



THE SENATE OF CANADA

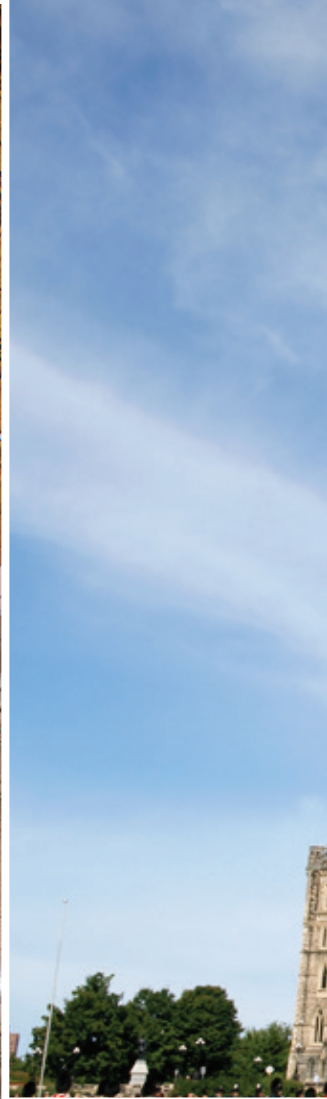
# ACTIVITY BOOK







© 2018 Senate of Canada





# THE SENATE OF CANADA ACTIVITY BOOK

In these pages you'll find lots of activities that will help you learn about the Senate, its role in Parliament and its fascinating history.

Here and there you might come across a word that you've never seen before. That's because Parliament Hill has some very specialized vocabulary for the work parliamentarians do.

If you see a **WORD IN BOLD**, turn to **page 22** to find a short definition. All the answers to the activities in this book can be found starting on **page 24**.



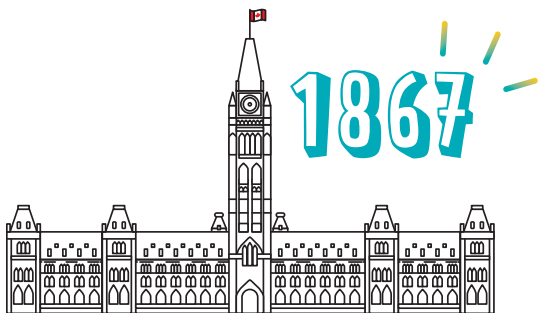
# WHAT IS THE SENATE?

## WHAT IS THE SENATE?

The **SENATE** is the upper house in Canada's **PARLIAMENT**. It unites a diverse group of accomplished Canadians in service of their country.

The Senate is part of Parliament, along with the **HOUSE OF COMMONS** (the lower house) and the **MONARCH**, who is represented in Canada by the Governor General. Senators and members of the House of Commons play similar roles but senators are appointed until they are 75 years old, while members of the House of Commons are generally elected every four years. The **GOVERNOR GENERAL** must approve **BILLS** passed by the Senate and the House before they can become law.

Parliament's 105 senators shape Canada's future. Senators study bills and suggest improvements to them. They can also propose their own bills and generate **DEBATE** about issues that matter to Canadians.




When Canada was created in 1867, senators were chosen to give regions with fewer people a strong voice in Parliament. That way, a small province such as Nova Scotia wouldn't be overpowered by heavily populated provinces like Ontario that have more seats in the House of Commons.

Over the years, the role of the Senate has evolved. In addition to representing their province or territory, senators also advocate for underrepresented groups including Indigenous peoples, visible minorities and women.







# THE SENATE FOYER



# THE SENATE FOYER

The Senate **FOYER** is the impressive grand entrance to the **SENATE** Chamber where you'll find paintings and sculptures celebrating historical figures and **MONARCHS** of Canada.

Do you know the answers to these questions?

**CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER.**

1.

A sculpture of the Senate Mace can be found above the entrance to the Senate foyer. Now a ceremonial object, the Mace once had a different use. What was it?

- A. It was used as a paperweight so that documents would not get blown away in the wind.
- B. It was used as a walking stick for monarchs visiting the Senate Chamber.
- C. It was an accessory used in official portraits of monarchs.
- D. It was a weapon used by the person in charge of protecting the monarch.



2.

There are a number of symbols on the doors to the Senate Chamber. What are they?

- A. The shields of the coats of arms of the countries that founded Canada.
- B. The shields of the coats of arms of the provinces and territories of Canada.
- C. Symbols of prominent Indigenous communities in Canada.
- D. The family shields of the first speakers of the Senate.





3. The stained-glass window installed in 2012 in the Senate **FOYER** celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. How many years of a reign does a Diamond Jubilee commemorate?

- A) 30 years
- B) 40 years
- C) 60 years
- D) 100 years



4. A number of paintings hang on the walls of the **SENATE** foyer. What do they have in common?

- A) They are portraits of monarchs who reigned over Canada.
- B) They were all painted by the same artist.
- C) They were all selected by speakers of the Senate.
- D) They depict Canada's former governors general.





# THE DOORS TO THE SENATE ANTECHAMBER

The shields of the coats of arms of Canada's 13 provinces and territories are displayed on the oak doors of the Senate **ANTECHAMBER**.

WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE PROVINCE OR TERRITORY ABOVE EACH SHIELD.

