

What if... The War of 1812

Reconsider a defining North American conflict and decide where history diverges from the record.

**PRELIMINARY
EDITION**

Official topic titles and Dias details pending

ALTERNATE HISTORY

Committee primer

The War of 1812 reshaped political identities, borders, and alliances across North America. This alternate-history committee begins from the historical record, then gives delegates the power to move beyond it.

Diplomacy, military realities, trade, and Indigenous sovereignty will all influence a crisis where one decision can redraw the continent.

Two topics will shape the room.

The Secretariat has not yet supplied the official topic wording. These spaces are intentionally marked pending so delegates are not asked to prepare from invented or outdated information.

TOPIC 01

Official topic announcement pending

The confirmed scope, research questions, and recommended sources will be added in the next guide release.

TOPIC 02

Official topic announcement pending

The confirmed scope, research questions, and recommended sources will be added in the next guide release.

Start with transferable preparation

- Understand the committee mandate, powers, and limits.
- Build a short timeline of events and identify the decisions that changed the situation.
- Map the interests, leverage, and constraints of the role you represent.
- Separate verified facts from assumptions, claims, and crisis updates.
- Practice writing specific operative actions that name who acts, what they do, and how it is carried out.

Research carefully. Speak with purpose.

A prepared delegate does more than collect facts. Use this checklist to turn research into decisions the room can understand and act on.

Before the conference

- Read the final guide release and note both official topic titles.
- Review your role brief and prepare a one-minute opening position.
- Bring a short source list and organize notes so evidence is easy to retrieve.
- Draft two or three actions your role could support, then identify likely partners.

Questions to keep asking

- What outcome does my role actually need?
- Which part of this proposal is enforceable, funded, and within our mandate?
- What new information would cause me to change course?
- Who has not been heard, and what risk are we overlooking?

Recommended starting points

- Library and Archives Canada War of 1812 collection
- National Archives records on the War of 1812
- Official committee divergence point - forthcoming

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Questions or accessibility requests: SATEC@tdsb.on.ca
This preliminary guide will be replaced when the official agenda and Dias details are confirmed.