

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT



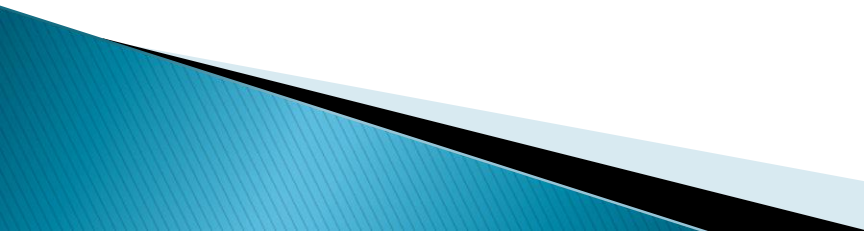
Issues

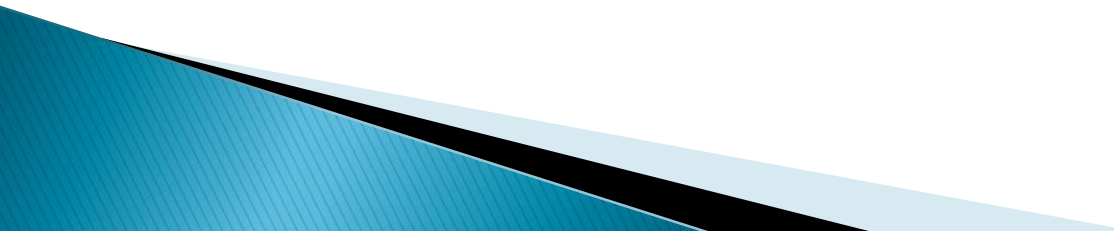
- ▶ Why do we need government?
- ▶ What can government do?
- ▶ What types of government exist in Canada today?
- ▶ How does decision making occur at the federal, provincial, and local levels of government?

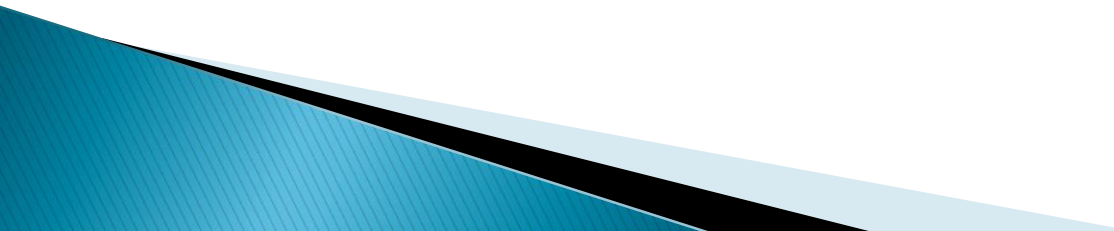


Government Introduction

The Need for Government

- ▶ Since the beginning of civilization there has been an inherent need for some type of social order.
 - ▶ One of the earliest types of government was the **monarchy**.
 - ▶ This type of government involves the rule by one person (man) through divine right (God's rule).
 - ▶ The power in this type of government is passed through heredity.
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- ▶ This type of government was not truly in the best interests of the people. As a result in many countries; England (1215), France (1789), Russia (1917), a new type of government developed – **Democracy (rule by the people)**.
 - ▶ **There are two main types of democracy:**
 1. **Direct** – when every person plays an active part in the decision making process.
 2. **Indirect** –when a group of people elects one person to represent them in government
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- ▶ In Canada we have a system of **representative, or parliamentary, democracy** that provides an efficient and effective mechanism for running the country
 - ▶ The government in Canada protects individual rights and freedoms, maintains infrastructure, and deals with other countries.
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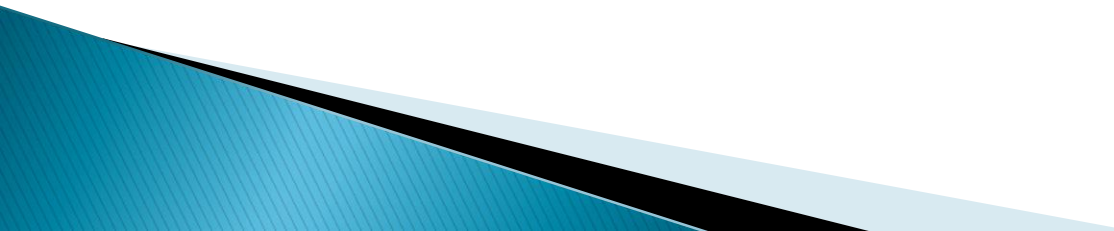
The Purpose of Government

- ▶ Government is an organized system of **decision making** that gives individuals and a nation as a whole a sense of **order and security**.

