



The Federal Government and Winning Campaigns

Levels of Government

Canadian Government



Responsibilities

Some examples of responsibilities for levels of government include:



Federal

- Banking
- Food Safety
- National Defence
- Postal Service
- Radio and Telecommunication
- Safety
- Transportation



Provincial

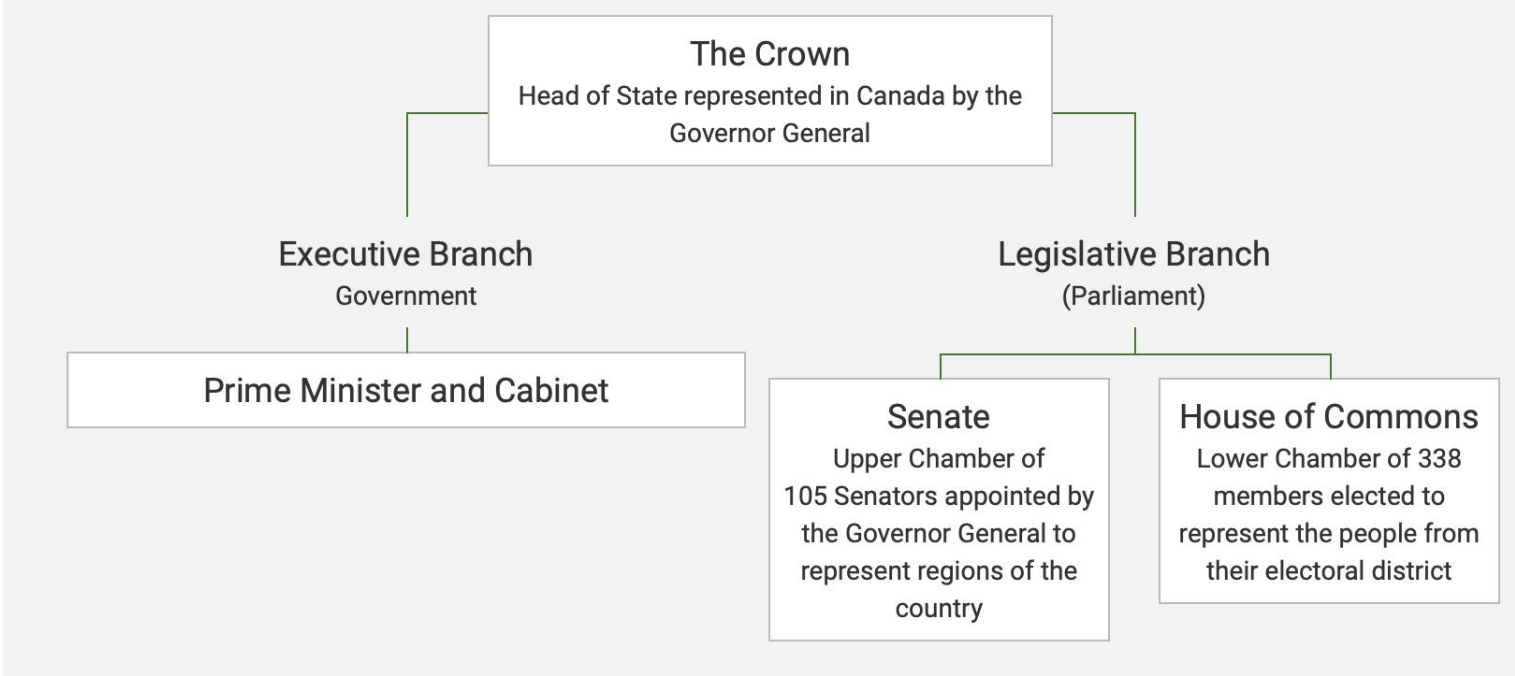
- Environment
- Energy Production
- Hunting and Fishing
- Provincial Court
- Health Care
- Charitable Institutions
- Driver's Licenses
- Education



