



News in Review

RESOURCE GUIDE

March 2012

News in Review

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Credits

Resource Guide Writers: Sean Dolan, Peter Flaherty, Jim L'Abbé, Jennifer Watt

Copy Editor and Desktop Publisher: Susan Rosenthal

Production Assistant: Carolyn McCarthy

Resource Guide Editor: Peter Flaherty and Jill Colyer

Supervising Manager: Laraine Bone

Host: Michael Serapio

Senior Producer: Nigel Gibson

Producer: Lou Kovacs

Video Writer: Nigel Gibson

Director: Douglas Syrota

Graphic Artist: Mark W. Harvey

Editor: Stanley Iwanski

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***News in Review*, March 2012**

1. The Great Oil Pipeline Debate

(Length: 16:06)

2. Egypt's Revolution One Year Later

(Length: 15:33)

3. Research In Motion's High-tech Woes

(Length: 13:26)

4. The Vancouver Hockey Riot

(Length: 15:06)

Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| In This Issue | 4 |
| THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE | 6 |
| Introduction | 6 |
| Video Review | 7 |
| A Tale of Two Pipelines | 9 |
| American and Canadian Positions on Keystone | 12 |
| Pipelines: Pro and Con | 15 |
| Activity: Debating the Issue | 17 |
| EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER | 18 |
| Introduction | 18 |
| Video Review | 19 |
| Overview of a Tumultuous Year | 21 |
| Three Children of the Egyptian Revolution | 25 |
| Nahlah Ayed's <i>The House that Tahrir Built</i> | 27 |
| Activity: Forecasting Egypt's Future | 29 |
| RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES | 30 |
| Introduction | 30 |
| Video Review | 31 |
| A Brief History of RIM | 33 |
| The High-tech Business | 36 |
| The Future of RIM | 39 |
| Activity: Marketing RIM | 41 |
| THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT | 43 |
| Introduction | 43 |
| Video Review | 44 |
| Anatomy of a Riot | 46 |
| Assigning Responsibility | 48 |
| Responses to the Riot | 49 |
| The Riot from Different Perspectives | 51 |
| Activity: Why do young people riot? | 53 |
| News in Review Index | 54 |

In This Issue . . .

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THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE (Length: 16:06)

In late January the U.S. government delayed approval of a pipeline that would transport oil from Alberta to refineries in Texas. The Canadian government responded by saying it would speed up approval of another pipeline that would carry the oil over the Rocky Mountains to British Columbia. In this *News in Review* story, we look at why the government wants the pipelines built and why so many are determined to stop them.

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EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER (Length: 15:33)

It has been a year since a popular revolution toppled the government of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. But many Egyptians remain dissatisfied by the pace of democratic reform. In this *News in Review* story we look at why so many feel betrayed and ask some of them where they think their country should be going.

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RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES (Length: 13:26)

Research in Motion is one of Canada's most successful high-tech companies. It developed the Blackberry smartphone, which is popular all over the world. But recently the company has been losing ground to the competition, and in January its two founders stepped down as co-chairmen. In this *News in Review* story we look at how the high-tech giant got into trouble and what that could mean for its future.

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THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT (Length: 15:06)

In June of last year hundreds of hockey fans rioted in the streets of Vancouver, causing millions of dollars in damages. Since then police have been busy tracking down those responsible. In this *News in Review* story we revisit this event, looking at the progress of the police investigation, how the community is dealing with the aftermath, and why some young people engage in violent group behavior.

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Exercises marked with this symbol indicate that a worksheet to aid in the exploration of the topic is available online.

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

Introduction

Focus

Pipelines move oil, natural gas, and gasoline across the North American continent. But in 2011, the proposed construction of two new pipelines sparked tremendous controversy. This *News in Review* story examines the ongoing arguments for and against the Keystone XL and Gateway pipeline projects.

North America is covered by thousands of kilometres of pipelines. They move crude oil to petroleum refineries and natural gas to processing plants. Additional pipelines ship the refined and processed products to storage facilities, to marketers, and on to consumers. The first pipelines were developed in the United States as long ago as the 1860s. Pipelines are the cheapest and most efficient way to move crude oil and natural gas across the continent. Industry spokespersons also argue that they are the safest way, and that accidents are very few and, as a rule, quite minor.

Without pipelines, there would be no way to fill the North American demand for energy from oil and gas, especially as both Canadians and Americans seek to meet rising future demand by exploiting non-traditional North American sources such as the Alberta oil sands.

2010 and 2011 were not banner years for the pipeline industry. The April 2010 Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico dominated the news and exposed the dangers of petroleum pollution. In July, an Enbridge pipeline ruptured in Michigan, spilling more than three million litres of oil into the Kalamazoo River. Over the next year at least a dozen less serious breaks plagued the North American pipeline network. Environmental groups expressed their alarm, and ordinary citizens began to question the safety of the system.

The impact on the Canadian oil industry's plans was dramatic. Expansion of the Alberta oil sands is dependent on delivering more oil to market, and new pipelines are required to do this. For TransCanada Pipelines, the solution is a new line—the Keystone XL—to deliver Alberta crude all the way to refineries in Texas on the Gulf Coast. In the past, international pipelines have been rapidly approved by the United States. This time public opposition made it a political hot potato and meant its delay—and possibly its cancellation.

For Enbridge, the solution is a pipeline to deliver crude from Alberta across British Columbia to Kitimat, where it would be loaded on tankers for Asia. This project is enthusiastically supported by the federal government. But there is fierce opposition from environmental groups and most, if not all, of the First Nations who have claims on their traditional lands that the route would cross. Hearings on the project began in January 2012; a report is expected in late 2013.

Other possibilities have been discussed, such as moving crude to refineries by rail. But most industry analysts believe that the completion of either or both of these pipelines is the key to the full development of the Alberta oil sands and the future of Canada's petroleum industry.

To Consider

1. How closely have you followed the debate in the media surrounding the construction of the two new pipelines?
2. Do you think the Canadian and U.S. governments should support or oppose the construction of the new pipelines? Why?

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

Video Review

Pre-Viewing Questions

Pipelines are currently proposed to serve two major markets: Canada and the United States. Which market do you think should be the priority for Canada's oil industry? Why?

Viewing Questions

After watching the video, respond to the questions in the spaces provided.

1. What is bitumen?

2. What is the destination of the Alberta bitumen in the proposed Keystone XL pipeline?

3. How would the construction of Keystone XL affect the amount of Alberta oil shipped to the United States?

4. How many jobs would construction of Keystone XL create?

5. What is the estimated cost of the Northern Gateway pipeline?

6. Briefly describe how Enbridge is trying to gain the support of First Nations for the construction of Northern Gateway.

7. How many oil supertankers are expected to visit Kitimat each year?

8. What is the current status of the Keystone XL project?

9. According to the federal Conservative government, where does the opposition to Northern Gateway get much of its funding?

10. When is the joint panel decision on the construction of Northern Gateway expected to be announced?

Post-viewing Discussion

1. After watching the video, revisit your responses to the Pre-viewing Questions. Did watching the video help you respond to the questions in greater depth? In what way?

2. Some West Coast environmentalists are concerned because the joint panel that will decide whether or not to recommend construction of the Northern Gateway pipeline is made up of three individuals—none of them from British Columbia. One member of the joint panel is a geologist who is a member of an Ontario First Nation; the other two members are a biologist and a lawyer, both based in Calgary. Should the federal government have included someone from B.C. on the panel?

3. The final decision whether or not to permit construction will be made not by the joint panel but by the federal cabinet. Based on the information presented in the video, do you think the government would be willing to reverse a negative decision by the joint review panel?

4. TransCanada Pipelines announced in late February that it was going to proceed with construction of the section of the Keystone XL pipeline running from Cushing, Oklahoma, to the Gulf Coast. That section does not require Washington's approval because it does not cross an international border. Do you think this will pressure the Obama administration to approve the complete pipeline? Why or why not?

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

A Tale of Two Pipelines

Check It Out

A 2008 map of the pipelines carrying crude oil, natural gas, and refined product is available at www.theodora.com/pipelines/north_america_pipelines_map.jpg.

A more recent map showing only crude oil pipelines is available from the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers at www.capp.ca/getdoc.aspx?DocID=191097.

A map of the Keystone and (proposed) Keystone XL pipelines is available on the TransCanada website at www.transcanada.com/keystone_pipeline_map.html.

Focus for Reading

Keystone XL and Northern Gateway are not the only pipelines proposed to carry Alberta crude to market but they are the two biggest projects. As you read this section, use a chart organizer like the one below to make note of:

- The company constructing the pipeline
- The route it will follow
- The market it intends to serve
- Arguments in favour of and against the project
- Approvals required before the pipeline can be built

You may wish to use one chart organizer for the Keystone XL project and another for the Northern Gateway project. You will be using this information in the activities that follow the text material.

| Company | Route | Market | Arguments pro and con | Approvals |
|---------|-------|--------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | | | | |

The Keystone System

Keystone XL is only one part of the huge Keystone project undertaken by TransCanada Pipeline Corp. The initial project was designed to carry crude oil from Alberta to refineries in southern Illinois. The route takes the oil on a 3 000-kilometre trip, partly running through converted natural gas pipelines in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. About 435 000 barrels of heavy crude make the trip every day.

This line received rapid approval by both the Canadian and U.S. governments in 2007-08, becoming operational in June 2010. But the hub of U.S. oil refining is in Oklahoma, in and around the city of Cushing. To serve that hub, TransCanada also proposed building a link to Cushing. The line would be able to move 590 000 barrels of oil a day. The 480-kilometre link was completed in early 2011.

TransCanada, however, had even bigger plans. Oil sands crude is composed of bitumen, the heaviest and thickest crude oil. It has to be chemically diluted to flow through pipelines and cannot be upgraded in all refineries. The U.S. refineries best equipped to refine Alberta's oil are located on the Gulf Coast. They currently handle crude from Venezuela, whose oil deposits are similar to those found in Alberta. Refinery contracts with Venezuela, a country with which the United States has tense diplomatic relations, are soon to expire. As a result the refineries are looking for new sources of oil. Alberta crude would seem to be a perfect fit.

To carry crude from Alberta to Texas, TransCanada has proposed a new pipeline on a new route. The Keystone XL would carry crude oil nearly 1 900 kilometres from Hardisty, Alberta, to Steele City, Nebraska. There it would

Further Research

Enbridge has project details for the Northern Gateway pipeline on its website at www.northerngateway.ca/project-details. This includes a map at www.northerngateway.ca/project-details/route-map/.

join the existing Keystone pipeline extension to Cushing, Oklahoma. An additional 700-kilometre line would be built from Cushing to Houston and Port Arthur, Texas.

The Keystone system would be able to move about 1.3 million barrels of oil per day, originating not only from Alberta, but also from the Bakken formation, which underlies part of Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and Montana. This area is believed to contain billions of barrels of untapped oil reserves.

Like the original Keystone line, Keystone XL received rapid approval from Canada's National Energy Board. But it ran into problems in the United States. Because the pipeline crosses an international border, it requires presidential approval. The State Department determines if the project is in the national interest, and its decision may be reviewed by the president.

During the first half of 2011 it appeared that the pipeline would be approved. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was urging a delay for further environmental assessment, but U.S. President Barack Obama viewed Canada as a secure and reliable source of crude oil. By late August, however, several environmental groups were organized against the project. Two weeks of protests in front of the White House, in which more than 1 200 people (including Hollywood actors) were arrested, grabbed the nation's attention. Pressure on Obama, who had been campaigning for re-election on a pro-environmental platform, was unrelenting. That pressure increased after Nebraska enacted a law to prevent Keystone XL from passing through the environmentally sensitive Sand Hills in the northern part of the state.

The result was that the State Department gave environmental approval, but Obama called for further

review to delay a decision until after the 2012 presidential election. As of early 2012, the Keystone XL permit has been denied, but TransCanada has been invited to reapply once it has made changes to its route. The company is working with Nebraska to do so and has announced it will reapply as soon as the new route is determined.