The Purpose of Government

- ▶ The government **makes laws** and carries them out. It allows people to maintain their sense of individual **freedom**.

The Constitution of Canada

- ▶ Our **set of rules** for various levels of government to follow in decision making.
 - ▶ Our Constitution contains a written and unwritten part.
 - ▶ The unwritten constitution is based on **traditions** from the past. Most of these traditions are based on the British pattern of parliamentary government.
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Our Constitution

- ▶ There are **three (3)** main parts to the written component of our constitution.
 1. **The Constitution Act 1867.** This describes the **authority, parts, and functions of parliament.**
 2. **The Charter of Rights and Freedoms.** This describes the **basic rights and freedoms** all Canadians have.
 3. **The Amending Formula.** This sets out ways that the constitution can be changed.

ELIZABETH THE SECOND

BY THE GRACE OF GOD OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA
AND HER OTHER REALMS AND TERRITORIES QUEEN,
HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME OR
WHOM THE SAME MAY IN ANYWAY CONCERN.

GREETING:

A PROCLAMATION

Attorney General of Canada.

WHEREAS in the past certain amendments to the Constitution of Canada have been made by the Parliament of the United Kingdom at the request and with the consent of Canada;
AND WHEREAS it is in accord with the status of Canada as an independent state that Canadians be able to amend their Constitution in Canada in all respects;
AND WHEREAS it is desirable to provide in the Constitution of Canada for the recognition of certain fundamental rights and freedoms and to make other amendments to the Constitution;
AND WHEREAS the Parliament of the United Kingdom has therefore, at the request and with the consent of Canada, enacted the Canada Act, which provides for the patriation and amendment of the Constitution of Canada;
AND WHEREAS Section 58 of the Constitution Act, 1982, set out in Schedule B to the Canada Act, provides that the Constitution Act, 1982 shall, subject to section 59 thereof come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation issued under the Great Seal of Canada;
NOW KNOW You that We, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council for Canada, do by this Our Proclamation, declare that the Constitution Act, 1982 shall, subject to section 59 thereof, come into force on the Seventeenth day of April, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-two.
OF ALL WHICH Our Loving Subjects and all others whom these Presents may concern are hereby required to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.
At Our City of Ottawa, this Seventeenth day of April in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-two and in the thirty-first Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command

Registrar General of Canada

Prime Minister of Canada



Elizabeth R

Jean Chretien

ELIZABETH DEUX

PAR LA GRÂCE DE DIEU REINE DU ROYAUME-UNI, DU
CANADA ET DE SES AUTRES ROYAUMES ET TERRITOIRES,
CHEF DU COMMONWEALTH, DÉFENSEUR DE LA FOI.

À TOUS CEUX QUE LES PRÉSENTES PEUVENT DE QUELQUE
MANIÈRE CONCERNER.

SALUT:

PROCLAMATION

Le procureur général du Canada.

CONSIDÉRANT qu'à la demande et avec le consentement du Canada, le Parlement du Royaume-Uni a déjà modifié à plusieurs reprises la Constitution du Canada;
QU' en vertu de leur appartenance à un État souverain, les Canadiens se doivent de détenir tout pouvoir de modifier leur Constitution au Canada;
QU' il est souhaitable d'inscrire dans la Constitution du Canada la reconnaissance d'un certain nombre de libertés et de droits fondamentaux et d'y apporter d'autres modifications;
QUE le Parlement du Royaume-Uni, à la demande et avec le consentement du Canada, a adopté en conséquence la Loi sur le Canada, qui prévoit le rapatriement de la Constitution canadienne et sa modification;
QUE l'article 58, figurant à l'annexe B de la Loi sur le Canada, stipule que, sous réserve de l'article 59, la Loi constitutionnelle de 1982 entrera en vigueur à une date fixée par proclamation sous le grand sceau du Canada;
NOUS PROCLAMONS, sur l'avis de Notre Conseil privé pour le Canada, que la Loi constitutionnelle de 1982 entrera en vigueur, sous réserve de l'article 59, le dix-septième jour du mois d'avril en l'an de grâce mil neuf cent quatre-vingt-deux.
NOUS DEMANDONS À Nos loyaux sujets et à toute autre personne concernée de prendre acte de la présente proclamation.
EN FOI DE QUOI, Nous avons rendu les présentes lettres patentes et y avons fait apposer le grand sceau du Canada.
Fait en Notre ville d'Ottawa, ce dix-septième jour du mois d'avril en l'an de grâce mil neuf cent quatre-vingt-deux, le trente et unième de Notre règne.