- |                     |                              |                          |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Alberta          | 5. Newfoundland and Labrador | 9. Ontario               |
| 2. British Columbia | 6. Northwest Territories     | 10. Prince Edward Island |
| 3. Manitoba         | 7. Nova Scotia               | 11. Quebec               |
| 4. New Brunswick    | 8. Nunavut                   | 12. Saskatchewan         |
|                     |                              | 13. Yukon                |





The image shows the interior of a grand, ornate Senate Chamber. The room features a high, vaulted ceiling with intricate, colorful patterns in shades of gold, blue, and red. The walls are decorated with Gothic-style arches and detailed carvings. In the center, there is a raised dais with a throne and a large, ornate chandelier hanging from the ceiling. Rows of desks and chairs are arranged on both sides of a central aisle, facing the dais. The floor is covered in a red carpet. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and formal elegance.

# THE SENATE CHAMBER



# THE SENATE CHAMBER

The **SENATE** Chamber, also known as the Red Chamber, is where senators from Canada's provinces and territories meet to **DEBATE** legislation and issues of importance to Canadians. It's found in Centre Block, the building on Parliament Hill dominated by the Peace Tower.

Decorated in regal red, the Senate Chamber is also where the **MONARCH**, or his or her representative, the Governor General, addresses **PARLIAMENT** during the **SPEECH FROM THE THRONE** and gives **ROYAL ASSENT** to bills, making them law.

Do you know the answers to these questions?

**CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER.**

1.

In the Senate **ANTECHAMBER** — the space between the **FOYER** and the Senate Chamber — there is a bust in white marble of Cairine Wilson. This prominent woman was:

- A. Canada's first female senator.
- B. A champion of the many thousands of refugees who came to Canada from Europe around the time of the Second World War.
- C. The first female Canadian delegate to the General Assembly of the United Nations.
- D. All of the above.



2.

Who sits in the chair in front of the thrones of the Monarch and consort (the Monarch's spouse)?

- A. The Speaker of the Senate
- B. The Prime Minister of Canada
- C. Any senator who is addressing the Chamber
- D. The Usher of the Black Rod





3.

A bust of Queen Victoria is found above the thrones in the **SENATE** Chamber. She was an important ruler in the history of Canada and the queen who decided Ottawa would become Canada's capital. She reigned for 63 years but never came to Canada. What is the nickname that Canada gave her?

- A. The Mother of Confederation
- B. The First Queen of Canada
- C. The Queen of Victory
- D. The Great Queen



4.

Eight large paintings hang on the walls of the Red Chamber. What do they have in common?

- A. They show Canada's rural regions.
- B. They show Canada's participation in the First World War.
- C. They were all painted by a senator.
- D. Nothing at all.

5.

Beneath the clock above the entrance to the Senate Chamber, you can see a small "O" carved into a maple leaf. What is its significance?

- A. It refers to the national anthem, *O Canada*.
- B. It is the initial of one of the sculptors who worked on the Senate Chamber.
- C. It represents the Ottawa Senators hockey team.
- D. It is a decoration with no particular meaning.





# 7 DIFFERENCES

## 7 DIFFERENCES

FIND THEM ALL!





# WELCOME

## TO THE SENATE OF CANADA BUILDING!

In February 2019, the Senate moved to the Senate of Canada Building, what used to be Ottawa's former train station.



© William James Topley / Library and Archives Canada / PA-009110

The 105 senators now occupy the new space while Centre Block — the Senate's permanent home on Parliament Hill — gets renovated.



Did you know that television cameras are capturing every minute of Senate debates for the first time ever? Senate committee meetings have been televised for years, but broadcasts from the Red Chamber have always been audio only.

Members of Parliament (MPs) in the House of Commons have also moved to a temporary home — in West Block on Parliament Hill.

The renovation project is a big project. It's expected to take at least 10 years to complete.



How old will you be in 10 years?



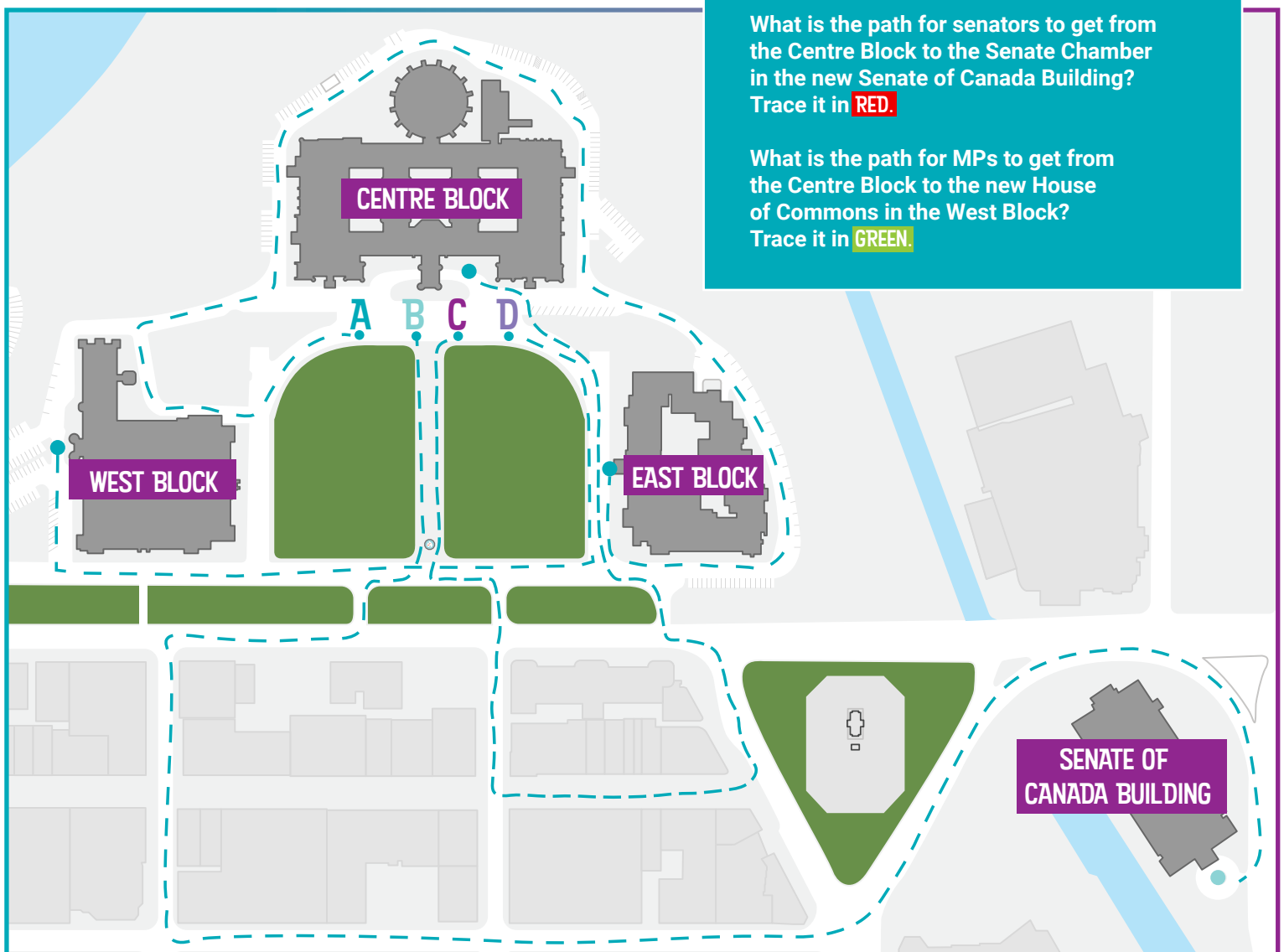
# TRACE THE TRACE THE RIGHT PATHS!