Northern Gateway

The sponsor of the Northern Gateway project is Enbridge, a large Canadian natural gas company. This pipeline would link the oil sands near Edmonton to the port of Kitimat in British Columbia. Just under 1 800 kilometres long, the pipeline would be capable of carrying 525 000 barrels per day. Federal regulatory hearings on its environmental impact and contribution to national energy security began in January 2012.

Enbridge began promoting the Northern Gateway pipeline in 2005 but soon changed its plans in order to send more crude oil to the United States with a pipeline it called the Alberta Clipper. By 2008, however, it had revived plans for Northern Gateway, thanks to interest expressed by potential customers in Southeast Asia.

Oil producers are keen to tap the Asian market for two main reasons. First, Canada's crude exports now go almost exclusively to the United States, and producers are currently shipping as much oil as the existing pipeline system can handle. Unless Keystone XL is approved, any expansion of oil sands production will have nowhere to go. Second, China and Southeast Asia are eager for new supplies, and Canadian crude would actually command a premium price in those markets.

Both the federal and Alberta governments are eager to see Northern Gateway built. Indeed, Prime Minister Harper has made energy trade with

China a key plank in his government's economic platform. However, as joint review panel hearings began in British Columbia in early 2012, there was considerable opposition to Enbridge's plans. More than 4 000 people have applied to speak at the hearings. Especially critical are First Nations groups with unsettled land claims in British Columbia. At least 130 bands have signed a declaration officially opposing the project. They are joined by the many who worry not only about potential environmental damage on

the pipeline route, but also about the danger of an accident with one of the more than 200 supertankers per year that would navigate the ocean channels near Kitimat. Tankers would pass right through the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest, the target of a successful 15-year anti-logging campaign by environmental activists. The joint review panel is expected to take at least 18 months to reach a decision. That recommendation will then go to federal cabinet, which has the final say.

Follow-up

1. With a partner, compare the information in your chart organizers. Help each other complete any missing information.
2. Based on the information you reviewed in this section, would you support or oppose the construction of a) the Keystone XL pipeline or b) the Northern Gateway pipeline? Give reasons to support your answer.

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

American and Canadian Positions on Keystone

Did you know . . .

Most of Canada's oil exports go to the United States. From April to June 2009, Canada shipped 1.76 million barrels to the U.S. and 24 000 elsewhere in the world. The U.S. now imports more oil from Alberta alone than from any other country.

Quote

"Protesters have long complained about growing development in the oil sands, but have never been able to slow activity in Alberta's bitumen-rich north. But by focusing on pipelines, rather than attacking dozens of oil projects themselves, critics have found an effective approach in their effort to thwart expansion in the broader oil sands industry." — Carrie Tait (*The Globe and Mail*, November 10, 2011)

Focus for Reading

In your notebook create a chart organizer like the one below. As you read the following information about the U.S. and Canadian positions on the Keystone XL pipeline, record key points from each section into your chart. You should be able to enter at least three or four points into each section. You will be using this information in the activities that follow the text material.

Opening Statements

- Originally the Canadian and U.S. governments agreed on energy policy.
- Canada saw the development of Alberta's oil sands as economically beneficial to all regions of the country.
- The United States wanted to have a reliable energy source from a friendly country.

Stopping Keystone XL

Fighting Back

Plans on Hold

Looking to the Future

Opening Statements

Until late 2011, it seemed that the United States and Canada were in total agreement on the role Canadian oil would play in filling the energy needs of the United States. For his part, Prime Minister Harper is keen to promote the future of oil sands crude as critical to the U.S. "The oil sands are a very important resource for our country, it's a source of economic growth and jobs across the country, not just in the West, but in Ontario and Quebec, too. It's critical to develop that resource in a way that's responsible and environmental, and the reality for the United States, which is the biggest consumer of our petroleum products, is that Canada is a very ethical society and a safe source for the United States in comparison to other sources of energy" (*The Globe and Mail*, January 8, 2011).

The Americans also acknowledged their dependence on Canada and the oil sands. In 2009, David Goldwyn, President Barack Obama's special envoy on energy, came to Ottawa to

tell Canada that it was a "pillar of U.S. energy security." That Obama had campaigned on a clean energy platform seemed of secondary importance. "Part of my message here is that we recognize and value the centrality of Canada's contribution to U.S. energy security. We have to have a system where we can rely on Canada for supply, and rely on Canada's own commitment to be a steward of its climate-change targets" (*The Globe and Mail*, September 3, 2009). But while official U.S. policy seemed to bless the expansion of the oil sands and the importing of its product, not all Americans were happy. The Keystone XL pipeline has become the battleground between two views of America's energy future.

Stopping Keystone XL

The fight to stop the Keystone XL pipeline was less an argument about pipelines than it was about what opponents of the oil sands like to call "dirty oil," such as the Alberta oil sands. Environmentalists argue that building

Further Research

Earthjustice's position on the pipeline can be viewed on its website: <http://earthjustice.org>.

the pipeline will only increase U.S. dependence on dirty energy and will make it more difficult for the country to develop new, cleaner sources. Supporters of the pipeline—including the U.S. Department of State—argue that it is very much in the country's strategic interest to ensure its energy supply comes from a politically stable country and friend of the U. S. government like Canada.

It was clear that trouble was brewing as early as 2009. A lawsuit was brought against the government by Earthjustice, an environmental action group, following hearings on Enbridge's Alberta Clipper pipeline. Sarah Burt, the organization's legal counsel, made the case that "The review didn't fully take into account all the indirect and cumulative impacts [of the pipeline], including the cumulative greenhouse gas impacts and refining impacts" (*The Globe and Mail*, August 26, 2009). Specifically, it had failed to take into account the climate change effects of oil sands production.

The controversy came to a head when TransCanada sought approval for the Keystone XL line to carry bitumen from the oil sands to refineries on the Gulf of Mexico. Congressman Henry Waxman of California described the pipeline as "a multi-billion-dollar investment to expand our reliance on the dirtiest source of transportation fuel currently available." Waxman claimed that the new pipeline (along with the previously approved Alberta Clipper) would triple the amount of Alberta crude coming into the United States, and that oil sands crude is "37 per cent worse from a greenhouse gas perspective than other oils" (*The Globe and Mail*, July 7, 2010).

Fighting Back

Pipeline supporters in Canada and the United States were quick to fight back. The Canadian and Alberta governments and the pipeline companies and oil

producers repeated what has become the official pro-Keystone position:

- The pipeline will create thousands of much-needed jobs in the United States.
- The pipeline will provide a reliable source of oil from a friendly country for many years to come.
- The oil sands are rapidly improving their mining practices and emission standards.
- Oil sands crude is currently no more than 10 to 15 per cent worse from a greenhouse gas perspective than other oils, and that percentage is improving.
- Examination of the greenhouse gas impact of the pipeline would, in the words of TransCanada spokesperson Terry Cunha, "unnecessarily delay the project and jeopardize the many critically important benefits it will bring to the United States" (*The Globe and Mail*, July 7, 2010).

Most members of the Republican Party (which controls the U.S. House of Representatives) favour the pipeline. Typical is the opinion of Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, referring to Venezuela: "dirty oil is buying oil from someone who takes the money and sponsors terrorism and tries to make the world a dark, sinister place" (*The Globe and Mail*, October 6, 2011).

Plans on Hold

Two weeks of protests in front of the White House helped to make an environment-friendly president nervous about his political base. But it was the state of Nebraska that provided the excuse to place the final decision on hold until after the presidential election of November 2012. Unhappy about the route the pipeline was to take through the state, the government of Nebraska threatened to pass legislation to prevent its construction unless a new route was chosen. In November Obama decided to submit the proposal for further

environmental review and made its approval dependent on the creation of an alternate route. “Because this permit decision could affect the health and safety of the American people as well as the environment, and because a number of concerns have been raised through a public process, we should take the time to ensure that all questions are properly addressed. The final decision should be guided by an open, transparent process that is informed by the best available science and the voices of the American people” (*The Toronto Star*, November 11, 2011). Congressional Republicans subsequently tried to force the President to make a firm decision. As a result he has denied the permit but has invited TransCanada to reapply as soon as a new route has been chosen. The company has announced it will indeed do so.

Looking to the Future

The Canadian government and oil industry companies continue to promote Keystone XL, and TransCanada expects that the line will ultimately be approved. At the same time, finding new markets, especially in Asia, has become their new priority. Patricia Best, spokesperson for

Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver, has said: “It is a strategic priority of the government to diversify our energy markets, including markets in Asia” (*The Globe and Mail*, November 24, 2011). And Prime Minister Harper, responding to the Keystone XL delay, said: “This does underscore the necessity of Canada making sure that we’re able to access Asian markets for our energy products, and that will be an important priority of this government going forward” (*The Globe and Mail*, November 14, 2011).

In the United States the battle over dependence on crude from the oil sands looks likely to continue. As Liz Barratt-Brown, a senior attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council, notes, “the disaster in the Gulf [the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill] has totally primed the debate over Canadian tar sands. The public outrage is just beginning to translate to the political side. But with the Keystone pipeline proposal providing a decision-point, the United States is approaching a debate we’ve never had before—do we really want to increase our reliance on the planet’s dirtiest oil?” (*The Globe and Mail*, July 7, 2010).

Follow-up

1. With a partner, compare the information in your summary chart. Help each other complete any missing information.
2. What conclusions should Canada draw from the potential defeat of the Keystone XL pipeline proposal in the United States?
3. What effect would a final cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline construction permit have on Canadian-American relations?

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

Pipelines: Pro and Con

Focus for Reading

Here is a selection of quotations from prominent North Americans expressing a broad range of opinions for and against pipeline construction. In your notebook, for each of the quotations, determine whether the speaker is in favour of, opposed to, or neutral on the issue of pipeline construction, and state why. In one sentence, sum up the main point made by the speaker or writer, indicating whether or not you agree with it and why.

1. Pat Daniel, chief executive officer of Enbridge: “This allows us to stay ahead of the curve. [Alberta] produces more crude oil than we can consume, and it’s a resource whose export provides us with much basic wealth. Projects like Alberta Clipper allow that export to happen, and there’s no other way to move the oil than by pipeline.” — *The Globe and Mail* (February 25, 2008).