Par ordre de Sa Majesté

Le registraire général du Canada

Le premier ministre du Canada



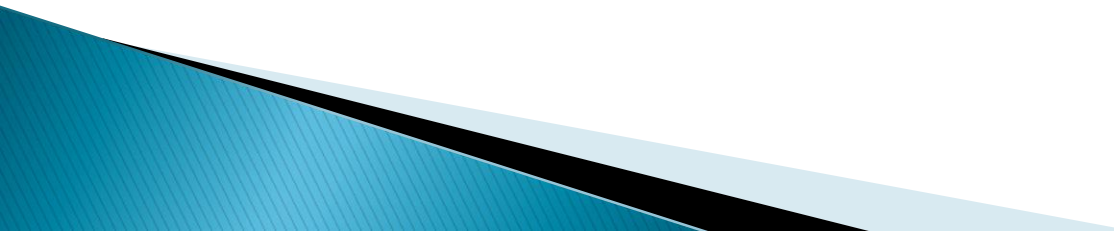
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

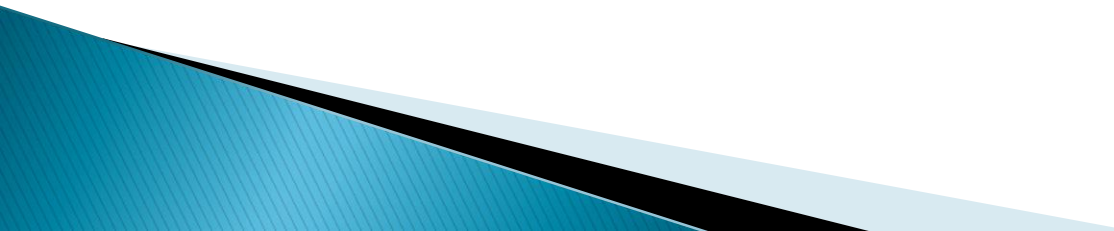
DIEU PROTÈGE LA REINE



Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau signing the Constitution on April 17, 1982.

Constitutional Monarchy

- ▶ Our **Constitutional Monarch** is Queen Elizabeth II.
 - ▶ The Monarch is currently the head of our state. They have little or no power, but perform more of a **symbolic** role.
 - ▶ Since the Queen lives in England, the **Governor General** represents the monarch in Canada.
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- ▶ The Governor General is appointed by the monarch on the _____ of the Canadian parliament.
 - ▶ The Governor General's responsibilities include: the opening of parliament
 1. Giving royal assent to laws.
 2. Greeting officials
 3. Giving out awards
 - ▶ The Governor General's role is purely symbolic
- 

There are 2 types of democracies:

Direct Democracy:

- Citizens vote on all decisions made by government.

Representative Democracy:

- Elected representatives make decisions on our behalf.
- This is the type of democracy we have in Canada.

The Federal System

- ▶ A system of government that is responsible for handling decisions made on behalf of all Canadian Citizens.
- ▶ A federal system was created in order to assure the **equality among provinces** and also to create a consistent **national policy** followed by all Canadians.

