

# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



Use these terms to record what you know about government:

*provincial*

*election*

*Parliament*

*prime minister*

*federal*

*Senate*

*democracy*

*governor general*

*political party*

*Aboriginal*

*authority*

*responsibilities*

What I know about government in Canada	Questions I have about government in Canada	What I learned about government in Canada
<p>Describe one idea or belief you had about government that changed during this learning experience. Explain why you changed your mind.</p>		



# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA!

Define the following words related to Canadian Politics.

**Democracy**

**Election**

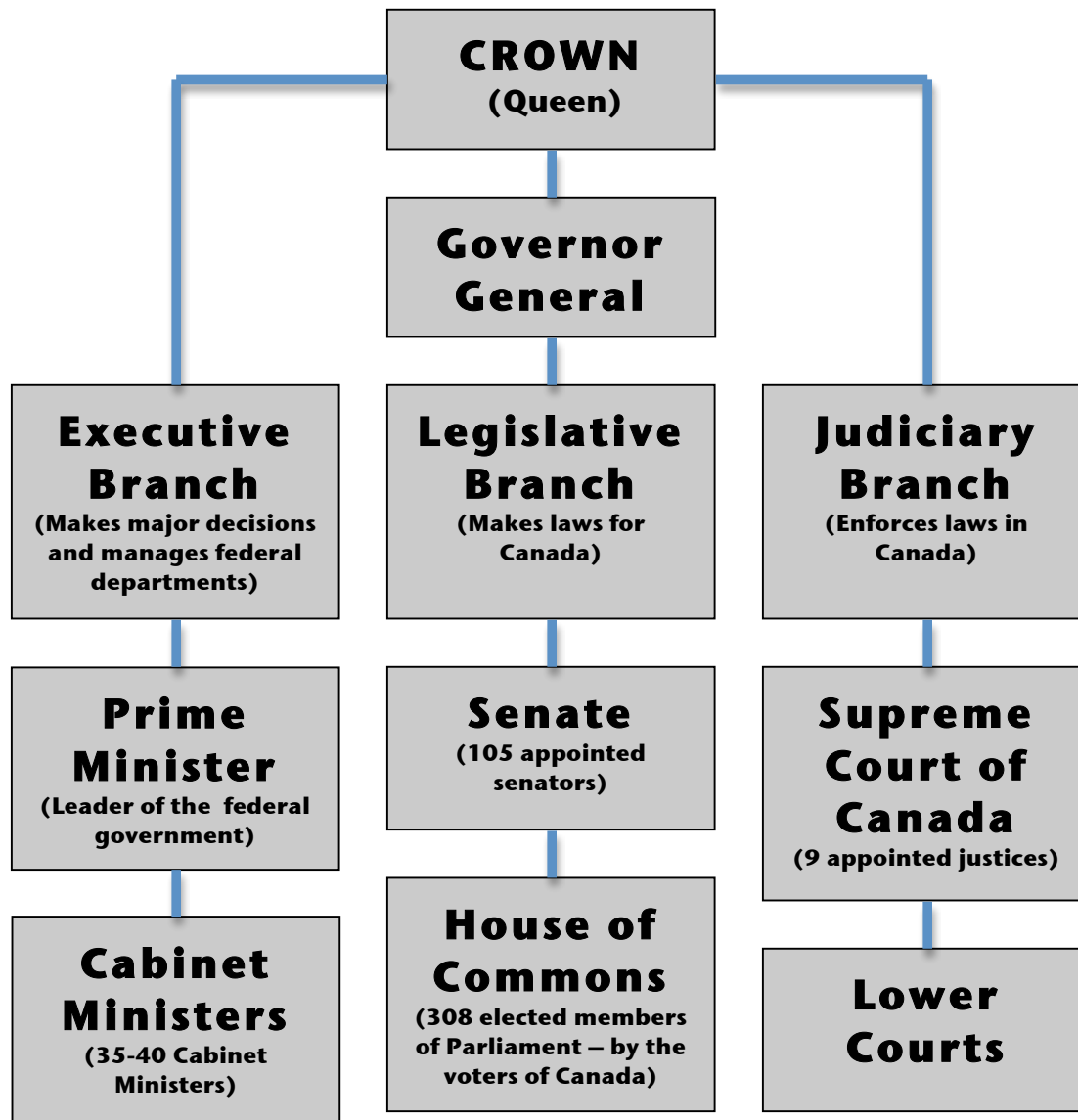