Municipal

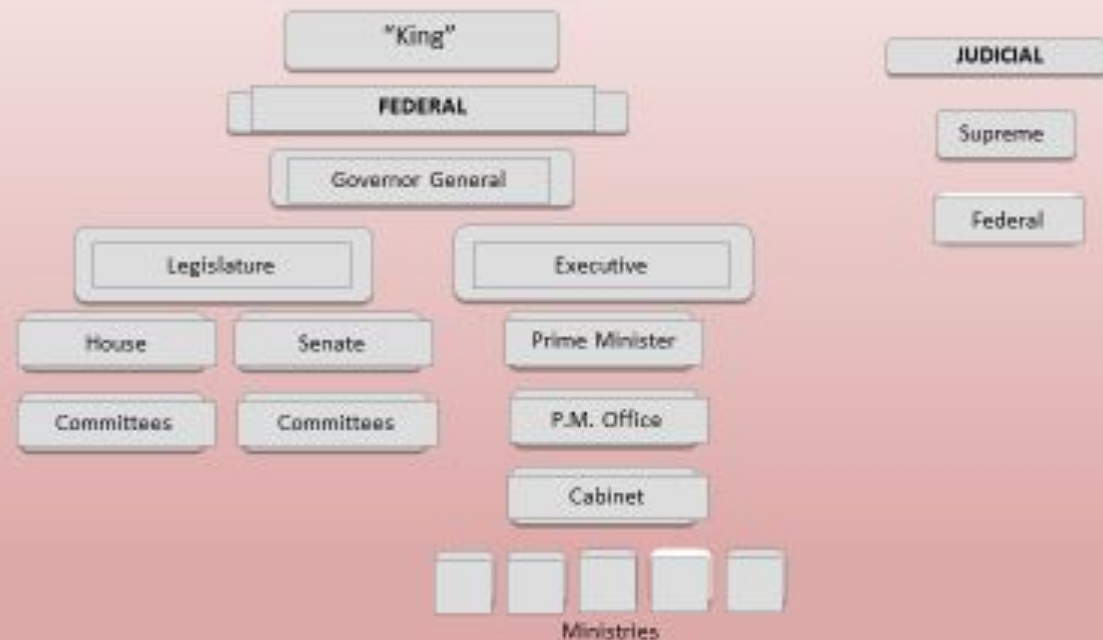
- Water and Sewer
- Garbage Collection
- City Parks
- Fire Prevention
- Roads and Sidewalks
- Public Transportation
- Building Permits and Zoning

Canada's Parliamentary system



Bicameral parliamentary democracy

Levels of Government - Federal












Cabinet

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.

The House of Commons

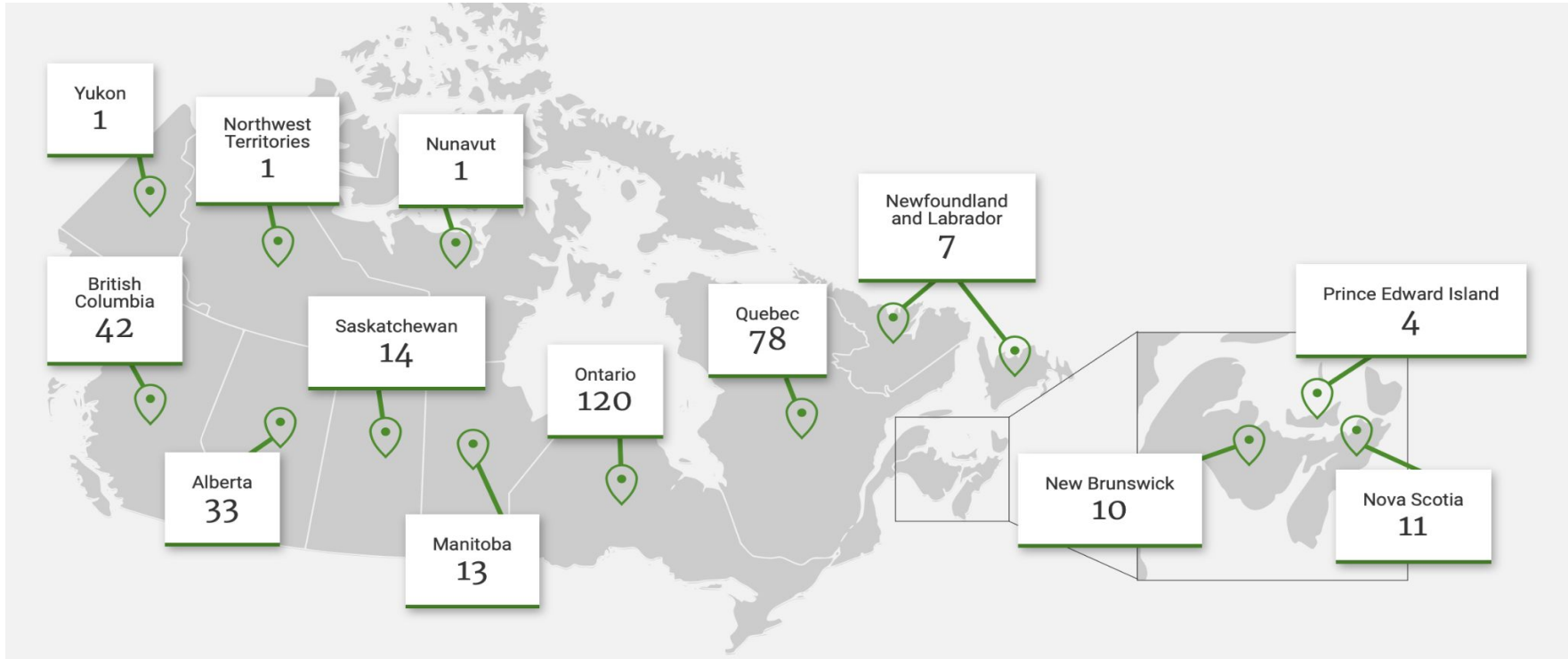


 Liberal 158	 Conservative 116
 Bloc Québécois 32	 NDP 25
 Green Party 2	 Independent 2

