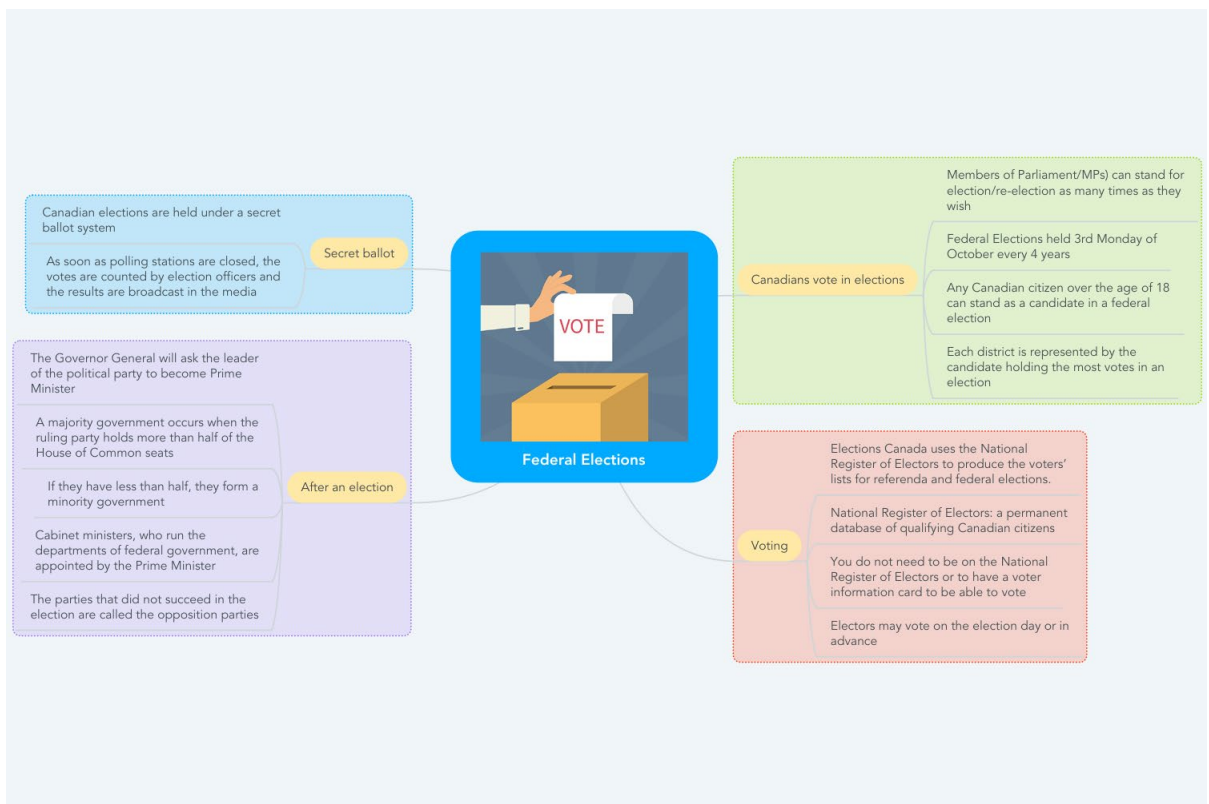




Chapter 6: Federal Elections





1 Canadians vote in elections

- 1.1 Members of Parliament (MPs) can stand for election/re-election as many times as they wish
- 1.2 Federal Elections held 3rd Monday of October every four years
- 1.3 Any Canadian citizen over the age of 18 can stand as a candidate in a federal election
- 1.4 Each district is represented by the candidate holding the most votes in an election



2 Voting

- 2.1 Elections Canada uses the National Register of Electors to produce the voters' lists for referenda and federal elections.
- 2.2 National Register of Electors: a permanent database of qualifying Canadian citizens
- 2.3 You do not need to be on the National Register of Electors or to have a voter information card to be able to vote
- 2.4 Electors may vote on the election day or in advance



3 After an election

- 3.1 The Governor-General will ask the leader of the political party to become Prime Minister
- 3.2 A majority government occurs when the ruling party holds more than half of the House of Common seats
- 3.3 If they have less than half, they form a minority government
- 3.4 Cabinet ministers, who run the departments of the federal government, are appointed by the Prime Minister
- 3.5 The parties that did not succeed in the election are called the opposition parties



4 Secret ballot

- 4.1 Canadian elections are held under a secret ballot system
- 4.2 As soon as polling stations are closed, the votes are counted by election officers, and the results are broadcast on the media