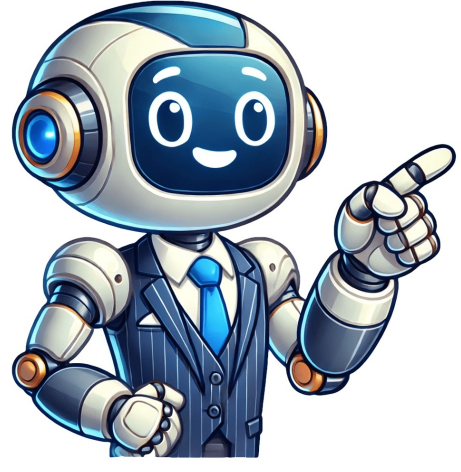


I'm not a bot































Canada is a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy, rooted in the Westminster tradition. The system involves three main components: the Crown, the Senate, and the House of Commons. Responsibilities for lawmaking are shared among federal, provincial, and territorial governments, with judicial oversight ensuring constitutional adherence. The Constitution governs the roles of the Crown as well as the Executive and Legislative branches. The Governor General, appointed by the Sovereign on the Prime Ministers recommendation, exercises executive authority in the Crowns name. That function involves ceremonial roles and powers like granting royal assent and appointing the Prime Minister. The Legislative Branch, or Parliament, is bicameral, with the appointed Senate and the elected House of Commons. Legislation must pass both chambers and receive royal assent to become law. The Executive Branch, led by the Prime Minister and cabinet, implements laws and policies, with cabinet ministers being collectively and individually accountable to Parliament. The system ensures responsible government, requiring majority support in the House of Commons through the confidence convention. Canada is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy, founded on the rule of law and respect for rights and freedoms. The government acts in the name of the Crown but derives its authority from the Canadian people. Canadas parliamentary system stems from the British, or Westminster, tradition. Parliament consists of the Crown, the Senate, and the House of Commons, and laws are enacted once they are agreed to by all three parts. Since Canada is a federal state, responsibility for lawmaking is shared among one federal, ten provincial and three territorial governments. The judiciary is responsible for the interpretation and application of the law and the Constitution and for giving impartial judgments. The Canadian Constitution Canadas Constitution sets forth the system of fundamental laws and principles that outline the nature, functions, and powers of Canadas system of government, both federal and provincial. It prescribes which powers legislative and judicial may be exercised at which level of government, and it also limits those powers and authorities of the office of the Governor General, as well as those of the Senate and the House of Commons. The Constitution involves more of a single document. The Constitution Act, 1867 brought Canada into being with a constitution similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom. The Constitution Act, 1982 contains the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the procedure for amending the Constitution. Some of Canadas most important rules are not matters of law but are conventions or practices. Diagram of Canadas parliamentary system, showing the Crown, Executive, and Legislative branches. The Crown Head of State represented in Canada by the Governor General Executive Branch (Government) Prime Minister and Cabinet Legislative Branch (Parliament) Senate Upper Chamber of 105Senators appointed by the Governor General to represent regions of the country House of Commons Lower Chamber of 343 members elected to represent the people from their electoral district The Crown: Head of State represented by the Governor General Executive Branch (Government) Prime Minister and Cabinet Legislative Branch (Parliament) Senate: Upper Chamber of 105 appointed Senators representing regions House of commons: Lower Chamber of 343 elected members representing the people of electoral districts In Canada, executive authority is formally vested in the Crown (the Sovereign), and it is exercised in its name by the Governor General, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister and the cabinet. The Constitution reserves certain prerogatives of government for the Crown, including the powers to: give royal recommendation to bills that propose to spend government revenues; give royal assent to bill passed by the Senate and the House of Commons so that they become law; appoint holders of many important offices (e.g., judicial and diplomatic); dissolve Parliament before elections, and to open and close parliamentary sessions (at the beginning of each parliamentary session, the Governor General reads the Speech from the Throne, prepared by the Prime Minister, outlining the Governments objectives for the upcoming session); and choose the Prime Minister by convention. The leader of the party with the most seats in the House of Commons follows with a general election. The Governor General is appointed by the Sovereign on the recommendation of the Prime Minister for a tenure of usually five years which may be extended at the discretion of the Sovereign. As the Sovereign, the