

Know Canada

“了解加拿大”系列讲座

加拿大的民主制度和大选

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GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA

HOW ARE WE GOVERNED?



DEMOCRACY

From the Greek word : *demokratia* *Rule by the people*

The questions

- What do you mean by rule?
- Who are the people ?

General Definition

A Government

- of the people,
- by the people and
- for the people

President Abraham Lincoln

Gettysburg Address

1863

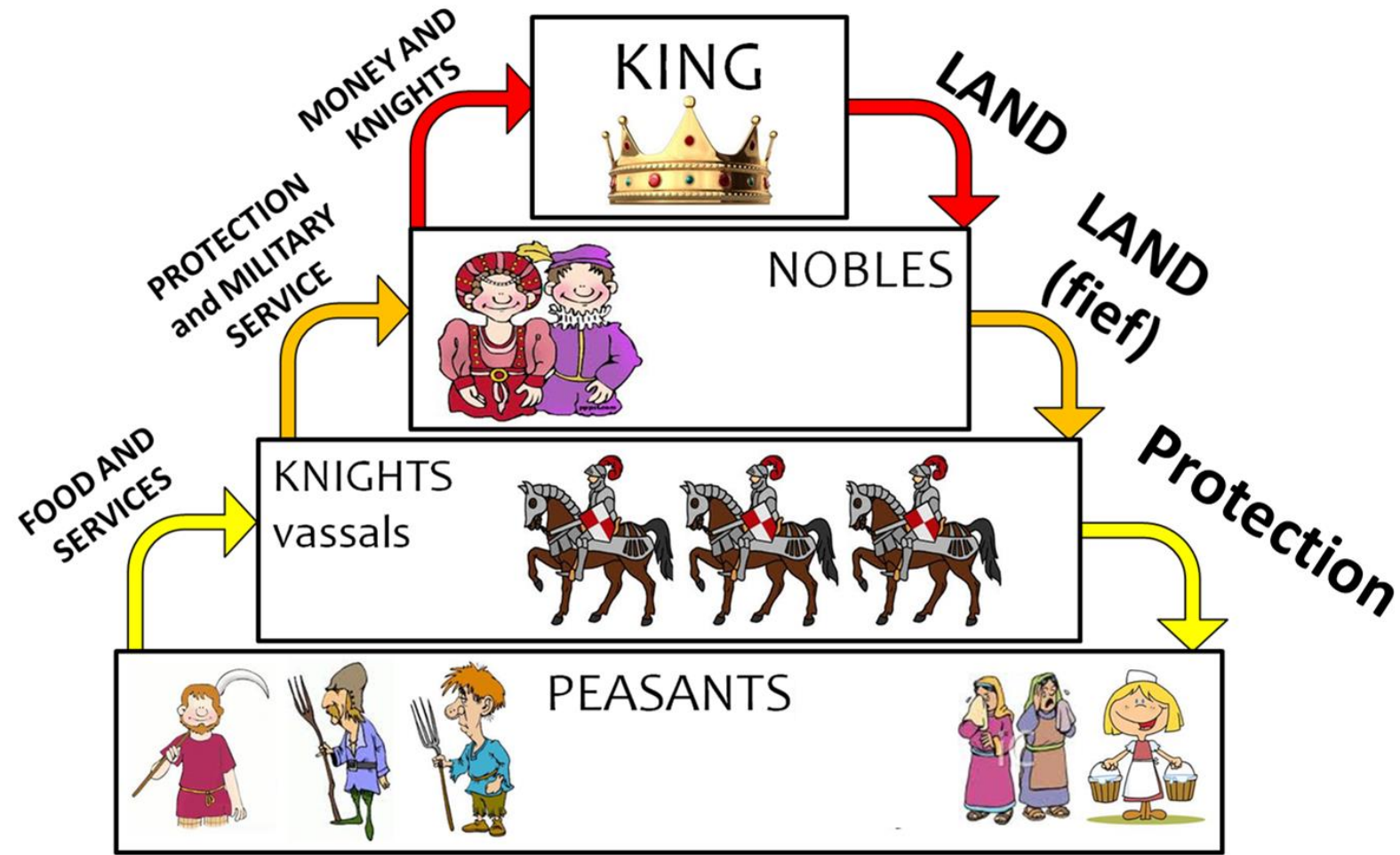
The Four Elements of Democracy

- 1. A political system for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections.**
- 2. The active participation of the people, as citizens, in politics and civic life.**
- 3. Protection of the human rights of all citizens.**
- 4. A rule of law, in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens**

