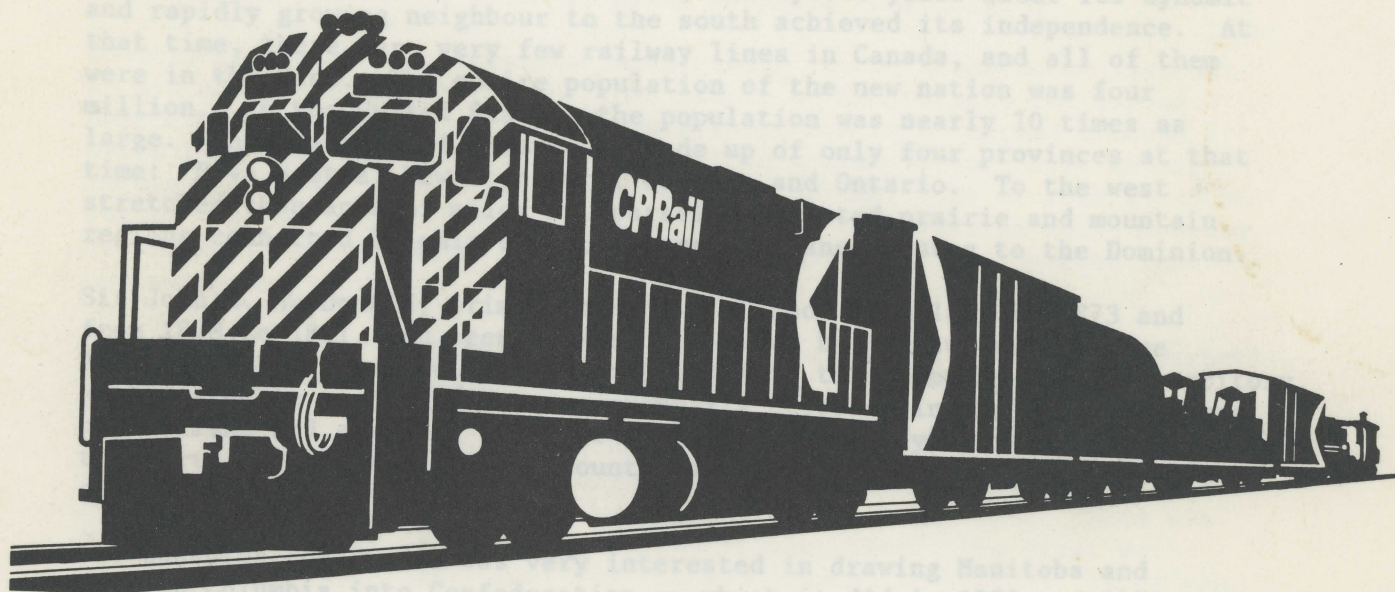


Sudbury Centennial 1883-1983

THE BIG RAILWAY

The story of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the history of Canada are inextricably tied. More than any other enterprise in Canada, except for the Hudson's Bay Company, the company was instrumental in forming the destiny and future of the nation. For nearly half a century, there were few Canadians unaffected in one way or another by the presence of the railway company -- which came to be known as CP Rail in 1968.

Canada became a Confederation in 1867, nearly 100 years after its dynamic and rapidly growing neighbour to the south achieved its independence. At that time, there were very few railway lines in Canada, and all of them were in the east. The population of the new nation was four million, compared to the population of the United States, which was nearly 10 times as large. Canada was made up of only four provinces at that time: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. To the west of the Atlantic Ocean lay the vast prairie and mountain regions, which were then part of the Dominion of Wales.



After years of dreams and years of government scandal and political problems, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was officially incorporated on February 16, 1881. The men involved in those early days were George Stephen, president of the Bank of Montreal and first Canadian Pacific president; F.B. Angus, manager of the same bank; and James J. Hill, known as the "Empire Builder" and eventually president of the Great Northern Railway. Later Donald Smith (who became Lord Strathcona) and Sir William Van Horne were drawn into the huge enterprise.

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CP Rail