Governor General has the power to appoint and dismiss the representative, the Governor General is the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Armed Forces, performs several ceremonial functions, and represents Canada in state visits and in other international events. The Legislative Branch (Parliament) Parliament is Canadas legislature, the federal institution with the power to make laws, to raise taxes, and to authorize government spending. The Parliament of Canada is bicameral, meaning it has two chambers: the Senate and the House of Commons. Proposed government legislation is introduced in one of the two chambers, usually the House of Commons, by a minister. Bills calling for the spending of public revenues or for the imposing of taxes must originate in the House of Commons. Once introduced, a bill is subjected to a detailed process of review, debate, examination and amendment through both Houses before it is ready to receive final approval. The House of Commons also considers items of Private Members Business, that is, bills and motions proposed by members who are not cabinet ministers. To become law, all legislation must be adopted by both Houses in identical form and receive royal assent. For more information, see the Our Procedure article about the legislative process. The Senate The Senate, or upper House, is composed of 105 Senators appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Ministersubsequent to a recommendation by the Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointmentsto represent Canadas regions, provinces and territories. Once appointed, Senators may continue to serve until mandatory retirement at the age of 75. The Speaker of the Senate is appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister. The House of Commons The House of Commons, or lower House, is the elected assembly of the Parliament of Canada. Its members are elected by Canadians to represent defined electoral districts or constituencies, also known as ridings. There are currently 343 seats in the House of Commons. A government formed by the party or the coalition of parties holding the most seats in the House of Commons is known as a majority government. Where the party in power holds more seats than any other party but falls short of a clear majority in the House, the government is referred to as a minority government. Minority governments must rely on the support of members belonging to other political parties to govern. The Executive Branch In Canada, executive authority is vested in the Crown and carried out by the Governor in Councilthe Prime Minister and cabinet. Once appointed, the Prime Minister selects a number of confidential advisers, usually from among the elected members of Parliament belonging to the governing party, who are made members of the Privy Council and then sworn in as ministers. Collectively, they are known as cabinet and are each responsible for individual portfolios or departments, usually assisted by other members of Parliament who have been appointed as parliamentary secretaries. Cabinet is the key decision-making forum in the Canadian government. It leads and directs the executive branch of government. Cabinet acts as an executive council that develops policies to govern the country and introduces bills to transform these policies into law. Responsible Government and Ministerial Responsibility Our parliamentary system requires that the government be responsive to its citizens and that it operates responsibly. Cabinet ministers are individually responsible to Parliament for the exercise of their powers as heads of their departments and are also collectively accountable for all decisions of cabinetsuch as setting or changing the direction of domestic and foreign policies or programs, proposing new legislation or changes to existing legislation, authorizing the signing of a treaty or the deployment of Canadian forces to a conflict zoneand for carrying out the policies established by it. Opposition members, both in the House and in committees, work to hold the governmentthrough cabinetspublicly accountable for its decisions. The Confidence Convention By constitutional convention, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet are collectively responsible to the House of Commons. This means that the government must retain the confidence of the House of Commons to remain in power. If the government loses the confidence of the House of Commons, it is required to resign or call a general election. The confidence convention is an unwritten parliamentary practice. It is not always clear what constitutes a question of confidence. Motions that clearly state that the House of Commons has lost confidence in the government, motions concerning the governments budgetary policy, motions for the granting of supply, motions in relation