# RIGHT PATHS!

## FIND THE RIGHT PATHS BETWEEN A-B-C OR D.

What is the path for senators to get from the Centre Block to the Senate Chamber in the new Senate of Canada Building?  
Trace it in **RED**.

What is the path for MPs to get from the Centre Block to the new House of Commons in the West Block?  
Trace it in **GREEN**.



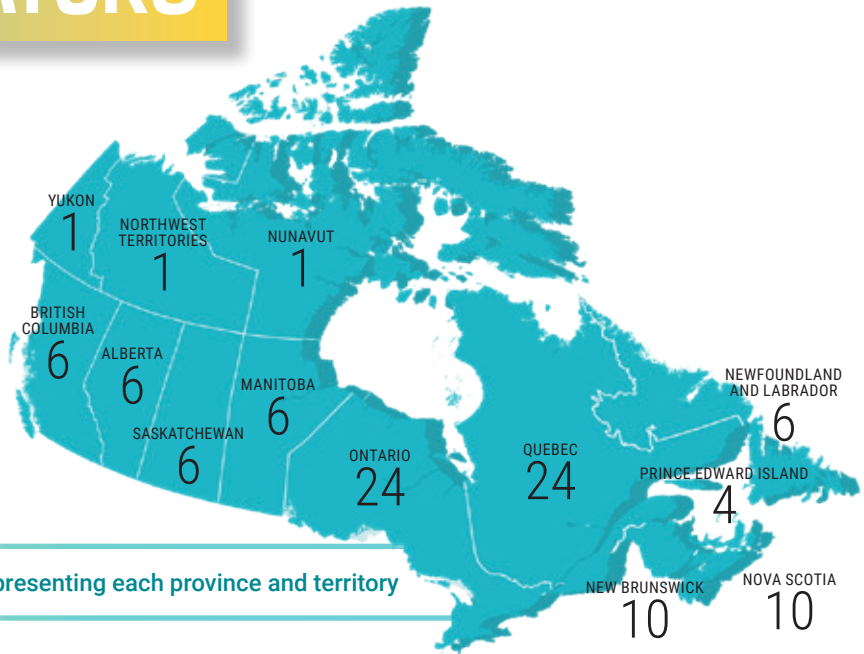


# ABOUT SENATORS

## ABOUT SENATORS

### SENATORS ARE LEGISLATORS

There are 105 senators. They are men and women from different backgrounds and from every region of Canada. They are businesspeople and scientists, judges and teachers, athletes, community leaders and more. Together, they use their experience and expertise to guide **PARLIAMENT** so that it acts in the best interest of Canadians.



Senators study **BILLS** passed by the **HOUSE OF COMMONS** and they propose their own bills as well. They also **DEBATE** whether bills should be changed or passed as is. Bills go through three stages, known as **READINGS**, in the **SENATE** and in the House of Commons before they can become law.



Senators also work together in small groups called **COMMITTEES**. Here, they review bills in detail and discuss matters that are important to Canadians, including the environment, health care and the economy. They invite expert **WITNESSES** to meet and share their opinions, and they often undertake fact-finding missions to hear from Canadians outside of Ottawa. **SENATE** committees produce detailed reports to inform the public about their investigations – reports that often lead to new policies and laws. There are 17 permanent Senate committees.



# WORD SEARCH

## WORD SEARCH

FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS. WORDS RUN UP, DOWN AND DIAGONALLY.



ANTECHAMBER

BILL

COMMITTEE

DEBATE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LEGISLATORS

MONARCH

PARLIAMENT

READINGS

ROYAL ASSENT

SENATE

SITTING



# WORD PLAY

## WORD PLAY

USE THE CLUES BELOW TO FIND THE ANSWERS.



This is a group of people whom senators represent. There is a Senate committee dedicated to ensuring this group's rights are respected. James Gladstone, who was appointed to the Senate in 1958 by then-prime minister John Diefenbaker, had this background.

- The first syllable is the opposite of "out."
- The second syllable is the fourth letter of the alphabet.
- The third syllable is another word for denim pants.
- The fourth syllable is a pronoun that rhymes with "bus."

Write your answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

This was described by Muriel McQueen Fergusson, the first female Speaker of the Senate, as the "heart and soul" of the Senate. Senators use it to produce reports and investigate issues of importance to Canadians.

- The first syllable is something you use to fix your hair.
- The second syllable is another word for a baseball catcher's glove.
- The third syllable is a hot drink that people in England adore.

Write your answer here: \_\_\_\_\_



# WORD SCRAMBLE

## WORD SCRAMBLE

PUT THE LETTERS IN THE RIGHT ORDER.

**LRYOA TNSASE**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the ceremony that takes place after a bill has been passed in the same form by both houses of Parliament to make it a law.

**DERIAGNS**

\_\_\_\_\_

A bill must go through these three basic stages before it can be passed by the Senate.

**TFCA-GNFNIDI NSSIMIO**

\_\_\_\_\_

Senate committees often conduct this to gather information about an issue they are investigating.

**NEWSSTEIS**

\_\_\_\_\_

Committees invite these people to share their personal experiences and expertise about an issue being studied.



# SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

The Speaker of the **SENATE** is a senator appointed to keep order during **DEBATES** in the Senate Chamber. In this position, the Speaker makes sure that the Senate's rules are being followed and all senators have the opportunity to participate.

A senator can only join a debate or make a comment in the Senate when the Speaker gives permission. When a senator or group of senators believes the *Rules of the Senate* are not being followed, the Speaker listens to their arguments and determines if the rules have been broken. When a senator speaks for too long, the Speaker politely asks him or her stop so that the next senator may speak.

The Speaker is also a diplomatic figure who often greets and hosts foreign leaders and delegations when they visit **PARLIAMENT** Hill. In this role, the Speaker visits other countries on behalf of the Canadian Parliament. At home and abroad, the Speaker acts as an ambassador for Canada's system of government and for the vital role played by the Senate.



The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C.,  
Speaker of the Senate

## 45<sup>TH</sup> SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C., is the first Speaker from either house of Parliament to represent the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. A former lawyer and teacher, Speaker Furey has served on some of the Senate's most high-profile **COMMITTEES** since he was appointed to the Senate in 1999. He was named Speaker on December 3, 2015.



*"True leaders are defined not by age or by stature, but by a commitment to making the world a better place. Young people, through their energy, strength and vision, have tremendous capacity to be the leaders that Canada needs today."*

The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C.,  
Speaker of the Senate





# SPEAKER'S

## SPEAKER'S UNIFORM

# UNIFORM

The Speaker of the **SENATE** wears a special uniform as part of a tradition that dates back hundreds of years.

### TRICORN HAT

The Speaker wears or carries a tricorn hat, a style popular among European men in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### ROBE

The Speaker wears a black silk robe with a flat hood and 'wings' that hang from the open elbow sleeves.

### TABS

Two white starched bands called tabs are tied around the winged collar of the Speaker's white shirt.

### TAILCOAT

Underneath the robe is a black wool coat with large cuffs and seven buttons. It is worn over a black vest and pants trimmed with a narrow silk band.

### COTTON GLOVES

For ceremonial occasions like the Speaker's Parade, the Speaker wears white cotton gloves.

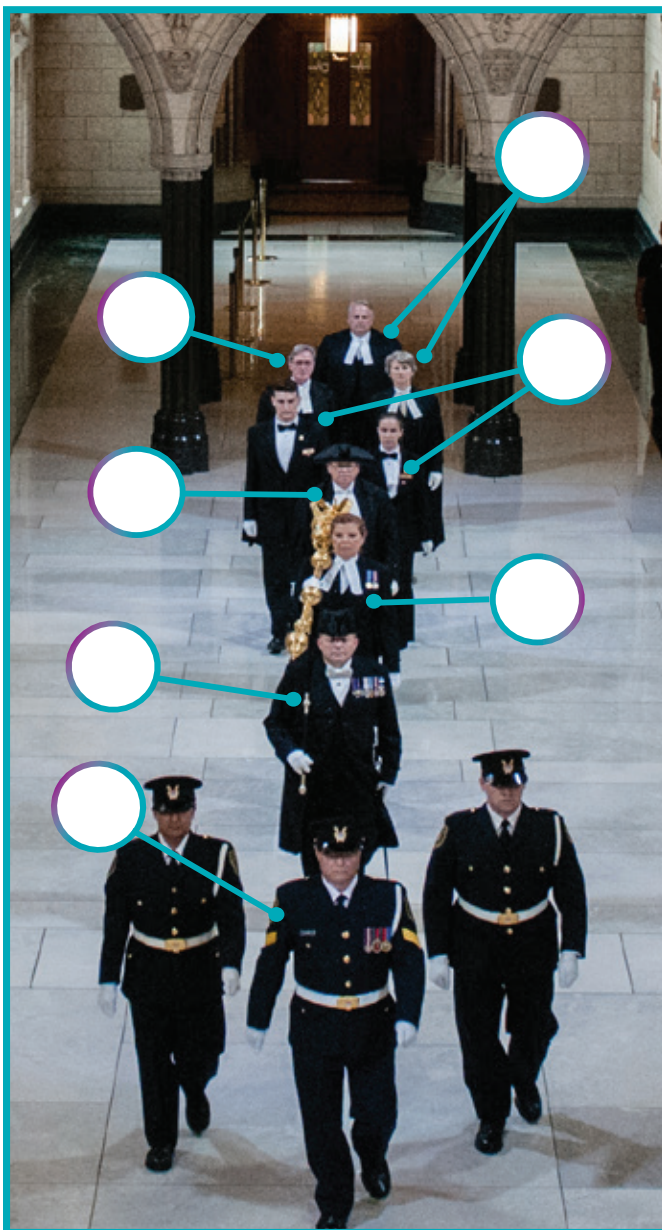


# SPEAKER'S PARADE

## SPEAKER'S PARADE

The Speaker's Parade marks the opening of a **SENATE SITTING**. During the parade, officials solemnly escort the Speaker and the ceremonial Senate Mace from the Speaker's offices into the Senate Chamber.

**IN THE IMAGE BELOW, IDENTIFY THE PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPEAKER'S PARADE BY WRITING THE NUMBER IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.**



### 1. SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Senate ranks fourth in the order of precedence for Canada behind only the Governor General, the Prime Minister and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The Speaker keeps the Senate running smoothly.

### 2. CLERK OF THE SENATE AND CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENTS

The Clerk of the Senate and Clerk of the Parliaments is an expert on the sometimes complicated procedures and practices of the Senate. When the Speaker needs advice about something during a Senate sitting, he or she will ask the Clerk for guidance.

### 3. USHER OF THE BLACK ROD

The Usher of the Black Rod is the personal attendant to the Monarch and the Governor General. His many duties include co-ordinating events that take place in the Senate Chamber and overseeing the Senate Page Program.

### 4. TWO SENATE PAGES

Pages are university students who prepare the Chamber for sittings of the Senate. During sittings, they make sure senators have what they need to carry out their duties, and they work with senators, clerks and staff to ensure everything runs like clockwork.

### 5. SECURITY OFFICERS

The Parliamentary Protective Service is responsible for security on and around Parliament Hill.

### 6. MACE BEARER

During the Speaker's Parade, the Mace is carried to and placed on the Clerk's table by the Mace Bearer. The Senate cannot sit until the Mace is on the table. When the Senate sitting is finished, the Mace Bearer removes the Mace from the table.

### 7. TABLE OFFICERS

The table officers advise the Speaker and other senators on the Senate's rules and keep track of decisions in the official record of the Senate.



# USHER OF THE BLACK ROD AND SENATE PAGES

## USHER OF THE BLACK ROD

The Usher of the Black Rod is the personal attendant to the Monarch and the Governor General. The Black Rod has many traditional, ceremonial and administrative duties. He is also in charge of the **SENATE** pages and, with their help, makes sure that all is well behind the scenes.

This position was created about 600 years ago in the British Parliament at Westminster in London. The name Usher of the Black Rod comes from the dark, ebony wood staff that the Usher carries as a symbol of authority.



John Gregory Peters, M.V.O.,  
Usher of the Black Rod

## SENATE PAGES



Each year, 15 university students from across Canada are selected to participate in the Senate Page Program. They provide a range of services to ensure that the Senate and its **COMMITTEES** run smoothly. Pages get to witness history in the making as **BILLS** are debated, amended and become law.

