

THE MONARCHY IN ALBERTA

TEACHER AND STUDENT RESOURCE



CANADA'S HISTORY WITH THE ROYAL FAMILY

Canada is a relatively young country. It was established in 1867, but it has a lengthy history with the Royal Family. Long before Elizabeth II was crowned Queen of England and Canada, 32 kings and queens reigned over the country, first as kings of France and then under the British Crown. Under the reign of these Kings and Queens, Canada was explored, settled, defended and developed.

CANADA'S GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM AND THE MONARCHY

Canada's modern system of government took centuries to evolve and began, in part, with Britain. We are a *constitutional monarchy, a parliamentary democracy, and a federal state*. The laws governing Canada recognize The Queen as the formal Head of State.

PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

Canadians play an important role in deciding how and by whom the country is governed. We elect Members of Parliament to the House of Commons and Members of the Legislative Assembly to our provincial and territorial legislatures to represent the people, to make decisions, and to enact laws. A democratically elected parliament or legislature is chosen at least every five years. Federally the Prime Minister, or provincially the Premier, is chosen from the majority party to serve as the head of the government.

CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

As the Head of State, the Queen is responsible for protecting the constitutional rights of all Canadian citizens. All laws are made in the Queen's name, but the authority for these acts of government flows from the peo-

ple. The Canadian Constitution limits the royal powers in government and the Queen's role today is largely symbolic. As the Queen normally resides in Britain, she is personally represented by the Governor General for Canada

and by the Lieutenant Governor in each of the provinces.

Did You Know?

The Speech from the Throne which opens each session of the Parliament or Legislature is read by the Queen's representative but is written by the government.

Did You Know?

*The Queen's title in Canada is "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith." However she is more commonly called "The Queen." For Canadians she is known as **The Queen of Canada**.*

Did You Know?

Canada's ties to the Monarchy are noticeable everywhere we look, from the Queen's portrait on our coins and stamps to the pomp and ceremony of our parliamentary system.



THE CROWN

At Confederation in 1867, the four original provinces chose the constitutional monarchy as part of the political framework of the new nation. The *British North America Act* (now called the *Constitution Act, 1867*) stated that Canada would have "a constitution similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom" and established that "the Executive Government and authority of and over Canada is hereby declared to continue and be vested in the Queen." The

Crown's influence is all around us today; some examples include:

- Names of streets;
- Trial division of the Superior Courts in Alberta is called The Court of Queen's Bench;
- Publicly owned land is called Crown land;
- The RCMP is short for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
- Publicly owned companies are Crown Corporations.



The Queen's personal Canadian Flag (standard)

ROLES OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS



Governor General of Canada's Standard

To find out more about Canada's Governor General, visit www.gg.ca/menu_e.asp

The Governor General is the Queen's representative in Canada and is appointed by Her Majesty on the advice of the Prime Minister. Canada has ten Lieutenant Governors, who are the Queen's representatives in the provinces and are appointed by the Governor General, also on the advice of the Prime Minister. The Governor General formally appoints the Prime Minister. The Lieutenant Governor formally appoints the Premier. The Governor General is also the Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

Some duties of the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor include:

- Summon, open and end sessions of Parliament or Legislature, and dissolve Parliament or Legislature for an election;
- Give Royal Assent to bills passed by Parliament or the Legislature;
- Sign state documents;
- Participate in cultural and community events;
- Recognize outstanding achievements;
- Present honours of the Crown; and,
- Encourage Canadians to be proud of their country.

Did You Know?

Samuel de Champlain was the first Governor General in 1615.

Did You Know?

Governors General of Canada were not always Canadian residents or citizens. Vincent Massey, the 18th Governor General of Canada, was the first to be born in Canada.

Did You Know?

The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé was the first woman to be Governor General in 1984. The Honourable Helen Hunley, 1985 - 91, was the first woman to be Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

To find out more about Alberta's Lieutenant Governor, visit www.lieutenantgovernor.ab.ca/

Visit www.assembly.ab.ca/lao/library/lt-gov/index.htm for pictures and biographies of all of Alberta's Lieutenant Governors.



Lieutenant governor of Alberta's Standard (Flag)

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE, TREATIES AND THE QUEEN

Did You Know?

Canada's three territories have Territorial Commissioners whose roles are similar to those of Lieutenant Governors, but they represent the federal government instead of the Crown.

Did You know?

Prior to 1905, the Lieutenant Governor in Alberta was the Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territories, which included present day Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and large parts of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

Did You Know?

Oral promises of the spirit and intent of the treaty agreements ensure that the numbered treaties will be honoured "as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows."

Did You Know?

Smoking the Peace Pipe is a sacred promise to the Creator.

Did You Know?

The Honourable Ralph G. Steinhauer had the distinction of being the first First Nations Lieutenant Governor of Alberta in 1974.

From the very beginning, treaties played an important role in the relationship between the Crown and First Nations people in Canada. First Nations in Alberta made their original treaty agreements with Queen Victoria, giving them a special relationship with the Sovereign. Under these treaties, the First Nations people surrendered vast areas of land to the Crown. In exchange, the treaties provided for reserve lands and other compensations like agricultural equipment and livestock, annuities, ammunition, gratuities, clothing and certain rights to hunt and fish. The Crown also made promises regarding the provision of education and health benefits to the First Nations.

