

WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE OF CANADA'S FEDERAL POLITICAL SYSTEM?

Social Studies 9



Form of the Federal Government

- Canada is a constitutional monarchy, the head of state being a monarch (king or queen).
- The monarch's representative in Canada is the **Governor General** who fills the role of approving laws made in Canada and other formal functions.
- The representative of the monarch in the provinces is the **Lieutenant Governor**.



Queen Elizabeth



Julie Payette



Lois Mitchell

The Governor General

- The Governor General is **appointed** by the monarch on the recommendation of the prime minister.
- The Governor General has the power to appoint the Prime Minister, who is usually the leader of the political party that holds the most seats in the House of Commons.
- Appoints the Lieutenant Governor



Michaëlle Jean, Governor General 2005-2010

Lieutenant Governor



Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

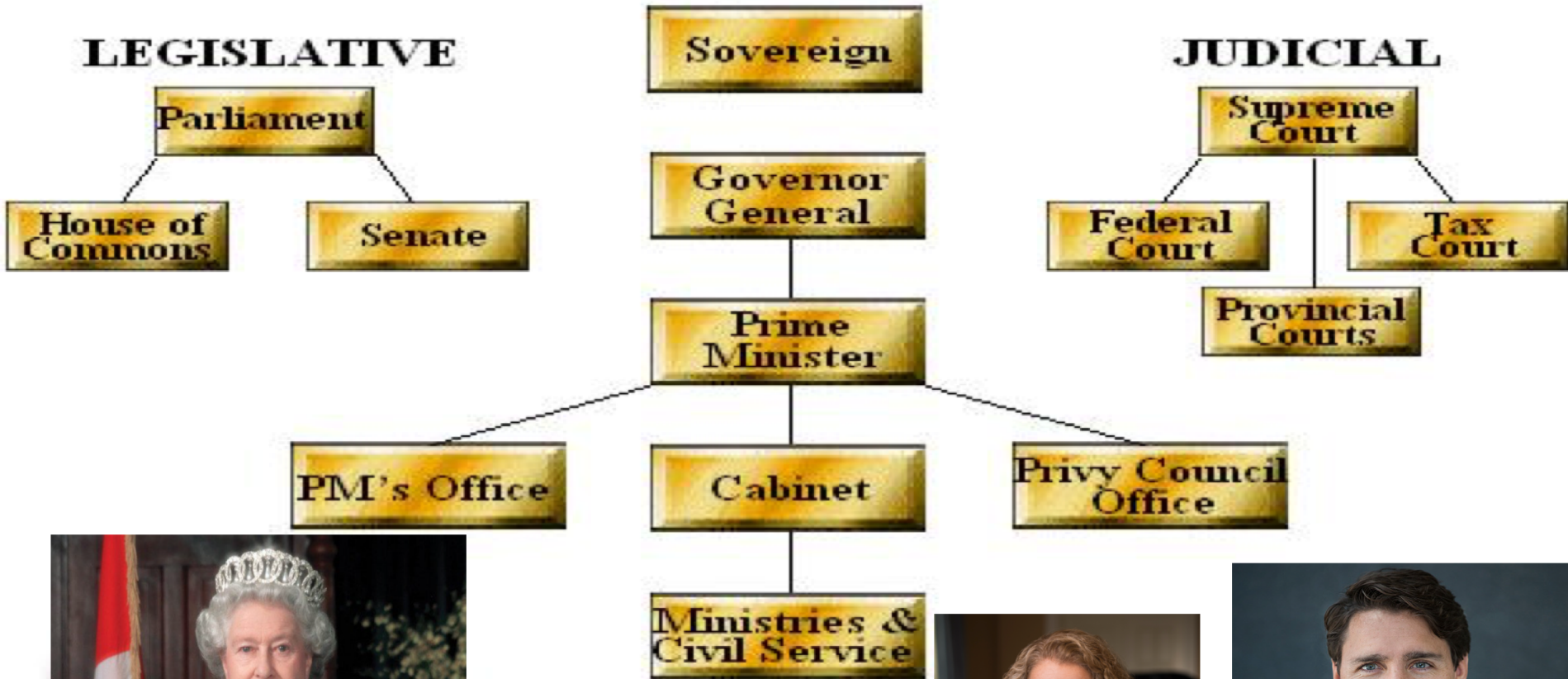
- Appointed by the Governor General
- The Governor General and Lieutenant Governor generally act on the advice of the prime minister or premier of the province respectively.
- No bill gets passed in either parliament or a provincial legislature without royal assent—from the Governor General or Lieutenant Governor

Structure of the Federal Government Dominion of Canada

EXECUTIVE

LEGISLATIVE

JUDICIAL



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Ministries &
Civil Service



Her Excellency
The Right Honourable Julie Payette
Governor General



The Right Honourable
Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister