

# **Voices in Democracy**

## **Chapter 1 Shaping Society Together**

### **Why do we have rules?**

- When playing games/sports/activities, do they all have rules? Can any player change rules?
- Why do we have rules? - to keep order; they let you know what you can and can't do; they make things fair;
- It is everyone's job to learn what the rules are and behave according

**Inquiring minds: Why is it important for people and government to work together in a democracy?**

### **What are Societies Rules?**

- people in a society need rules to get along and guide how we act with others at home, school, community and country
- Canada's rules are written in our Constitution (it describes the powers of the government and the rights of the people)

### **Who Makes decisions about rules?**

- in a democracy, people have the power to make decisions about laws
- Gov. makes laws      ←→      People elect representatives. to gov.

### **Who are members of the Canadian Society?**

- the people who make up the communities across Canada

### **Why do we need Government?**

- to make sure people are safe and our lives are comfortable
- Government 1. provide services (schools, hospitals, etc)  
2. Protects rights and freedoms  
3. Provides leadership

### **What are our Responsibilities as Citizens?**

- government need to listen to the citizens in order to make decisions about our country, province or community
- people have responsibility to inform the government of what they need and make their points of view known.

### **Skill Power: Telling Fact from Opinion**

- Fact: a statement that can be proven to be CORRECT/TRUE. Can be checked in dictionaries, encyclopaedia's, reliable websites, etc
- Opinion: what someone BELIEVES. Can be proven to be right or wrong
- Discussion: Should Students Wear School Uniforms?

### **Bold Words**

**Society**  
**Constitution**  
**Citizen**  
**Issues**  
**Fact**  
**Opinion**  
**Injustices**

### **Why is it Important to Contribute?**

- become involved in actions that benefit others in the community
- learn about issues in your community and school
- become more active by forming group with people who feel the same as you
- this will help to correct injustices or wrongs from the past
- you can be active by supporting an action the government has taken

**Viewpoints: Should Cell Phones be Allowed in Class?**