**Parliament**

**Monarch**

**Prime Minister**



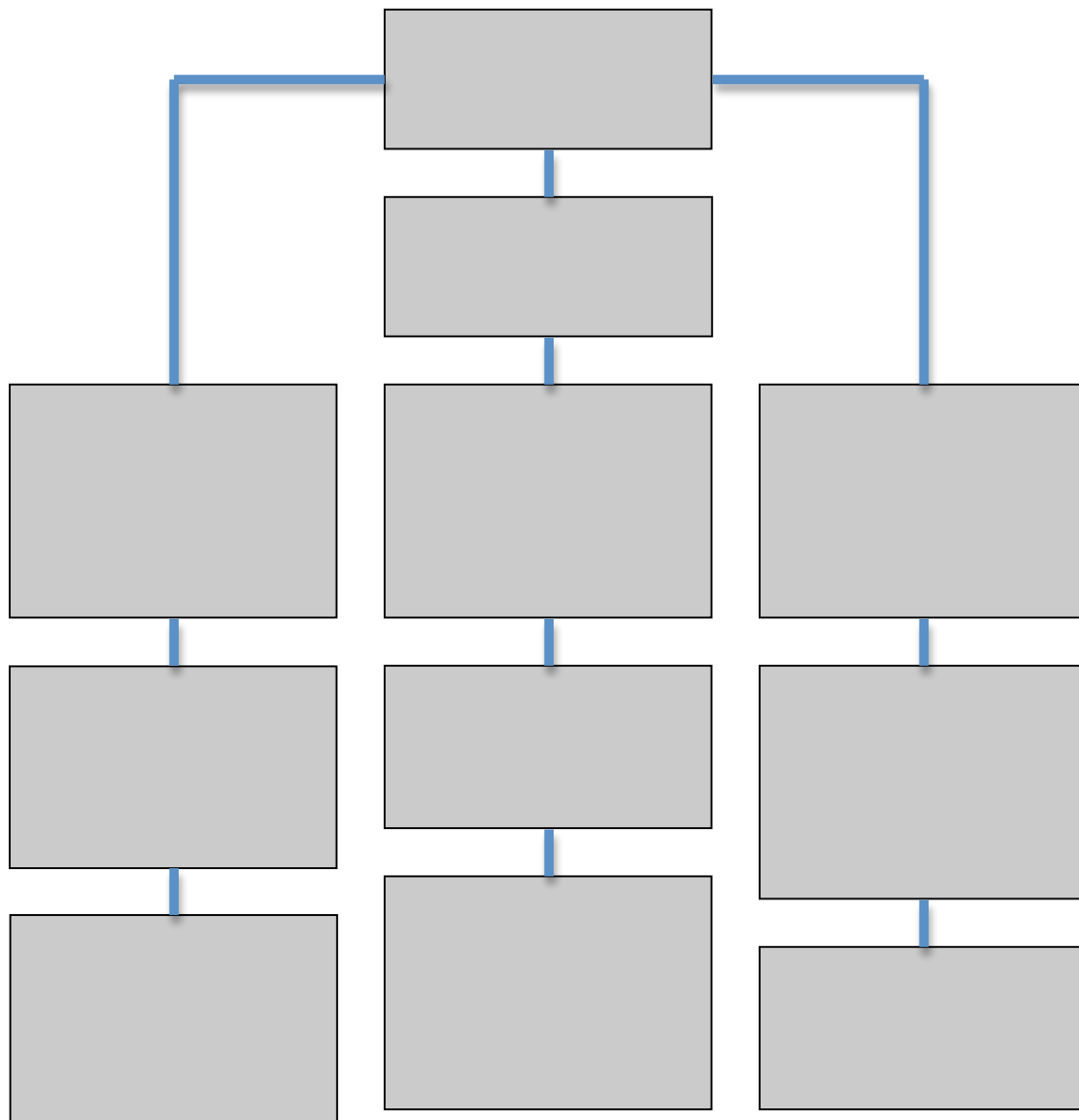
# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CHART



**You have 1 minute to memorize the Provincial Government Chart. Then you will be challenged to re-create it using a list of Federal Government positions.**



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# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS

## Cabinet Ministers

(35-40 Cabinet Ministers that are in charge of government departments)

## House of Commons

(308 elected members of Parliament)

## Lower Courts

## Executive Branch

(Makes major decisions and manages federal departments)

## Governor General

(Representative of the Crown)