2. Robert Jones, TransCanada vice-president: “This really opens up a new marketplace . . . it improves the liquidity of Canadian supply. It allows Canadian [producers] to achieve the highest prices [for their output].” — *The Globe and Mail* (March 15, 2008)

3. Russ Girling, chief executive officer of TransCanada: “The only place to put 300 000 barrels a day of extra bitumen is into the Gulf Coast. So even on top of our contracted volumes, we’re having a number of shippers coming to us . . . [who] are now looking at the Gulf Coast.” — *The Globe and Mail* (February 4, 2009)

4. Simon Dyer, oil sands program director for the Pembina Institute: “The panel has deliberately turned a blind eye toward the bigger picture, environmental impacts of new oil sands production that would be required to fill this pipeline.” — *The Globe and Mail* (January 19, 2010)

5. Gerald Amos, director of the Coastal First Nations: “Perhaps we haven’t been strong enough . . . from here on out . . . we are going to be firm. If it goes ahead and tankers come through our waters, we are preparing to put boats right across the channel and stop them . . . Whatever it takes. Our position right now is that this project is not going to happen.” — *The Globe and Mail* (March 24, 2010)

6. Vicky Husband, B.C. environmentalist: “When you think of the optics of this—First Nations fighting to stop oil tankers from penetrating the Great Bear Rainforest carrying dirty crude from the tar sands—it’s not going to be hard to draw support from Europe and all around the world.” — *The Globe and Mail* (March 27, 2010)

7. Enbridge spokesman Alan Roth: “There’s been a tremendous amount of engineering studies and risk analysis studies. Extraordinary measures are planned with respect to marine safety, and these are the highest modern standards for engineering. The risks have to tell us the probability (is) as close to zero or very close to that before we would even propose the project.” — *Toronto Star* (July 30, 2010)

8. François Paulette of the Smith's Landing Treaty 8 First Nation in the Northwest Territories: "White House policy makers need to know that their appetite for this dirty oil is killing our river and destroying our way of life. The pollutants and heavy metals don't stop at the Alberta border—they run more than 1 000 kilometres all the way to the Mackenzie River, deforming the fish along the way. Talking to the Alberta government and the industry about these issues is like trying to reason with heavy drinkers. They're all buddy-buddy, they all enable each other. They don't seem to grasp it when you try to tell them something's wrong. We decided we need to be saying that in Washington—and hopefully the Americans can take our issue seriously." — *Toronto Star* (September 20, 2010)

9. Ray Doering, manager of engineering for the Northern Gateway project: "No National Energy Board-regulated oil pipeline built in the last 30 years in Canada has had a rupture. That's really a testament to the quality of the materials, the coatings, the construction, and inspection practices we use today. When you hear about incidents, they're associated typically with much older pipelines." — *The Globe and Mail* (December 31, 2010)

10. Sveinung Svarte, CEO of Athabasca Oil Sands Corp.: "Common sense seems to prevail, even in the U.S.—and they have realized that they really want more Canadian crude, which is the most friendly crude they can ever get." — *The Globe and Mail* (August 27, 2011)

11. Al Gore, former U.S. vice-president: "This pipeline would be an enormous mistake. The answer to our climate, energy, and economic challenges does not lie in burning more dirty fossil fuels—instead, we must continue to press for much more rapid development of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies and cuts in the pollution that causes global warming." — *Toronto Star* (September 12, 2011)

12. *Toronto Star* business writer David Olive: "Heavy-oil spills are much tougher to clean up than conventional crude. Surface skimmers, booms, and vacuums used in spills are of little use since heavy oil quickly submerges and suffocates bottom-dwelling plant and animal life. That being the case, approval should not be granted until the pipeline sponsors and community authorities along the entire length of the proposed pipelines have 'war gamed' a spill at any point along the two pipelines' routes. How, exactly, does one rapidly arrest a spill in a remote B.C. mountain range? Let's see the plans, kilometre by kilometre. The Deepwater Horizon catastrophe taught us the consequences of inadequate emergency planning." — *Toronto Star* (January 14, 2012)

Follow-up

1. With a partner, compare your responses to the quotations presented above. With which of them did you most agree/disagree? Give reasons for your viewpoints.
2. After reading the quotations above, summarize what you think are the main arguments a) in favour of and b) opposed to the construction of oil and gas pipelines. In what way could they be seen as representing two different sets of values or philosophies regarding the economy and the environment?

THE GREAT OIL PIPELINE DEBATE

Activity: Debating the Issue

Should the Keystone XL pipeline and Northern Gateway pipeline be completed? Are additional pipelines the key to the future of Canada's oil industry, or do they represent a serious environmental danger?

The two pipelines have their own unique benefits and drawbacks that should be considered separately. For that reason, two different resolutions are proposed for classroom debate. Students should form affirmative and negative teams to debate each of the following resolutions:

1. Resolved: That the completion of the Northern Gateway pipeline would be of significant benefit to Canada.
2. Resolved: That the completion of the Keystone XL pipeline would be of significant benefit to both Canada and the United States.

Material both for and against the resolutions is available throughout this section of the guide and in the video. Additional resources are readily available from websites cited in the guide, as well as from organizations like the Pembina Institute (www.pembina.org) and Earthjustice (www.earthjustice.org).

Opening arguments (four minutes per speaker) should be followed by rebuttals (two minutes per speaker). At the conclusion of the debate, a class vote will be held to determine the side that best presented its case.

Following the debate, you may wish to hold a full-class debriefing session, discussing how participating in this debate enhanced your understanding and appreciation of the issues surrounding the proposed construction of the two pipelines and whether or not you think it is likely that they will eventually be built.

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Introduction

Focus

This *News in Review* story focuses on the first anniversary of the Egyptian revolution that toppled a dictator. It also assesses the country's difficult progress toward democracy since that time.

Further Information

The March 2011 *News in Review* story "Egypt and the Days of Anger" covers the events of the Egyptian revolution up to the fall of Hosni Mubarak in February 2011.

On January 25, 2012, thousands of Egyptians flocked to Tahrir Square in downtown Cairo to mark a significant anniversary in their country's history. On that very spot exactly a year before, the first protests had broken out against the 30-year dictatorial regime of President Hosni Mubarak, which eventually led to the hated ruler resigning from office. The Egyptian army stepped in as a transitional authority but vowed to hand over power to a civilian government as soon as elections could be held and a new, democratic constitution written.

But a year later the mood was far less buoyant. Egypt had been through a number of upheavals since Mubarak's overthrow, and it was far from clear that the country's progress toward a democratic future was assured. Many of those who had taken part in the initial protests were frustrated at the army's reluctance to hand over power quickly, and some even suspected that Field Marshall Mohammed Hussein Tantawi, the head of the ruling military council, was trying to thwart the democratic process. Protests against continuing military rule and suppression of human rights had turned violent, resulting in loss of life and many injuries. To some, it seemed that the Egyptian revolution would not be over until the military was no longer in power. But who would replace them was anyone's guess.

In the meantime, Egypt had held its first free elections, a significant step on the bumpy road to democracy. But the results had come as a disappointment to those who hoped that Egypt's future government would be liberal and non-religious. Pro-Islamist parties, whose base of support was largely in the rural, more conservative regions of the country, won an overwhelming victory and seemed poised to influence the framing of the new constitution, which could strengthen the role of Islam in the country's society and legal system. To non-religious liberals and Egypt's small but significant Coptic Christian minority, this was a cause for great concern.

In August, Egyptians of all political persuasions were united by a sight that many of them had not even dared to hope for. The former dictator, Hosni Mubarak, was brought to trial on charges of corruption and ordering the killings of protesters during the demonstrations in Tahrir Square. It was the first time any Arab leader had been tried by his people—and the country was transfixed by the spectacle. For whatever the future might hold for Egypt, Mubarak's trial made it clear that there would be no return to his hated regime. But as of early 2012, the path to democracy looked long and difficult, with many roadblocks on the way before the dreams born in Tahrir Square might come to fruition.

To Consider

1. How many years do you think it will likely take before Egyptians know if the revolution of 2011 achieved its goals?
2. Is it unreasonable to expect that the country should be stable on its first anniversary, or not?
3. Despite the fact that Canada became a united country in 1867, it is referred to as a young country, and one that is still establishing itself. What challenges does Canada still face, and how might that help us understand the challenges facing Egypt?

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Video Review

Pre-viewing Questions

With a partner or in a small group discuss and respond to the following.

1. What do you know about events in Egypt since the revolution that toppled President Hosni Mubarak in February 2011?

2. Why do you think some Egyptians might be unhappy with what has happened in their country since Mubarak was overthrown?

Viewing Questions

As you watch the video, respond to the questions in the spaces provided.

1. Who was the president of Egypt who was overthrown in February 2011? For how long had he been in power?

2. What was the main location for the anti-government protests?

3. How many days did it take for the protesters to achieve their goal? How many protesters were killed or injured during the demonstrations?

4. Who took power after the revolution succeeded? What promise did this group make?

5. Why are some Egyptians frustrated and angry about what has occurred since the revolution began a year ago?

6. What political groups won the most seats in the parliamentary elections? Why does this worry some Egyptians?

7. How does the Giza apartment that Nahlah Ayed and her CBC crew visited represent a miniature version of Egyptian society?

8. What is the name of the Islamist political group that has set up its headquarters in the building?

9. How are the residents reacting to the presence of this group in their building?

10. What is the name of the Islamist group that won the most seats in the election?

11. Why is the doorman of the building optimistic that residents will be able to work out their differences?

12. When are the first presidential elections since the revolution scheduled to take place?

Post-viewing Questions

1. After watching the video, revisit your responses to the Pre-viewing Questions. Did watching the video help you respond to the questions in greater depth? In what way?

2. If you were a young Egyptian looking for work, how would you feel about the revolution that began in early 2011 and its progress since then?

3. If you were a woman living in the Giza apartment building featured in the video, how would you feel about the presence of a radical Islamist party's office in it?

4. How would you characterize the views of the Egyptians living in the apartment building who are interviewed in the video?

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Overview of a Tumultuous Year

Further Research

For in-depth coverage of the unfolding events in Egypt, view the CBC News Special Report, "Egypt's road to democracy," www.cbc.ca/news/world/story/2011/01/29/f-egypt-uprising.html.

Focus for Reading

In your notebooks, create an organizer like the one below. As you read the following information on the main events that have occurred in Egypt since the fall of Mubarak, record key points in your organizer. You should be able to enter at least two or three points in each section. You will be using this information in the activities that follow the text material.

| |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>A Triumphant Aftermath (February – March 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egyptians celebrated the overthrow of Hosni Mubarak's regime and hoped for a swift transition to democracy. • The military leaders appealed to Egyptians to stop demonstrating, obey the law, and return to work. |
| <p>Months of Protest (April – July 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • |
| <p>The Trial of Hosni Mubarak (August 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • |
| <p>Demonstrations and Elections (September 2011 – January 2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • |
| <p>A Clouded Anniversary (January – February 2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • |

A Triumphant Aftermath (February – March, 2011)

Egyptians were in a state of collective euphoria following the toppling of Hosni Mubarak's hated dictatorship on February 11, 2011. The thousands who had taken up residence in Cairo's Tahrir Square over the 18-day uprising packed their belongings and returned home, but not before voluntarily cleaning up the entire area. For its part, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF), which had assumed a leadership role in the transition to democracy, promised it would swiftly hand over power to a civilian government after elections were held and a new constitution drawn up. But many Egyptians, emboldened by their dramatic success, were pressing for more radical and rapid change in almost every aspect of society. Workers went

on strike, demanding higher wages and improved conditions, and anti-Mubarak protesters insisted on a thorough house-cleaning of remnants of the old regime. But the leaders of the SCAF were anxious to restore stability and appealed to Egyptians to stop protesting and return to work. Even in the early weeks of Egypt's newfound freedom, some cracks in the alliance between the army and the protesters were beginning to emerge.

Months of Protest (April – July 2011)

On March 19, the vast majority of Egyptians voted in favour of a package of proposed constitutional amendments put to them in a national referendum approved by the SCAF. But critics of the proposals warned that a "yes" vote would hand a blank cheque to the army

to proceed without significant civilian input into the process. On April 1, a large crowd gathered in Tahrir Square for a Save the Revolution protest, calling on the army to move faster to introduce democracy and purge the government of remnants of the old Mubarak regime. In the weeks that followed, the square was the scene of a number of huge rallies organized by rival political factions, including a weekly Million Man march of the Muslim Brotherhood, beginning on April 8.

The Brotherhood, a pro-Islamist group once banned under Mubarak, was quickly becoming a force to be reckoned with in Egypt's new political configuration. Well-organized and with deep roots in many sectors of Egyptian society, its calls for a more Islamic social and legal system were gaining widespread approval.

But liberal and secular Egyptians, who had been at the forefront of the anti-Mubarak protests, were deeply concerned about the rise in Islamist sentiment. Despite their serious differences, both groups agreed that the military was moving far too slowly in implementing democratic reforms, and protests against the SCAF reached a violent crescendo by late June and July, when demonstrations in Tahrir Square and other locations in Egypt led to bloodshed. At this point, some protesters were even calling for a second revolution, this time against the SCAF and its leader, Field Marshall Mohammed Hussein Tantawi.