THE KING



RULER BY THE AUTHORITY OF GOD



Feudal Pyramid of Power



As cities and trade grew the lower classes started to earn money and wanted a say in how things were run

Magna Carta 1215



NO MAN IS ABOVE THE LAW

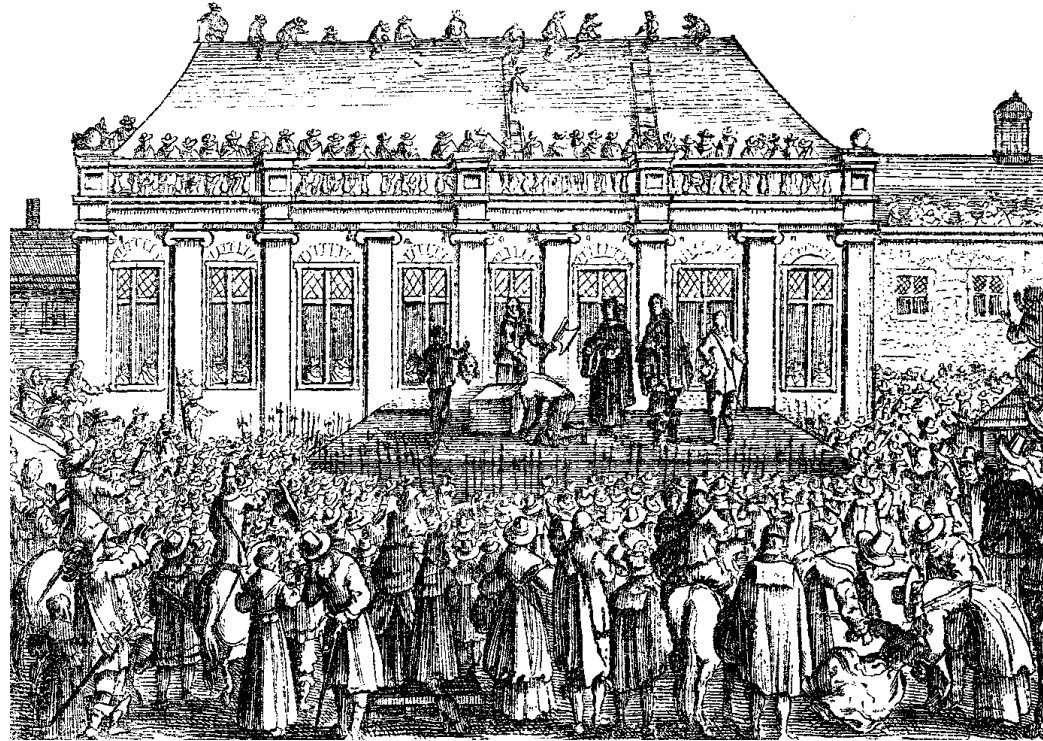
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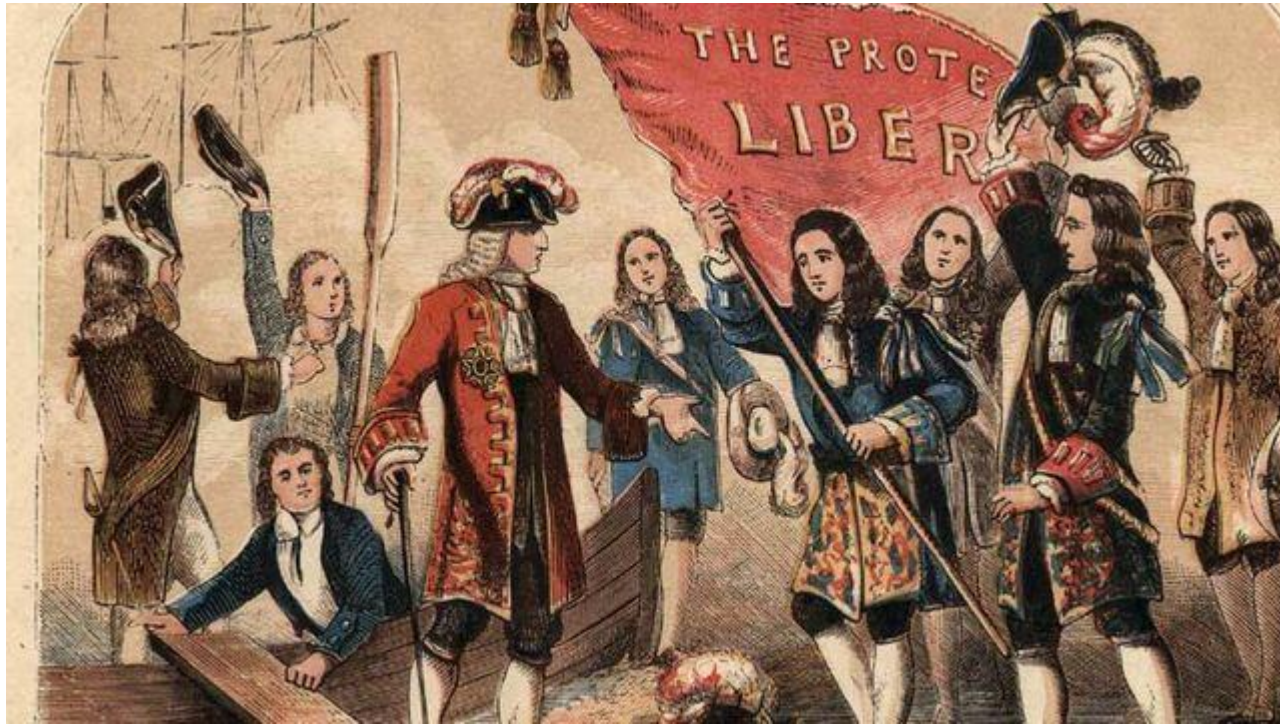
The Execution of Charles 1

