

Unit 5: Levels of Government

PART B: PROVINCIAL (CHAPTER 9)



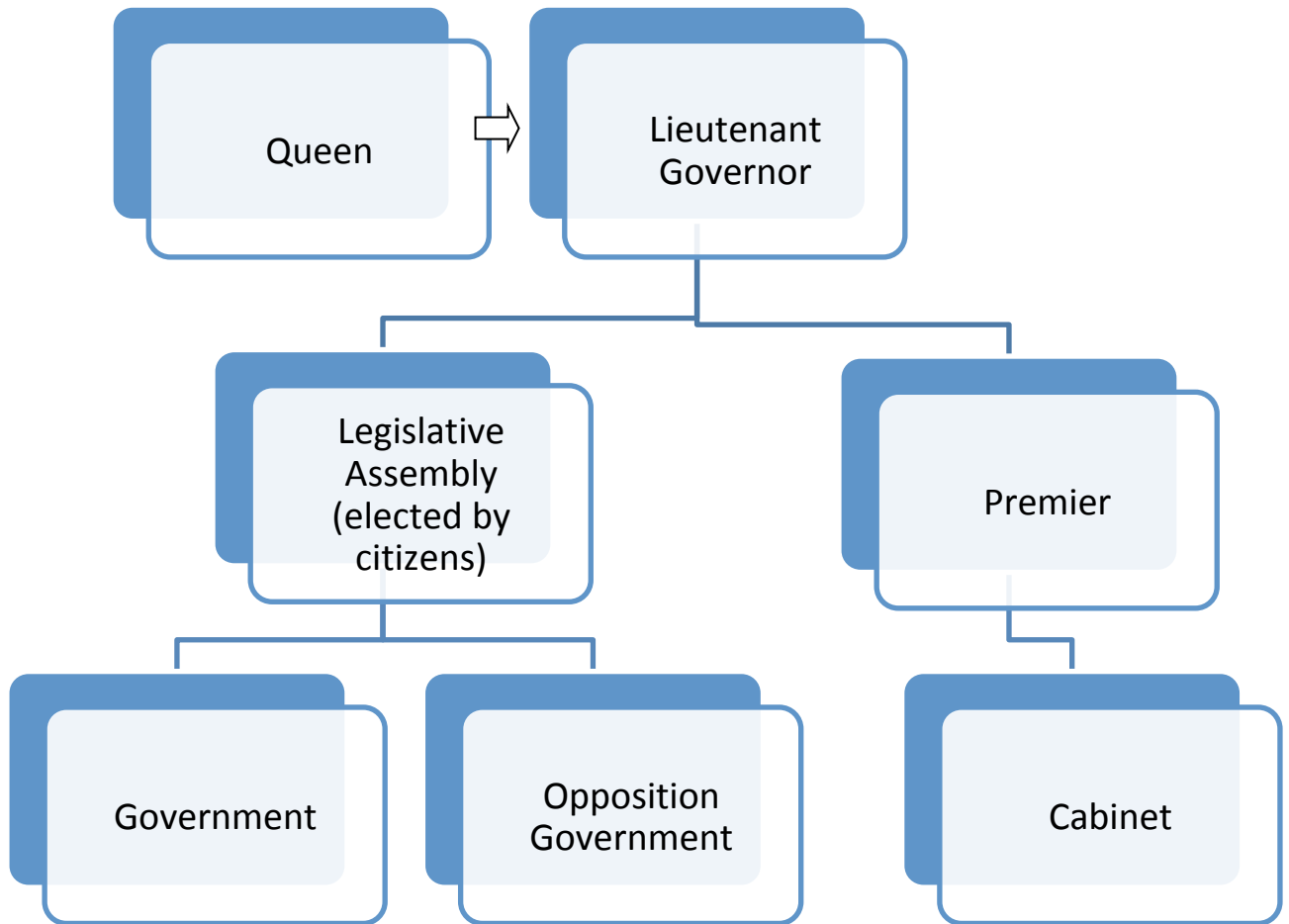
NAME:

CLASS:

6.1.5 analyze the structure and functions of Alberta's provincial government by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:	
• How is the provincial government structured?	
• What is the role and status of the Lieutenant Governor within the provincial government?	
• What are the responsibilities of the provincial government (i.e., laws, taxes, services)?	
• How are representatives chosen at the provincial level of government (i.e., electoral process)?	
• What are the differences between the responsibilities of a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) and a cabinet minister?	



