

Part 2: Government in Canada

Textbook Chapters 6, 7, 8 and 9

ESSENTIAL IDEAS:

- **Government**
 - Provincial Government
 - Local (Municipal) Government
 - School Boards
 - Accountability
- **Elections**
- **Active Citizenship**

I CAN:

- ...describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens living in a representative democracy
- ...explain the similarities and differences between direct and representative ...democracies
- ...value the contributions of elected representatives in the democratic process
- ...value the participation of citizens
- ...describe how elected officials demonstrate accountability to the electorate
- ...describe how individuals, groups and associations within a community participate in the decision-making process regarding current events or issues
- ...explain how representatives are chosen to form a local government (i.e., electoral process)
- ...describe the responsibilities of local governments (i.e., bylaws, taxes, services)
- ...explain how local governments are structured differently in rural and urban settings
- ...explain the role played by school boards (i.e., public, separate, Francophone) within local communities
- ...describe how the provincial government structured
- ...explain the role and status of the Lieutenant Governor within the provincial government
- ...outline the responsibilities of the provincial government (i.e., laws, taxes, services)
- ...explain how representatives are chosen at the provincial level of government (i.e., electoral process)
- ...describe the differences between the responsibilities of a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) and a cabinet minister

Local Government

1. What services are provided by the local government?
 - a. _____

- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____
- h. _____

2. Why do local governments collect taxes? _____

3. What is a bylaw? _____

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4. How is a bylaw created? _____

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5. Complete the following table that explains the organization of local government.

Organization of Local Government

Local Government	Top Elected Official	Representatives
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Urban		
Rural		
First Nations		
Metis		
School Boards		

6. How can citizens participate in local government? _____

7. What are the responsibilities of local government? _____

8. How are local representatives elected? _____

Provincial Government

9. What services are provided by the provincial government?

a. _____

b. _____

- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____
- h. _____

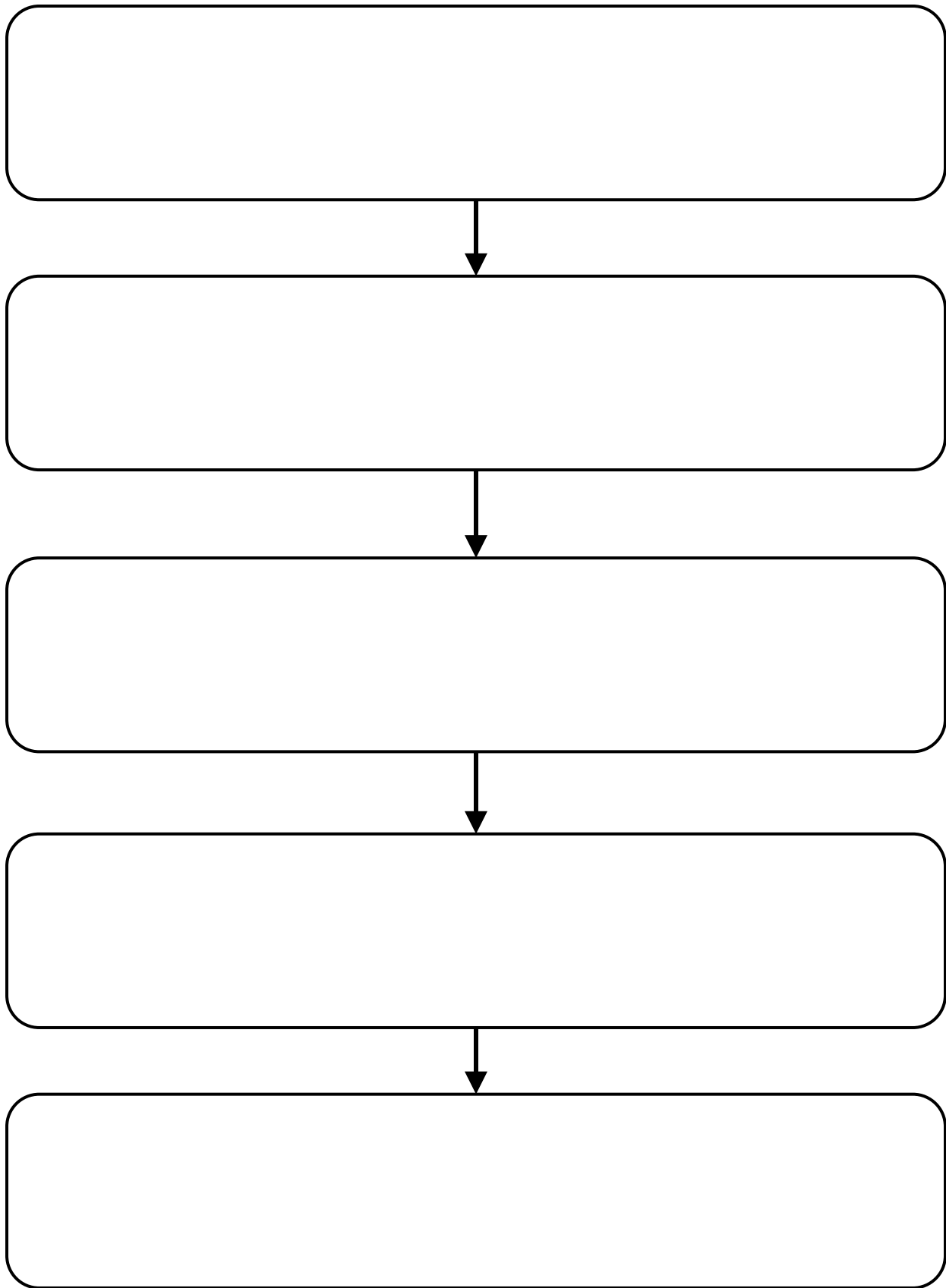
10.What are the responsibilities of the provincial government?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

11.Explain the roles of an **MLA** and a **cabinet minister**.

