

Classroom Debate Activity

Inverness Coal Mines & Town

Instructions: Divide the classroom into groups of three or four, where two teams will debate the given topics below. For the final debate, split the classroom into two sides, for the final chosen topic.

Topic 1

Did the Inverness Coal Mines have a positive or negative impact on the legacy of Inverness?

Team 1 - Positive

Team 2 - Negative

Topic 2

What union best represented the Inverness Miners, the O.B.U. or U.M.W.A.?

Team 1 - O.B.U.

Team 2 - U.M.W.A.

Topic 3

Was William Penn Hussey justified in leaving behind the Broad Cove Coal Company?

Team 1 - Yes he was justified in leaving

Team 2 - No he wasn't justified in leaving

Topic 4

Do you think the Nova Scotia provincial government should have kept the Inverness mines operating?

Team 1 - Yes they should have kept the mines operating

Team 2 - No they made the right decision

Topic 5

Did the Inverness Railway and Coal Company bring more prosperity to the life of the miner and his family?

Team 1 - Yes they did

Team 2 - No they did not

Topic 6 (Final Topic)

Do you think the workers of the Inverness Mines deserved a higher pay and better conditions underground? One team will debate as **the company**, the other will debate as **the miners**.