**Regionalism in Canada: Western Alienation and Independence**

The Year is 2020. Western Canada, tired of being controlled by Ottawa for years, is on the verge of a Unilateral Declaration of Independence, as was Quebec in the latter part of the 20th Century.

The feelings in the west vary: some want **complete independence**, some are looking for a **sovereignty-association deal** with the rest of Canada, while others look to join the **United States of America**. You are a senior politician and someone whose opinion is valued in the west. You have been asked to give a presentation to western political and business leaders during which you will tell them what you think the west should do.



Complete independence?

A new kind of relationship with the rest of Canada?

A new deal with the USA?

What do you think is the best thing to do?

Think in terms of the following:

· Who are we closest to, geographically?

· What sort of resources does the west have, and can we afford to leave Canada?

· What current provinces and territories are “the west”

· What would we use for currency?

· Who would protect us?

· Where would the capital be? (if you thought independence was the best bet)

· Would you redraw borders?

· What would be the name of this new country? (if you chose independence)

· Are westerners “different” than other Canadians?

The presentation could be a **speech**, a **slide-show**, a **report**; whatever you feel could best present this material. Visuals are a great tool! Whichever you choose, you must deal with the following 4 concepts: **Geography, Culture, Government and Economics. \*\***

**Overall Question to answer: What Would The New Independent British Columbia Look Like?**

Work Alone, in 3s or 4s. Maximum is 4. Don’t even ask.

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Rubric:** Western Separatism **- TOTAL : / 40** | Exceeds Expectations | Meeting Expectations | Approaching Expectations | Does Not Meet Expectations |
| **Creativity** -Student shows evidence of creativity, thinking outside the box and problem solving.-Anticipate issues that would arise from Separatism. / 10  |  |  |  |  |
| **Persuasiveness**-Makes clear arguments about why Separatism is necessary for BC.-After hearing your arguments the audience can understand your perspective and rationale for Separation. / 10  |  |  |  |  |
| **Geography Section**-Answers the questions: “What will BC’s new Geography look like” “What will the effects of independence be on this sector?” / 5  |  |  |  |  |
| **Culture Section**-Answers the question: “What will BC’s new Culture look like” “What will the effects of independence be on this sector?” / 5 |  |  |  |  |
| **Government Section**Answers the question: “What will BC’s new Government look like” “What will the effects of independence be on this sector?” / 5 |   |  |  |  |
| **Economics Section**-Answers the question: “What will BC’s new Economy look like” “What will the effects of independence be on this sector?” / 5 |   |  |  |  |

