

# Module 1: Government Jurisdiction Sheet



Check your results against the different government jurisdictions, their roles and responsibilities below:

Level of Government	Responsibilities
<p>Indigenous Governments (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)</p> <div data-bbox="99 1079 496 1766" style="background-color: #008080; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <p><b>FAST FACT!</b> Much of BC is what we call ‘unceded’ territory, meaning treaties were never signed between the Indigenous peoples and settlers. The land was stolen and Indigenous peoples have faced ongoing colonial violence and efforts to eliminate their communities and culture. Some Nations are now working to create modern treaties and new relationships with Federal and Provincial governments. You can learn more about the Tsawwassen First Nation, Westbank First Nation, and Nisga’a First Nation agreements that have been enacted since the year 2000.</p> </div>	<p>There is a long, complex and unequal history of relations between Indigenous and settler communities, that includes the taking of land from indigenous peoples, and their continued systematic oppression. This means that the roles and responsibilities of Indigenous governments vary across the country, and different communities have different arrangements, through treaties, acts, and agreements.</p> <p>Reserve or Treaty Lands: An area set aside specifically for the exclusive use of the Nation or Indigenous group, and governed by an Indigenous Government. These were either assigned by the Federal Government through the process of colonization, or have been agreed upon in a treaty (an agreement between an Indigenous Government and the Federal/Provincial Governments).</p> <p>On reserve or treaty lands, some responsibilities of Indigenous Governments may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizenship/Membership to the Nation or group</li> <li>• Internal governance structure, which may include traditional forms of governance</li> <li>• Limited jurisdiction over natural resources, land management within their reserve or territory</li> <li>• Social programming, which may include health care, education, social assistance, and/or child and family services</li> </ul> <p>Territories: Traditional and ancestral territories are the lands that the Nation or group historically lived off of, prior to colonization. Many territories are overlapping, for example the City of Vancouver is on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples. Indigenous Governments may or may not have agreements to be consulted or involved in decisions on their traditional territories, though other levels of government may still have control of it. A useful tool to help you explore different traditional territories around the world is <a href="https://native-land.ca">https://native-land.ca</a></p>

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Federal (Parliament of Canada)	<p>So many things fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International relations</li> <li>• Cell phone and internet service</li> <li>• Relationships with Indigenous Governments</li> <li>• Ports and fisheries</li> <li>• Postal service (Canada Post)</li> <li>• Currency (money!)</li> <li>• Navigation/shipping</li> <li>• Quarantine and public health</li> <li>• <a href="#">and more</a></li> </ul>
Provincial (BC Legislature)	<p>The Province is also responsible for a lot too:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitals and healthcare</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> <li>• Building code or how things are built (everywhere but Vancouver)</li> <li>• Education (schools!)</li> <li>• Natural Resources (i.e. mining, logging)</li> <li>• Prisons</li> <li>• Highways</li> <li>• Regional transportation (in partnership with municipalities)</li> <li>• Drivers' licensing and car insurance</li> <li>• Utilities regulation (electricity and gas)</li> </ul>
Municipal (City of Vancouver)	<p>Last but not least! Cities also have a lot of responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Sewage and drainage</li> <li>• Parks and public playgrounds</li> <li>• Community and Recreation Centres and Libraries</li> <li>• Streets (cleaning, maintenance, speed limits)</li> <li>• Fire fighting</li> <li>• Policing (in Vancouver, but not all municipalities)</li> <li>• Garbage and recycling</li> <li>• Building code or how things are built (in Vancouver only)</li> <li>• Zoning and permitting (deciding what kinds of things get built where)</li> <li>• Utilities service (electricity and gas)</li> </ul>

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Level of Government	In your neighbourhood.....
Indigenous Governments (First Nations, Inuit, Métis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All services within the reserve or treaty area, including but not limited to child care centres, cultural and recreational facilities, governance, buildings, transportation services and deciding what can be built where.</li> <li>• Some Nations will also provide input into projects happening within their territories (but off their reserve), working with other levels of government</li> </ul>
Federal (Parliament of Canada)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mailboxes/mail delivery</li> <li>• Cell phone service</li> <li>• Internet service</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Ports, shipping and fisheries</li> <li>• Citizenship &amp; immigration (who is allowed to live/stay in Canada)</li> <li>• Air travel regulations (YVR Airport, customs, and air transport laws)</li> </ul>
Municipal (City of Vancouver)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water (including taps, fire hydrants, pipes and the supply to pools, fountains, etc)</li> <li>• Sewage and drainage</li> <li>• Garbage and recycling</li> <li>• Parks and public playgrounds (maintenance and construction)</li> <li>• Community and Recreation Centres, and Libraries</li> <li>• City Hall and other city or civic buildings</li> <li>• Trees on public property</li> <li>• Speed limits on city streets, including school and park zones (guided by Provincial laws)</li> <li>• Street maintenance</li> <li>• Street cleaning</li> <li>• Sidewalks</li> <li>• Bike lanes and greenways</li> <li>• Parking (including restrictions and fees)</li> <li>• Public transportation (shared with Provincial) including buses, Skytrain and Seabus</li> <li>• Electricity and phone lines (shared with Provincial)</li> <li>• Fire fighting</li> <li>• Policing (in Vancouver, but not all municipalities)</li> <li>• Building code or the way buildings, windows doors, stairs, walls etc are built (in Vancouver only)</li> <li>• Zoning and permitting (deciding what kinds of things get built where), like how big yards are, how tall and wide buildings are, or where houses are vs. where businesses, and services are</li> <li>• Business licences</li> </ul>