

What's the Difference?

PARLIAMENT

- the Monarch (represented by the Governor General)
- Senators
- Members of Parliament (MPs)

- Monarch
- Prime Minister
- Cabinet members (Senators and MPs)

GOVERNMENT

- Executive (the Monarch and Governor General, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet)
- Federal departments (such as National Defence, Public Safety, and Citizenship and Immigration)

WORD BUILDER – Parliament or Government

These two words don't mean the same thing!

Parliament is the legislative (law-making) part of government, made up of the Monarch, the Senate and the House of Commons. For example, *Parliament passed a bill*.

Government has two meanings:

- Generally, *government* refers to the management (governing) of a country.
- Specifically, *the Government* consists of the Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the federal departments they manage.

How to Use *Our Country, Our Parliament*

This book introduces you to Canada's Parliament. By the time you finish this book, you will understand:

- how parliamentary democracy works in Canada
- how people get appointed or elected to Parliament
- what Senators and MPs do in Parliament
- how decisions made in Parliament affect you and your community

Parliament is a big place! To help you find your way around, a team of narrators have volunteered to help out.

What Do the Icons Mean?

You will see icons (symbols) in this book. These icons introduce you to new ideas and information.



WHAT ABOUT ME?

These sections contain discussion questions, or questions to ask yourself.



WORD BUILDER

This is where you can learn new words and phrases.



DID YOU KNOW?

Find out interesting facts about Parliament!



THE MAGNIFYING GLASS

Look closer when you see this symbol.

TALK ABOUT IT!

Look for this icon for suggestions on topics for discussion with your friends and family.

THINK ABOUT IT!

Think about why people acted the way they did. Imagine other ways they could have acted.

When a word is **in bold** you can find its definition in the glossary at the back of this book.

Your Youth Narrators

Find out more about the youth narrators at the back of this book.