to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, and motions the government clearly identifies as questions of confidence are usually recognized as such. Political Parties in Canada Political parties are organizations that bring together a group of people committed to a particular approach to governing and who pursue shared goals based on a common vision. This approach is expressed through policies. Parties seek political power to be able to implement their policies. Most members of Parliament belong to a political party. Members of the House of Commons and, typically, Senators belonging to the same political party are collectively referred to as that partys parliamentary caucus. Members may also be independent of any party affiliation. The Parliament of Canada Act and the By-laws of the Board of Internal Economy (the governing body of the House of Commons) provide additional financial allowances and funding to political parties with at least 12 members in the House of Commons. The Standing Orders do not provide a definition of what constitutes a recognized party, however according to recent practice and Speaker decisions, a political party must have at least 12 elected members to be procedurally considered a recognized party in the House of Commons. The Role of Opposition Parties in Canada Public debate on proposed legislation, on public policy and on the conduct of the executive is essential to the role of Parliament. Opposition parties lead and focus on the representative and watchdog functions performed by members of Parliament. They work to ensure that legislation is carefully considered, and that differing views on important initiatives are publicly aired. The opposition provides a check and balance to the government. The role of the opposition is to challenge the government's actions and policies, to highlight areas where improvement is needed, and to propose alternative solutions. The opposition also plays a role in the legislative process, as it can move amendments to bills and propose motions that can delay or prevent the passage of legislation. The opposition also plays a role in the executive branch, as it can hold the government accountable for its actions and policies. The opposition also plays a role in the judicial branch, as it can challenge the government's actions and policies in court. The opposition also plays a role in the media, as it can provide a platform for its views and policies. The opposition also plays a role in the public, as it can educate citizens on issues and policies. The opposition also plays a role in the economy, as it can advocate for policies that promote growth and prosperity. The opposition also plays a role in the environment, as it can advocate for policies that protect the environment. The opposition also plays a role in the social justice system, as it can advocate for policies that promote equality and fairness. The opposition also plays a role in the health care system, as it can advocate for policies that improve the quality of care. The opposition also plays a role in the education system, as it can advocate for policies that improve the quality of education. The opposition also plays a role in the housing market, as it can advocate for policies that address housing affordability. The opposition also plays a role in the transportation system, as it can advocate for policies that improve infrastructure. The opposition also plays a role in the energy sector, as it can advocate for policies that promote sustainable energy. The opposition also plays a role in the telecommunications sector, as it can advocate for policies that promote competition and innovation. The opposition also plays a role in the cultural sector, as it can advocate for policies that support the arts and culture. The opposition also plays a role in the sports industry, as it can advocate for policies that support professional sports. The opposition also plays a role in the entertainment industry, as it can advocate for policies that support creative industries. The opposition also plays a role in the technology sector, as it can advocate for policies that promote digital innovation. The opposition also plays a role in the manufacturing sector, as it can advocate for policies that support industry growth. The opposition also plays a role in the services sector, as it can advocate for policies that support service industries. The opposition also plays a role in the agriculture sector, as it can advocate for policies that support farmers and ranchers. The opposition also plays a role in the fishing industry, as it can advocate for policies that support sustainable fishing. The opposition also plays a role in the forestry sector, as it can advocate for policies that promote sustainable forest management. The opposition also plays a role in the mining industry, as