**Does the Royal Proclamation Apply to BC?**

*The following are reasons Joseph Trutch gave for ignoring the Royal Proclamation. Write counter arguments for each of Trutch’s “reasons”. The first one is done for you.*

1. Reason: The Royal Proclamation did not apply to BC. It was only meant for the eastern parts of North America.

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| Counter argument:  • James Douglas the first Governor of BC had already recognized Aboriginal title to land in the treaties on Vancouver Island  • The Supreme Court of Canada said that Aboriginal people have title to their lands and treaties are necessary. |

2. Reason: Aboriginal people had “no use” for the land.

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| Counter argument: |

3. Reason: Aboriginal land claims would get in the way of European settlement of BC.

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| Counter argument: |

4. Reason: Aboriginal people have no “right” to the land any more than the deer or bears or other wildlife.

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| Counter argument: |

5. Reason: British Columbia was really a “no man’s land” before white (European) settlement. It didn’t “belong” to anyone.

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| Counter argument: |

6. Reason: Aboriginal people have no need for treaties because they will eventually become part of the white population (they will be assimilated).

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| Counter argument: |