# CROSSWORD

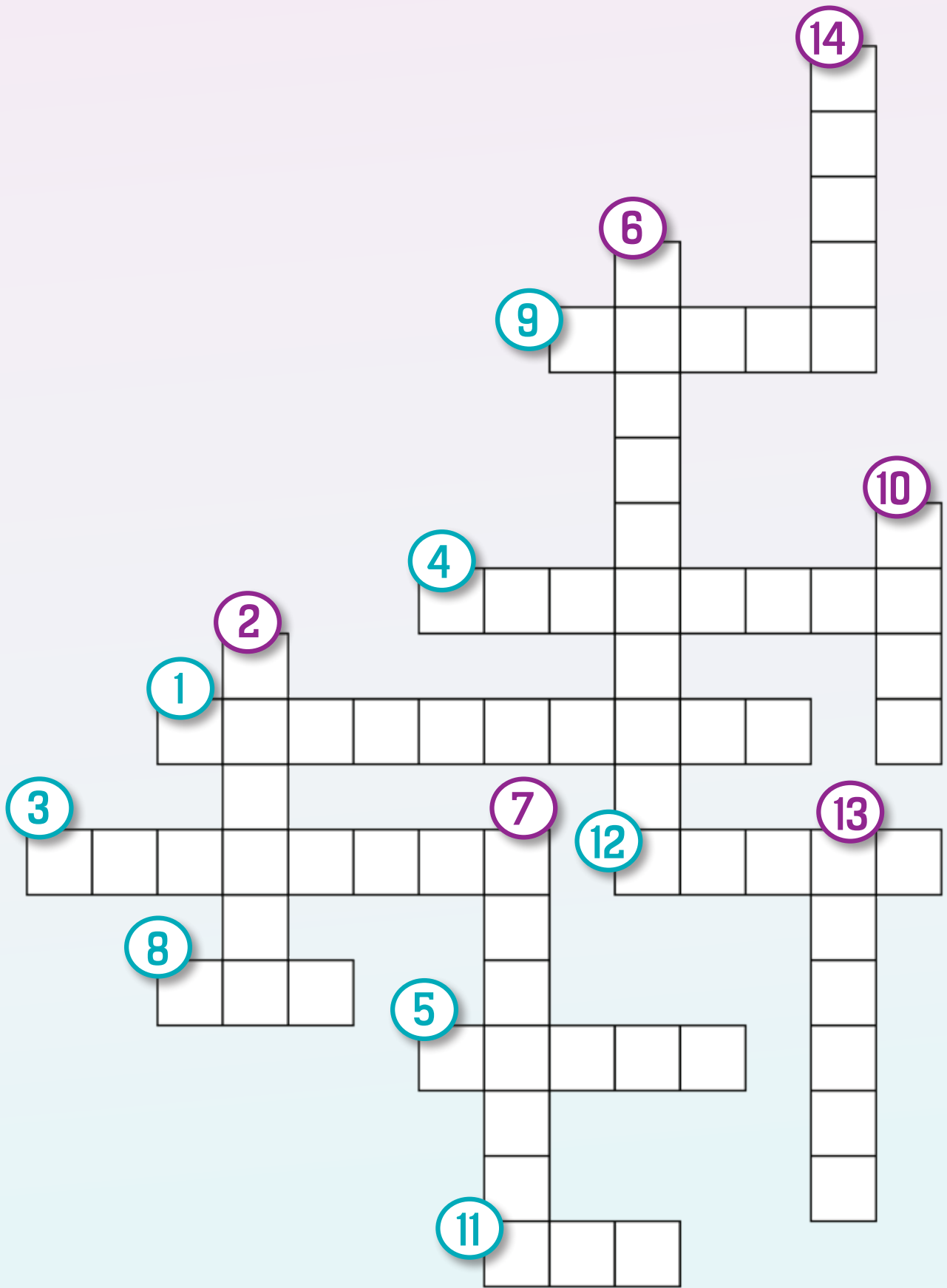
## ACROSS

1. This institution is made up of the **MONARCH**, the Senate and the **HOUSE OF COMMONS**.
3. There are 105 of these people in the Senate.
4. Name of the queen known as the "Mother of Confederation."  
A bust of this queen is located above the **SENATE** Speaker's chair.
5. These students report to the Usher of the Black Rod and help to keep the Senate and its committees running smoothly.
8. What a **BILL** becomes once it has been passed by both houses of **PARLIAMENT** and receives **ROYAL ASSENT**.
9. Located just outside the Senate Chamber, this area features stone carvings, portraits of monarchs, a stained-glass ceiling and a window celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.
11. This is the main colour of the Senate Chamber.
12. One of the roles of Senate **COMMITTEES**. All students have to do this too, especially before a test.

## DOWN

2. Senators work for the people of this country.
6. These groups of senators study issues affecting Canadians.
7. This person is responsible for overseeing business in the Chamber. He calls out items, reminds senators about time limits for speeches and presides over **DEBATES**.
10. This ceremonial object must be placed on the Clerk's table when the Senate is **SITTING**.
13. How senators share their views in the Senate Chamber.
14. This person carries the Black Rod and is in charge of the Senate pages.





# GLOSSARY

Here are some of the terms you've read in this brochure and what they mean:

## **ANTECHAMBER**

The small room outside the Senate Chamber. Members of the House of Commons aren't allowed past the brass bar near the entrance of the Chamber but they can watch throne speeches and Royal Assent ceremonies from the antechamber.

## **BILL**

A proposed law. Bills often come to the Senate for approval from the House of Commons but senators can introduce their own bills. Bills cannot become law unless the Senate and the House of Commons approve them in identical form.

## **COMMITTEE**

A group of senators that meets to discuss bills and investigate important issues. Committees often invite expert witnesses to shed light on these issues and senators also go on fact-finding missions to get new information firsthand. They use this information to create reports and make recommendations that the government can act on.

## **DEBATE**

Senators' discussions in the Red Chamber are called debates. Senators represent people from all across the country and bring a wide variety of experiences to the Senate. While senators may not always agree with each other, they use research and evidence to express their views and they are respectful of each other's opinions.

## **FOYER**

The Senate foyer is the impressive grand entrance to the Senate Chamber where you'll find paintings and sculptures celebrating historical figures and monarchs of Canada.

## **GOVERNOR GENERAL**

The Governor General is the Monarch's representative in Canada. Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette became Canada's 29<sup>th</sup> Governor General on October 2, 2017.

## **HOUSE OF COMMONS**

The lower house of Parliament. The House of Commons is made up of 338 elected members of Parliament (MPs for short), including the Prime Minister. MPs draft legislation, debate issues and represent Canadians who live in their riding.



## **LEGISLATORS**

People who create and change laws, such as senators and members of the House of Commons.

## **MONARCH**

The Queen or King of Canada. Queen Elizabeth II has been Canada's monarch since 1952.

## **PARLIAMENT**

Parliament is comprised of the Monarch, the Senate and the House of Commons. Parliament passes laws that affect Canadians but it is not all-encompassing — some kinds of laws, like those on education, are generally the responsibility of the provinces and territories.

## **READINGS**

Every bill must be “read” three times in both houses of Parliament (the Senate and the House of Commons) before it can become law. The first reading introduces the bill, the second is a debate about the ideas behind it and the third reading makes sure everyone agrees on what's in it. Once the Senate and the House of Commons agree on the contents of a bill, it goes for Royal Assent.

## **ROYAL ASSENT**

The Governor General is the Monarch's representative in Canada. She or he signals approval of a bill in a ceremony known as Royal Assent, allowing a bill to become a law.

## **SENATE**

Also known as the Red Chamber, the Senate is the upper house of Parliament. It is a body of 105 senators that gives sober second thought to legislation passed in the House of Commons, proposes its own legislation and carries out investigations into important issues.

## **SITTING**

When senators meet in the Senate Chamber to debate and vote.