Government in Canada



Sovereign

FEDERAL

PROVINCIAL



Parliament

Senate

House of
Commons



Governor
General

Prime
Minister

Cabinet

Ministries

Territories



Lieutenant
Governors

Premiers

Cabinets

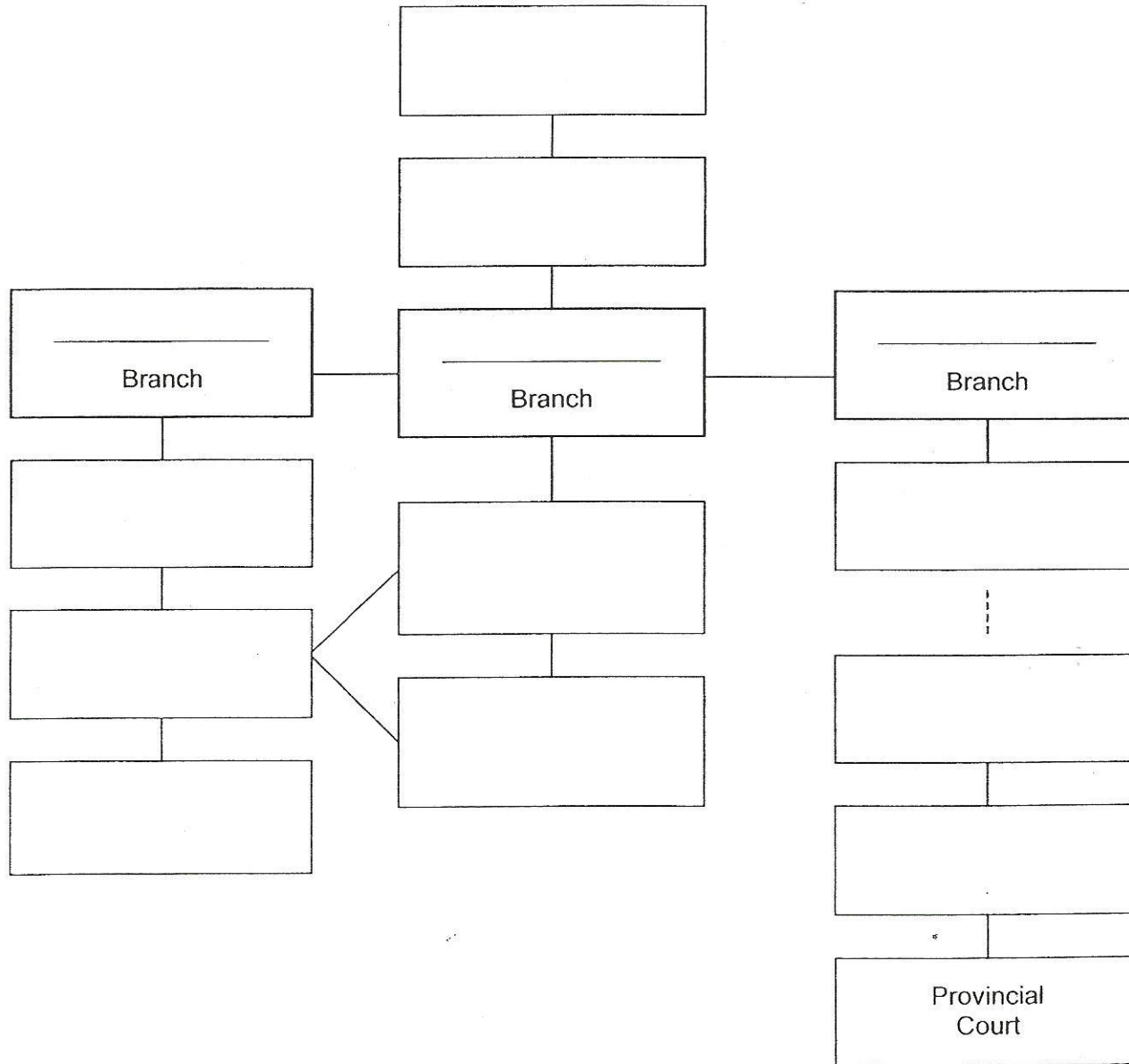
Ministries

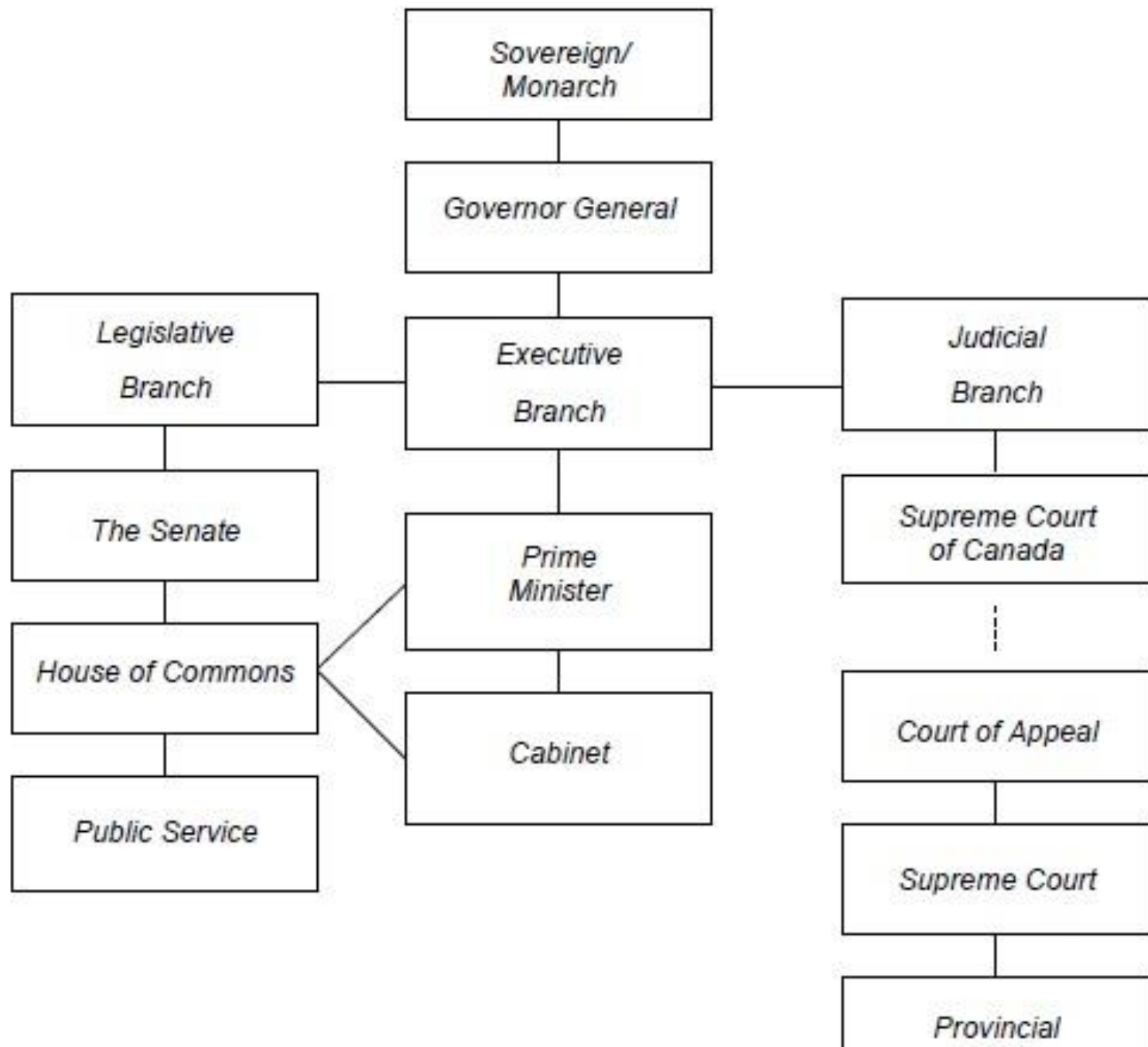
Municipalities



Legislative
Assemblies

government. This exercise will help you to visualize the power structure of the various branches and levels of Canada's government.



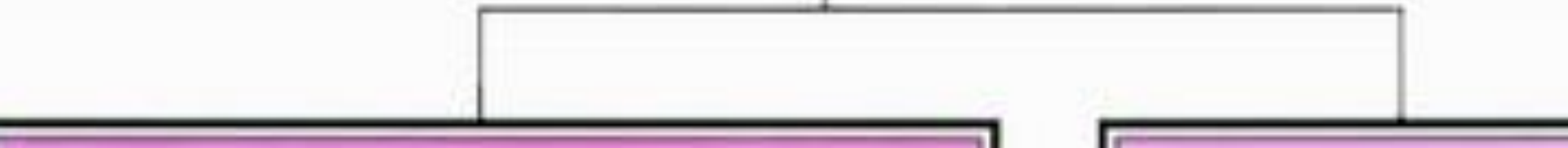


Structure of Federal Government

Federal Government Structure

Queen

Governor General



The Executive Branch