The Trial of Hosni Mubarak (August 2011)

Whatever their views regarding Egypt's future, most people were united in taking grim satisfaction about the drama they witnessed on television on August 3, when the ailing former president, Hosni Mubarak, was brought to court to face charges against him. It was an event

unprecedented not only in Egypt, but also in the entire Arab world. A once-powerful despot was being placed on trial by his own people for crimes including massive corruption and ordering the shooting of unarmed demonstrators during the protests leading up to his overthrow. Brought into the packed courtroom on a hospital gurney, Mubarak pleaded "not guilty" to all the charges leveled against him. Others appearing in court that day included Mubarak's two sons, Ala'a and Gamal, former interior minister Habib el-Adly, and six senior police officers. Although the trial was quickly postponed because of Mubarak's seriously declining health, the very fact that he had been brought to court was a highly significant event. It demonstrated to all Egyptians that there would be no return to his hated 30-year dictatorship, and that even the most powerful figure in the country, a man who had once compared himself to the pharaohs of ancient times, was not above the law. In late February 2012, the presiding judge in the trial announced that Mubarak's verdict would be handed down on June 2.

Demonstrations and Elections (September 2011 – January 2012)

A series of often-violent protests continued to sweep through Cairo and other Egyptian cities in the fall of 2011. Some of the violence was directed against the country's small but influential Coptic Christian minority, whose members had largely supported the popular movement against Mubarak. Many observers had been struck by the obvious harmony between Christians and Muslims, united in a common cause, during the occupation of Tahrir Square. But after an attack on a Coptic church in late September, the army used force to suppress the demonstrations that followed, accusing the Copts of acting outside the law. Some feared that the army's action was a deliberate ploy to

divide the revolutionaries by appealing to Islamist sentiment that was suspicious of secular Egyptians' demands for a non-religious society where the Copts would not feel threatened.

At the end of November, Egyptians began voting for an elected People's Assembly, whose main task would be to draw up a new constitution for the country. Despite a wave of violent protests in the run-up to the vote, and demands that it be postponed, the SCAF ordered the election to proceed. Voting began in Cairo and proceeded in stages throughout the country, with final tallies not officially announced until early January 2012. The results were a shock to liberal and secular Egyptians, but a cause for celebration among their more religious fellow-citizens. The Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party took almost half of the seats, followed by the Salafi al-Nour Party, an even more extreme Islamist group, which won about one-quarter. For their part, liberal groupings like the United Egyptians Bloc were able to win only a quarter of the seats in an assembly that would clearly be overwhelmingly dominated by groups dedicated to enhancing the role of Islam in Egyptian society and underwriting this in the country's new constitution.

A Clouded Anniversary (January – February 2012)

On February 1, over 70 people were killed in a stadium in the city of Port Said after a soccer game when supporters of two rival teams clashed on the field. While sports-related violence is not unknown in Egypt, this particular episode was particularly bloody, and many believed it reflected the growing political divisions and chaos in the country. Some accused the army of being behind the violence in order to discredit soccer fan organizations that had been

involved in the anti-Mubarak protests almost a year before. The public outcry and suspicions surrounding this tragic event were clear evidence that for many Egyptians, their country was entering a troubling and uncertain period in its history. The economy was reeling, with many workers on strike for higher wages and production at a standstill. In addition, the tourism industry, a major earner of foreign currency and provider of employment, was suffering because the continuing unrest was keeping foreign visitors away. As a gesture of goodwill to those calling on the army to move faster toward democratic reform, Tantawi announced the lifting of the decades-old State of Emergency, used to ban protests and jail political dissidents without cause, just one day before the anniversary of the beginning of the anti-Mubarak revolution on January 25.

Egyptians had much to celebrate one year after the fall of Hosni Mubarak. They had voted for the first time in a free election and were moving, albeit slowly and painfully, toward a more democratic future. But to many, the changes, however dramatic, were too little, too late. Some called for the immediate removal of the SCAF and for presidential elections by June 2012. Others believed that much more needed to be done to improve the lives and working conditions of Egypt's impoverished majority, who had enjoyed few if any benefits since the revolution began. And the split between liberal, secular-minded Egyptians, who feared the rise of groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood and the Salafis, and their more religious counterparts who backed them, was growing wider by the day. As the nation looked back over a tumultuous year in its history, few could predict what the future might hold for Egypt, one year after the hopeful blossoming of the Arab Spring.

Follow-up

1. With a partner, compare the information in your summary chart. Help each other complete any missing information.
2. Which of the events in this section represent examples of unity among Egyptians and which of them could be considered examples of disunity? Give reasons for your choices.
3. What are the main differences between secular and Islamist Egyptians regarding the country's political, social, religious, and legal systems?
4. Do you think the anniversary of the overthrow of the Mubarak regime is a cause for celebration among Egyptians? Why or why not?

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Three Children of the Egyptian Revolution

Focus for Reading

The documentary *Children of the Revolution* focuses on the involvement of three young Egyptians in the events taking place over the year following the overthrow of Hosni Mubarak's regime in February 2011. While all of them supported the revolution that toppled the dictatorship, they have very different views regarding what kind of society and government should replace it.

As you read the following profiles, note how the social, economic, and religious backgrounds of these three young Egyptians have influenced their views about what kind of future they want for themselves and their country.

Gigi Ibrahim

Twenty-four-year-old Gigi Ibrahim became the poster girl of the Egyptian revolution when her picture appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine. Attractive, personable, and completely fluent in English, Ibrahim comes from a wealthy family that lives in a large house in a well-to-do suburb of Cairo. Her father, a successful businessman, originally profited from his ties to the Mubarak regime but later became disillusioned with its corruption and heavy-handedness. Ibrahim, who recently graduated from the American University of Cairo, wants Egypt to become a democratic, secular, and socialist society following the revolution in which she played a key role.

Ibrahim was actively involved in the protests in Tahrir Square that resulted in the overthrow of Mubarak and recorded her on-the-spot impressions of the events through Tweets, text messages, and photographs. In the course of her political activism, she often clashed with fellow protesters whose vision of Egypt's future is very different from hers. On one occasion, supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood challenged her right as a woman to be taking pictures of their activities and threatened to take her camera away by force. Ibrahim is confident that the Egypt she is fighting for will be free of any overtly religious

influence, but fears that her views may not be shared by a majority of her fellow-citizens. As for her father, although he is very proud of the role his daughter is playing in the revolution, he worries about her safety as the ongoing clashes between liberal and Islamist groups sporadically erupt in violence.

Ahmed Hassan

Ahmed Hassan is about the same age as Ibrahim, but the world he inhabits is totally different from hers. Hassan lives with his widowed mother and younger brother in a run-down apartment in Shubra, one of Cairo's poorest neighbourhoods. Unemployed and looking for work when the revolution broke out, he immediately joined the protests in Tahrir Square. He and most of his friends were strongly opposed to the Mubarak regime because they believed it had done nothing to help them find employment and improve their living conditions. An intense, ambitious young man, Hassan wants to rise in society and be able to provide for himself and his mother through honest and fulfilling work.

Hassan played a key role in the protests and at one point was arrested and held by the police for 15 hours. Initially, he was hopeful that his involvement in the revolution that overthrew Mubarak would gain him

favour with prospective employers. But in the months that followed, he became increasingly frustrated and disillusioned after finding out that his record as an activist was being held against him. He finds it grimly ironic that the SCAF has plastered his neighbourhood with slogans proclaiming, “Work is our only solution,” when he is having such difficulties finding a job. Hassan is proud of his role in the events of Tahrir Square and is still hopeful that Egypt will become a fairer and more equitable society for the millions of young people who, like him, remain unemployed and restless. But with each passing day, he is becoming increasingly doubtful that the new Egypt he fought for will be any better than the old one that offered him, his family, and his friends so little.

Tahir Yasin

Tahir Yasin is a young activist in the Salafi al-Nour party, which promotes a vision of Egypt as an Islamic society ruled by Sharia religious law. During the Mubarak regime, Yasin was in and out of jail because of his Islamist activities, at one time arrested for teaching the Qu’ran to his students at an illegal madrassa, or religious school. Yasin was originally a supporter of the Muslim Brotherhood but broke with that organization because he

believed it was becoming too moderate. He wants to see Egypt become a strict Islamic state similar to Saudi Arabia, and strongly opposes those like Ibrahim who call for a more liberal, secular society. In particular, Yasin believes that women should play a minimal role in public affairs and dedicate themselves to their traditional functions of raising children and looking after the household.

In the days before the November 2011 elections, Yasin paid a visit to a small town in rural Egypt and met with a close friend, the local mayor. There he was happy to experience an example of the country he and his party are fighting for—a place where fathers are the head of the house, where religion is incorporated into almost every aspect of life, and where unsettling Western influences and media are kept under strict control. The election itself, which resulted in a great triumph for his al-Nour Party, was cause for a double celebration for Yasin, whose wedding coincided with the vote. Dressed in a smart Western suit beside his heavily veiled bride, Yasin looked forward to an Egypt where he could marry more than one wife and where his strict Islamic beliefs would form the foundation for the country’s political, legal, and social systems.

Follow-up

1. With a partner, discuss your responses to the Focus for Reading task. How have the backgrounds of these three young Egyptians influenced the way they feel about the revolution and the future of Egypt?
2. With which of these three children of the revolution do you feel the most in common? With which do you feel the least in common? Why?
3. As a class viewing activity, watch the documentary *Children of the Revolution*, available online at www.cbc.ca/passionateeye/episode/egypt-children-of-the-revolution.html and follow the involvement of Ibrahim, Hassan, and Yasin over the course of the events taking place from the fall of the Mubarak regime to the elections held in late 2011 and early 2012. Note their responses to these events and how they have influenced their views about what is likely to happen in Egypt in the future.

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Nahlah Ayed's The House that Tahrir Built

CBC reporter Nahlah Ayed has covered the dramatic events of the Arab Spring in Egypt and other countries in the region for CBC viewers over the course of 2011. Born into a Palestinian-Canadian family in Winnipeg, she is fluent in Arabic and English and joined the CBC in 2002. She is a graduate of Carleton University's school of journalism and also holds a science degree from the University of Manitoba, specializing in genetics. In 2007 she was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Manitoba for her coverage of events in the Middle East. Based in Amman, Jordan, in 2003, she spent time in Baghdad prior to the Iraq War and later returned to the city to report on how it had changed following the downfall of Saddam Hussein's regime. Her coverage of these events won her a Gemini Award nomination.

From 2006 to 2009 Ayed was the CBC's correspondent in Beirut, Lebanon, and reported on events such as the 2006

Lebanon War and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza in 2007. In 2009 she was again nominated for a Gemini Award and a year later went to Iran to cover the disputed presidential election in that country. On more than one occasion, Ayed has risked personal injury as a result of her reporting on potentially dangerous and violent situations in the Middle East.

In 2011, she and her CBC production crew based themselves in an apartment building in the Egyptian city of Giza, taking time to become acquainted with its residents and discuss with them their views of the revolution that was transforming their country. Her documentary, *The House that Tahrir Built*, which aired on *The National* in January 2012, offers an eyewitness account of how ordinary Egyptians with different backgrounds and beliefs are responding to the dramatic events that are transforming their country and what their hopes for its future might be.

Activity

Use the following link to watch interviews with and learn about the residents of *The House that Tahrir Built* and their views of the Egyptian revolution: www.cbc.ca/news/interactives/egypt-apartment/.

Working in pairs or small groups, make notes on the people who are featured in this documentary:

1. Abd al-Atee Abd al-Hameed, the doorman of the building
2. Emad Abou Basha, a businessman and political commentator
3. Dr. Hisham Abu al-Nasr, a medical doctor and official with the Salafi al-Nour Party
4. Islam Hindy, the owner of the building and a supporter of the Muslim Brotherhood
5. Nisreen and Ahmed Gabr, a married couple; Nisreen is an accountant and Ahmed works in the struggling tourism industry
6. Nour Abou Basha, the daughter of Emad Abou Basha, a university student, political activist, and devout Muslim

Follow-up

1. When you have finished watching the video clips, report to the class on what you learned about these individuals, their lives, backgrounds, and views of the events taking place in Egypt.
2. As a class, summarize the similarities and differences you noticed in the backgrounds and beliefs of the residents in *The House that Tahrir Built*. Which do you think are greater: the similarities or the differences? Why?
3. As a class, discuss the kind of Egypt the people in *The House that Tahrir Built* would like to see emerge from the revolution. Do you think there are any areas where they might be able to agree? Why or why not?
4. After viewing *The House that Tahrir Built* you may wish to send your comments on it using the Twitter or Facebook icons featured on the link above.