HOW IS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURED?



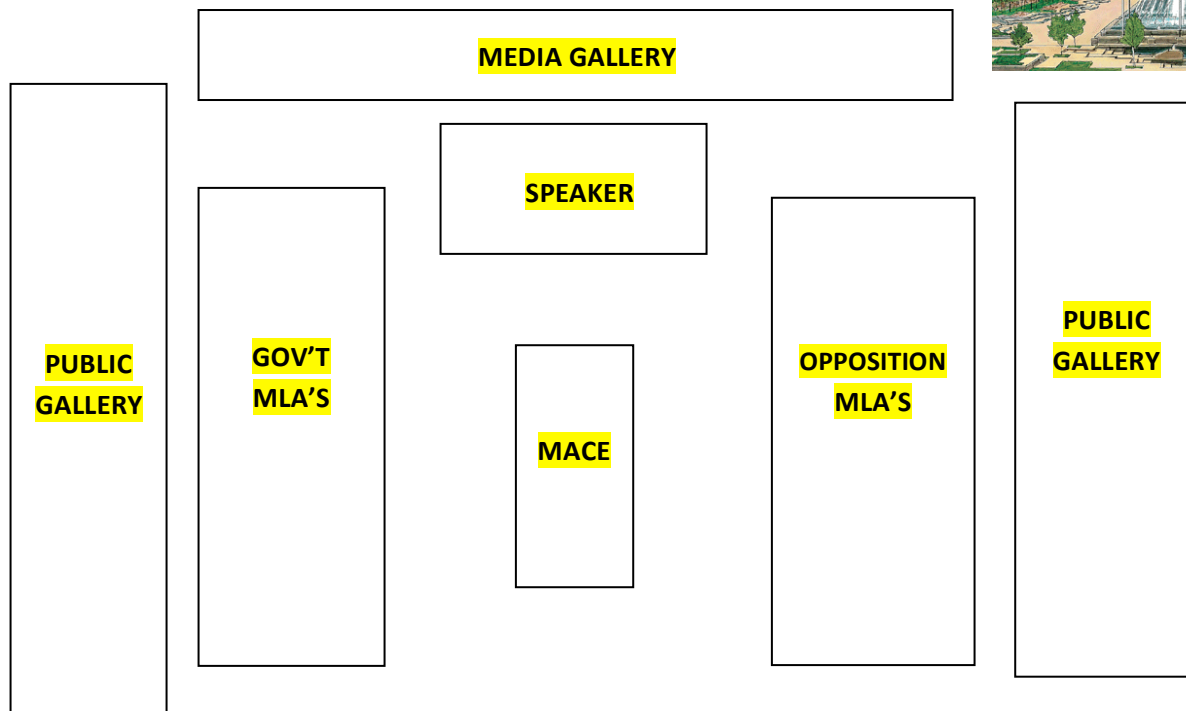
The official government party of Alberta is the **United Conservative Party**. The leader of the government is **Jason Kenney**.

The official opposition party of Alberta is the **New Democrat Party**. The leader of this party is **Rachel Notley**.

The **Premier** is the leader of the political party with the most seats in the provincial government. The **Premier** is a **member** of the Legislative **Assembly**, and represents the **needs** of one constituency. As a leader of the government, or **Premier**, this person also **represents** Alberta.

Inside the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

Fill in the Picture Below from Page 246 of your text.

