

Canadian History Unit 1: Governance and Economics

Many forms of Government have been tried and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time....

Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister (1940-45, 1951-1955)

A democracy is more than a form of government; it is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience. Democracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its midwife...

- John Dewey, educational philosopher (1859-1952)

Read and discuss the following article:

Don't let angry protestors fool you — Canadians still trust in our democracy

- *Toronto Star, September 13, 2021*

Essential Question:

UNIT 1: WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS?

Summary:

- Throughout Canadian history Canadians, as well as the Indigenous people of this land and the French and British colonizers have debated how best to govern ourselves. Sadly, politics and economics are issues a lot of people don't seem to care about, as evidenced by the low percentage of Canadians that actively participate in our democracy. This unit will focus on some of the basic questions surrounding governance and economics including:
 - o What is an ideology?
 - o What forms of government are there?
 - o How has Canada's government evolved over the centuries?
 - o How does our current political system function?
 - o Why are there different economic systems and how do they function?
 - o What is the political/economic spectrum and how do I relate to it?



Governance and Economics

Enduring Understandings:

- The history of governance in Canada is characterized by a transition from Indigenous self-government through French and British colonial rule to a self-governing Confederation of provinces and territories
- Canada's parliamentary system is based on the rule of law, representative democracy, and constitutional monarchy
- The role of government and the division of powers and responsibilities in Canada's federal system are subjects of ongoing negotiation
- Canada's history is shaped by economic factors such as natural resources, agricultural and industrial development, the environment, technology, and global economic interdependence.

Unit Structure:

1. Ideologies (facts, values, beliefs)
2. Reasons for government
3. The Canadian government (history/structure)
4. Economic theories
5. Political/economic spectrums/Vote Compass