Subject Area & Grade: Grades 5 Social Studies
(People and Environments: The Role of Government and Responsible Citizenship)

Curriculum Link: Describe the major rights and responsibilities associated with citizenship in Canada (e.g., rights: equal protection under the law, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to vote; responsibilities: to respect the rights of others, to participate in the electoral process and political decision making, to improve their communities)

Learning Goal: Students examine the experiences of Indigenous veterans to explore citizenship rights and responsibilities in Canada. Through the veteran profiles and inquiry activities, students investigate how some Indigenous veterans fulfilled their responsibilities by serving Canada but did not always receive the same rights and opportunities as other citizens.

Inquiry Question:

- Ask your class the following inquiry question and discuss their initial thoughts:

Did Indigenous veterans receive the same rights and opportunities as other Canadian citizens after serving in the military?

Record students' ideas and predictions.

- Project each profile (Profile Card slideshow: Joseph Gagnon x2, Joseph Dreaver, and Francis Pegahmagabow). Read and discuss each profile as a class, focusing on citizenship rights, responsibilities, discrimination, and advocacy. As students identify evidence related to the inquiry question, highlight key information in the text or record their ideas on chart paper.

Following the discussion, have students revisit the inquiry question and compare their initial thoughts with what they learned from the profiles.

Students can then respond to the inquiry question using evidence from the profiles to justify their answers (Indigenous Veterans Inquiry Worksheet). The Profile Cards can be provided in print or digitally so students can refer back to the information as needed.