## Judiciary Branch

(Enforces the laws of Canada)

## Supreme Court Judges

(9 appointed justices)

## Crown (Queen or King of England)

## Prime Minister

(Leader of the federal Government)

## Legislative Branch

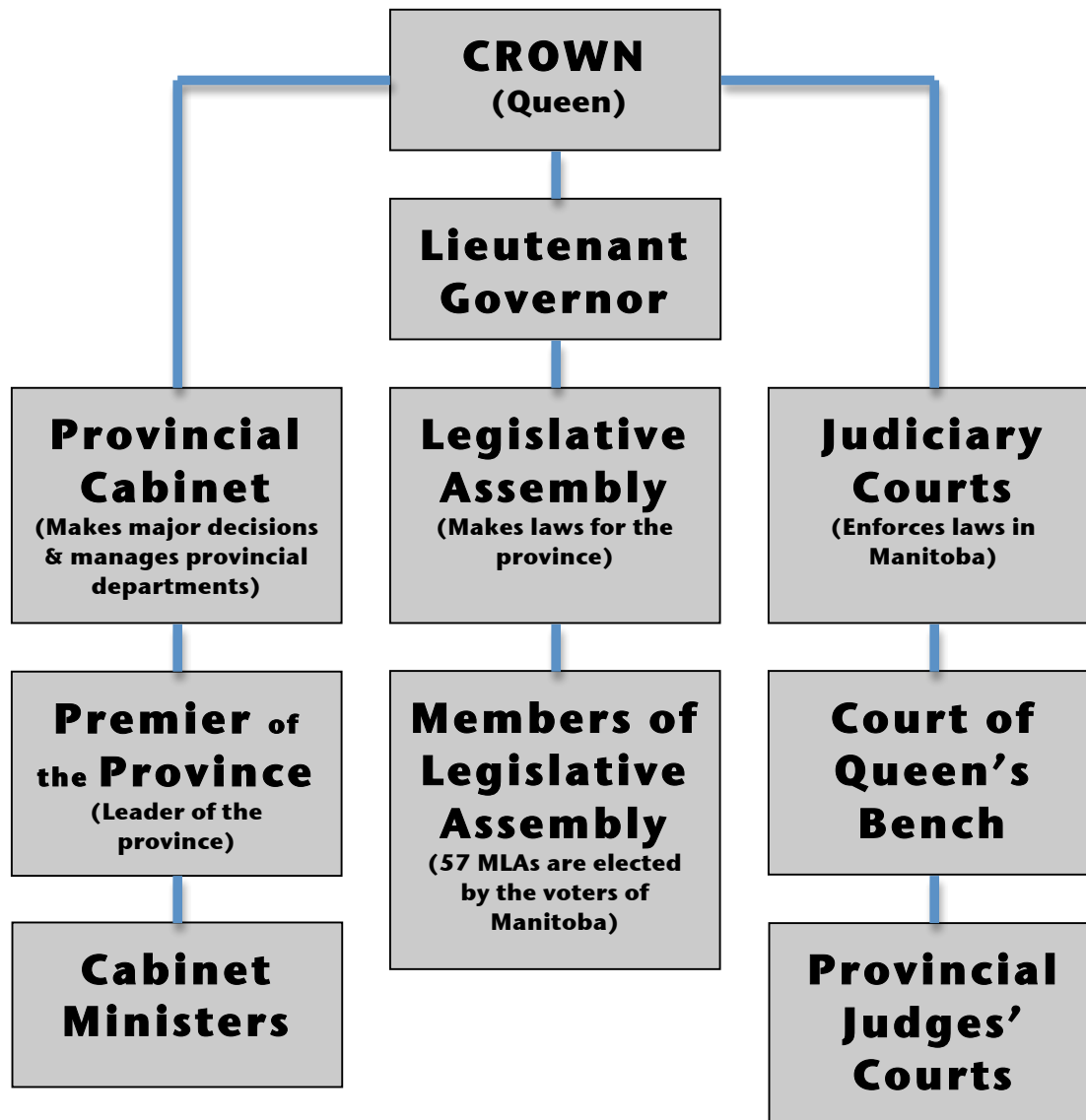
(Makes Laws for Canada)

## Senate

(105 appointed senators)