MLA	Cabinet Minister

12.Explain the steps that are taken to make a law in Alberta.



13. Complete the table explaining the structure of the provincial government.

Structure of the Provincial Government

Title	Definition of Role	How Person is Chosen	Responsibilities
Lieutenant Governor			
Premier			
MLA (party in power)			
MLA (opposition member)			
Cabinet Minister			

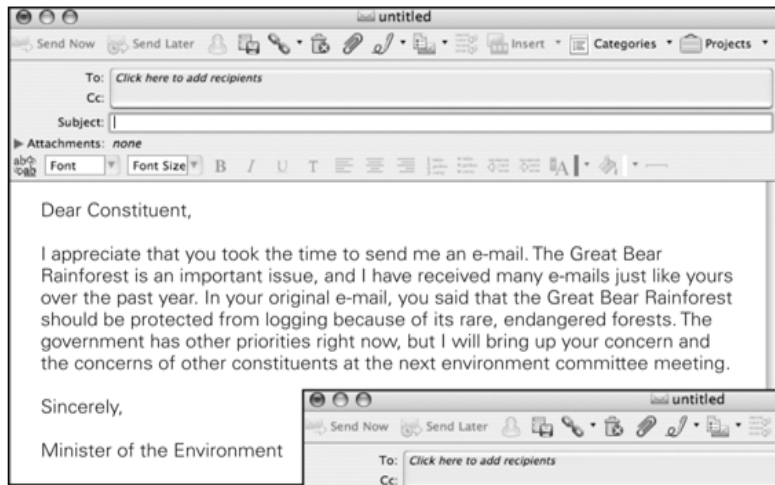
14. How can you, as a citizen, participate in provincial government?

Accountability

15. Representatives in a democracy show that they are accountable in many ways, including

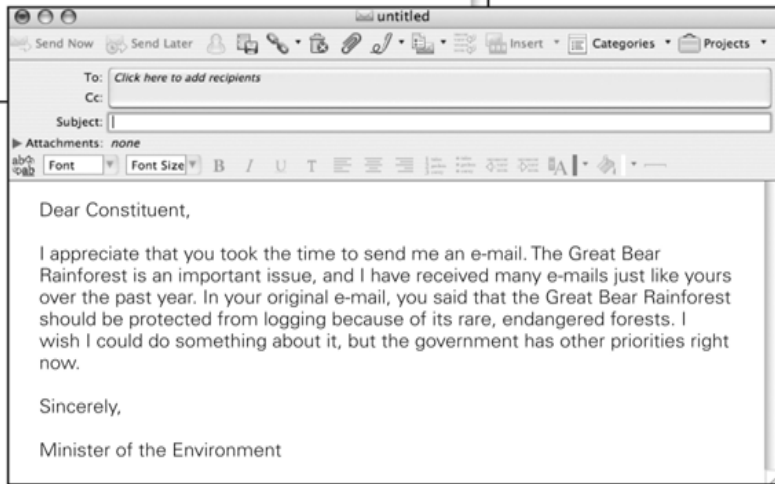
- a. Listening to constituents, responding to their e-mails and phone calls
- b. Presenting the concerns of constituents' concerns at government meetings
- c. Keeping constituents informed about what their representative is doing

Circle the e-mail that you think demonstrates the best example of accountability.



A

B



16. The e-mail I chose is the best example of an elected representative demonstrating accountability to constituents because _____

Elections

17. Why is it important to vote?

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18. The chart below describes six steps in Alberta's electoral process. In the boxes on the right use the numbers from 1 to 6 to indicate the correct order for these steps.

Steps in the Electoral Process	Order
Campaigning Begins <ul style="list-style-type: none">• each candidate “campaigns” to encourage people to vote for him/her	
A New Government Is Formed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the party that has the most candidates elected to seats in the legislature becomes the government• the leader of the party with the most seats in the Legislature becomes the Premier	
An Election Is Called <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Lieutenant Governor “calls an election” at the request of the Premier	
Election Day Arrives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• on election day, people go to polling stations to vote• each person casts a secret ballot for the candidate of their choice	
Parties Present Candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• political parties present candidates to run in constituencies• if the candidate wins she/he gets a seat in the Legislature	
A Winner Is Declared <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the ballots are counted• the candidate with the most votes wins the constituency• every constituency is equal to one seat in the Legislature	

19. Define the following election terms.

candidate	
constituency	
campaign	

polling station	
ballot	
political party	

Active Citizenship

20. What are 7 action steps **you** can take to make a difference?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____

21. Explain how citizens can take the following actions when concerned about an issue:

Lobbying	
Petitioning	
Meetings	

Organizing or attending rallies	
Contact elected representatives	
Forums	

22. In the following chart are roles you can take on or groups you can join to be an active citizen. Define each one.

association	
advocate	
board of directors	
delegate	
stakeholder	