



Sir John Alexander Macdonald
January 11, 1815–June 6, 1891
In Office: 1867–1873; 1878–1891

Macdonald worked
toward the British

North America Act . . .

and became the first
Prime Minister of
Canada. He helped
add Manitoba,
British Columbia,
and Prince Edward
Island as provinces
of the Dominion of
Canada and worked
to complete the
Pacific railway.



Sir Wilfrid Laurier

November 20, 1841–February 17, 1919

In Office: 1896–1911

In 1896, Laurier

became the first

French-Canadian . . .

prime minister. He
worked to help
Canadian industries
and to settle the
west. During his time
as prime minister, two
new provinces
formed and work
on a second
transcontinental
railroad began.