

# The Parliamentary Process and Procedures

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9:00am-4:30pm

**Purpose:** The purpose of this workshop is to introduce students to parliamentary processes and procedures and familiarize them with Parliament's roles and responsibilities.

## **1. The Westminster Parliamentary System in Canada**

- a. The House of Commons: "Rep by Pop"
- b. Functions of Parliament
- c. The Chamber
- d. Parliamentarians on the Hill and their districts
- e. The Cabinet and the decision-making process
- f. The financial cycle of the Government
- g. The legislative process and legislative development
- h. The Prime Minister's Office: first amongst equals?
- i. The role of the Public Service
- j. Policy development
- k. Decision-making
- l. The Senate
- m. Political overview

## **2. Parliamentary Committees: their role and function**


## **3. Party discipline**

- a. Do MPs need more freedom from their Party Whips?

## **4. Electoral Process**

## **5. Concluding considerations**

- a. Is Parliament broken?
- b. What is its future?



Reading List

Forsey, Senator Eugene A. How Canadians Govern Themselves. © The Majesty her Queen in Right of Canada, 1980.

[http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/Parliament/SenatorEugeneForsey/book/assets/pdf/How\\_Canadians\\_Govern\\_Themselves8.pdf](http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/Parliament/SenatorEugeneForsey/book/assets/pdf/How_Canadians_Govern_Themselves8.pdf)