The 3 Branches of Government!!!!
There are 3 Main Branches of the Canadian Government:

1. Executive Branch
2. Legislative Branch
3. Judicial Branch
Before we get to the Three Branches ….

**Canada’s Constitution**

- is the law that describes governance in Canada.
- sets out the different roles of the three branches of the Canadian government.
Monarch of Britain

-represented in Canada by the Governor General.

- Britain’s Queen or King is the formal head of state in Canada, but does not play an active role in Canada’s government.
Canada’s Governor General

David Johnson

Represents

Queen Elizabeth

Monarchy
- The Governor General is part of both the Executive and Legislative Branches of Canada.
- The Governor-General gives "Royal Assent" to Laws that are passed.
Executive Branch

- Consists of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- Cabinet Ministers are appointed by the PM and can be either Members of Parliament or Senators.
- Propose most of the ideas that become laws.
PM Stephen Harper

Peter Mackay
Minister of National Defence

Rona Ambrose
Minister of Public Works

Harper’s Cabinet

Vic Toews
Minister of Public Safety

Jim Flaherty
Minister of Finance
The Legislative Branch

- Includes the House of Commons, the Senate and the Governor General.

- Also known as Canada’s Parliament.
House of Commons

- The major law-making body in Canada’s federal political system. Members of Parliament (MP’s) are elected by their constituents.
Members of the H of C debate, study and vote on laws proposed for Canada, called BILLS.
- The Senate gives “Sober Second Thought” – careful reconsideration – to all legislation passed through the H of C.
- Senators are not elected, they are appointed by the PM and can remain in office until they are 75 years old.

- Senators represent the interests and rights of Canada’s regions, and especially minorities.

- The Senate has the power to reject bills from the H of C.
“Wow! Being a Senator sounds cool! I’d really like to be one when I grow up ... what do I need to do?”

Well, you must ...

- be at least 30 years of age
- be a Canadian citizen by birth or naturalization
- have an estate worth $4000
- own real property within the province for which he or she serves worth at least $4000
- be a resident in the province for which he or she is appointed
The Judicial Branch

- The Judicial Branch includes Canada’s courts of law. All members of the Judicial Branch come from the legal profession.
The Supreme Court of Canada

- Is the highest court in Canada.
- Has final say on all legal questions in Canada, including rules for making and applying laws.
Judicial Branch is separate from the other branches and acts as a “check” on their powers.

-Interprets and applies all laws in Canada, including civil rights and freedoms.

3-Quebec, 3-Ontario, 2-Western Canada, 1-Maritimes
Executive Branch

Legislative Branch

Judicial Branch