WHO ARE YOU, REALLY?

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WOULD YOU DARE TO QUESTION WHO YOU REALLY ARE?
CHAPTER INQUIRIES:

• What are some concepts of nation?

• What are some understandings of nation?

• What is a civic nation?

• In what ways can identity and nation be related?
DEFINITIONS:
NATION & NATION-STATE
NATION:

• A concept with many understandings
• Often, we define it as it relates to the people or citizens of a country
• Can be defined as a group of people who feel connections to one another in some way . . . This feeling of belonging or connection is an important part of what it means to identify as a nation, as what unites people is often intangible (abstract).
WHAT IS NATION-STATE?
LET’S BREAK IT DOWN: NATION - STATE

**Nation** - a group of people who have shared experiences in history, language, customs, politics, and religion

**State** - a self-governing political community occupying its own territory with a population, and having its own sovereignty
NATION-STATE

- Defined borders and territories
- Homogenous common descent
- Organized by race or ethnic background
- Generally speaks a common “official” language
- Examples: ?
UNDERSTANDINGS OF NATION
WHAT MAKES A NATION?
AKA UNDERSTANDINGS

1. Language
   - Quebec: a nation “within a united Canada”

2. Ethnicity
   - A sense of collective identity

3. Culture
   - Totems; record & express family history

4. Religion

5. Geography

6. Relationship to Land

7. Spirituality
   - Burning sage, powwows

8. Politics
   - Self-determination: the power to control their own affairs
How Nations Can Develop

A group of people sense that they share something in common:
- ethnic background, ancestry, history
- cultural values and beliefs
- language(s) and communication
- religious or spiritual beliefs
- geography
- politics and citizenship

Some may internalize the feeling, which generates a sense of belonging and acceptance.

The people may then identify themselves as a nation.

Individuals may belong to multiple nations.
IN WHAT WAYS CAN IDENTITY AND NATION BE RELATED?

HOW STORIES SHAPE A SENSE OF NATION

Figure 1-26  A Sense of Belonging

- in my family
- among my friends
- at my religious centre
- in my nation
- ME