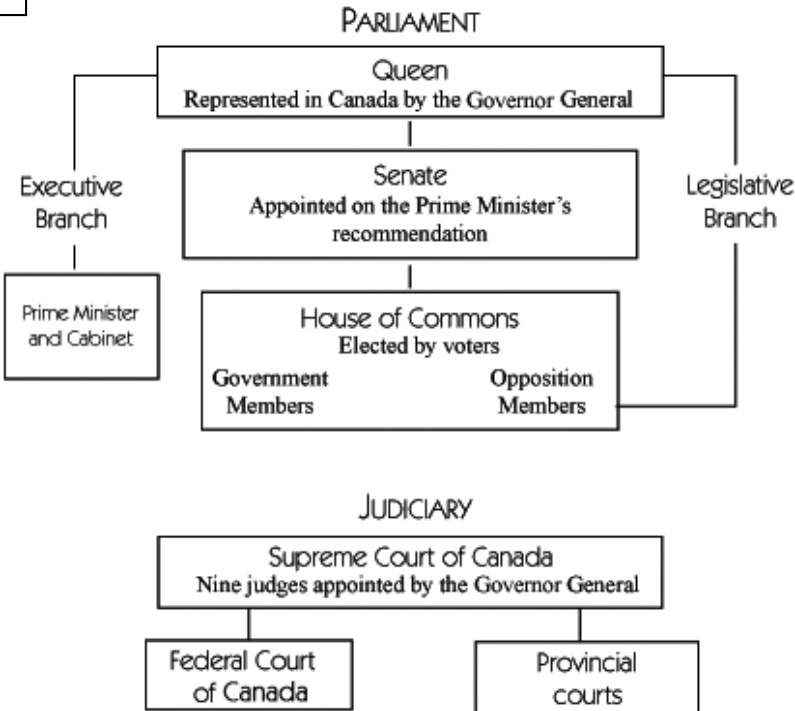


CANADA'S SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

Source I



Source II

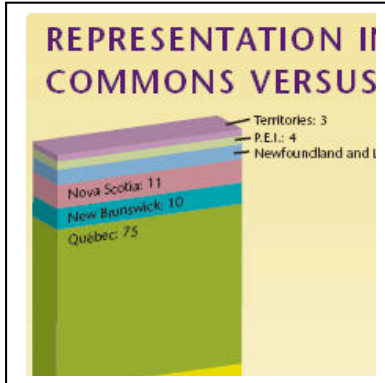
The Legislative Process

All bills normally go through a similar series of steps in both the Senate and the Commons.

- **Introduction:** The process begins when a bill is introduced.
- **First Reading:** The bill is “read” for the first time, without debate, and printed.
- **Second Reading:** The principle of the bill is debated. It is then voted on and the bill is sent to a parliamentary committee.
- **Committee Stage:** A committee hears witnesses, examines the bill clause by clause and submits a report recommending the bill be accepted as is or with amendments, or that it not proceed any further.
- **Report Stage:** Additional amendments to the bill may be moved, debated and voted on.
- **Third Reading:** The bill is debated a final time and voted on.
- **Message:** Once passed, the bill is sent to the other House, where the process starts again from first reading.
- **Royal Assent:** The Governor General or a deputy gives the bill Royal Assent.

Sources – Page 2

Source I



Calls for significant Senate reform began to be heard in the mid-1970s. Prime Minister Trudeau was making the case for constitutional reform, highlighted by a charter of rights. Bill Bennett, premier of British Columbia at the time, took the opportunity to introduce Senate reform into talk of constitutional change.

The idea had some support from both sides — but for different reasons. Trudeau was an advocate of a strong central government. In his view, a Senate made up of provincial representatives could serve to weaken the provincial governments.