it can advocate for policies that regulate resource extraction. The opposition also plays a role in the oil and gas industry, as it can advocate for policies that manage energy resources. The opposition also plays a role in the nuclear energy sector, as it can advocate for policies that ensure safety and security. The opposition also plays a role in the space exploration sector, as it can advocate for policies that support research and development. The opposition also plays a role in the artificial intelligence sector, as it can advocate for policies that regulate emerging technologies. The opposition also plays a role in the cybersecurity sector, as it can advocate for policies that protect digital infrastructure. The opposition also plays a role in the biotechnology sector, as it can advocate for policies that support medical research. The opposition also plays a role in the nanotechnology sector, as it can advocate for policies that support small-scale scientific research. The opposition also plays a role in the quantum computing sector, as it can advocate for policies that support next-generation computing. The opposition also plays a role in the blockchain sector, as it can advocate for policies that support decentralized finance. The opposition also plays a role in the cryptocurrency sector, as it can advocate for policies that regulate digital currencies. The opposition also plays a role in the fintech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support financial innovation. The opposition also plays a role in the proptech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support real estate technology. The opposition also plays a role in the edtech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support educational technology. The opposition also plays a role in the healthtech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support medical technology. The opposition also plays a role in the agtech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support agricultural technology. The opposition also plays a role in the cleantech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support clean energy technology. The opposition also plays a role in the space tech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support space exploration technology. The opposition also plays a role in the defense tech sector, as it can advocate for policies that support military technology. The opposition also plays a role in the aerospace sector, as it can advocate for policies that support aviation technology. The opposition also plays a role in the automotive sector, as it can advocate for policies that support vehicle manufacturing. The opposition also plays a role in the electronics sector, as it can advocate for policies that support consumer electronics. The opposition also plays a role in the pharmaceutical sector, as it can advocate for policies that support drug development. The opposition also plays a role in the food and beverage sector, as it can advocate for policies that support food production. The opposition also plays a role in the fashion and apparel sector, as it can advocate for policies that support clothing manufacturing. The opposition also plays a role in the cosmetics sector, as it can advocate for policies that support beauty products. The opposition also plays a role in the pet care sector, as it can advocate for policies that support animal welfare. The opposition also plays a role in the gaming sector, as it can advocate for policies that support video game development. The opposition also plays a role in the music industry, as it can advocate for policies that support musicians and songwriters. The opposition also plays a role in the film and television industry, as it can advocate for policies that support screenwriters and actors. The opposition also plays a role in the publishing industry, as it can advocate for policies that support authors and publishers. The opposition also plays a role in the journalism sector, as it can advocate for policies that support news reporting. The opposition also plays a role in the advertising sector, as it can advocate for policies that support marketing agencies. The opposition also plays a role in the consulting sector, as it can advocate for policies that support business advisory firms. The opposition also plays a role in the legal sector, as it can advocate for policies that support lawyers and judges. The opposition also plays a role in the accounting sector, as it can advocate for policies that support accountants and auditors. The opposition also plays a role in the engineering sector, as it can advocate for policies that support engineers and architects. The opposition also plays a role in the construction sector, as it can advocate for policies that support building contractors. The opposition