

CANADIAN ORGANIZED CRIME

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Chapter 1: A Brief History of Organized Crime in Canada

- 1) Which of the following is not considered one of the major “epochs” in the history of organized crime in Canada?
- a) Pirates and privateers
 - b) Prohibition
 - c) The ascendance of the Italian Mafia
 - d) The rise of the corporation as a major criminal offender

ANS: D

REF: p. 3

- 2) Which of the following is considered a trait of pirates that renders them a criminal organization?
- a) Multiple offenders (large crews and recruitment of sailors)
 - b) Division of labour (captain, officers, navigator, prize master, etc.)
 - c) Use of violence and intimidation
 - d) All of the above

ANS: D

REF: pp. 5–7

- 3) What is the major factor that differentiates piracy from privateering?
- a) Privateers worked for the sovereign or government while pirates operated independently
 - b) Pirates only raided other ships while privateers robbed people’s homes and businesses
 - c) Privateers did not appear until the late nineteenth century
 - d) Pirates were far less violent than privateers

ANS: A

REF: p. 9

- 4) Which of the following organized crimes predominated in the prairie provinces during the mid-nineteenth century?
- a) The whiskey trade
 - b) Gambling
 - c) Drug trafficking
 - d) Extortion

ANS: A

REF: pp. 12, 14

- 5) The year 1908 is considered a significant milestone in the furtherance of organized crime in Canada due to which of the following events?
- a) The start of Prohibition in the United States
 - b) Increased tariffs on opium legally imported into Canada
 - c) The criminalization of opium
 - d) The criminalization of gambling

ANS: C

REF: p. 19

- 6) As far as organized crime is concerned, which of the following is an important lesson learned from the era of Prohibition?
- a) Prohibiting goods that are in great demand by the public drives them into underground market
 - b) The state can eventually control organized crime and black markets through punitive laws and law enforcement
 - c) The state can effectively minimize people's vices through tough laws
 - d) The state has no right to criminalize any substance that can be abused or misused

ANS: A

REF: pp. 20–21

- 7) Why is Samuel Bronfman considered a pivotal figure in the history of organized crime in Canada?
- a) He was one of the largest heroin dealers in Canada during the 1920s
 - b) He was considered one of the largest sources of liquor to bootleggers in the United States during Prohibition
 - c) He was the driving force behind the criminalization of opium and heroin in 1908
 - d) He headed the Markham gang in Ontario during the 1840s

ANS: B

REF: pp. 21–23

- 8) Which illegal drug was the primary focus of criminal organizations during the first half of the twentieth century?
- a) Marijuana
 - b) Cocaine
 - c) Heroin
 - d) Methamphetamines

ANS: C

REF: pp. 4, 25–26

- 9) By the mid-1980s, which of the following was a major discernable trend concerning organized crime in Canada?
- a) Many other powerful criminal groups competed with the Italian Mafia
 - b) Canada became a transit and source country for illegal drugs
 - c) In addition to consensual crimes, criminal groups were carrying out an increased volume of predatory crimes
 - d) All of the above

ANS: D

REF: pp. 26–28

10) Why is William Lyon Mackenzie King considered a pivotal figure in the history of organized crime in Canada?

- a) He was driving force behind the criminalization of opium in 1908
- b) He was one of the biggest heroin dealers in Ontario during the 1920s
- c) He introduced excise taxes on opium imported into Canada
- d) He increased immigration into Canada, giving rise to the “white slave trade”

ANS: A

REF: p. 30

True / False Questions

1) Smuggling represents a historical mainstay among organized crimes affecting Canada.

ANS: T

REF: p. 15

2) Newfoundland was the epicentre for early piracy in what is now Canada.

ANS: T

REF: p. 7

3) The late nineteenth century was a significant period for modern organized crime in Canada because it was then that opium was criminalized by the federal government.

ANS: F

REF: p. 19

4) The Black Hand was the name of a notorious criminal organization that practiced extortion in the expatriate Italian communities of North America during the early part of the twentieth century.

ANS: F

REF: p. 20

5) One of the lessons for organized crime learned from Prohibition is that a great deal of money can be made from providing goods and services in demand by the public.

ANS: T

REF: p. 25