NWMP:

They were created to deal with a fur trade issue that came from America.

Even though bison were declining in Canada, it wasn’t declining as fast down in the states.

They came up and started trading with the First Nations and other settlers in the Northwest.

One of the major trading stations was Fort Whoop-Up. (Lethbridge, Alberta)

Problem: One of the major things that these American companies traded were cheap liquor—firewater.

They were cheap, they caused widespread malnutrition to the First Nations community, development of alcoholism, disease and death.

By then these guys were known to be called the Whisky Traders so in response: the Canadian government created the Northwest Mounted Police to drive these troublemakers out of the country.

An incident sped up the process of troops re-establishing control : Cypress Hills Massacre

* They used poisoned bison meat to trap wolves to get their furs.
* First Nations ate the bison meat not knowing they were poisoned.
* Killed 30 First Nations and caused an enormous outrage across the country