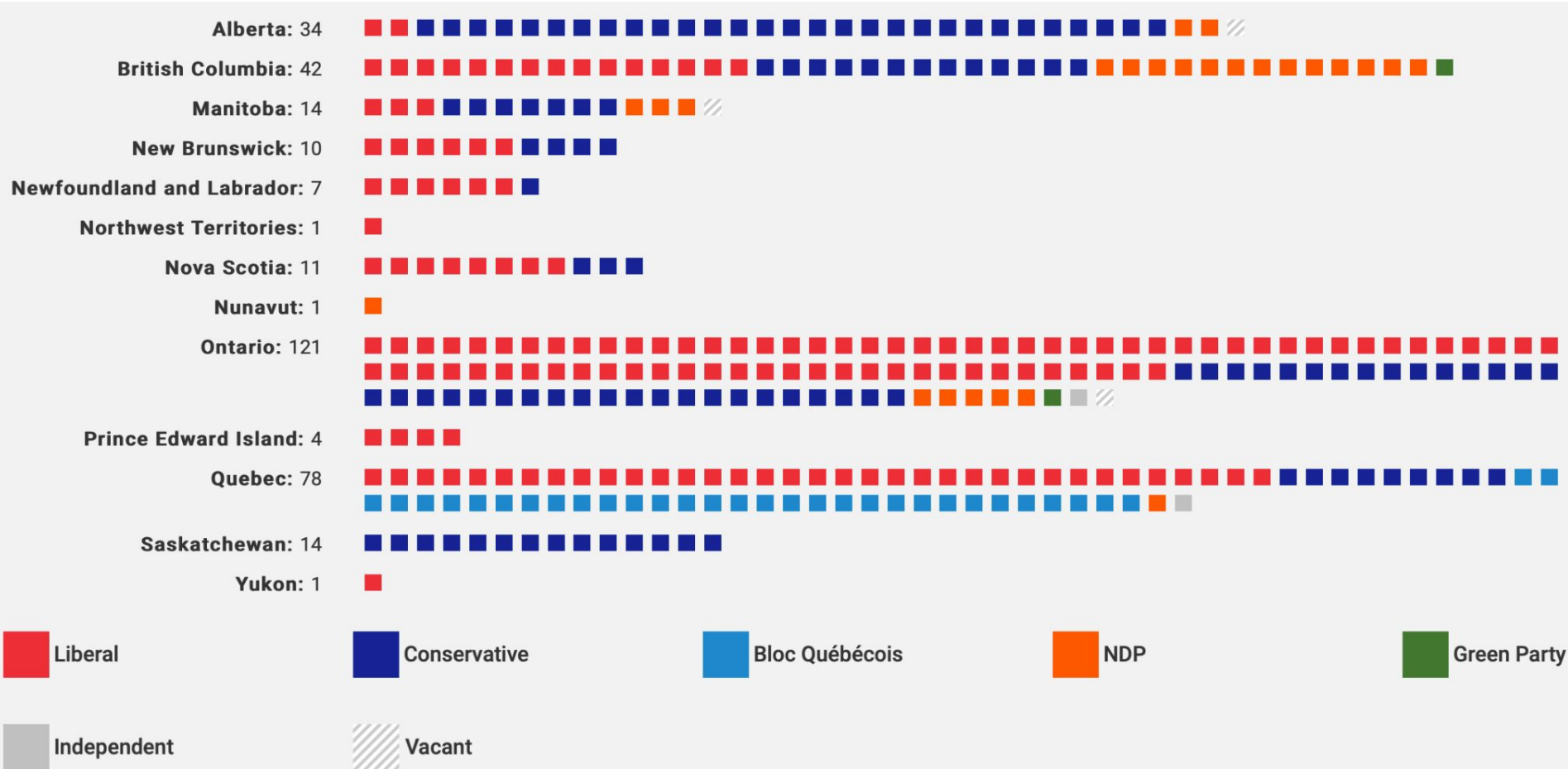
Political Affiliation

Each member of Parliament is elected to represent a constituency in the House. There are currently **335 members** in office in the **44th Parliament**.