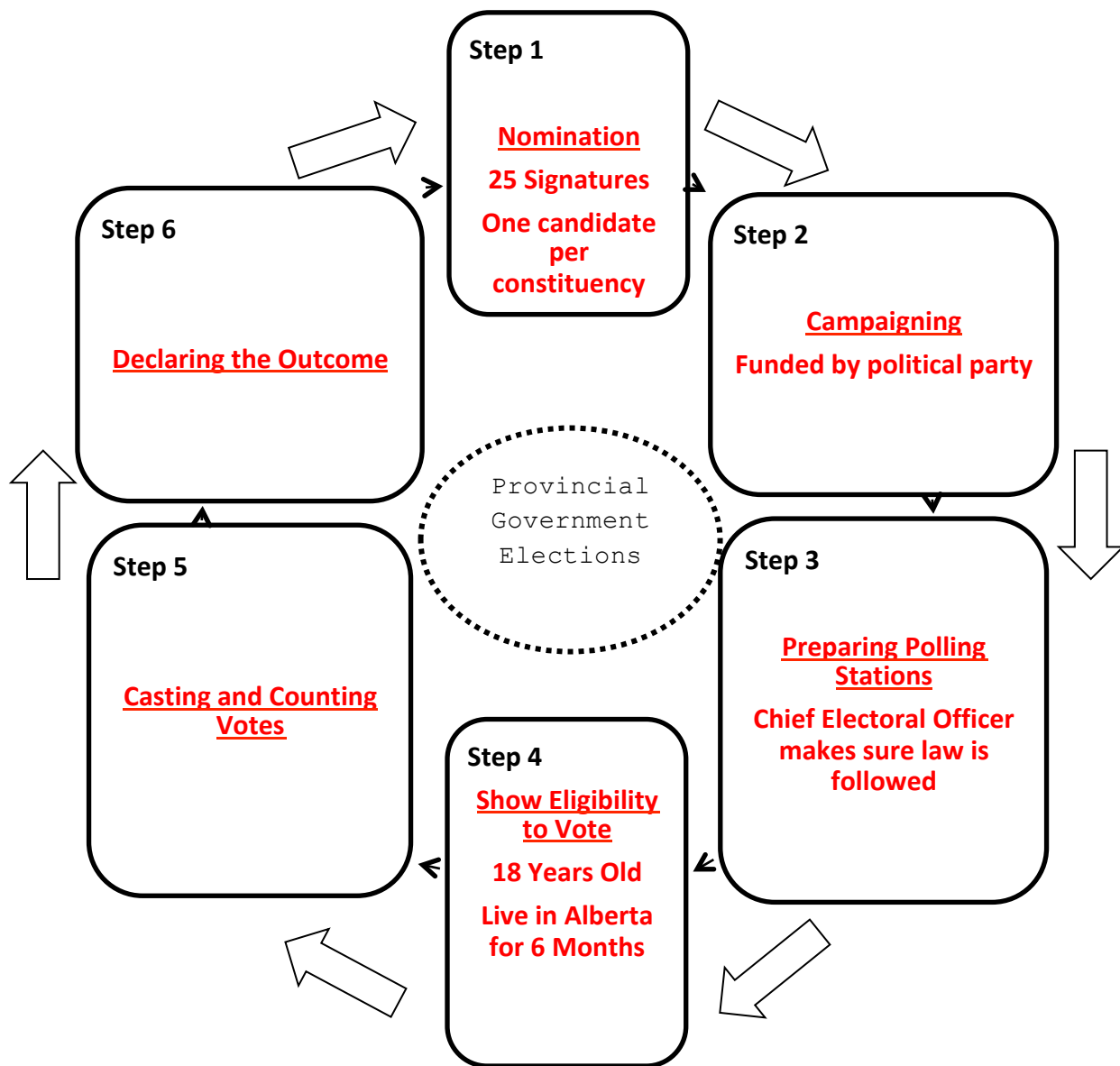


There are **87** elected representatives in the Legislative Assembly. When a representative wins an election gives them a right to a **seat** in the Assembly. Each **seat** matches an area of an electoral division or **constituency**. Constituencies are defined by **population**, or natural divides, such as **mountains** or **rivers**. The boundaries of Constituencies **change** as the population of Alberta Changes.

Roles of Political parties in Provincial Government:

<i>Party forming the Government</i>	<i>Party forming the Opposition</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More MLA's than the opposition - Holds a specific set of ideas - Defends its ideas through debate - Collects and spends taxes ★ - Defends how it handles topics of concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fewer MLA's than the government - Have different ideas - Challenge government ideas through debate - Challenges how much the government collects and spends taxes - Informs the public about topics of concern and challenges the government's actions on these topics

Provincial Elections



What are the differences between local governments and provincial governments in the nominating, and campaigning?

Nominating- Provincial – chose political party candidate in constituencies, individuals can be nominated as independents, must be knowledgeable about role of MLA , 25 signatures needed

Local – individuals nominated, no connection to a political party, knowledgeable about required duties for mayor, reeve, councillor, etc., 10 signature needed

Campaigning – Provincial – candidates supported by political party members, campaign costs supported by political party donations, campaign lit. Identifies political party and candidate, must go door-to-door, attend forums and give interviews

Local – candidates not supported by political party, campaign costs are not supported by political party, campaign lit is candidates choice, must go door-to-door, attend forums, give interviews

What are the roles of provincial representatives?

