# Aboriginal Resource Use in Canada: Historical and Legal Aspects

Edited by Kerry Abel and Jean Friesen

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBAPRESS

© University of Manitoba Press 1991 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2 Printed in Canada

Design by Norman Schmidt

Maps and figures drafted by Victor P. Lytwyn

Jacket illustration: engraving by artist Seth Eastman (plate 31 in Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, History of the Indian Tribes of the United States, vol. 4 [Philadelphia; J.B. Lippincott, 1857]).

Printed on acid-free paper

## Cataloguing in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

Aboriginal resource use in Canada

(Manitoba studies in native history, ISSN 0826-9416; 6)
Includes hibliographical references.

Includes bibliographical references. ISBN 0-88755-150-5

1. Indians of North America - Canada - Economic conditions. 2. Indians of North America - Canada - Social life and customs. 3. Conservation of natural resources - Canada - History. 4. Natural resources - Government policy - Canada. 5. Indians of North America - Canada - Legal status, laws, etc. 6. Indians of North America - Canada - Government relations. I. Abel, Kerry M. (Kerry Margaret). II. Friesen, Jean, 1943-. III. Series.

E78.C2A267 1991 333.2 C91-097112-9

This series is published with the financial support of the people of Manitoba, the Honourable Bonnie Mitchelson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship. The publication of this volume was also assisted by a grant from the Canada Council.

Manitoba Studies in Native History Board of Directors: J. Burelle, J. Fontaine, G. Friesen, E. Harper, E. LaRocque, R. McKay, W. Moodie, G. Schultz, D. Young.

# Contents

# viii Acknowledgements

3 Introduction Kerry Abel

Part 1: "Plenty of Fish and Fruits"

- 11 "For Every Plant There is a Use": The Botanical World of Mexica and Iroquoians

  Olive Patricia Dickason
- 35 The Historical and Archaeological Evidence for the use of Fish as an Alternate Subsistence Resource among Northern Plains Bison Hunters *Brian J. Smith*
- 51 "Our Country": The Significance of the Buffalo Resource for a Plains Cree Sense of Territory John Milloy
- 71 Manomin: Historical-Geographical Perspectives on the Ojibwa Production of Wild Rice

  D. Wayne Moodie

### Part 2: Fur Trade Economics and Resource Use

- 81 Aboriginal Resource use in the Nineteenth Century in the Great Plains of Modern Canada

  Irene M. Spry
- 93 Dependency: Charles Bishop and the Northern Ojibwa Eleanor M. Blain
- 107 Changing Resource-Use Patterns of Saulteaux Trading at Fort Pelly,1821 to 1870Laura L. Peers
- 119 Rainy River Sturgeon: An Ojibway Resource in the Fur Trade Economy Tim E. Holzkamm, Victor P. Lytwyn, Leo G. Waisberg
  - Part 3: Governments and Resource Access
- 141 Grant Me Wherewith to Make My Living Jean Friesen
- 157 "Principally Rocks and Burnt Lands": Crown Reserves and the Tragedy of the Sturgeon Lake First Nation in Northwestern Ontario David T. McNab
- 173 The Sinews of Their Lives: Native Access to Resources in the Yukon,1890 to 1950Ken Coates
- 191 State Policy and the Native Trapper: Post-War Policy toward Fur in the Northwest Territories

  Peter Clancy
- 219 The Board of Investigation and the Water Rights of Indian Reserves in British Columbia, 1909 to 1926 Nigel D. Bankes

- Part 4: The St. Catherine's Case
- 247 Indian Title as a "Celestial Institution": David Mills and the St. Catherine's Milling Case S. Barry Cottam
- 267 The St. Catherine's Milling and Lumber Company versus the Queen: Indian Land Rights as a Factor in Federal-Provincial Relations in Nineteenth-Century Canada Anthony J. Hall
  - Part 5: Courts and Claims
- 287 Inuit Land Use Studies and the Native Claims Process Rick Riewe
- 301 Fur Trade History and the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en Comprehensive Claim: Men of Property and the Exercise of Title Arthur J. Ray
- 317 Defending World Markets for Fur: Aboriginal Trapping, the Anti-Harvest Movement and International Trade Law Barry Barton
- 341 Contributors