

THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN CANADA

Canada's system of governance is divided into three distinct levels: federal, provincial, and municipal. Each level has specific responsibilities and plays a vital role in maintaining the well-being and organization of Canadian society.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

The federal government is responsible for matters that affect the country as a whole. It has the authority to "make laws for the peace, order, and good government of Canada." Key areas under its jurisdiction include foreign affairs, national defense, income taxation, and the management of national parks.

Additional responsibilities include citizenship and immigration, employment insurance, and telecommunications. Federal institutions such as Canada Post, the Bank of Canada, and Statistics Canada (which conducts the census) also fall under this level of government.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Provincial governments, such as Alberta's, are responsible for areas specifically outlined in the Constitution Act of 1867. These include education (schools, colleges, and universities), healthcare services (hospitals and long-term care), transportation infrastructure (highways), provincial parks, environmental regulation, natural resource management, and the administration of justice within the province.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT – TOWN OF VEGREVILLE

Municipal governments manage local services and community needs within city or town boundaries. In Alberta, their powers and responsibilities are defined by the Municipal Government Act. Municipalities like the Town of Vegreville oversee services such as water supply, waste management, local roads, recreational facilities, and zoning regulations.

THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT VIDEO

Watch this video which was developed in collaboration with all the provincial and territorial electoral agencies and with Elections Canada.

[Three Levels of Government](#)

OVERLAPPING RESPONSIBILITIES

Sometimes, different levels of government share responsibility in what are called areas of concurrent jurisdiction. This overlap is most common between the federal and provincial governments. In areas like taxation, agriculture, public health, old age pensions, and natural resource extraction, both levels have the authority to make laws. However, if their laws conflict, the matter may be resolved through the justice system.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CANADA



Airports



Borders & Passports



Broadcasting & Telecommunications



Citizenship & Immigration



Charter of Human Rights



Employment Insurance



Family Benefits & Seniors Pensions



Federal Laws



Fisheries, Oceans, & National Parks



Income Tax



International Travel & Support for Canadians Abroad



Mortgages



National RCMP



National Defence & Veteran's Affairs



Postal Service



Student Loans

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Alberta



Employer & Employee Supports



Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
(Municipal Government & Provincial Government)



Highways



Hospitals & Healthcare



Housing



Income Tax



Justice



Landlord & Tenant Supports



Schools & Post-Secondary Education



Education Tax
(Collected by Municipalities)



Provincial Laws



Provincial Parks



Social Supports*



Student Loans

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Town of Vegreville

TOWN OF
VEGREVILLE



Bylaws



Development Permits & Building Licenses



Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

(Municipal Government & Provincial Government)



Fire & Emergency Services (Vegreville)



Local Infrastructure

(Roads, Bridges, Sidewalks, Pipes, Lines, Wires)



Parks, Trails, & Playgrounds



Local Tourism



Property Tax

(Municipal Portion)



Recreation Facilities



Utilities

(Water, Sewer, & Waste Water)



Waste Collection & Snow Removal