Jan 30 1649



The King is not above the law but how far can Parliament go?

The Glorious Revolution 1688



The King May Rule with the consent of the people

Parliament

The place where the people may speak



Parliamentary Reform



Reforms were required to decide who could vote. As the year went by the number of those able to vote grew as property and wealth requirements were reduced and the definition of citizen expanded

**By the 1920s the last minority were included as
Women got the Vote after many years of protest**





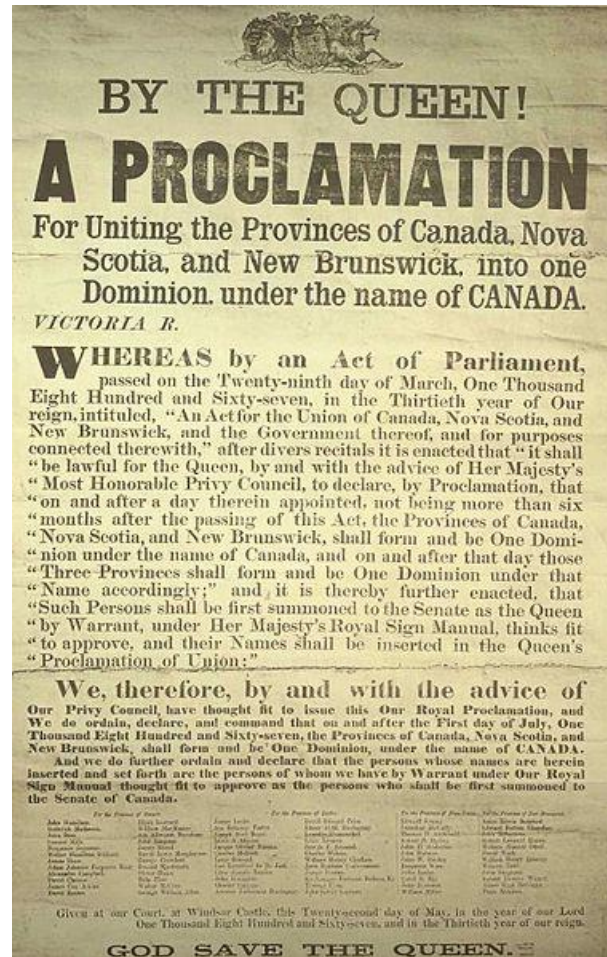
Eventually people who thought alike formed Political Parties to help get their candidates elected and then have their voices heard in Parliament



Canada uses the British Parliamentary System as we were once a colony of Britain and used to that system
In 1864 Delegates from across Canada met to discuss uniting the British Colonies



JULY 1 1867





What is Canada's political system?