## **SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**

The Speech from the Throne welcomes senators and members of the House of Commons back to Parliament after an election or prorogation (a break that temporarily shuts down Parliament). Although it is written by the federal government to tell Canadians about the things it wants to achieve, the speech is read out by the Monarch or the Governor General in the Senate Chamber.

## **WITNESSES**

These are people who appear before committees to speak about a proposed law (bill) or an important issue. Senators may recommend changing a bill because of what a witness says. Anybody with knowledge to share may be invited to be a witness — even young people.

# ANSWERS

## THE SENATE FOYER

PAGE 6

1. **D** - It was a weapon used by the person in charge of protecting the Monarch.
2. **B** - The shields of the provinces and territories of Canada.
3. **C** - 60 years
4. **A** - They are portraits of monarchs who reigned over Canada.

## THE DOORS TO THE SENATE ANTECHAMBER

PAGE 8





## THE SENATE CHAMBER

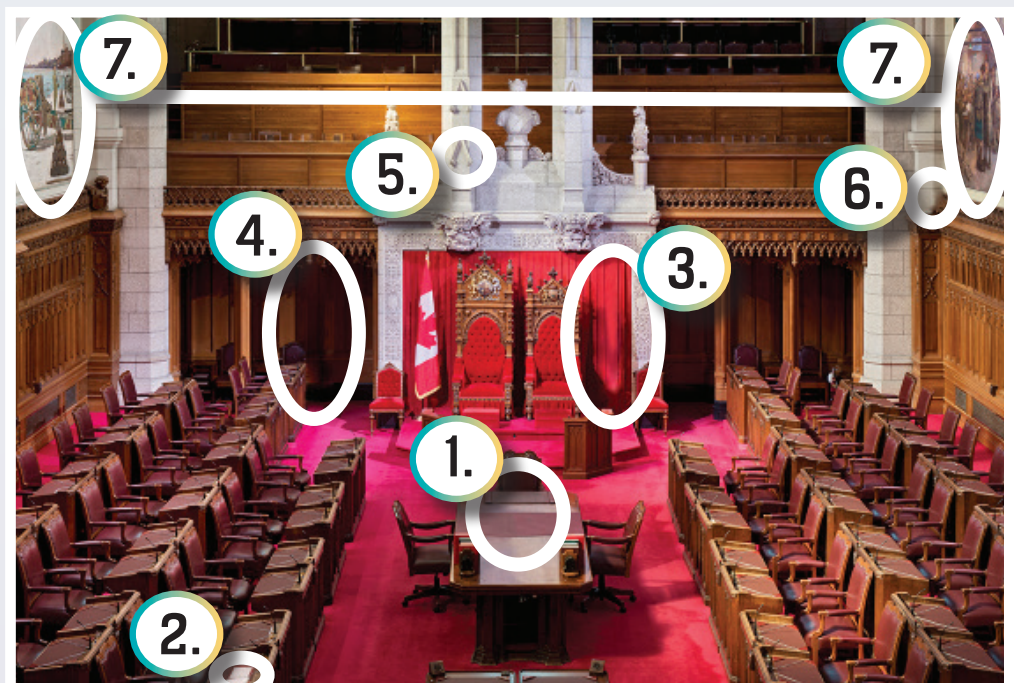
PAGE 10

1. **D** - All of the above.
2. **A** - The Speaker of the Senate
3. **A** - The Mother of Confederation
4. **B** - They show Canada's participation in the First World War.
5. **C** - It represents the Ottawa Senators hockey team.