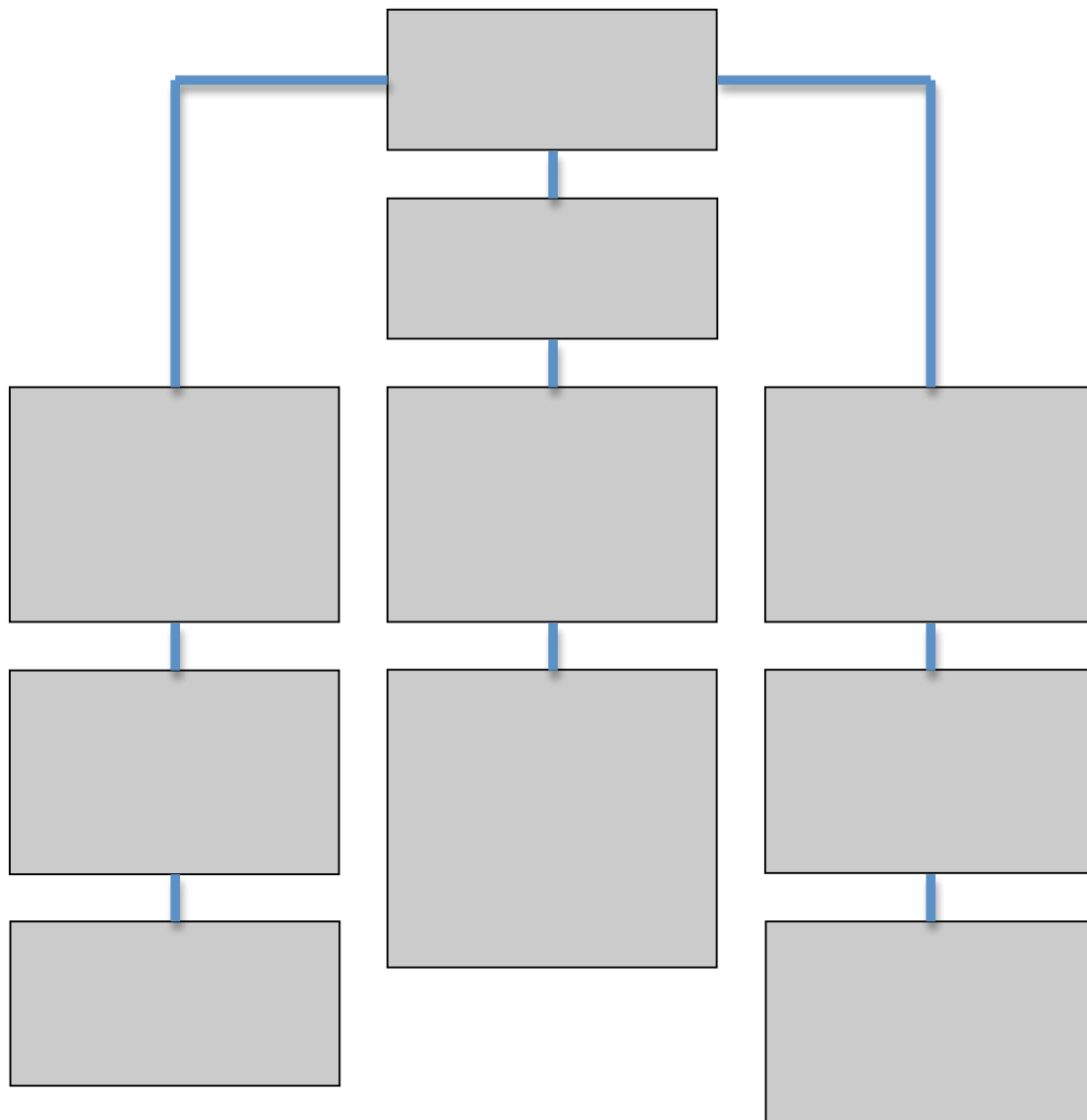
# PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CHART



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## PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS

**Members of Legislative  
Assembly**

(57 MLAs are elected by the voters)

**Provincial Cabinet**

(Makes major decisions & manages  
provincial departments)

**Court of Queen's Bench**

**Legislative Assembly**

(Makes laws for the province)

**Premier**

(Leader of the Province)

**Provincial Judges'  
Courts**

**Lieutenant Governor**

(Representative of the Crown)

**Judiciary Courts**

(Enforces laws in Manitoba)

**Cabinet Ministers**

**Crown**  
(Queen or King of  
England)



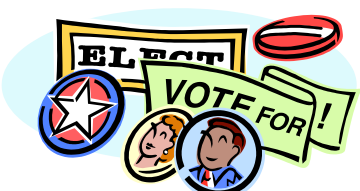
# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



## CANADIAN POLITICAL PARTIES

*Consult your notes, books, and other sources to help you complete this sheet.*

A **political party** is a group of people who think similarly about government, and who are organized to nominate and support candidates in elections.