- ▶ The executive branch of Canada is composed of three elements – the symbolic, political, and permanent – that work together as the government.
- ▶ The **symbolic executive** is composed of the Queen, who is the legal head of state of Canada, and her representatives, who fulfill the monarch's daily duties in Canada.

- ▶ The **political executive** is the **leading element** of the executive branch.

The Prime Minister is the head of government. This includes their **Cabinet.**

- ▶ The **permanent executive** is the body of professional civil servants who manage and administer the government's policies.





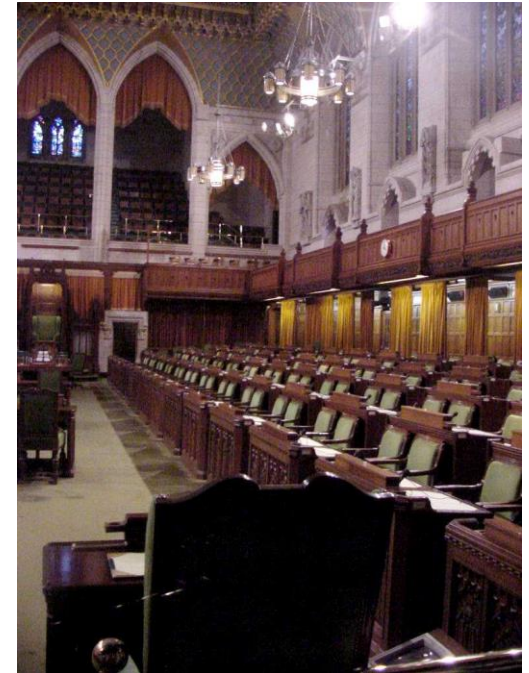
Can. Fed. Cabinet Feb 06

The **executive branch** has two distinct roles to play in governing the country:

