The Roaring 1920’s
The 1920’s

- New Fashion
- New Music (Jazz)
- The Automobile
- More Leisure
- Prohibition
Prohibition
Prohibition

- Prohibition: a ban on alcohol
- Bootlegging: the illegal distribution of production of liquor
- “Speakeasys”: illegal drinking establishments formed during prohibition
The move towards prohibition began long before the 1920s, but it was not until the end of the First World War that it was able to reach success. Those who remained in Canada throughout the war believed that their soldiers should come home to a better place with high morals.
Prohibition

- National prohibition in Canada began on April 1, 1918. Before this date, the provinces had each decided when and if they would enforce prohibition through a referendum.
Prohibition

- Though many groups believed prohibition would create a better society, it caused a lot of organized crime and gangs and mobs grew popular at this time.
Prohibition

Most of the prohibition laws repealed in the mid to late 1920s. The government and other organizations realized that they could not possibly stop people from drinking entirely, so instead they decided to tightly control the production, distribution and consumption of alcohol.
By 1927, the province of Ontario had repealed its prohibition laws. However, the city of Owen Sound, Ontario did not repeal until the 1970’s and a part of west Toronto waited until the year 2000!
The Role of Women in the 1920’s
Few women had the opportunity to become well educated. In 1929, only 25% of high school students were women. The dominant image of women was as wives and mothers. Professions such as nursing and teaching were open to women. Few became doctors, lawyers, professors or engineers.
Women Suffragists

**MR. VOTER:**

**VOTE NO**

**ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE**

**NOVEMBER 6**

The Ballot will secure a Woman no Right that she Needs and does not Possess

WOMAN’S ANTI SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION
290 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

Over the Pass of By and by you go to the Valley of Never.

N. Islington Women demand the Vote.
By 1922, Canadian women had the right to vote, but they still did not participate fully in political life.

Agnes Macphail was the only woman MP in Ottawa, although there were more women representatives at the provincial level.

New devices: refrigerator, vacuum cleaner, washing machine, electric iron, meant less time spent doing domestic labour.
Emily Murphy, a well-known suffragist, was appointed as a judge in Alberta to hear cases concerning women. Challenged that only women “persons” could hold office under the BNA Act, and that women were not “persons” in the eyes of the law. The Supreme Court of Alberta ruled that Murphy did have the right to be a judge.
The Famous Five

Irene Parry, Emily Murphy, Henrietta Muir Edwards, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney
The exclusion of women from all public offices is a relic of days more barbaric than ours...To those who ask why the word ("persons") should include females the obvious answer is why should it not? – The Privy Council of Britain
Your Challenge

- Create an advertising campaign to present to The Privy Council in Britain on why women should be recognized as "Persons".