The honour of the Crown stands behind the promises of the treaties. The relationship between the First Nations people and the Crown continues on today and is evident in that the Union Jack is flown at many First Nation events.

In Alberta, there are 44 first Nations in three treaty areas: Treaty 6 signed in 1876 at Carleton and Fort Pitt; Treaty 7 signed in 1877 at the Blackfoot Crossing of the Bow River and Fort Macleod; and, Treaty 8, signed at Lesser Slave Lake in 1899.



The Honourable Ralph G. Steinhauer,
1974-79

From the painting by D. van den Hoogen

Find out the terms of the First Nations Treaty closest to your community. By visiting http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/pub/fna_e.html

ROYAL VISITS

Visits from members of the Royal Family have been a feature of Canada since even before Confederation.

The presence of The Queen and members of the Royal Family reminds Canadians of their long and proud heritage in connection with the monarchy. These visits bring the Sovereign and her family into direct contact with people

from all walks of life and unite all Canadians. Members of the Royal Family have been visiting what is now Alberta since 1882.



Did you know that Canadian rocker Bryan Adams took this picture of the Queen?

Did You Know?

The first visit to Canada, including Alberta, by a reigning monarch was by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1939.

Did you know?

The Province of Alberta is named after Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria and wife of the Marquis of Lorne, Canada's Governor General from 1878-1883.

Did You Know?

As of 2004, Alberta had had five visits by the Queen. The first was in 1951.



Alberta Coat of Arms

SOME THINGS TO DO

- Find out the terms of the First Nations Treaty closest to your community. (*Hint: Visit http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/pub/fna_e.html*)
- Find out what each of the following are: **constitutional monarchy, parliamentary democracy, and federal state.** (*Hint: Canada is all of these.*)
- Find out what the Queen named her dogs. (*Hint: The Queen has five corgis; two dorgis' [corgis crossed with a dachshund]; and five cockerspaniels.*)

QUESTION

- Describe the evolution of "Responsible Government" and the role of the Lieutenant Governor in the Northwest Territories until Alberta became a province in 1905.

TRY THE QUIZ ON THE NEXT PAGE

OTHER RESOURCES AND WEB LINKS

Alberta 2005 Royal Visit website: www.gov.ab.ca/premier/royalvisit/

Royal Visits to Canada: www.pch.gc.ca/progs/cpsc-ccsp/fr-rf/visit_e.cfm#01

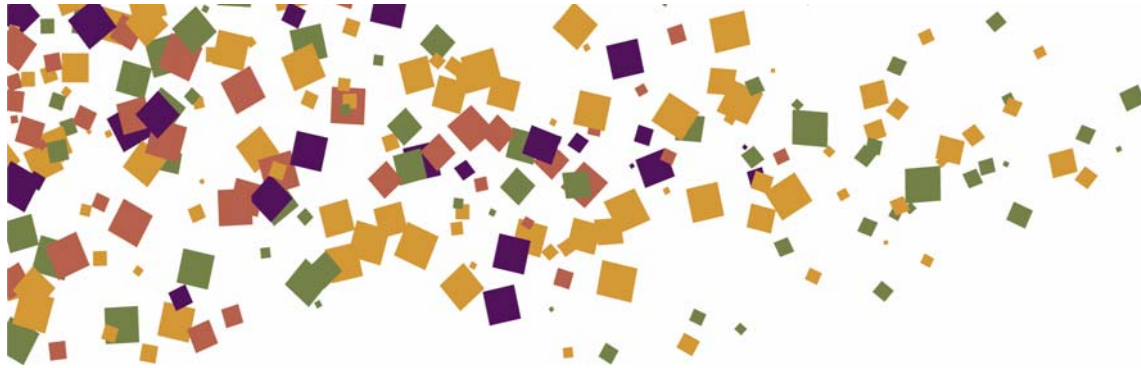
Resources for Teachers: archives.cbc.ca/ACT-1-69-70/life_society/new_queen_educational_activities/

Canada and the Monarchy: www.pch.gc.ca/progs/cpsc-ccsp/fr-rf/index_e.cfm

Canada's Queen, Life and Society—CBC Archives: archives.cbc.ca/300c.asp?id=1-69-70

Thank you to the Saskatchewan Office of Protocol and Honours for contributing material to this guide.





ROYAL VISIT QUIZ

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	23	4	15				10	2				1	17					5		24					

__ I __ B __ H I I __ U __ N O __ C N D __
 11 9 2 6 14 23 11 19 10 2 2 20 24 11 11 17 25 12 4 14 17 14 15 14

__ N D __ H __ D U __ O __ E D I N B __ H
 14 17 15 19 10 11 15 24 26 11 25 12 11 15 2 17 23 24 7 21 10

H __ C __ B __ I ' S
 10 11 9 3 4 11 9 11 23 7 14 19 11 14 9 23 11 7 19 14 5

C __ N __ N N __ I N 2005 __ S __ H __
 4 11 17 19 11 17 17 2 14 9 2 17 14 5 19 10 11 8

__ O U __ N __ O M __ N __ C I __ I N __
 13 25 24 7 17 11 8 19 25 1 14 17 8 11 16 4 2 19 2 17 21

__ N __ S
 11 8 11 17 19 5