- to decide on the need for new laws and to introduce new laws
- to enforce a law once it is passed

The Legislative Branch

The House of Commons is where critical issues of Canada are **debated**. It is **the law making body** in Canada



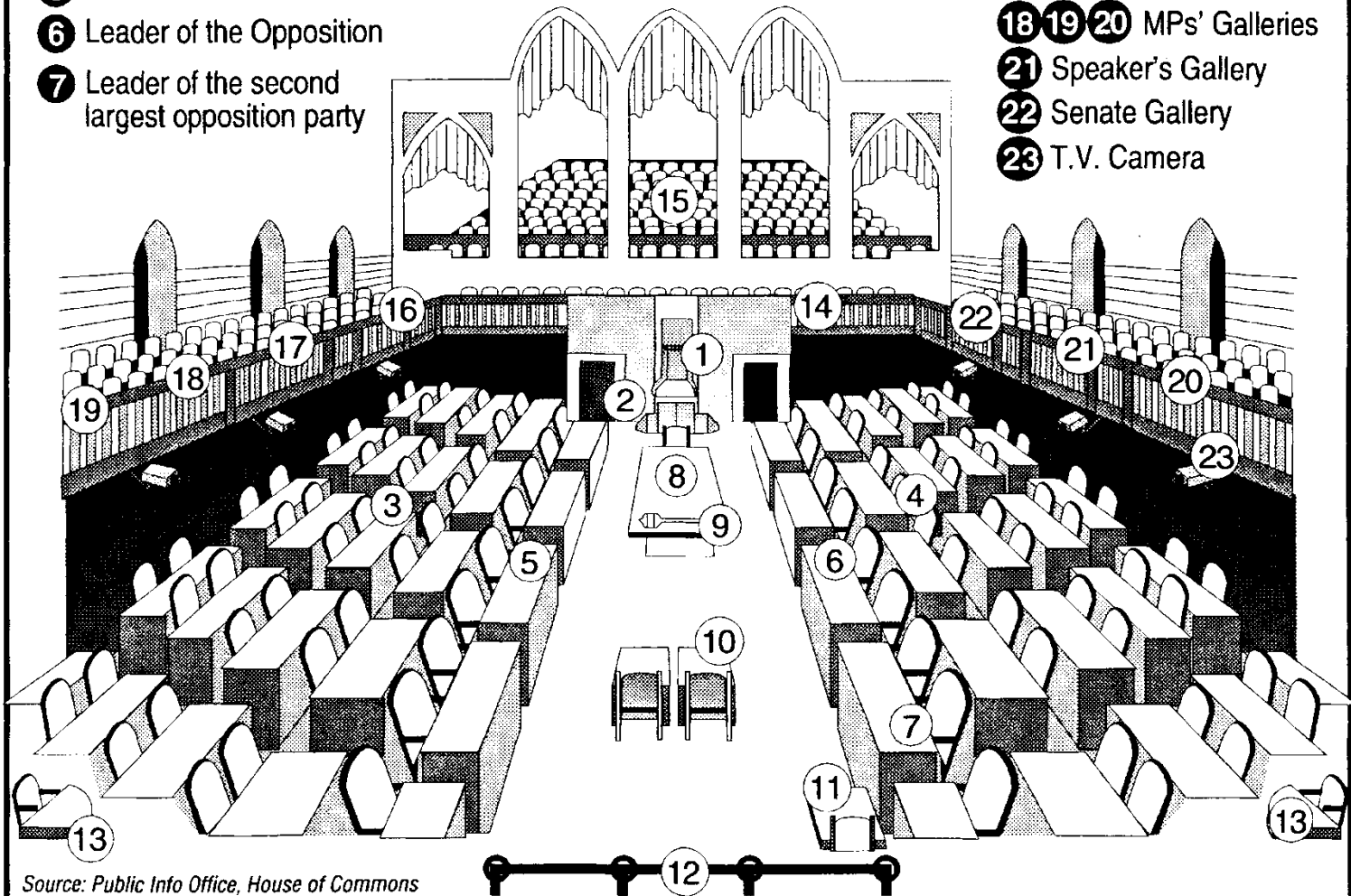
A window on Parliament

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

- 1 Speaker
- 2 Pages
- 3 Government Members
- 4 Opposition Members
- 5 Prime Minister
- 6 Leader of the Opposition
- 7 Leader of the second largest opposition party