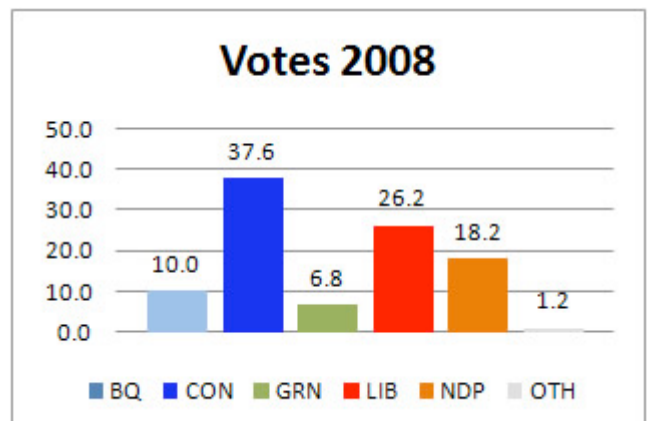
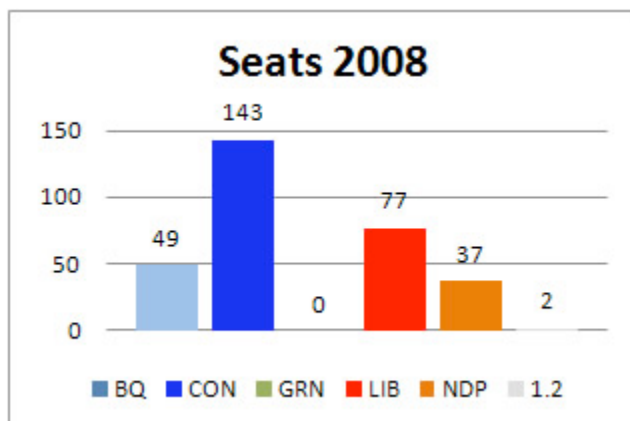
Bennett was looking for a Senate that would give the provinces — especially those west of Ontario — more power in their dealings with Ottawa.

Alberta was next to look at what to do with the Senate. ... Premier Peter Lougheed was looking for ways to keep Ottawa from intruding into his province's affairs. He established a task force to look at ways of reforming the Senate. Its recommendation was direct election of senators — and an equal number of senators for each province.

Sources – Page 3

Source II

Source I



Source II

Electoral Dysfunction, Yet Again

Popular vote and seat changes from the 2008 election

October 15, 2008

Once again, Canada's first-past-the-post system wasted millions of votes, distorted results, severely punished large blocks of voters, exaggerated regional differences, created an unrepresentative Parliament and contributed to a record low voter turnout of 59.1%.

One of the chief victims of the October 14 federal election was:

- **Green Party:** 940,000 voters supporting the Green Party sent no one to Parliament, setting a new record for the most votes cast for any party that gained no parliamentary representation. By comparison, 813,000 Conservative voters in Alberta alone were able to elect 27 MPs.

Sources – Page 4

Source I

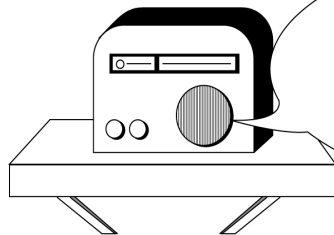
... if one has a lot of money, one can buy a media outlet and use it to campaign for a politician. Is this democracy at its finest? I think not. Perhaps I am foolish, expecting our media to present balanced, unbiased reporting, but using the media to support one candidate to the exclusion of all others is going too far. Our media industry should be helping its audience to THINK. The media should not attempt to do the thinking for us.

Source II



(Note: "Ditto" means "the same thing")

Source III



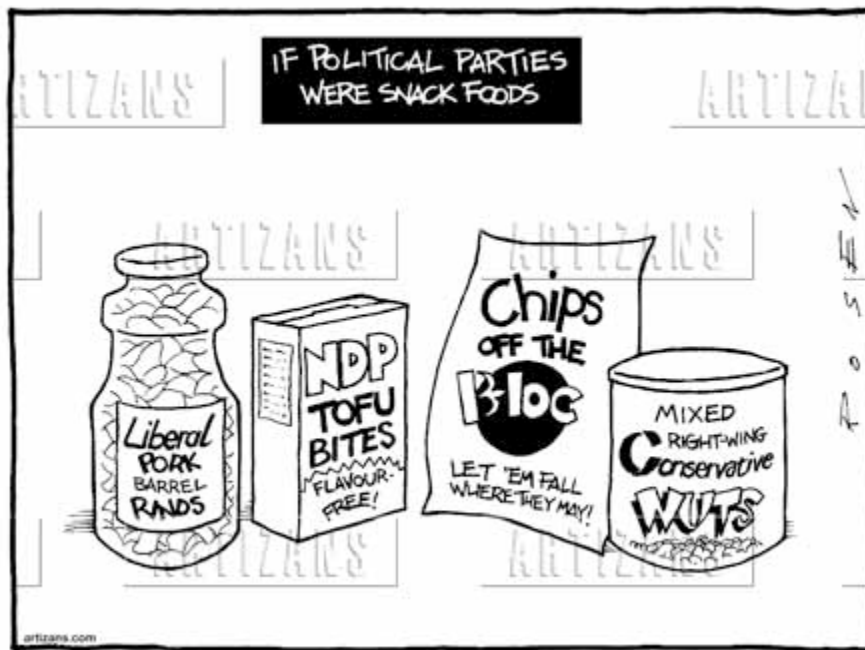
CBC radio will broadcast the leadership debates as part of its ongoing election coverage....