## 7 DIFFERENCES

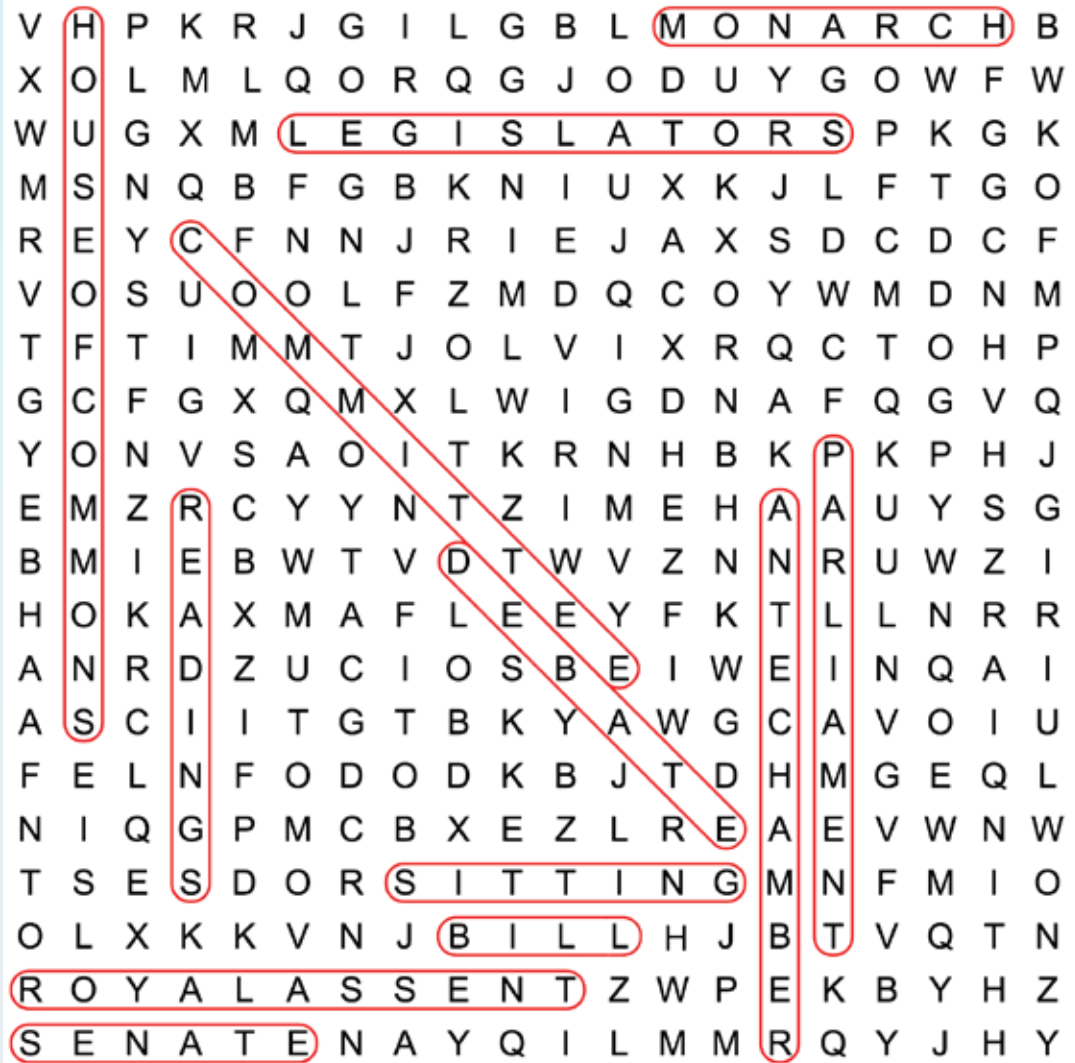
PAGE 12

1. The calendar is missing from the Clerk's table.
2. Papers have been added to a senator's desk.
3. The Canadian flag is missing on the right.
4. A wooden pillar is missing on the left.
5. Details have been added to the stone on the left.
6. A cherub — a kind of angel — is missing on the right.
7. The paintings have been reversed.



# WORD SEARCH

PAGE 14



# WORD PLAY

PAGE 15

1. Indigenous
2. Committee

# WORD SCRAMBLE

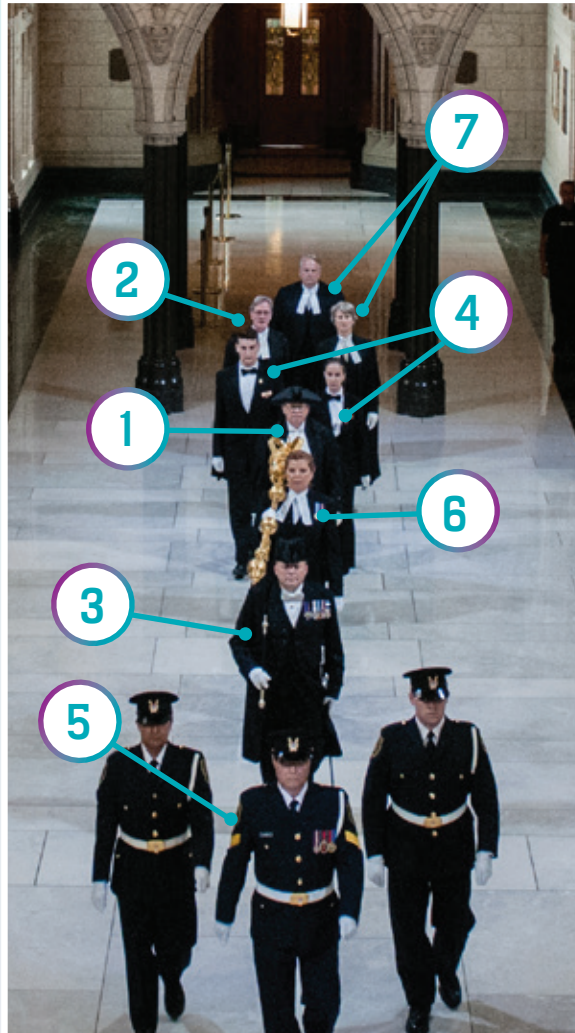
PAGE 15

1. Royal Assent
2. Readings
3. Fact-finding mission
4. Witnesses



## SPEAKER'S PARADE

PAGE 18



## CROSSWORD

PAGE 20

### ACROSS

1. Parliament
3. Senators
4. Victoria
5. Pages
8. Law
9. Foyer
11. Red
12. Study

### DOWN

2. Canada
6. Committees
7. Speaker
10. Mace
13. Debate
14. Usher

# VIRTUAL TOUR

## VIRTUAL TOUR

### CAN'T MAKE IT TO OTTAWA?

Visit the Red Chamber from the comfort of your home with the Senate Virtual Tour – an immersive, interactive parliamentary experience.

**VISIT** [tour.sencanada.ca](http://tour.sencanada.ca)



## SENGAGE

### WANT TO MEET A SENATOR?

Senators often visit classrooms to explain what they do. If your teacher requests a senator to visit your class, you might get to meet one yourself.

**VISIT** [sencanada.ca/en/sengage](http://sencanada.ca/en/sengage)



# THE WISE OWLS

## THE WISE OWLS

### WHO WILL HELP THE ANIMALS IN THE FOREST OF CANADA?

When the Forest-dwellers decide to elect a Council of Animals to run their affairs, they quickly learn that what's good for one animal is not necessarily good for all of them – but how can they resolve their differences? Enter the Wise Owls, who agree to form a Senate to make sure every animal's voice is heard.

**READ THE STORY AT** [info.sencanada.ca/wisewowls](http://info.sencanada.ca/wisewowls)



**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE SENATE AND HOW SENATORS REPRESENT YOU.**

[sencanada.ca](http://sencanada.ca)

