

## Lesson Plan

### Title

**Who Are You Gonna Call?**  
**Three levels of Government: Municipal, Provincial, and Federal**

### Audience

Grade 10 Social Studies (Secondary) and review for Grade 11 Social Studies

### Overview

Students will recognize the responsibilities of the three levels of government: municipal (local), provincial, and federal.

### Objectives

Familiarize students with the roles and responsibilities of the three levels of government;  
Familiarize students with the vocabulary related to the three levels of government; and  
Students will recognize and appreciate the impact of government in their daily lives.

### Preparation (by teacher and by students)

Vocabulary (e.g. municipal, provincial, federal, jurisdiction, mayor, premier, prime minister, national, crown, parliament, legislature, government)

## Materials & Resources

[Through the Red Tape poster](#) on Three Levels of Government

Horizons Textbook for section 91 and 92

You Tube Videos

See Student Handout – [Appendix A](#)

## Duration of Activity

For an introductory unit: - to establish students' understanding, a one to two 60-minute lessons.

For a review unit or with a class that has a firm grasp of these concepts: - to refresh and investigate their understanding, a 20-minute segment of introduction and refresher lesson.

## Activities and Methods

Pre-teach the three levels of government by providing students with a photograph of the Mayor, Premier and Prime Minister and have them identify their role as a municipal (local), provincial or federal leaders.

Have students identify their seat of power with photographs of the city hall, Parliament Buildings (Legislative Assembly) and Parliament Buildings (Federal).

Have students identify the broad responsibilities of each level of government:

- students brainstorm government services, e.g.:
  - garbage removal,
  - fishing licences,
  - driving licenses,
  - passports,
  - hospital services,
  - ports,
  - airports,
  - police services,
  - ferry services,
  - marriage licences,
  - snow removal,
  - repair of the Trans Canada Highway,
  - repair of residential roads, etc.

cont'd...

## Activities and Methods (cont'd)

Students will categorize photographs which represent government services. The photos will be categorized as a local, provincial or federal responsibility.

(Note: Some services will be the joint responsibility of several levels of government and will need further exploration, e.g.: police, parks, etc...).

Students may also be encouraged to create their own photographs of a government service (e.g.: a photo scavenger hunt, where students are responsible for finding or creating five photographs identifying responsibilities of the three levels of government) or be given photographs prepared by the teacher.

Use prepared scenarios e.g: Who Are You Gonna Call?

- Your garbage has not been collected.
- New ferry routes are needed to access a B.C. island or coastal community.
- A pot hole has become a driving hazard.
- The lights are not turning on.
- Your passport has not arrived?

Extension Activities:

- Challenge students to find services that are the joint responsibility of two levels of government
- Introduce or review Sections 91 and 92 of British North America Act
- Visual YouTube clips on problems – identify.
- Brainstorming (give levels, what do you think they are responsible for?).
- Poster – give scenarios and have students identify the levels.
- Older kids – give them scenario to act out and film – play in class and identify.
- Scenarios
- Move on to the Who's Who – identify people at the various levels.
- Sorting activities – sort pictures of the local city hall, provincial building, federal buildings.
- Go through newspaper and find items that relate to each level of government.

## Learning Outcomes

- describe the structure and function of Canada’s federal, provincial, and local governments (*Grade 10 - Governance*)
- identify historical roots of the Canadian political and legal systems, including:
  - British parliamentary system
  - British North America Act (*Grade 10 – Informed Citizenship*)
- demonstrate effective research skills, including:
  - accessing information
  - collecting data
  - evaluating data
  - organizing information
  - presenting information
  - citing sources (*Grade 10 Skills and Processes of Social Studies*)

## Evaluation of Activity

Self Evaluation using Sections 91 & 92 of the BNA Act (see Horizons Textbook)

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*NOTE: The ideas and opinions expressed in this classroom activity belong to their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. The Public Education and Outreach office only edits for clarity.*

# Appendix A

## Who Are You Gonna Call?

**Time limit:** 45 minutes

**Materials needed:** camera

**Task:** Your group is to take pictures of group members with scenes from our neighborhood and identify which level of government is responsible.

**Example**

- students by school sign, then identify level(s) of government responsible for schools.

You may submit a maximum of five pictures for any one area of responsibility.

You get bonus points if you identify areas where there is overlap

- 2 points if it overlaps 2 levels of government and
- 3 points if it overlaps all three levels.

\*remember to be careful when crossing streets.

\*boundaries for this exercise are \_\_\_\_\_ street to \_\_\_\_\_ street.