Sources – Page 5

Source I

Do you favour a society with public health care services for all citizens?
 Do you think the government should increase funding for public schools?
 Do you think the environment should be protected even if business profits are lost?
 Would you support increasing taxes to provide shelter for the homeless?

Source II



Sources – Page 6

Source I

How do judges see their role?

The oath of office is to apply and define the law to the best of our ability. We are judges — we are not politicians. Our role is to interpret and apply the law. It is the most important part of what I do.

There are many challenges to the job. First of all, the questions presented are very challenging questions. They are questions of difficulty. To some extent, we deal with many of society's issues. We have examined issues of equality, discrimination, criminal process, social questions, and a whole host of other concerns.



Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci served as a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada

Source II

Source I

... First Nation leaders are deeply committed to the observance of human rights. In order to protect our identity, our culture and our lands, we need to have protection for collective rights in addition to the protection of individual rights. Every credible study in the last 50 years supports our view that both collective and individual rights must be protected if indigenous groups are to survive and prosper.

Thu Feb 15 2007

Phil Fontaine
National Chief – Assembly of First Nations

Source II

In 1928, a government official predicted Canada would end its "Indian problem" within two generations. Church-run, government-funded residential schools for native children were supposed to prepare them for life in white society. The purpose of the residential school was to educate and civilize or westernize the First Nation peoples in order that they adopt a more western - that is European – lifestyle.

Source III



*Before and after
photographs of an
aboriginal youth
attending residential
school...*

Source IV

Thunder Bay mom wants answers after teacher's aide chops off son's hair

Thursday, May 21, 2009 | 5:02 PM ET

CBC NEWS

A Thunder Bay woman is demanding an explanation after a teacher's aide at her son's school cut his long hair. The seven-year-old boy had chin-length hair before the incident last month. His mother said staff at McKellar Park Central Public School were aware her son was letting his hair grow so that he could take part in traditional First Nations dancing.

Source I

My whole family is Francophone and I want to keep my French language my whole life. French is my first language and the language in which I am being educated. It takes effort to speak French in everyday life, because in Alberta almost everyone speaks English.