also plays a role in the manufacturing sector, as it can advocate for policies that support factory workers. The opposition also plays a role in the retail sector, as it can advocate for policies that support consumers and retailers. The opposition also plays a role in the hospitality sector, as it can advocate for policies that support hotels and restaurants. The opposition also plays a role in the travel sector, as it can advocate for policies that support tourists and airlines. The opposition also plays a role in the insurance sector, as it can advocate for policies that support policyholders and insurers. The opposition also plays a role in the banking sector, as it can advocate for policies that support customers and banks. The opposition also plays a role in the finance sector, as it can advocate for policies that support investors and financial institutions. The opposition also plays a role in the investment sector, as it can advocate for policies that support asset managers and fund providers. The opposition also plays a role in the pension sector, as it can advocate for policies that support retirees and pension funds. The opposition also plays a role in the social security sector, as it can advocate for policies that support elderly citizens. The opposition also plays a role in the disability benefits sector, as it can advocate for policies that support people with disabilities. The opposition also plays a role in the unemployment benefits sector, as it can advocate for policies that support job seekers. The opposition also plays a role in the child support sector, as it can advocate for policies that support families with children. The opposition also plays a role in the family law sector, as it can advocate for policies that support divorcees and co-parents. The opposition also plays a role in the probate sector, as it can advocate for policies that support estates and inheritance. The opposition also plays a role in the tax sector, as it can advocate for policies that support taxpayers and tax authorities. The opposition also plays a role in the customs and trade sector, as it can advocate for policies that support international commerce. The opposition also plays a role in the immigration and citizenship sector, as it can advocate for policies that support newcomers and immigrants. The opposition also plays a role in the refugee and asylum seeker sector, as it can advocate for policies that support vulnerable populations. The opposition also plays a role in the border control sector, as it can advocate for policies that manage cross-border movement. The opposition also plays a role in the passport and visa sector, as it can advocate for policies that facilitate travel. The opposition also plays a role in the consular services sector, as it can advocate for policies that support Canadian citizens abroad. The opposition also plays a role in the international relations sector, as it can advocate for policies that shape foreign policy. The opposition also plays a role in the diplomacy sector, as it can advocate for policies that promote peaceful relations. The opposition also plays a role in the peacekeeping sector, as it can advocate for policies that support UN missions. The opposition also plays a role in the humanitarian aid sector, as it can advocate for policies

Review and Complaints Commission for the Royal Canadian Mounted PoliceOffice of the Correctional InvestigatorParole Board of CanadaRCMP External Review CommitteePublic Services and ProcurementPSPC1996Jol Lightbound (Minister of Government Transformation, Public Services and Procurement; Receiver General)Arianne Reza (Deputy Minister; Deputy Receiver-General)AgencyShared Services CanadaSpecial Operating AgencyTransiation BureauCrown corporationsCanada Lands CompanyCanada PostDefence Construction CanadaNational Capital CommissionReview BodyOffice of the Procurement OmbudsmanTransportTC1935Chrystia Freeland (Minister of Transport)Arun Thangaraj(Deputy Minister)AgenciesOffice of Boating SafetyTransport Canada Civil Aviation DirectorateTransport Canada Marine SafetyCrown corporationsAtlantic Pilotage AuthorityBuffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge AuthorityCanadian Air Transport Security AuthorityFederal Bridge CorporationGreat Lakes Pilotage AuthorityLaurentian Pilotage AuthorityMarine AtlanticPortsTorontoRidley Terminals Inc.Pacific Pilotage AuthorityVia RailHalifax Port AuthorityHarbour of QuebecMontreal Port AuthorityNanaimo Port AuthorityOshawa-Hamilton Port AuthorityPort Alberni Port AuthorityPrince Rupert Port AuthorityQuebec Port AuthoritySaguenay Port AuthoritySaint John Port AuthoritySept-les Port AuthoritySt. John's Port AuthorityThunder Bay Port AuthorityTrois-Rivieres Port AuthorityVancouver Fraser Port AuthorityWindsor Port AuthorityBelledune Port AuthorityEnforcement AgencyVia