

Canadian Constitution

Socials 10

Constitution

Constitution – A set of **RULES** established to define the functioning of government.

These rules establish the legal **STRUCTURE, PROCEDURES, POWER,** and **DUTY** of government.

The Canadian constitution is **WRITTEN** and **UNWRITTEN.**

Constitution

The central principles of our constitution are **PEACE, ORDER, GOOD GOVERNMENT**, and the **RULE OF LAW**.

Canada's original constitution was the **BRITISH NORTH AMERICA (BNA) ACT**, which created the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

Constitution

Our **PARLIAMENTARY** style of government and the powers of the **FEDERAL** and **PROVINCIAL** governments are outlined in the British North America (BNA) Act of 1867.

The **BILL OF RIGHTS** (1960) outlined the rights of all citizens. But since it was not part of the constitution, it could be changed at any time by the **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**.

Constitution

The **CONSTITUTION ACT (1982)** allowed to the constitution to be changed in Canada through an **AMENDING FORMULA**, and provided the provinces a **NOTWITHSTANDING CLAUSE**.

The **CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS (1982)** guarantees basic rights and freedoms for all Canadians. This provides protection from the government.

Constitution

Our written constitution now contains . . .

A description of the powers of the **FEDERAL and **PROVINCIAL** government.**

A Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which contains the **NOTWITHSTANDING FORMULA.**

An **AMENDING FORMULA allowing for changes to the constitution.**