EGYPT'S REVOLUTION ONE YEAR LATER

Activity: Forecasting Egypt's Future

Just over one year after the fall of Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian revolution appeared to be a work in progress with no clear resolution in sight. The military remained in power, a new constitution had still to be written, and a date for presidential elections had not yet been determined. Meanwhile, various factions, including moderate and hard-line Islamists, supporters of the military, and liberal, secular Egyptians jockey for power, trying to position themselves favourably for the return to civilian authority over the country.

At the same time, Egypt's economy was struggling with rising unemployment, while revenues from the once-lucrative tourism industry were declining dramatically due to the unrest. A growing number of people, especially among the poorest groups in Egyptian society, were becoming disenchanted with the promises of a revolution that so far appeared to be failing to deliver any tangible benefits for them. But whether this groundswell of discontent would result in continuing violence, or even a possible second revolution, remained to be seen.

Your Task

Form groups to prepare and present a scenario for one of the following possible outcomes of the Egyptian revolution. Using the material contained in this *News in Review* story, along with the Web-based sources listed below, gather information on the events and developments of the Egyptian revolution to date and make a forecast for how you think it might be likely to play out, based on the scenario you have chosen to present. In your report, be sure to explain why you think your scenario for the future of Egypt is likely to occur.

Scenario 1: Egypt becomes a moderate Islamic state with the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party (FJP) playing a major role.

Scenario 2: Egypt becomes a strictly conservative Islamic state, influenced by the beliefs of the hard-line Salafi al-Nour Party.

Scenario 3: Egypt becomes a Western-style secular democracy with liberal political factions such as the United Egyptians Bloc in power.

Scenario 4: The SCAF decides to delay the transfer to civilian democratic rule due to continuing instability in the country and extends military rule over Egypt indefinitely.

You may wish to consult the following sources of information to complete this activity:

- CBC: "Egypt's road to democracy," www.cbc.ca/news/world/story/2011/01/29/f-egypt-uprising.html
- BBC: "Egypt's revolution," www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-12315833
- Al-Jazeera: "Egypt's revolution one year on," www.aljazeera.com/indepth/spotlight/egypt-one-year-on/
- CNN: "Egypt," <http://topics.cnn.com/topics/egypt>

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

Introduction

Focus

2011 was a tough year for Waterloo, Ontario-based Research in Motion (RIM). While the company's competitors made technological leaps, RIM seemed to be standing still. This *News in Review* story looks at RIM's struggle to stay competitive in the fast-paced world of high tech.

Waterloo-based Research in Motion (RIM), the creators of the iconic Blackberry smartphones, had a difficult year in 2011. While competitors like Apple surged forward with new iPhones and iPads, and Google's Android operating system became the cornerstone of many smartphone brands, RIM stumbled out of the blocks with its Blackberry Playbook and failed to maintain its smartphone market share. This apparent slump was reflected in RIM's stock price, which dropped 75 per cent over the course of 2011.

RIM co-CEO Mike Lazaridis didn't help matters in the spring of 2011 when, just days ahead of the launch of the Blackberry Playbook, he walked out of an interview with the BBC. Video of the interview went viral, with Lazaridis looking like a spoiled executive griping about a global media bent on wrecking the public perception of his company. Clearly frustrated, Lazaridis told the BBC reporter that his criticisms were "unfair" before abruptly ending the interview and walking out of the room.

Lazaridis's claims of unfair treatment may have been warranted. RIM has been in the profit-making business for years and is worth at least \$7-billion. The iconic Blackberry smartphones are still the most secure devices available and remain the overwhelming choice of most business people. The company

turned a profit of \$3-billion in 2011 and has \$1.5-billion in the bank. While the company may be taking a beating on the stock market—and in the arena of public opinion—its overall performance, while below expectations, is still impressive.

Despite RIM's profitability, analysts and shareholders spent most of 2011 calling for change. Lazaridis and his co-CEO, Jim Balsillie, were accused of being out of touch with consumers and unable to keep RIM competitive. Eventually, in early 2012, the two stepped down and a new CEO and board chair stepped in. Priority number one for the new team was to repair RIM's image with the hiring of a new marketing director and a massive face-saving advertising campaign.

A positive public perception is crucial if RIM hopes to survive as the marketplace shifts from smartphones to superphones. If the stock market and media continue to beat up on RIM, sales will continue to drop and the company could become yesterday's news. This could mean the end of Canada's most successful high-tech company.

However, RIM isn't dead yet. The hope is, with a workforce of close to 17 000, many of them Canada's best and brightest high-tech employees, RIM will find its way back from the brink and tap into the next wave of innovation in this booming sector of the economy.

To Consider

1. Why did RIM have such a tough year in 2011?
2. Was Mike Lazaridis justified in claiming that criticisms of RIM were unfair?
3. What do you think RIM needs to do to improve its performance?

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

Video Review

Pre-Viewing Questions

With a partner or in a small group discuss and respond to the questions below.

1. What do you know about Research in Motion (RIM) and the problems this company has been facing?

2. Do you own a Blackberry? If so, how satisfied are you with it? If not, would you like to own one?

3. What do you think are likely to be the most significant new developments in the field of high-tech telecommunications in the future?

Viewing Questions

As you watch the video, respond to the questions in the spaces provided.

1. What device is the company Research in Motion (RIM) famous for?

2. Why did RIM's fortunes begin to change in 2009?

3. What device seems to be creating the biggest challenge to the Blackberry?

4. What public image is RIM trying to change in its battle with Apple?

5. How did RIM respond to Apple's iPad?

6. Why did RIM co-CEO Mike Lazaridis walk out on an interview with the BBC?

7. According to Blackberry fans, what advantages are there to owning a Playbook versus owning an iPad?

8. How did consumers respond to the Blackberry Playbook?

9. Why does Chuck Howitt think that dire predictions regarding RIM are a little misguided?

10. What embarrassing technical disaster hit RIM in October 2011? What caused the problem?

11. How much did RIM's stock price fall over the course of 2011?

12. Who is the new CEO of RIM? What challenges will he face as he takes over the company?

13. What was the price of RIM stock in June 2008? What was the price of RIM stock in February 2012?

Post-viewing Questions

1. After watching the video, revisit your responses to the Pre-viewing Questions. Did watching the video help you respond to the questions in greater depth? In what way?

2. What factors can account for RIM's success in its early years as a high-tech company?

3. What opinion do you think most Canadian consumers have of the Blackberry after the problems RIM encountered with it? Why?

4. Why is there room for optimism when it comes to the future of RIM?

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

A Brief History of RIM

Did you know . . .

The original pager—a tiny black box that could be clipped on a person's belt—was designed to provide its owner with an alarm telling him/her that someone was trying to contact him/her.

Focus for Reading

The business headlines for 2011 painted Research in Motion as a company on the brink of collapse. But for most of its history, RIM was at the leading edge of new developments in the high-tech industry. As you read this section, note the important innovations and technological breakthroughs RIM was responsible for and how these made it a successful company.

In the beginning . . .

When Mike Lazaridis and Douglas Fregin started Research in Motion (RIM) in 1984, the company's main goal was to make a profit as an electronics and computer-consulting firm. However, within a short time it became clear that the RIM team had a nose for emerging technology and was about to become a major force in the wireless world.

Wireless Solutions

Things really took off for RIM in 1988 when the company became the second major player in the race to build products for the emerging Mobitex wireless network. RIM engineers were instrumental in developing devices that allowed businesses to complete transactions smoothly and quickly. Some RIM technologies became industry "must haves" by 1990 and, by 1994, RIM devices were being used in the first wave of mobile point-of-sale purchases that we take for granted today (remember RIM's pioneering work the next time a clerk hands you a wireless terminal to make a debit or credit payment). In 1992, businessman Jim Balsillie put up \$250 000 of his own money and joined RIM, taking the company on a path that would eventually lead to impressive technological advances and huge profits.

Interactive Pagers

The real breakthrough for RIM came in 1996 when it developed the first interactive pager. This was followed by

a call to a live message service where an operator would identify the person who had called. Eventually this technology evolved into pagers that gave the phone number of the caller. What RIM did was create an instant messaging pager where people could send messages back and forth to each other. You could call it the original text message system or the grandparent of the smartphone. The bottom line is that the interactive pager changed the fortunes of RIM and accelerated the mobile technology race. By the turn of the millennium, RIM was producing wireless handheld devices that could handle e-mail as well as simple text-based messages—and businesses bought these devices as fast as RIM could build them.

The Blackberry

The interactive pager eventually led to the development of RIM's iconic Blackberry. Originally the Blackberry was designed to allow business people access to e-mail and text messaging whenever they wanted. Within a few years, the Blackberry evolved into one of the first smartphones—combining e-mail functions with Internet browsing and cellphone capabilities. RIM's most significant accomplishment was the creation of a secure network that protected data with state-of-the-art encryption technologies. This made the Blackberry smartphones the "go to" device for both business and government.

Did you know . . .

As of 2007, RIM had reached its zenith as a high-tech company and for a brief period in the fall of that year surpassed the Royal Bank (RBC) as the biggest company in Canada.

Digging Deeper

You can view former RIM co-CEO Mike Lazaridis's abruptly ended interview with the BBC on www.youtube.com/watch?v=izUG8Zep02s.

By 2004, RIM's BlackBerry had two million subscribers. That number doubled a year later. And two years after that RIM boasted seven million users on the BlackBerry network. By then the company was introducing global positioning (GPS) features and increased Internet functionality.

Challenges

However, competition to build devices similar to the BlackBerry led to a high-tech frenzy that continues to this day. Since the late 1990s, RIM was seen as the mobile technology company for professionals, with the BlackBerry resting on the hips of some of the most powerful people in the world. By 2005, the landscape was beginning to change as new smartphones began taking a page out of RIM's playbook.

RIM also found itself in some legal hot water. In 2001, a U.S. company called NTP sued RIM for infringing on some of its patents. Eventually a judge ruled in favour of NTP and ordered RIM to pay \$23.1-million in damages. RIM refused and appealed the ruling in litigation that stretched out for five years. In the end, RIM deemed the battle with NTP to be a financial loser and agreed to pay the company a staggering \$662-million to settle all patent issues once and for all. Even with the payment, RIM still made close to \$400-million in 2006.

Cracking the Consumer Market

RIM's greatest challenge since 2006 has been to expand beyond the business world and into the consumer market. Its greatest success in this regard has been with BlackBerry Messenger (BBM), a free messaging service for people communicating over the BlackBerry network. Every BlackBerry owner—and there are currently 70 million of them worldwide—has access to the service, and BBM is often cited as the reason

why people purchase a BlackBerry smartphone.

However, most industry observers believe that RIM needs a fresh innovation to put itself back on the high-tech map. Apple's progressive shift from iPod to iTunes to iPhone to iPad is evidence that consumers value rapidly evolving technology. RIM just isn't seen as being an Apple-quality kind of innovator at this point. Release of the BlackBerry Playbook in the spring of 2011 was deemed a half-baked rush to market that didn't see a functional software update launched until February 2012. The introduction of the new line of BlackBerry superphones has also been delayed enough times that many BlackBerry loyalists are now jumping ship for flashier units like Samsung's Galaxy superphone. In essence, RIM needs to find a way to separate itself from the pack in the same way it did with the interactive pager and the first BlackBerry if it hopes to survive the next high-tech revolution.

Postscript

Despite steady profits over the years, RIM faced tremendous pressure from market watchers and company shareholders to abandon the leadership structure that saw Mike Lazaridis and Jim Balsillie as both co-CEOs and chairs of the board of directors. When RIM repeatedly failed to achieve sales quotas and profit targets in 2011—and the company's stock dropped 75 per cent—the two men bowed to the pressure and stepped down. Replacing them was Thorsten Heins, a longtime RIM executive, who has vowed to guide RIM through the next phase of its existence. Heins recently conceded that RIM's public image needs attention and made the hiring of a marketing director his top priority. Meanwhile the company has also brought in Barbara Stymiest,

the former head of the Toronto Stock Exchange, to chair the board of directors. Both moves have not managed to rescue RIM's slumping stock price but they

have sent a message that RIM is willing to take the necessary steps to put the company back into the upper echelon of the high-tech game.