- 8 Clerk and Table Officers
- 9 Mace
- 10 Hansard Reporters
- 11 Sergeant-at-Arms
- 12 The Bar
- 13 Interpreters

- 14 Press Gallery
- 15 Public Gallery
- 16 Official Gallery
- 17 Leader of the Opposition's Gallery
- 18 19 20 MPs' Galleries
- 21 Speaker's Gallery
- 22 Senate Gallery
- 23 T.V. Camera



The Senate



The Senate studies, amends and either rejects or approves bills passed by the House of Commons. It can also introduce its own bills, except those to spend public money or impose taxes. **No bill can become law until it has been passed by the Senate.**

DISTRIBUTION OF SENATE SEATS

AREA	SEATS
Ontario	24
Quebec	24
Maritimes	24
Nova Scotia	10
New Brunswick	10
Prince Edward Island	4
Western Provinces	24
Manitoba	6
British Columbia	6
Saskatchewan	6
Alberta	6
Additional representation	9
Newfoundland and Labrador	6
Northwest Territories	1
Yukon Territory	1
Nunavut	1
TOTAL	105

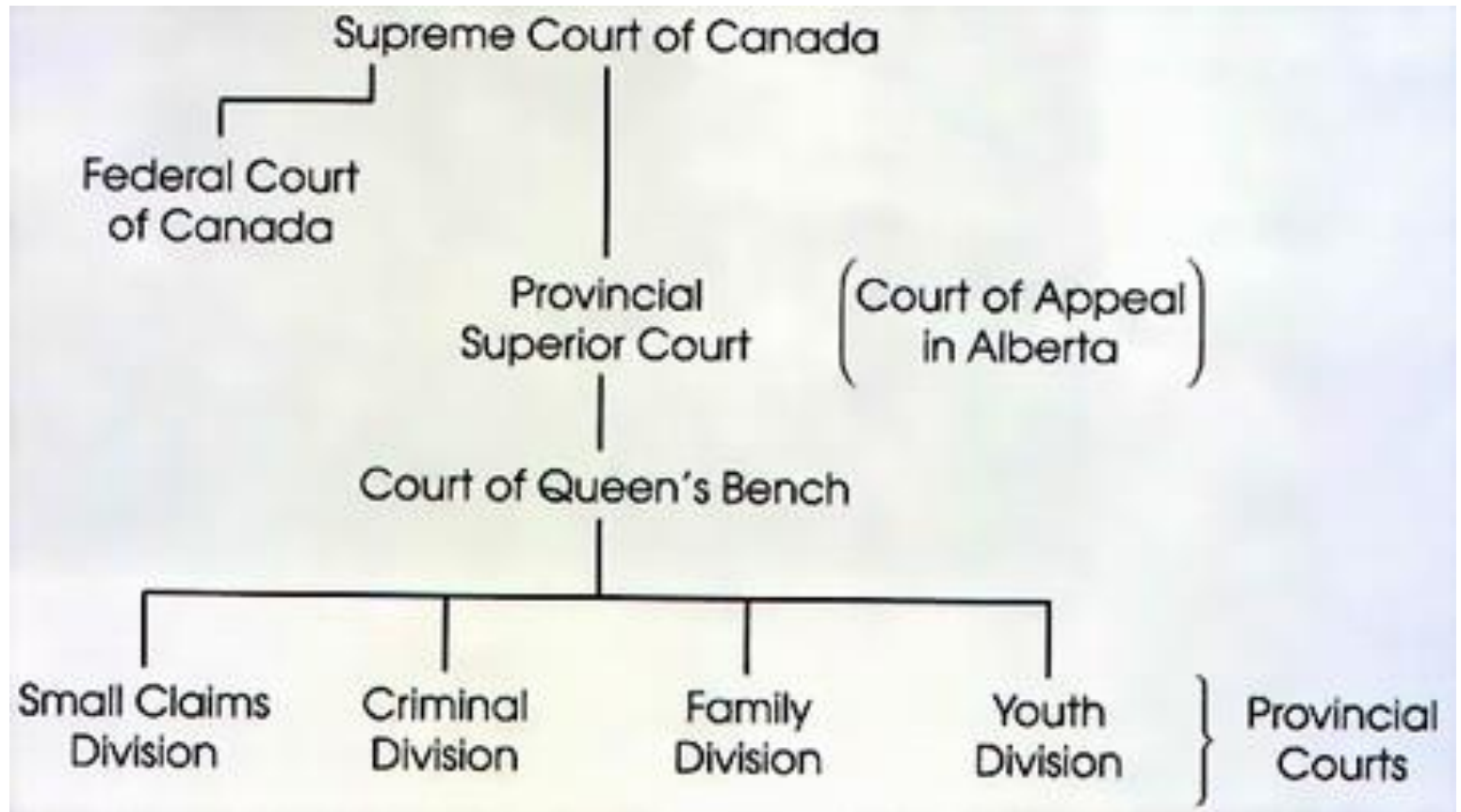
Canadian
Senators

The Judicial Branch

- ▶ The Judicial branch of government consists of the Supreme Court and the federal judges of Canada. The Supreme Court of Canada is the highest court in our nation. It interprets the meaning of the laws and our constitution, and it acts as a court of last appeal. The members of the Supreme court are appointed by Parliament.

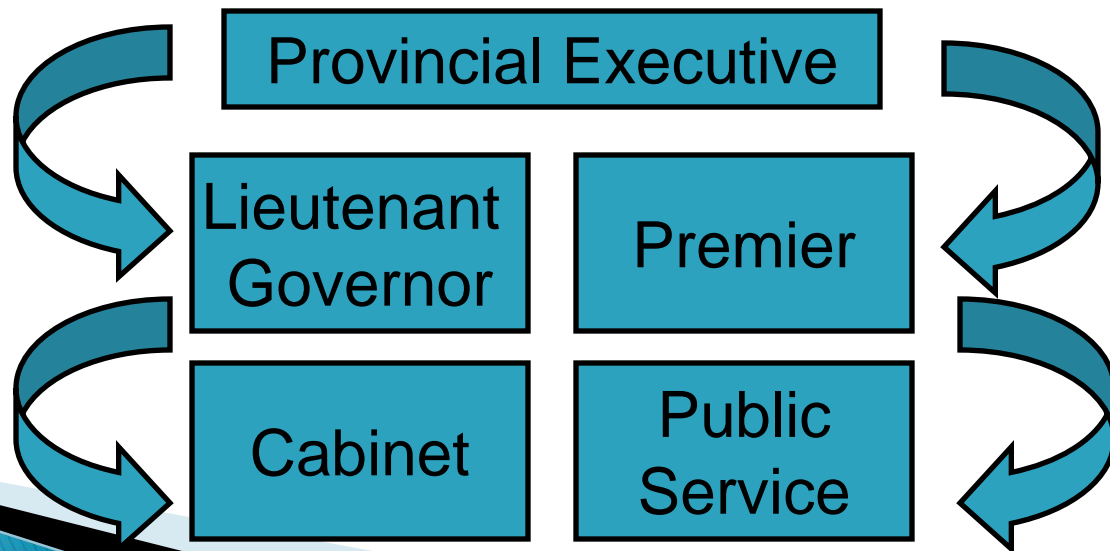


Structure of the Judicial Branch



Provincial Governments

Executive Branch – Modeled after the federal system, this branch holds the positions of Lieutenant Governor, Premier, Cabinet, and Public Service



