

Discover Canada Citizenship Study Guide
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Name two key documents that contain our rights and freedoms.

Two key documents that contain our rights and freedoms are the *Magna Carta* (also known as the Great Charter of Freedoms) and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Identify four (4) rights that Canadians enjoy.

Four rights that Canadians enjoy are Mobility Rights (the right to live and work anywhere they choose, enter and leave the country freely, and apply for a passport), Aboriginal Peoples' Rights (the rights guaranteed in the Charter will not adversely affect any treaty or other rights or freedoms of Aboriginal peoples), Official Language Rights and Minority Language Educational Rights (French and English have equal status in Parliament and throughout the government), and Multiculturalism (a fundamental characteristic of the Canadian heritage and identity in which Canadians celebrate the gift of one another's presence and work hard to respect pluralism and live in harmony).

Name four (4) fundamental freedoms that Canadians enjoy.

Canadians enjoy the following fundamental freedoms: Freedom of conscience and religion; Freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of speech and of the press; Freedom of peaceful assembly; and Freedom of association.

What is meant by the equality of women and men?

This means that in Canada women and men are equal under the law.

What are some examples of taking responsibility for yourself and your family?

Examples of taking responsibility for yourself and your family include getting a job, taking care of your family and working hard in keeping with your abilities.

Who were the founding peoples of Canada?

The three founding people of Canada are Aboriginal, British and French.

Who are the Metis?

The Metis are a distinct people of mixed Aboriginal and European ancestry, the majority of whom live in the Prairie provinces.

What does the word "Inuit" mean?

"Inuit" means "the people" in the Inuktitut language.

What is meant by the term "responsible government"?

Responsible government means that ministers of the Crown must have the support of a majority of the elected representatives in order to govern.

Who was Sir Louis-Hippolyte La Fontaine?

Sir Louise-Hippolyte La Fontaine, a champion of French language rights, became the first head of a responsible government (similar to a prime minister) in Canada in 1849.

What did the Canadian Pacific Railway symbolize?

The Canadian Pacific Railway is a symbol of unity, joining Canada from sea to sea.

What does Confederation mean?

From 1864-1867, representatives of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Province of Canada, with British support, worked together to establish a new country. The old province of Canada was split into two new provinces, Ontario and Quebec, which together with New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, formed the new country called the Dominion of Canada. Confederation is the establishment of the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867, the birth of the country we know as Canada.

What is the significance of the discovery of insulin by Sir Frederick Banting and Charles Best?

The discovery of insulin, a hormone used to treat diabetes, by Sir Frederick Banting and Charles Best has saved 16 million lives worldwide.

What does it mean to say that Canada is a constitutional monarchy?

As a constitutional monarch, Canada's Head of State is a hereditary Sovereign (Queen or King), who reigns in accordance with the Constitution: the rule of law.

What are the three branches of government?

The three branches of government are the Executive, Legislative and Judicial.

What is the difference between the role of the Queen and that of the Prime Minister?

As head of state, the Queen is a part of Parliament, playing an important, non-partisan role as the focus of citizenship and allegiance. The Queen is a symbol of Canadian sovereignty, a guardian of constitutional freedoms, and a reflection of our history. As the head of the Commonwealth, the Queen links Canada to 53 other nations that cooperate to advance social, economic and cultural progress. The Prime Minister is the head of government who actually directs the governing of the country.

What is the highest honour that Canadians can receive?

The Victoria Cross (V.C.) is the highest honour available to Canadians.

When you go to vote on election day, what do you do?

Usually before election day you will have received a voter information card. On election day, you go to the polling station, the location of which is on the voter information card. Bring this card and proof of your identity and address to the polling station. You will be invited to go behind a screen to mark your ballot. Mark the ballot with an "X" in the circle next to the name of the candidate of your choice. Once marked, fold it and present

it to the officials. The poll official will tear off the ballot number and give your ballot back to you to deposit in the ballot box.

Who is entitled to vote in Canadian federal elections?

You are entitled to vote in a federal election if you are a Canadian citizen, at least 18 years old on voting day, and on the voters' list.

In Canada, are you obliged to tell other people how you voted?

No, in Canada no one has the right to insist you tell them how you voted.

After an election, which party forms the government?

After an election the leader of the political party with the most seats in the House of Commons is invited by the Governor General to form the Government.

Who is your member of Parliament?

Consult the "How Much Do You Know About Your Government?" answers.

What are the three levels of government?

The three levels of government are federal, provincial or territorial and municipal (local).

What is the role of the courts in Canada?

The role of the courts is to settle disputes.

In Canada, are you allowed to question the police about their service or conduct?

Yes, you are allowed to question the police about their service or conduct if you feel you need to. Almost all police forces in Canada have a process by which you can bring your concerns to the police and seek action.

Name two Canadian symbols.

Canadian symbols include the Crown, the Canadian flag, the maple leaf, the Parliament Buildings and the beaver.

What provinces are sometimes referred to as the Atlantic Provinces.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are sometimes referred to as the Atlantic Provinces.

What is the capital of the province or territory you live in?

Victoria is the capital of British Columbia.

Updated March 17, 2011