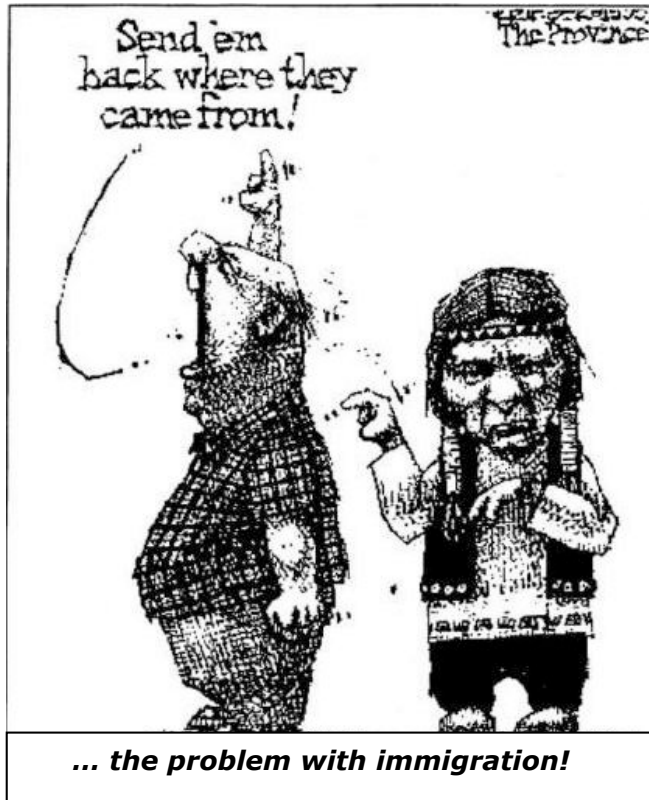


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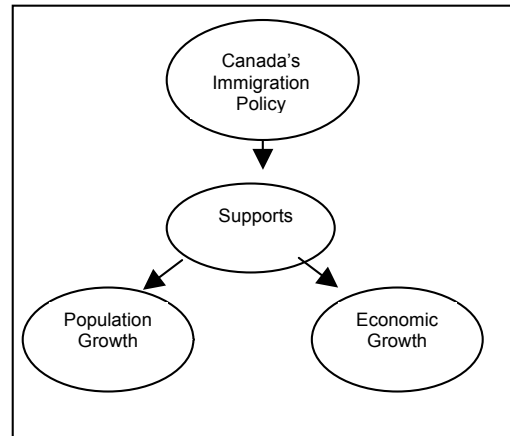


I'm bilingual, but my first language is English and my family speaks English at home. It's important to me to attend an English school because English is my mother tongue and I feel like I should be educated in my first language. I don't worry about losing my identity, living in Quebec even though less than 5 percent of people are Anglophones.

Source I



Source II



Source III

March 13, 2007

Immigration fuels Canada's growth

OTTAWA (CP) — Two-thirds of Canada's population growth over the past five years was fuelled by immigrant newcomers and if that sounds like a lot, you ain't seen nothing yet. Canada's net migration, per capita, is among the highest in the world. According to recent figures, Canada's net migration of 6.5 migrants per 1,000 population between 2000-2004 put it at the head of the international pack.

Quebec's population climbed 4.3 per cent, a healthy immigration-fuelled rebound after a low of 1.4 per cent in the previous five years. Still, Quebec's growth was not enough to keep up with the national average and signals another slight decline in the French-speaking province's overall share of the Canadian population.

A candidate in the Quebec provincial election was dumped by his party after telling a newspaper that "native Quebecers need to boost their birth rate, otherwise the ethnics will swamp us. If they don't want to conform, they can just go back home."

Source I

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

WASHINGTON: USA

President George W Bush said in an interview on Tuesday he was forced to sacrifice free market principles to save the economy from "collapse."



"I've abandoned free-market principles to save the free-market system,"
Bush's comments reflect an extraordinary departure from his longtime support for free markets, as his administration called for massive government intervention to protect businesses and jobs.

INFORM ENLIGHTEN ENTERTAIN • WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2007

MARKETS PLUNGE

COUNTRY	PERCENTAGE	INDEX
CHINA	-8.8%	Shanghai Composite index
MALAYSIA	-2.8%	Kuala Lumpur Composite
AUSTRALIA	-3.3%	Sydney All Ordinaries
GERMANY	-3%	Frankfurt DAX
U.S.	-3.3%	Dow Jones Industrial Average
CANADA	-2.7%	Toronto S&P/TSX

Canadian exchange suffers biggest hit in six years as Asian sell-off and fears of looming recession in U.S. trigger shocks in world markets

DAVID BERMAN, CARRIE TAIT
CanWest News Service
AND SHAUN POLCZER
CALGARY HERALD

World stock markets took a pounding Tuesday as investors got spooked by a nearly 10 per cent plunge in Chinese stocks, their biggest drop in a decade. Stocks fell sharply at the opening of trade in North America as investors worldwide went running for cover amid worries about growth in the rapidly growing Asian economy and losses piled up

Source II

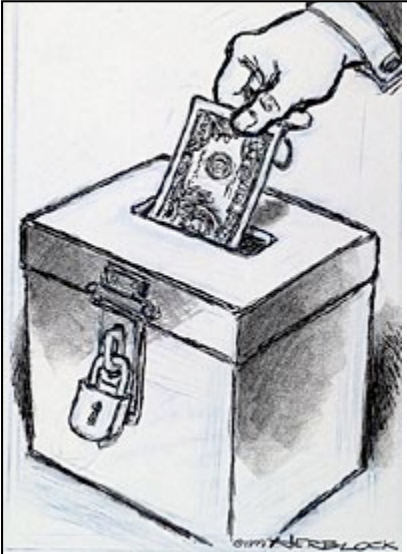
Source III

The Washington Times

Government Does Not Know Better

The truth is: It is not government's function to create jobs. This task is best left to the private sector...