To Consider

1. Using the information you gathered from reading this section, answer the following questions:
 - How did RIM establish itself as a major player in the early wireless world?
 - Which two inventions made RIM into the high-tech leader it has become?
2. What developments have stalled RIM's progress in recent years?
3. Do you think the change in RIM's leadership will help the company improve its market share?

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

The High-tech Business

Did you know . . .

RIM's stock price reached a high of close to \$250 in the summer of 2007. By February 2012, the stock was trading at \$15 a share.

Focus for Reading

According to some observers, the pace of change in the high-tech world has increased exponentially over the past few years. A little over a decade ago, new products were surfacing about once every year and a half. Now innovations have been shifting the high-tech landscape every six months. Make a list of the high-tech innovations you have witnessed in your lifetime (e.g., new phone technology, computer developments, on-demand television, etc.). How have these technological advances changed your life? How profitable have they been for innovators like Apple and Research in Motion (RIM)? You will be using this information in the activity that follows the text material in this section.

High-Tech Competition

RIM's high-tech woes have really been highlighted by the success of their competitors. Apple and Google have enjoyed tremendous breakthroughs over the past few years while RIM and Nokia

have struggled to keep pace. Review the statistics below and complete the activities and questions that follow the tables.

Key: B = billion dollars; M = million dollars

Total Revenue by Company

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Apple | 24.0B | 32.5B | 36.5B | 65.2B | 108B |
| Google | 16.6B | 21.8B | 23.7B | 29.3B | 37.9B |
| Nokia | 74.6B | 70.8B | 58.8B | 56.9B | 53.2B |
| RIM | 3.55B | 5.91B | 14.0B | 15.8B | 19.4B |

Spending on Research and Development by Company

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Apple | 782M | 1.11B | 1.33B | 1.78B | 2.43B |
| Google | 2.12B | 2.79B | 2.84B | 3.76B | 5.2B |
| Nokia | 8.25B | 8.33B | 8.48B | 7.87B | 7.73B |
| RIM | 276M | 354M | 869M | 1.02B | 1.32B |

Total Profit by Company

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Apple | 3.50B | 4.83B | 5.70B | 14.0B | 25.9B |
| Google | 4.20B | 4.23B | 6.52B | 8.51B | 9.7B |
| Nokia | 10.5B | 5.57B | -532M | 2.31B | -1.5B |
| RIM | 739M | 1.27B | 2.40B | 2.60B | 3.32B |

Source: Wikinvest, <http://wikinvest.com>

Activity

1. Make a line graph for each chart on a sheet of paper. The left axis should represent the monetary value and the bottom axis should represent each year. Plot the value of each item on the graph for each company and then connect the dots. A different coloured line should be used to represent each company. (Note: The Total Profit graph will dip below 0 for some companies, so you will have to adjust your graph accordingly.)
2. Lay all three line graphs in front of you and see what you notice. Do you see any trends? Which company is doing best? Which company is performing worst?

Follow-up

Do you think it is fair to compare a company like RIM with a company like Apple? RIM has been largely a business-focused company specializing in smartphones and tablets, with communication occurring over a famously secure network. Apple is a multi-product platform that produces everything from computers to MP3 players. Doesn't it follow that Apple is going to be a much larger high-tech player than RIM based on the fact that it produces more products? Do you think the balance will ever tip in RIM's favour?

High Tech on the Stock Market Stock Price by Company (NASDAQ – in dollars)

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Apple | High: 188.75 Low: 86.58 | High: 210.73 Low: 85.30 | High: 322.56 Low: 192.06 | High: 405.00 Low: 326.35 |
| Google | High: 657.00 Low: 262.43 | High: 618.48 Low: 299.67 | High: 625.08 Low: 436.55 | High: 645.90 Low: 474.88 |
| RIM | High: 144.56 Low: 39.49 | High: 83.61 Low: 36.34 | High: 75.34 Low: 44.12 | High: 69.86 Low: 13.44 |
| Nokia | High: 31.77 Low: 10.65 | High: 14.29 Low: 7.56 | High: 13.44 Low: 7.65 | High: 11.01 Low: 4.51 |

Sources: Google Finance, www.google.com/finance; Investor Guide, www.investorguide.com

To Consider

1. Take a look at the highs and lows for each company. What trends do you notice? Which company seems to be performing the best? Which is struggling the most? How is RIM doing in comparison with the other companies?
2. The economic recession of 2008 had a devastating effect on the high-tech industry. What evidence is there in the stock performance of each company that the recession took its toll?
3. Most of the bad press RIM received in 2011 was based on the company's poor stock performance. Despite steadily declining stock prices and a poor public image, what evidence is there that RIM is far from being a company on the brink of extinction? (Hint: take a second look at the revenue and profit tables.)

Follow-up

1. With a partner, compare your lists of the high-tech innovations you have witnessed in your lifetime, how they have impacted you, and how profitable you think they have been for the companies that have produced them.
2. One factor in Google's growth in 2011 was the Android smartphone operating system (OS). Android can be used on a variety of different phones regardless of the manufacturer. RIM is pinning its hopes on a new OS from QNX (the same OS used on the Playbook) on its Blackberry 10 phones due out in the spring of 2012. However, the QNX OS only works on Blackberrys. Is it time for Blackberry to follow Google's lead and make their OS compatible with non-Blackberry devices?
3. As 2011 came to a close, RIM was forced to concede that Apple owned the tablet market. In an effort to improve its tablet sales, RIM slashed its Playbook prices by over half and saw its tablet market share rise from 5 per cent to 15 per cent over the course of two months. Do you think RIM should continue to pursue a business plan that makes the Playbook the affordable alternative to the iPad?

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

The Future of RIM

Further Research

The Blackberry fan site www.crackberry.com released leaked pictures of the Blackberry London superphone in January 2012. The phone looks like a mini-Playbook with a large touch screen and plenty of processing power.

Focus for Reading

How close are we to living in a world where everyone carries a superphone that acts not only as a phone and computer but also as a wallet or a passport? What would need to happen to make these types of advances possible? Keep these questions in mind as you read the following section.

QNX?

According to many analysts, the future of Research in Motion (RIM) may rest in the creativity of a band of software engineers working at a subsidiary of the company called QNX. RIM purchased QNX for \$200-million in 2006 in the hope of bringing cutting-edge software innovation to the company's expanding smartphone market. When RIM saw that it needed to respond to Apple's iPad, QNX designed the operating system (OS) that would power the Blackberry Playbook. So impressed were RIM executives by the efforts of the software creators at QNX that they handed responsibility for the creation of the OS for the next generation of Blackberry smartphones—now called superphones by the industry—to the Ottawa-based firm.

QNX is not afraid to play in the land of giants. When the company started in 1997, founder Dan Dodge made it clear that his software could compete against anything produced by Microsoft. Now Dodge and his cohorts are part of RIM's battle with huge companies like Apple, Google, Samsung, and Nokia. Many believe that the ability of QNX to deliver a reliable, fast, and secure OS for Blackberry's next generation of phones will guarantee its survival.

From Smartphone to Superphone

Typically a superphone does everything a smartphone does except at a faster pace and with more efficiency. Some equate the superphone with having all

the functionality of a tablet in a phone format. While the screens are a bit bigger than the smartphone screen, the rest of the unit functions pretty much the same as most smartphones on the market today. RIM is banking on the QNX OS to drive the Blackberry 10 superphones to record sales.

Business and Pleasure

Besides the need to stay technically relevant, RIM also needs to ward off competitors hoping to poach its customers. The Blackberry is still the device of choice for most businesses, but the iPhone and some Google Android phones are starting to make significant gains in the market. RIM needs to demonstrate to its customers that it is still the leader in wireless communication security. If it can do this with its superphones then the company just might overcome its recent setbacks. Security will also be critical as the market begins experimenting with superphone-powered virtual wallets. High-tech companies are not very far away from creating phone apps that allow a person to make debit and credit payments at the point of purchase with a personal phone and not a traditional debit or credit card.

RIM will also need to convince consumers that it is not all business. The real money is in the consumer market because vendors can sell so many more units to individual customers. While RIM currently has an impressive 70 million Blackberry users, it needs to

build on that number to stay in the game that Apple and Google are pretty well dominating at the present time. Perhaps highlighting the social benefits of Blackberry Messenger (BBM) can help in this area.

A more pressing issue is the development of new apps for Blackberry units. In 2011, RIM started to create incentives for app makers to create programs for the Blackberry. They also made network changes so that some Android apps could be used on Blackberry smartphones. However, the same security that makes RIM's network so reliable is the main obstacle for app makers who find it too difficult to create and profit from Blackberry-exclusive

apps. Put simply, it is much easier to make an app for Apple or Google than it is to make one for Blackberry.

In the meantime, RIM's efforts to go global, which have been largely overlooked by its critics, will need to continue. RIM has secured contracts all over the world, with recent agreements in Indonesia and India demonstrating the company's ability to penetrate markets that Apple has not explored. If the Blackberry network can become a truly global entity—and grow beyond the current 70 million—RIM stands a chance of becoming the high-tech power player it has always wanted to be.

Source: "QNX: RIM's last hope?" Vito Pilioci (*Financial Post*, January 25, 2012)

To Consider

1. With a partner, review your answers to the questions you were asked to think about in the Focus for Reading above. How has reading this section helped you answer these questions more fully?
2. Why is the QNX OS so important to the future of RIM?
3. What is the difference between a smartphone and a superphone?
4. Why do business people prefer the Blackberry?
5. Why has RIM struggled to improve its market share in the consumer market?

RESEARCH IN MOTION'S HIGH-TECH WOES

Activity: Marketing RIM

Your Task

Work in groups of four to create a marketing and advertising campaign to promote Research in Motion (RIM).

Research

Use the information in this *News in Review* story and any online sources you are able to locate as resources to help you complete this task.

RIM's website is at www.rim.com.

The Scenario

Between 2007 and 2012, RIM went from being seen as the inventor of the smartphone to being portrayed as a stumbling high-tech company that couldn't keep up with its competitors. Overall, the perception of the public and the market viewed RIM as a high-tech firm standing still while Apple and Google surged past it. RIM's inability to produce apps led many consumers refer to it as "no fun," and the launch of the Blackberry Playbook tablet was seen as that of a glitch-ridden product that was rushed too hastily to market.

However, RIM wasn't doing as badly as many pundits speculated. It turned a profit of \$3-billion in 2011 and had \$1.5-billion in the bank. It also made great strides on the international front with substantial smartphone sales in huge untapped markets like Indonesia and India. In both markets, consumers were drawn to the security features of the Blackberry and the ease and convenience of the Blackberry Messenger (BBM) network.

Nonetheless, perception is everything in the business world. In North America and Europe, RIM and the iconic Blackberry were quickly becoming the second or third choice for many consumers.

Your job is to improve the public image of Research in Motion and the Blackberry.

What You Need to Do

1. Brainstorm your thoughts and ideas regarding the perception of Research in Motion described above. Be candid in your compliments and criticisms of the company.
2. Research the state of the company and the products it is producing.
3. Pick a product you are willing to promote in an effort to rescue RIM's public image (e.g., the Playbook tablet, the Bold or Curve smartphone).
4. Brainstorm ideas for your ad campaign. Come up with as many ideas as possible before trimming your list down to one central idea.
5. Create an ad that includes some of the following ideas:
 - a slogan (e.g., like Nike's "Just do it")

- a storyline (e.g., like Old Spice's "The man your man could smell like" montage)
 - a target audience (the demographic, or age and gender group, you want to purchase your product)
 - a call to action (e.g., "product available while supplies last," "offer good until March 29," "buy now," "limited time offer," etc.)
6. Decide on a medium for your ad. Choose one of the following options:
- online
 - television
 - print
 - radio
7. Put your ad together and present it to your classmates.