In Canada, there are 3 levels of government. Each level of government has different responsibilities.

- Federal government (the [Government of Canada](#)) - Responsible for things that affect the whole country, such as citizenship and immigration, national defence and trade with other countries.
- Provincial and territorial governments (for example, the [Province of Ontario](#)) - Responsible for such things as education, health care and highways.
- Municipal (local) governments ([cities, towns, and villages in Ontario](#)) - Responsible for firefighting, city streets and other local matters. If there is no local government, the province provides services.



Federal Government

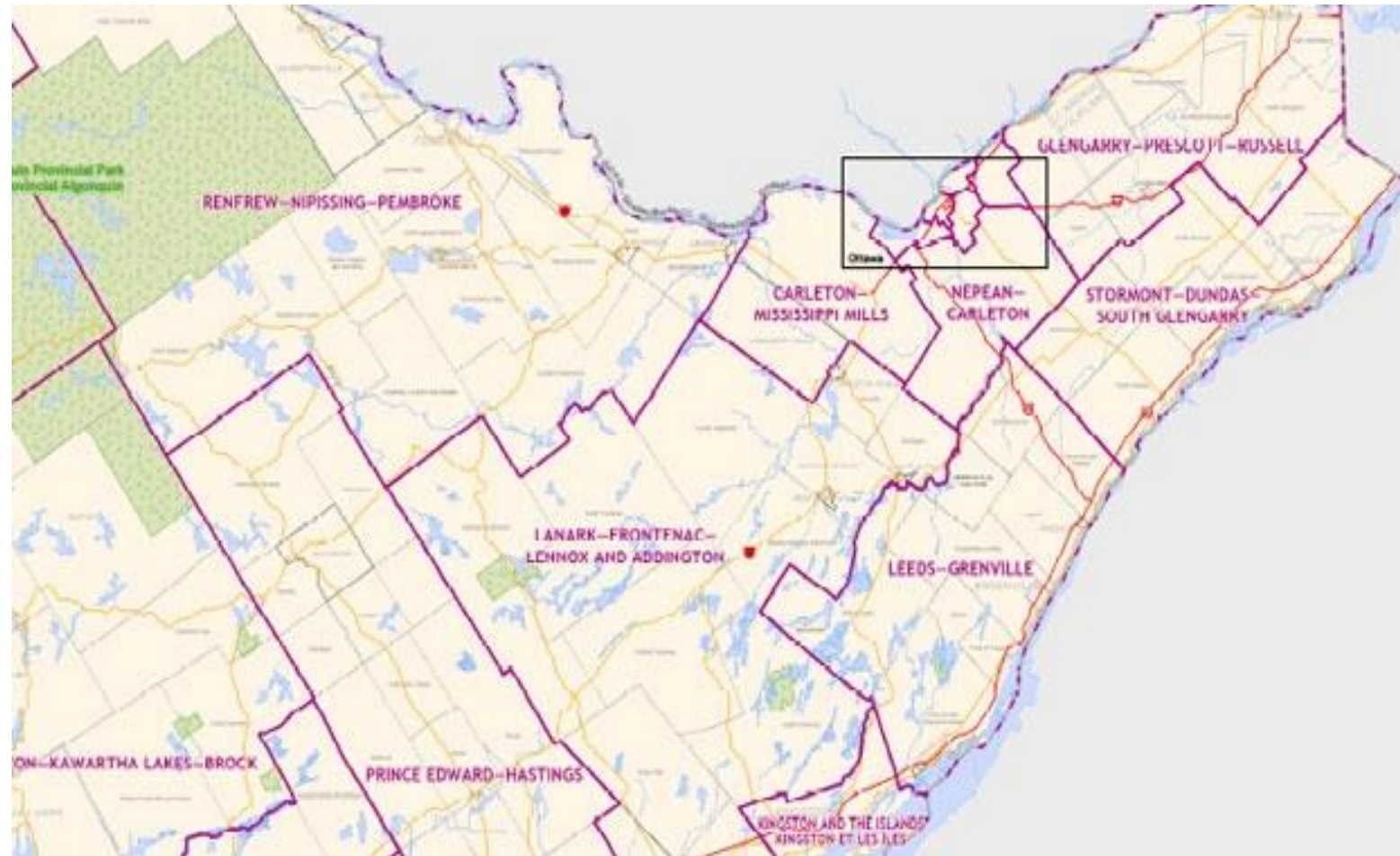
At the **federal** level, there are 3 parts of government:

- Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, is Canada's formal **head of state**. The [Governor General](#) represents the Queen in Canada and carries out the duties of head of state.
- The **House of Commons** makes Canada's laws. Canadians elect representatives to the House of Commons. These representatives are called **Members of Parliament (MPs)** and usually belong to a political party. The political party that has the largest number of MPs forms the government, and its leader becomes prime minister.
- The **prime minister** is the head of government in Canada. The Prime Minister chooses MPs to serve as ministers in the **cabinet**. There are ministers for citizenship and immigration, justice and other subjects. The cabinet makes important decisions about government policy.
- The **Senate** reviews laws that are proposed by the House of Commons. Senators come from across Canada. The prime minister chooses the senators.

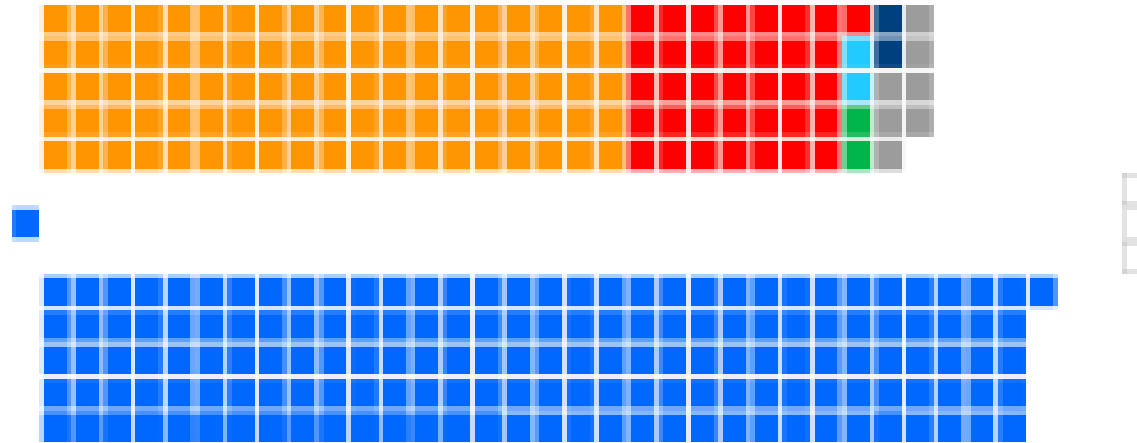








The House of Commons



[House of Commons](#) political groups

[Conservative Party](#) (162)
[New Democratic Party](#) (95)
[Liberal Party](#) (36)
[Bloc Québécois](#) (2)
[Green Party](#) (2)
[Forces et Démocratie](#) (2)
[Independent](#) (7)
[Vacant](#) (3)





Provincial Government

At the provincial level

- The **Lieutenant Governor** represents the Queen.
- The **Legislative Assembly** makes law. In Ontario, elected representatives are called **Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)**.

The political party that has the largest number of MPPs forms the government, and its leader becomes **premier**. The premier is the head of government in Ontario.

The **premier** leads the government and chooses MPPs to serve as ministers in the **cabinet**. The cabinet sets government policy and introduces laws for the Legislative Assembly to consider.





Municipal (Local) Government

At the **municipal** level:

- The Province of Ontario defines the structure, finances, and management of the local governments of cities, towns and villages.
- Residents of the municipality elect the **mayor** and **council** members to lead the local government. **Committees** of councillors discuss budget, service and administrative issues that are then passed on to the council for debate. Citizens, business owners and community groups can present their concerns to councillors at committee meetings.
- Municipalities may also be part of a larger county or regional government (for example, [York Region](#)).



Thank You
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