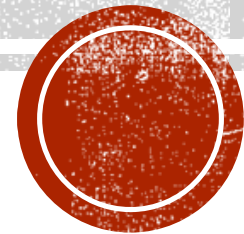


# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH THE SENATE

Unit Inquiry Question: How effectively does Canada's federal political system govern Canada for all Canadians?



# REVIEW

- What is the Executive Branch? Members?
- What is the Legislative Branch? What members did we speak about before?



# REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

Senate – upper house or chamber

House of Commons – lower house

Legislative Branch – write the laws

Bicameral

The image is a composite graphic with a grid background. At the top, a red box contains the text 'Senate – upper house or chamber'. Below it, a green box contains 'House of Commons – lower house'. A blue box in the center contains 'Legislative Branch – write the laws'. A small Canadian flag is positioned below the blue box. A black box with the word 'Bicameral' is placed over the flag. The background is divided into three main sections: the top left shows the interior of the Senate chamber with a red carpet and wooden paneling; the top right shows the interior of the House of Commons chamber with rows of desks; the bottom section shows the exterior of the Parliament Hill building in Ottawa, Canada, with its iconic towers and green domes.



# THE SENATE

- Members are called senators
- The PM appoints senators
  - They can remain in office until age 75.
  - PM usually appoints people who support the PM's party
  - Appointed by division or region.



# THE SENATE — ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Role:** To provide “sober second thought”—careful reconsideration—to all proposed legislation.
  - Further study and debate on laws
  - A bill cannot become law until both the House of Commons and the Senate passes it.
- Represent the interests and rights of Canada’s regions, especially minorities. Helps ensure that minorities still have a strong voice within Canada.
- The Senate can propose laws, but cannot propose laws which create or spend taxes.
- The Senate can reject laws from the House of Commons, although the Senate rarely uses this power.



# **INDEPENDENT SENATORS GROUP**

- In March 2016, under Justin Trudeau, the government started appointing senators who were not affiliated with any party.
- They did this so that The Senate could start to become a non-partisan body.





# THE RED CHAMBER



# **ANY ISSUES?**

- **Do you agree or disagree with the fact that senators are appointed by the prime minister and hold that position for a long period of time?**





# RESEARCH ACTIVITY

- In groups of 2 or 3 go to the website:

<https://sencanada.ca/en/senators/>

and select one senator to read about and present to the class.