<p>PREMIER</p> 	<p>Leader of the party that wins the most seats becomes the premiere.</p> <p>Premiere is an MLA and represents voters of 1 constituency as well as all of Alberta.</p>
<p>MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA'S)</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend session of the Legislative Assembly 2. Communicate with constituents 3. Support the needs of the constituents
<p>CABINET MINISTER</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The premiere chooses cabinet ministers from the MLA's that belong to their party - Cabinet ministers are responsible for specific ministries or departments - Ministries have staff to carry out the directions of cabinet ministers - Together, the premiere and cabinet ministers are called the Executive Council
<p>OPPOSITION MLA'S</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Often called the "watchdog" because of its role in ensuring that government decisions are fair - Some opposition MLA's are given the task as a <i>shadow minister</i> - Makes the government more accountable - Helps make all voices heard

Party with the 2nd highest votes becomes the "Official Opposition"

Services of the Provincial Government

The Government pays for services by collecting taxes. The Provincial government collects **income** tax, which is a tax paid by the citizens of **Alberta** based on how much money they **make**. The government decides how to spend taxes, and use the money to provide services by creating a **budget**.

Services the provincial government provides are the responsibility of a certain **Ministers**. The head of this **Ministry** is called a **Cabinet** Minister. A **MINISTRY** is a part of a **provincial government** with a specific **purpose** and staff, and run by a **Cabinet Minister**.

Look in the blue pages of a local phone book, on the government of Alberta website, or pg 267 of the text book to list 3 ministries, and what services they provide.

Service:
FOOD &
AGRICULTURE

- Takes care of food producers and consumers.
- Protects consumers by setting standards.
- EX. Dairy farms that process milk need a license to make sure it's safe.