<p>Name <b>four</b> Canadian political parties.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>What is an MLA?</p> <hr/> <p>Who is the current MLA of your area?</p> <hr/>
<p>To which party did Prime Minister John A. Macdonald belong?</p> <hr/>  <p>Which Prime Minister was responsible for implementing The Constitution Act?</p> <hr/> <p>Who is the Prime Minister right now?</p> <hr/> <p>What party does he belong to?</p> <hr/>	<p>To which party did Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King (WLMK) belong?</p> <hr/> <p>Name a more recent prime minister who belonged to the same party as WLMK.</p> <hr/> <p>Who was the last Prime Minister of WLMK's political party?</p> <hr/> <p>Give the current name of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), which began during the Great Depression of the 1930s.</p> <hr/>

# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



Draw the logos of each of the main political parties in Canada today. Under the logo, write the name of the party and one sentence in your own words describing what this party stands for.

Why are political parties important in Canadian government?



## GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



### PRIME MINISTER PLAYING CARD

*Use this note-taking frame to record information on the prime minister of your choice. Your card needs to include a **hand-drawn portrait** and an **interesting quotation** by them.*

<p>Background, education, early life:</p>	<p>How did this person become involved in politics, and become PM?</p>
<p>What were the main accomplishments of this person as prime minister?</p>	<p>What were the main challenges faced by this prime minister?</p>

**Interesting Quotation?**



# ELECTIONS IN CANADA

Define the following words related to Canadian Elections.

**Polling Station**

**Secret Ballot**

**Campaign**

**Candidate**

**Debate**



## THE ELECTORAL PROCESS



*These 10 characteristics of the electoral process describe democratic voting. Explain why each characteristic is important in a democracy.*

Characteristics of the Vote	Why Is This Important?
1. One vote for every adult citizen	
2. The rules are explained to everyone	
3. Secret ballot	
4. Free vote (no bribes or bullying)	
5. Person with the most votes wins	

# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



Characteristics of the Vote	Why Is This Important?
6. Elections must be held regularly	
7. Elected officials must answer to the voters (responsible government)	
8. There must be more than one candidate for each seat	
9. Anyone can form a political party and name candidates	
10. Each elected member represents about the same number of people	





## START A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

*Follow the steps below toward making your very own political party.*

### Step 1

A political party involves a group of like-minded people. Your group will be given one of the following issues at HGI to be the basis of your party's platform:

- a) 4 Day School Week
- b) No More Homework
- c) School Uniforms
- d) Open Use of the School's Wireless Network
- e) Junk Food at the Canteen/Fundraisers
- f) The Dress Code

### Step 2

Choose a party leader to be your spokesperson and to lead the rest of the discussion. Remember that the group must be willing to support the leader you elect.

### Step 3

Create a name for your party that reflects the values of your members.

### Step 5

Develop a simple and recognizable party logo for use in your election campaign (posters, stickers, video, etc...).

### Step 4

Develop a vision statement – one sentence that describes your party's main goal or how your party would contribute to the betterment of HGI if it were elected.

### Step 6

Create a campaign video that promotes your side of your issue, and puts down the opposition's side. You are allowed to "attack" the character of your opponents as well...watch the sample videos for ideas.

### Step 7

Participate in the electoral process, which involves a campaign speech and an official vote.





## Young People & Voting

All Canadian citizens 18 years and older have the right to vote in federal elections. However, a recent study by Elections Canada found that only 22.4 percent of 18 to 20 year olds voted in the 2000 federal election. However, more than 80 percent of citizens over 58 years of age voted. **Discuss why this is a problem?**



Here are some of the reasons that have been suggested for this low voter participation among young people.:

- Young people just do not care as much about politics, because they feel powerless to change things.
- Political parties are all too similar to one another so young people can not see any differences between candidates.
- Young people do not have enough awareness or knowledge about politics, and are not given enough detailed information about how and where to vote.
- Candidates and political parties do not try to reach out to this group, and do not communicate with youth to find out what issues concern them.

## HOW CAN WE CHANGE THIS?

*1. What can be done to encourage young people in Canada to exercise their citizenship right — the right to vote?*

*2. Will you vote when you turn 18? Why or why not?*