

Parliamentary System

Executive power The power to make decisions and set policies. Executive power ranges depending on the way the power is divided between "who controls what".

Legislative Power The power to make and amend laws. All three levels of government (federal, provincial and municipal) have their own legislative Power.

Judicial Power Has the power to decide who has broken the law and to set penalties. In democracies the Judicial Power lies in courts and judges who ~~act~~ act separately from the government to ensure that the government and countries population act within the Constitution and private rights.

Legislative Branch

*see diagram pg 227.

Definition also known as the Parliament, it is composed of the governor general, the House of Commons, and the Senate.

House of Commons - structure & explain ^(Lower House) "Lower House" is the only part of the legislative branch that has elected members. Elections take place every 5 years if not called for an earlier date by the Prime Minister. Canada is divided into areas that have a population of 100,000, therefore the number of MPs are determined by the countries population. These areas are called ridings (or constituencies). Each riding elects one candidate to represent them in the House of Commons. These representatives are called MPs (Members of Parliament). Debates in the HoC are overseen by the speaker of the house, he/she is elected by other members of Parliament and makes all rules to be applied fairly in Parliament.

Caucus - structure & explain

When a political party holds a private meeting it is called a caucus. In these meetings MPs may speak freely and argue one another and express opinions. Tradition holds that the MPs must vote in favour of the parties position. Once a decision is made. There has been questioning as to if this tradition should hold or MPs should be able to vote according to the desires of their riding.

Senate - structure & explain

The Senate can be referred to as the Upper House. The Senate has the ability to propose, debate, and amend laws. The ^{# of} seats are dependant on population much like the House of Commons but the Prime Minister appoints a person.

*need more info