Source I

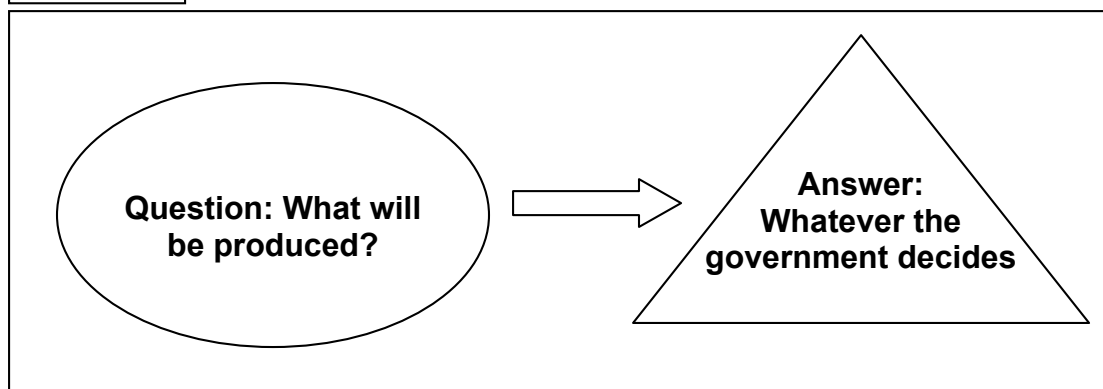


The Consumer Votes

Source II

"In Canada, most areas of the economy are privately controlled. Goods and services are a product of the forces of the marketplace and the decisions of individuals. The government does play a role however in providing essential services such as public transportation and health care, and supporting economic and social security."

Source III



Source I



Source II

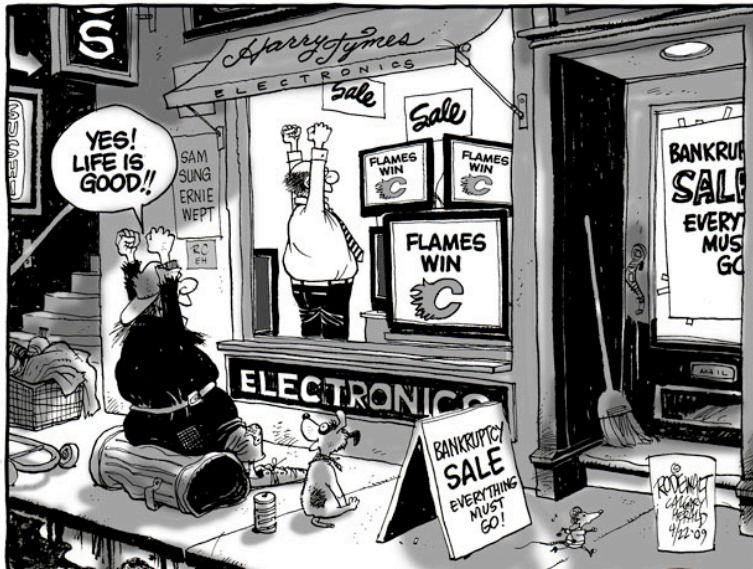


Selling the Canadian Identity

Molson Breweries has attracted a great deal of attention with its "I Am Canadian" advertising campaign. The original sixty second commercial featured a rant by a young man defining what it means to be Canadian based on many light-hearted images of Canada that included a lumberjack, the beaver, and the maple leaf. The campaign generated a huge amount of publicity and a significant increase in sales of Molson products.



Source II



Source III

Once we start measuring everything in terms of money, we begin to confuse improvements in our lives with increases in the value of the stuff in our economy. Why should our status depend more on money and goods rather than the satisfaction of our basic needs such as health, shelter, work, security, friendship, family and community?

- <http://www.nied.edu.na>