Note: If you do not want to use RIM as the focus for this activity, choose another high-tech brand or create a fictitious company and follow the same steps. Just make sure that the company is experiencing a reputation problem similar to the one RIM is facing as described above.

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Introduction

Focus

In June of 2011 a crowd of unhappy hockey fans rioted in the streets of Vancouver, causing millions of dollars in damages following their team's loss in the final game of the Stanley Cup playoffs. This *News in Review* story focuses on what steps the police are taking to identify the rioters, questions about how prepared the city was for the riot, and the impact of social media on mob behaviour.

On June 15, 2011, the city of Vancouver erupted in violence as a riot began following the final Stanley Cup playoff game between the Vancouver Canucks and the Boston Bruins. Angered by their team's loss, some Vancouver fans took out their frustration by engaging in destructive and criminal behaviour. One hundred and sixty people were admitted to area hospitals with riot-related injuries. Millions of dollars of damage to storefronts, cars, and property resulted. Hundreds of windows were smashed and merchandise was stolen. The city was outraged and embarrassed by the behaviour of the rioters, and many citizens felt that history was repeating itself. The last time the Vancouver Canucks lost in the Stanley Cup playoffs, back in 1994, a riot also occurred. People wondered why the city's police force had not been more prepared this time. Others felt the police force acted effectively and with great restraint, bringing the riot to an end after only three hours.

The main difference between the riots of 1994 and 2012 relates to advances

in communications technology. Social media impacted the riots in several ways. The acts of the rioters were communicated to other people in real time, leaving a trail of electronic evidence capturing the responses of the perpetrators, spectators, and those caught up unexpectedly in the violence. Rioters admitted afterward that they felt that they were egged on by those wanting to capture graphic photos and videos on their phones. However, these same photos and videos later became evidence that helped identify those responsible for the criminal acts committed during the riot. The electronic evidence also portrayed instances of bravery by citizens attempting to stop criminal behaviour and protect people and property.

The riot provoked sober reflection on the nature of violent acts and mob violence in particular. Eight months after the riot, investigators are still sifting through evidence and are just beginning to bring those allegedly involved in criminal acts to trial.

To Consider

1. Can you give any examples of mob violence—both contemporary and historical—either in Canada or other countries?
2. Why do you think large crowds can erupt into violence after a sporting event?
3. Is there any way to prevent the mob violence that results after sporting events? Why or why not?

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Video Review

Pre-viewing Questions

With a partner or in a small group discuss and respond to the following.

1. When you think of the word *riot*, what images come to mind?

2. How do you think social media could affect the gathering of evidence when criminal acts take place?

3. How do you think social media could affect people's behaviour in crowds?

Viewing Questions

As you watch the video, respond to the questions in the spaces provided.

1. How many rioters were involved in the Vancouver riots?

2. How much damage did they cause?

3. What event triggered the riot?

4. Why did it take so long to gather evidence to charge rioters?

5. How did Digital Multimedia Processing Lab assist in the investigations?

6. What quantity of high-tech evidence had to be examined?

7. Why do business owners affected by the riot want tough criminal charges brought against those responsible for causing damages and theft?

8. Why did some people oppose televising the court proceedings?

9. What happened in the proceedings against G20 rioters that the Vancouver police do not want to repeat?

10. What reasons does Trevor Holness offer to explain his behaviour in the 1994 hockey riot?

11. Why does Holness think a jail sentence will benefit him?

12. Why does he think jail sentences are not a good idea for those who participate in riots?

Post-viewing Questions

1. After viewing the video, revisit your responses to the Pre-viewing Questions. Did watching the video help you respond to the questions in greater depth? In what way?

2. Do you think that Trevor Holness learned from his past mistake? Why or why not?

3. How do you think the courts and society should deal with those convicted of participating in the riot? Why?

4. Do you think that sports crowds are more likely to become violent than other groups of people? Why or why not?

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Anatomy of a Riot

Did you know . . .

Riot police use many non-lethal means to help to disperse a crowd. A flash bang is a grenade used to incapacitate people by disorienting their senses. A flash of light blinds people for five seconds and the loud blast disturbs the fluid in the ear, causing dizziness.

Focus for Reading

As you read the following section, make a list of what you think are the main a) causes and b) consequences of the Vancouver hockey riot.

A City Erupts

The city of Vancouver was on maximum alert on June 15, 2011. A highly anticipated hockey game in the Stanley Cup finals between the home team, the Vancouver Canucks, and the Boston Bruins was about to take place. Fans hoped that their team would soon be hoisting up the Stanley Cup before an estimated 100 000 celebrants. The city had spent millions of dollars to set up and provide security for Fan Zones in several areas of the city. These zones boasted giant outdoor television screens where people could watch the game with other fans in a controlled environment.

Instead of a celebration, however, the Canucks lost and chaos ensued. Vehicles were set on fire, including police cars. Windows of businesses were smashed, and looting of goods in the downtown core commenced. The 400 Vancouver police officers who had been patrolling the Fan Zones with what was described as a “meet and greet” tactic were quickly regrouped and redeployed in riot gear. At one intersection alone, 10 police officers were pelted with bottles and showered with obscenities. The air stank of smoke caused by burning rubber from hundreds of fires in trash cans and dumpsters. Shards of broken glass littered walkways. Portable toilets were overturned. The police were heard telling people to “just go home” over and over again. They resorted to flash bangs and tear gas in an attempt to break up the crowds. Fistfights and stabbings occurred throughout the city. Thousands of

Tweets, photos, and videos from people on the street as well as live television coverage meant that people could follow the unfolding events in real time. People could brag about their exploits on Facebook or use texts to tell friends where looting was under way.

The Aftermath

Three hours later, at approximately 12:30 a.m., the crowds had dispersed and the police issued a statement that the downtown core was secure. Nearly 100 people were arrested—the majority males under the age of 20. Nine police officers and several firefighters were injured. In the aftermath, citizens of Vancouver expressed embarrassment and remorse that the riots had happened and caused such bad publicity for their city; news of the Vancouver hockey riot had gone viral, being picked up and broadcast by media outlets around the world. The events in Vancouver seemed to solidify the widely held international stereotype of Canadians as a normally quiet and inoffensive people who tend to go wild whenever hockey is involved. The next day, hundreds of people showed up with brooms and garbage bags to help clean up the city. Questions were posed to police and city officials about the causes of the mob violence, the preparedness of the police force, the effectiveness of police tactics, how criminals would be brought to justice, and how future unrest of this nature could be prevented before it occurred.

Follow-up

1. With a partner, share the information about the causes and consequences of the Vancouver hockey riot you recorded in your list. Help each other complete any missing information.
2. With your partner, discuss what you think is the most important consequence of the Vancouver hockey riot. Give reasons for your choice.
3. Do you think a similar disturbance could ever occur in your community? Why or why not?

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Assigning Responsibility

Previous Canadian Hockey Riots

In 1955, violence erupted in Montreal after Canadiens star Maurice Richard was handed a suspension by NHL Commissioner Clarence Campbell for breaking his stick over an opposing player's head and hitting a linesmen. Many fans believed that Campbell, an anglophone, had acted too harshly and in a discriminatory manner against Richard because of his francophone background. The riot resulted in arrests and property damage.

In 1986, 5 000 jubilant Montreal fans who were celebrating the Canadiens' Stanley Cup win over the Calgary Flames rampaged through the city's downtown. Officials were so poorly prepared to stop the violence that Quebec courts ruled the city's police force criminally negligent.

Riot Kiss Goes Viral

In the midst of tear gas, pepper spray, and a police line, a young couple lay on the road engaged in a passionate kiss. Vancouver-based photographer Rich Lam snapped the photo, which received world-wide attention.

Focus for Reading

Immediately following the riots, a debate began about the causes of the riot and who was to blame for the ensuing violence. Who and what do you think were responsible for the Vancouver hockey riot? Read the following quotations, which provide different perspectives on the event, and complete the following questions.

1. What viewpoint does each person hold in terms of the causes of the riot and who was involved?
2. What voices are missing? What other viewpoints may exist?
3. What other questions do you have?
4. Who or what do you think was responsible for the Vancouver riot?

“Canuck fans did not riot in downtown Vancouver following Game 7 on Wednesday night. Nor did hockey fans burn cars, attack police, and loot stores. The rioting was started by a small group of thugs intent on recreating the shame of 1994 and using the big game as the launching pad.” — Editorial, *Kamloops This Week* (June 16, 2011)

“Who were they? Hooligans, but also anarchists and people with a prior intent to be violent, drunks, but also some who had a few too many. They were overwhelmingly men. They were hosers. Some just appeared to think it was all a lark. And yes, many of them were hockey fans.” — Bruce Dowbiggin (“Usual suspects,” *The Globe and Mail*, June 17, 2011)

“I asked [Police] Chief Chu whether he thought it was a good idea in the future to allow 100 000 people to gather downtown for hours, while consuming massive quantities of alcohol. He was non-committal. Well I think he was being polite. It's a stupid idea. And it shouldn't happen again unless there are extraordinary precautions taken that would make the likelihood of this happening again impossible.” — Gary Mason (“The Vancouver police deterrent that wasn't,” *The Globe and Mail*, June 17, 2011)

“The fact is, it's easier to blame hooligans and professional nihilists for what happened than confront the more disturbing possibility that under unique situations that wonderful teenage boy who lives next door is capable of becoming unglued.” — Gary Mason (“Hidden faces, painful truths,” *The Globe and Mail*, June 18, 2011)

“What surprised him [CTV reporter Rob Brown] was the mob mentality that developed among the thousands of people gathered downtown. Some fans were there simply to watch the game but ended up joining rioters—or were at least entertained by them: ‘All of a sudden they're smashing things, all of a sudden they're jumping on a burning car and falling into the flames and thinking it's funny.’” — Matthew Hoekstra, (*Richmond Review*, June 16, 2011)

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Responses to the Riot

Social Media

Alleged Facebook post the night of the riot: "Maced in the face, hit with a baton, teach gassed twice, 6 broken fingers, blood everywhere . . . flipped some cars, burnt some cop cars, I'm on the news . . . one word . . . history :) :))" The posting abruptly disappeared after a friend replied, "Take this down, it's evidence!" — Margaret Wente ("Canada's really horrible week: Goofs, goons and guilt," *The Globe and Mail*, June 17, 2011)

Reading Prompt

Since riots are random, spontaneous, and unpredictable events, how can police anticipate them and respond to them? As you read this section, give examples of what you think could be the advantages and disadvantages of a quick and aggressive police response to a riot. Are there other effective ways you can think of to stop rioting?

The Police Investigate

Following the June 15 riot in Vancouver, citizens demanded that those who engaged in criminal behaviour be brought swiftly to justice. The same social media that had been used to record the events of the riot were now sought by the police as evidence. The city's police set up a special channel for people to upload photos and videos. A day after the riot the Web server crashed after nearly 2 000 items were shared. This evidence played a significant role in identifying and charging those directly involved. Young men turned themselves in to police after being "outed" by their own postings, their friends, and even their parents.

Public anger grew over the next number of months because, despite thousands of photos and hours of video evidence, no charges had been laid. The Vancouver police were struggling to process the huge volume of information that they had received from the public. More than 3 500 e-mails had been submitted within weeks of the riot, and many came with attached photos, videos, or links to social media sites.

Police Chief Jim Chu retracted an earlier statement in which he blamed the riots on a small group of anarchists, as it became apparent that the first people who admitted to police their involvement in the riot had no previous criminal record. Police also had to issue a statement urging the public not to take justice into its own hands. Some

suspects had been subjected to Internet harassment such as the posting online of their addresses, phone numbers, and places of employment or school they attended. Social ostracism and vigilantism became electronic as "shaming sites" emerged on the Internet. Water Polo Canada suspended one of its Olympic hopefuls after he was identified as attempting to ignite the gas tank of a police car. His family received threats and had to move temporarily from their home. Some of the young men and women involved in the disturbances lost part-time jobs after their employers discovered evidence of their participation in the riot on social media sites. Many apologized to the city and its citizens on the very same sites. Forty-one of the looters eventually turned themselves in voluntarily.