Distribution of MPs by Province/Territory



Where do Parties stand across Province/Territory?



Majority and Minority Governments



MAJORITY

More than half of the seats in the House of Commons: **at least 170 out of 338 seats.**

- **Clear mandate** to introduce and pass laws to achieve what's promised in the electoral platform.
- **Legislative power**: The party can pass or reject any law because they have more than half the votes.
- **Stability**: Most majority governments finish their standard four-year term in office between federal elections.

MINORITY

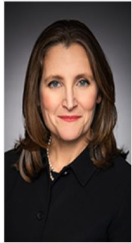
No political party has a majority of seats in the House of Commons. The political party that forms the minority government **requires the support of another political party (or parties) to pass laws.**

- **Legislative compromise**
- **Increased influence by the opposition parties**
- **Instability**

COALITION GOVERNMENT

Two or more political parties that agree to form a government together, with a Cabinet that includes ministers from each party.

Key People at the Federal Government & ACORN Campaigns



The Honourable
Chrystia Freeland
Minister of Finance
Deputy Prime Minister
University—Rosedale
Ontario

Fair Banking



The Honourable
Ahmed Hussen
Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion
York South—Weston
Ontario

Housing



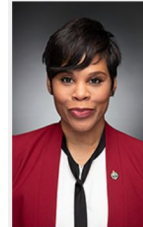
The Honourable
François-Philippe Champagne
Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry
Saint-Maurice—Champlain
Quebec

Internet For All



The Honourable
Carla Qualtrough
Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion
Delta
British Columbia

EI and Disability Rights



The Honourable
Marci Ien
Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth
Toronto Centre
Ontario

Housing

EI/Workers
Benefit



The Honourable
Kamal Khera
Minister of Seniors
Brampton West
Ontario

Increased GIS for
seniors at age 65

NDP Critics



Daniel Blaikie

Critic - Finance; Employment and Workforce Development; Democratic Reform; Deputy Critic - International Trade

Elmwood—Transcona



Matthew Green

Critic - Ethics; Deputy Critic - Public Services and Procurement; Labour; Employment and Workforce Development

Hamilton Centre



Jenny Kwan

Caucus Chair; Critic - Housing; Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Vancouver East



Peter Julian

House Leader; Critic - Canadian Heritage; Public Safety; Deputy Critic - Finance

New Westminster—Burnaby

How a Bill Becomes a Law



House of Commons Standing Committees



ROLE OF COMMITTEES

- Examine, in small groups, selected matters in greater depth than is possible in the House of Commons.
- Report conclusions of those examinations, and recommendations, to the House.
- Undertake studies on departmental spending, legislation and issues related to their mandate.

IMPORTANT COMMITTEES *for ACORN*

1. Finance Committee (FINA) - *FAIR BANKING*
2. Human Resources, Skills & Social Development & Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA) - *HOUSING and Disability Rights*
3. Industry & Technology (INDU) - *Internet for All*
4. Status of Women (FEWO)



Part 2

How to Win Campaigns



The Hard Part!! - Getting Your Campaign to Become a Bill or Policy

Bills and by-Laws that ACORN has Won

- ❖ Payday Lending Bills BC, Ontario, NS 2008 - 2015
- ❖ Living Wage By Law – New West, BC
- ❖ Landlord Registration by law (Rentsafe) – Toronto, Mississauga
- ❖ Min distancing by law – Burnaby
- ❖ Toronto Rent Grant Program
- ❖ Temporary Rent Control - NS, NB
- ❖ Other

Example - Payday Lending Act - Ontario

ACORN Leaders decide to Launch this Campaign 2006

ACORN members and Leaders do monthly actions - giving Loan Shark Awards and more - lots of press





Example Payday Lending Act - Ontario

ACORN leaders stand up to say they have been ripped off by these companies.

ACORN leaders and staff find a political champion - Cheri Denovi (Ontario NDP)

ACORN does 2 reports looking at the growth of the industry and survey to ACORN members about the problems with these predatory loans. ACORN releases the reports at actions outside lenders.

Lots of press .

Lots of discussion and planning at chapter meetings.

Ontario NDP introduces private member bill into liberal majority government . Bill is rejected by liberal and reintroduced by the ONDP about 6 times

We reach out to allies to get them to support campaign

ACORN meet with several Liberal MPPs and continues actions. Lots of press.

Liberals Introduce the Payday lending Act 2009



Elections

- Elections affect how politicians think about their jobs
- Politicians have to get elected usually every 4 years
- What they need to win inform what they feel they need to do while in office

Democracy





Discussion Small Groups

- What are other ways we can fight to win our campaigns (besides elections) ?
- In between Elections