Provincial Governments

Legislative Branch – Modeled after the House of Commons. Provincial bills become law the same way Federal ones do. However there is no Provincial Senate.



Provincial Governments

The Judicial Branch – Provincial courts exist to settle disputes and to try those charged with breaking laws. Each province has a Supreme Court.



Local Government

- ▶ Like the provincial and federal governments the municipalities are broken into executive and legislative branches of government.
- ▶ Local governments do not have a judicial branch.
- ▶ The mayor, councilors, and alderpersons are all elected representatives and are accountable to those who elect them.



Stephen Mandel
Mayor
City of Edmonton



DIVISION OF POWERS: FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL, AND MUNICIPAL

Federal Powers

- ▶ Defence
- ▶ Regulation of trade and commerce
- ▶ Citizenship
- ▶ Taxation
- ▶ Currency and coins
- ▶ Native peoples and Native reserves
- ▶ Postal service
- ▶ Patents and copyrights
- ▶ Marriage and divorce
- ▶ Navigation and shipping
- ▶ Fisheries
- ▶ Criminal law and federal penitentiaries

Provincial Powers

- ▶ Education
- ▶ Hospitals and charities
- ▶ Licences (e.g., driving and fishing)
- ▶ Private property and civil law
- ▶ Direct taxation (e.g., income tax and sales tax)
- ▶ Management of natural resources (e.g., forests and electrical energy)
- ▶ Local public works (e.g., roads and canals)
- ▶ Courts and the administration of justice
- ▶ Local (municipal) government

The More You Know