Outrage over the Outrage

A new riot phenomenon had emerged: outrage over the outrage. Some of the shaming sites had a menacing tone that threatened and denounced in vicious terms those involved. The new online mob didn't care about justice and the legal system; it demanded revenge. Many people thought that the rioters were receiving the punishment they deserved. Others worried that some of the images being shared may have been digitally altered and that effective justice was best left to the police and courts.

A provincial review was called for to look into the riot. Chu and Vancouver

mayor Gregor Robertson agreed that the police had been understaffed in dealing with the riot. The report stated that the police underestimated the number of drunken fans who would show up for Game 7 of the Stanley Cup playoffs and how early they would arrive. But the report also stated that no “plausible number” of police officers could have prevented the rampage once 155 000 people flooded into downtown Vancouver. The report’s recommendations included considering a ban on the consumption of alcohol on public transit, improved co-ordination between Vancouver’s regional police forces, and a special court to deal with riot-related offences. The report also advocated the future use of cell broadcasting to communicate emergency text messages to all cell phones within range of a single or series of cell phone towers.

Parallels with London

The people of Vancouver looked to the swift and alleged harsh convictions in the United Kingdom following the London riots in August 2011 and wondered why the Vancouver police force could not

respond in the same way. Police blamed overworked investigators and red tape for slowing the legal processes down. In a speech in the B.C. legislature, Premier Christy Clark said she thought that all court proceedings should be televised. The provinces request for TV cameras was rejected by the judge presiding over the first court hearing because he believed the cameras would slow down an already overworked system. This first rioter was sentenced to 17 months in jail for throwing a road barricade, a newspaper box, and a mannequin through a storefront window. Prosecutors stated that the 20-year-old man had suffered from more than a momentary lapse of judgement and applauded the length of the sentence.

As of late February 2012, 140 criminal charges have been brought against 52 people. Police have recommended a total of 350 criminal charges against 125 suspected rioters, but those charges must first be approved by Crown prosecutors. Chu said that the eight months it took to bring the first case to court was not unusual in such circumstances, but many Vancouver residents disagreed.

Follow-up

1. With a partner, share the information you gathered about the Vancouver police service’s response to the riot and whether there were other effective ways of preventing the violence.
2. Some people believe that putting television cameras in the courtroom during the riot trials would help prevent future mob behaviour and increase public faith in the justice system. Others believe that the cameras would only serve to shame the defendants, who deserve a fair trial with the presumption that they are innocent until proven guilty. What do you think?
3. Police must expect that every move they make is subject to the scrutiny of electronic media. This may influence the extent of force used and the fact that the initial police response was subdued. What do you think?

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

The Riot from Different Perspectives

Focus for Reading

The Vancouver riot was a complex human event. Different viewpoints on the causes and the proper punishment for offenders exist. Our understanding of any event is deepened by considering multiple perspectives. Consider the following perspectives on this particular riot and on violent mob behaviour in general. After you read each perspective, answer these two questions.

- What have you learned about the riot?
- How has this new information changed the way you think about the riot and those who participate in riots?

1. Heather Bourke, theatre-goer

Heather Bourke was attending a performance of *Wicked* at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre with her husband, right next to where the riots began. Bourke, 32, is 5 1/2 months pregnant and the mother of a two-year-old boy. “. . . At intermission the curtain went down and someone came on the public address system and said, ‘Ladies and gentlemen, due to a situation outside, please remain inside the building.’ Everyone just froze. Then everyone went to the windows and stared out. It was unbelievable right in front of us: cars on fire, people being beaten up all around us, every direction you looked—smoke. . . . After the play was over, we were told to remain seated while Vancouver police worked out a safe way for us to leave. We had no idea what was happening. . . . Before we left, we got specific directions: You must turn right, do not turn left. A man sitting beside us with an 11-year-old daughter asked how we were getting home. He drove us right to our door.” — *The Globe and Mail*, June 15, 2011

2. Sioban Ethier, photographer

“I saw some guy beating on a newspaper box. I didn’t care so much about the newspaper box but I was really angry about what was happening. Adrenalin kicked in and I just went and I said, ‘Stop.’ He couldn’t really get across me to the newspaper box. He stopped and froze. Someone else said, ‘You’ve got to just let it go.’ I said, ‘No, I’m not.’ Then I turned around and four policemen came and they took him, and handcuffed him. Then I heard [the crowd] yelling at the police, ‘Let him go! Let him go!’ — Ian Bailey, Sunny Dhillon, Marsha Lederman and Robert Matas (“I was scared,” *The Globe and Mail*, June 17, 2011)

3. Trevor Holness, describing the feeling of participating in the 1994 Vancouver hockey riots in a CBC interview with Ian Hanomansing

“Like exhilaration. There were things happening all around you. I was feeling really drunk, that, I know. That had a lot of affect on a lot of us back then, and just like this recent one, a lot of it was fuelled by alcohol. So I just felt kind of open to what was going to happen. Like whatever was going to happen, I wanted to be a part of it. I don’t remember exactly what I said, I was really intoxicated, but I was taunting them [the police]. I was mad at them and it was a daredevil move where I just went out there and I’m like, ‘I’m not scared of you guys, you know? I’m not intimidated

by your guys,' and, you know, I was a little upset, a few of my friends had gotten the club that night—one of my friends got one of his teeth smashed, so at that point I was just telling them I wasn't happy with everything. I was blaming them, I guess."

4. Commentary on the video evidence

"And there's plenty of disturbing video. A group of young women are fighting off a gang of drunk males who are attempting to destroy a car. They are surrounded by a group of slack-jawed young males, passively watching. So much for chivalry.

"In another video, a man is attempting to defend The Bay from being vandalized. He gets beaten up for his troubles. Fortunately a few people jump in to defend him, but most stand and watch." — Editorial ("A black mark for Vancouver," *Richmond Review*, June 17, 2011)

5. Mandeep Hayer, volunteer citizen who cleaned up after the riot

"Having lived in Vancouver all of my life, and knowing what this city meant to me, I knew I also needed to be part of this. I called several of my friends and we decided we needed to be downtown first thing in the morning to try and help our city. We arrived downtown at 8 o'clock and joined the hundreds of proud citizens who were already working away trying to clean up this horrible mess. Everyone from little children to the elderly were doing everything they could, picking up little pieces of glass, cigarette butts, anything to clean our beautiful city. At the moment I had never felt prouder to be from Vancouver; this is what the real Vancouver was about: pride, community, and love. I couldn't help but shed a tear as I saw a place that was tormented that night restored to all its glory by its loving citizens." — Derek Jory, ("Honouring our heroes," www.canucks.nhl.com, September 30, 2011)

THE VANCOUVER HOCKEY RIOT

Activity: Why do young people riot?

Riots are random, spontaneous, and essentially unpredictable events. Because they are so rare, they are difficult to study scientifically. The social science fields of psychology and sociology offer theories to attempt to explain why young people in particular are likely to engage in riots.

Typically a riot begins with a trigger event. This event, such as the result of a sporting event or the arrest or death of an individual, causes an initial outburst of violence. A riot begins when a critical mass of people join in the violent behaviour. Some theorists claim that rioters are marginalized people from socio-economically or racially disadvantaged groups. Their lack of power in society makes them more willing to destroy public and private property and harm other citizens and police as a demonstration of their frustration. These ideas have been advanced in order to explain the wave of race riots that swept cities in the U.S. during the 1960s, the Rodney King riot in Los Angeles in 1992, and the riots that occurred in London and other British cities in August 2011.

Older theories point to a mob mentality or the idea that people become irrational when in a large crowd. Sigmund Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, believed that when riots break out, a “group mind” takes over, loosening the inhibitions that would normally constrain individuals from committing violent or criminal acts on their own. However, such theories have been largely discredited by current social science research. People do remain rational individuals when in a crowd, but their social identities become more fluid as they interact with other participants in the events.

Activity: A Panel Discussion on “Why do young people riot?”

You will present a panel discussion that attempts to answer the question, “Why do young people riot?” You will be assigned to role-play a specific participant who has a unique perspective in answering the question (some suggestions are below; your class may think of other perspectives).

You are responsible for gathering and summarizing your research and presenting your findings in a clear, concise, and persuasive manner. Your teacher will act as the mediator who asks focused questions concerning your research findings and conclusions.

Panel Participants

- A sports psychologist on the psychology of fan violence
- A medical view of how binge drinking affects a young person’s brain
- A psychologist’s view of the differences between males and females with regard to aggression and violence
- Clifford Stott’s research on riot behaviour: “The elaborated social identity model,” <http://mindhacks.com/2011/08/10/riot-psychology/>
- A police chief explaining the importance of tactics during a riot (mounted units, canine units, tear gas, noise cannons, water cannons, rubber bullets, strategic formations, kettling)
- A sociologist’s view of the role of social media in individual and group behaviour
- An investigative journalist’s view of the causes of the August 2011 London riots

News in Review Index

A list of the stories covered last season and to date in the current season is provided below.

The complete chronological index for all 21 seasons of *News in Review* and a subject-oriented index listing *News in Review* stories appropriate for various subject areas can be accessed through our Web site at <http://newsinreview.cbclearning.ca>.

SEPTEMBER 2010

The Controversy Over the Census
The G20 Summit: Talks and Teargas
The Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico
Residential Schools: Truth and Healing

OCTOBER 2010

The Tamil Boat People Controversy
Pakistan's Catastrophic Floods
The Fate of the Long-Gun Registry
Journey Back to Nagasaki

NOVEMBER 2010

Hurricane Igor Hits Newfoundland
Canada's New Governor General
Afghanistan: A Frontline Report
BPA: The Chemical Inside Us

DECEMBER 2010

The Trial of Omar Khadr
The Oil Sands and the PR War
A New Campaign to Fight Bullying
The Rescue of the Chilean Miners

FEBRUARY 2011

Wikileaks and the Information War
Haiti in a Time of Cholera
The Assassination of Rafik Hariri
How Healthy Are Canadians?

MARCH 2011

Parliament and the Election Question
Egypt and the Days of Anger
The Shooting of Gabrielle Giffords
Vacation Nightmare in Mexico

APRIL 2011

Japan and the Nuclear Nightmare
The Uprising in Libya
Hockey and the Concussion Debate
How Facebook Changed the World

MAY 2011

Canadians Vote in a Spring Election
Canada and the Afghanistan Legacy
Revising the History of the Americas
The Real Story of the King's Speech

SEPTEMBER 2011

The Massacre in Norway
War and Famine in Somalia
The 9/11 Attacks: Ten Years Later
Life, Work, and Smartphones

OCTOBER 2011

The Life and Death of Jack Layton
Terry Fox: Remembering a Canadian Hero
Libya and the Fall of Gadhafi
The Vancouver Riot: What Went Wrong?

NOVEMBER 2011

Teen Suicide: Breaking the Silence
The Eurozone and the Economic Crisis
Amanda Lindhout's African Journey
Coping with the Stress of Graduation

DECEMBER 2011

The Rise of the Occupy Movement
Canada's Controversial Crime Bill
The Struggle to Save Canada's Farmland
Healing the Invisible Wounds of War

FEBRUARY 2012

The Emergency in Attawapiskat
Canada and the Jobless Crisis
The Horror and Fear of Honour Killing
The Bloodbath in Syria

CBC Learning

P.O. Box 500, Station A
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5W 1E6
Tel: (416) 205-6384
Fax: (416) 205-2376
E-mail: cbclearning@cbc.ca
www.cbclearning.ca

news



CBC Learning
P.O. Box 500, Station A
Toronto, ON
M5W 1E6

➔ www.cbclearning.ca

Toll free: 1-866-999-3072

Phone: (416) 205-6384

Fax: (416) 205-2376

cbclearning@cbc.ca

➔ newsinreview.cbclearning.ca