Rail PoliceTransport InspectorFundsFund for Railway Accidents Involving Designated GoodsShip-source Oil Pollution FundReview bodiesCanadian Transportation AgencyTransportation Appeal Tribunal of CanadaVeterans AffairsVAC1944Jill McKnight (Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence)Peter Ledwell (Deputy Minister)AgenciesBureau of Pensions AdvocatesReview bodiesVeterans Review and Appeal BoardOffice of the Veterans OmbudsmanWomen and Gender EqualityWAGE2018Rechie Valdez (Minister of Women and Gender Equality)Frances McRae (Deputy Minister)NoneAgencyAbbreviationEstablishedMinisterDeputy headAssociated entityCanada Revenue AgencyCRA20031867 (historic)Franois-Philippe Champagne (Minister of National Revenue)Bob Hamilton (Commissioner of Revenue)Review bodyOffice of the Taxpayers OmbudspersonCanadian Judicial CouncilNational Judicial InstituteNational Security and Intelligence Review AgencyOffice of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial AffairsOffice of the Chief Military JudgePublic Service Commission of CanadaTransportation Safety BoardFederal Public Sector Labour Relations and Employment Board11Public Servants Disclosure Protection TribunalCanadian Human Rights CommissionCanadian Human Rights TribunalBranchAbbreviationEstablishedMinisterCommanderCanadian ArmyCA1855Bill BlairMichael WrightCanadian Forces Intelligence CommandCFINTCOM2013Dave AbboudCanadian Joint Operations CommandCJOC2012Steve BoivinCanadian Special Operations Forces CommandCANSOFCOM2006Steve HunterRoyal Canadian Air ForceRCAF1914Eric KennyRoyal Canadian NavyRCN1910Angus TopsheeCanadian Forces Military PoliceCFMP1917Vanessa HanrahanMain article: Parliament of CanadaSpeaker of the SenateClerk of the Senate and Clerk of the ParliamentsUsher of the Black Rod of the Senate of CanadaAboriginal PeoplesAgriculture and ForestryBanking, Trade, and CommerceEthics and Conflict of Interest for SenatorsEnergy, the Environment and Natural ResourcesFisheries and OceansForeign Affairs and International TradeHuman RightsInternal Economy, Budgets, and AdministrationDiversity subcommitteeHuman Resources subcommitteeSenate Estimates subcommitteeLegal and Constitutional AffairsNational FinanceNational Security and DefenceOfficial LanguagesRules, Procedure and the Rights of ParliamentSelection CommitteeSocial Affairs, Science and TechnologyTransport and CommunicationSpeaker of the House of CommonsClerk of the House of CommonsDeputy Clerk of the House of CommonsClerk AssistantLaw Clerk and Parliamentary CounselSergeant-at-ArmsAccess to Information, Privacy and EthicsAgriculture and Agri-FoodCanadian HeritageCitizenship and ImmigrationEnvironment and Sustainable DevelopmentFinanceFisheries and OceansForeign Affairs and International DevelopmentGovernment Operations and EstimatesHealthHuman Resources, Skills and Social Development andthe Status of Persons with DisabilitiesIndigenous and Northern AffairsIndustry, Science and TechnologyInternational TradeJustice and Human RightsNational DefenceNatural ResourcesOfficial LanguagesProcedure and House AffairsPublic AccountsPublic Safety and National SecurityStatus of WomenTransport, Infrastructure and CommunitiesVeterans AffairsLibrary of ParliamentScrutiny of RegulationsAuditor General of CanadaCommissioner of Lobbying of CanadaConflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner of CanadaInformation Commissioner of CanadaIntelligence Commissioner of CanadaElections CanadaPrivacy Commissioner of CanadaPublic Sector Integrity Commissioner of CanadaParliamentary Budget OfficerParliamentary Protective ServiceNational Security and Intelligence Committee of ParliamentariansMain article: Court system of CanadaSupreme Court of CanadaFederal Court of AppealCourt Martial Appeal Court of CanadaFederal Court of CanadaTax Court of CanadaCanada portalPolitics portalCivil Service Act, 1918Special Operating AgencyState-owned enterpriseCanadian Crown CorporationCanadian Coast Guard AuxiliaryRoyal Canadian Marine Search and RescuePPP CanadaExecutive Council of AlbertaExecutive Council of British ColumbiaExecutive Council of ManitobaExecutive Council of Newfoundland and LabradorExecutive Council of New BrunswickExecutive Council of Nova ScotiaExecutive Council of OntarioExecutive Council of Prince Edward IslandExecutive Council of QuebecExecutive Council of SaskatchewanExecutive Council of the Northwest TerritoriesExecutive Council of NunavutExecutive Council of YukonGovernment of AlbertaGovernment of British ColumbiaGovernment of ManitobaGovernment of Newfoundland and LabradorGovernment of New BrunswickGovernment of Nova ScotiaGovernment of OntarioGovernment of Prince Edward IslandGovernment of QuebecGovernment of Saskatchewan^ "Federal Public Sector Labour Relations and Employment Board". www.fpslreb-crtespf.gc.ca. 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