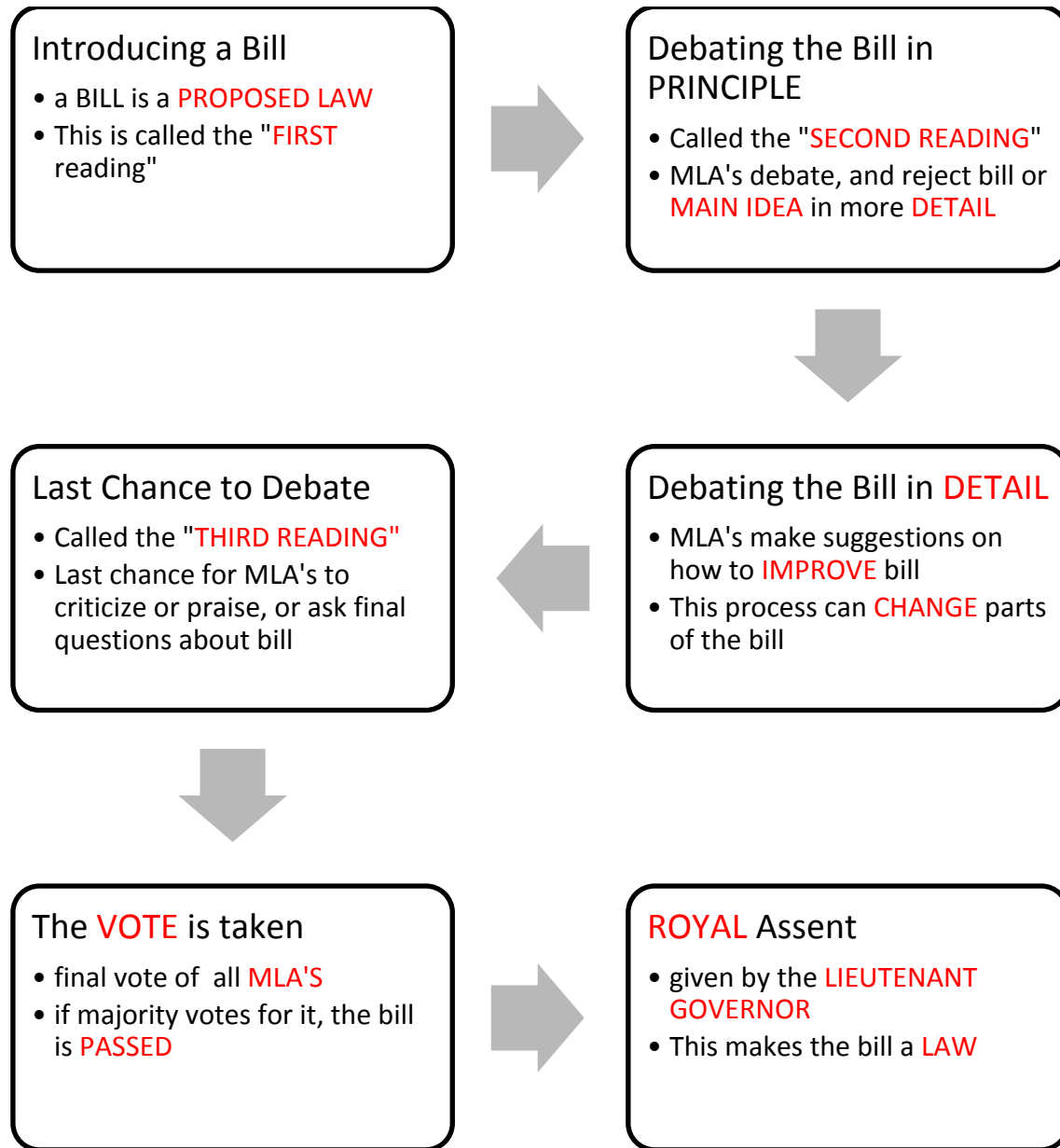
Service
HEALTH

- This ministry costs \$12 billion to run. Costs \$1.4 million an hour.
- This money pays for hospitals and medical workers.

Service
TRANSPORT

- Infrastructure is buildings, lands, roads and bridges.
- This ministry maintains highways and roads that link urban centers.

Steps to Pass a Law in the Legislative Assembly



Give an example of three laws passed by the provincial government:

Role of the Lieutenant Governor in the Legislative Assembly (pg. 270-272)

One

- Represents the **MONARCH (QUEEN)**
- **HIGHEST RANKING** person in Alberta

Two

- Is **IMPARTIAL**
- Does not belong to any **POLITICAL PARTY**

Three

- **OPENS**, and **CLOSES** a session of the **LEGISLATURE**

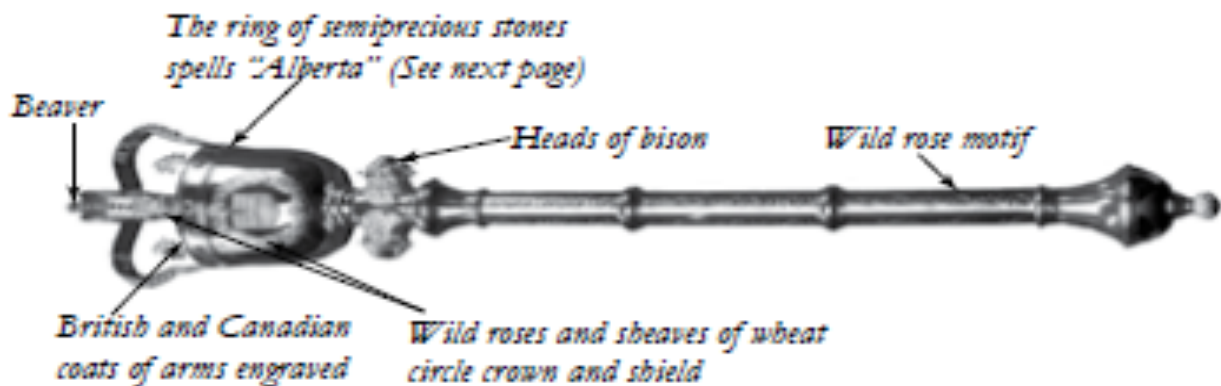
Four

- Reads the **SPEECH** from the **THRONE** at the beginning of a session
- Speech **OUTLINES** what the government **PLANS** to do

Five

- Grants **ROYAL ASSENT** to bills that have passed the **THIRD** reading

The Mace- A Symbol of Democracy



The Mace contains several symbols of Alberta. How do Albertans identify with these symbols?