

**Released 2012  
Achievement  
Test**

**Social  
Studies**  
**Sources and Questions**

**GRADE  
9**



*Alberta*  Government

This document contains a full release of the English form of the 2012 Grade 9 Social Studies Achievement Test. A test blueprint and an answer key that includes the difficulty, reporting category, test section, and item description for each test item are also included. These materials, along with the [program of studies](#) and [subject bulletin](#), provide information that can be used to inform instructional practice.

[Assessment highlights](#) provide information about the overall test, the test blueprints, and student performance on the Grade 9 Social Studies Achievement Test. Also provided is commentary on student performance at the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence on the achievement test. This information is intended for teachers and is best used in conjunction with the multi-year and detailed school reports that are available to schools via the extranet. **Assessment highlights reports** for all achievement test subjects and grades are **posted on the Alberta Education website every year** in the fall.

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***2012 Achievement Test Sources and Questions***

The sources and questions presented in this document are from the previously secured English form of the 2012 Grade 9 Social Studies Achievement Test and are representative of the sources and questions that form the test. These sources and questions are released by Alberta Education.

**Grade 9 Achievement Test**

**2012**

**Social Studies**

**Sources and Questions**

## Grade 9 Achievement Test

# Social Studies

### *Sources Booklet*

#### **Description**

The Grade 9 Social Studies Achievement Test has two booklets:

- the **Sources Booklet**, which contains 13 sets of source materials
- the **Questions Booklet**, which contains 50 multiple-choice questions

**This test was developed to be completed in 80 minutes; however, you may take an additional 30 minutes to complete the test.**

#### **Instructions**

- You may **not** use a dictionary, a thesaurus, or other reference materials.
- Be sure that you have a **Sources Booklet** and a **Questions Booklet**.

*You may write in this booklet if you find it helpful.*

*Make sure that your answers to the multiple-choice questions are placed on the answer sheet provided.*

**2012**

**The Sources Booklet is divided into two sections as follows:**

**Section One: Issues for Canadians: Governance and Rights** contains eight sets of source materials. There are 30 multiple-choice questions in the **Questions Booklet** based on these source sets (*worth 60% of the total test mark*).

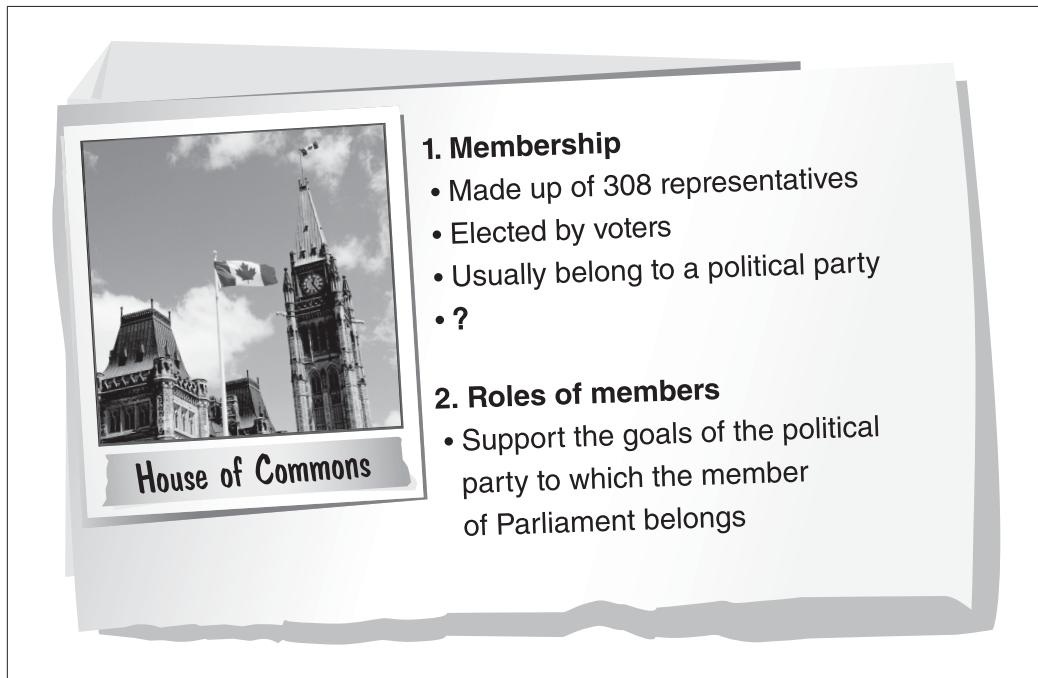
*You should take about 50 minutes to complete these 30 multiple-choice questions.*

**Section Two: Issues for Canadians: Economic Systems in Canada and the United States** contains five sets of source materials. There are 20 multiple-choice questions in the **Questions Booklet** based on these source sets (*worth 40% of the total test mark*).

*You should take about 30 minutes to complete these 20 multiple-choice questions.*

**I. Questions 1 to 4 on page 32 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**



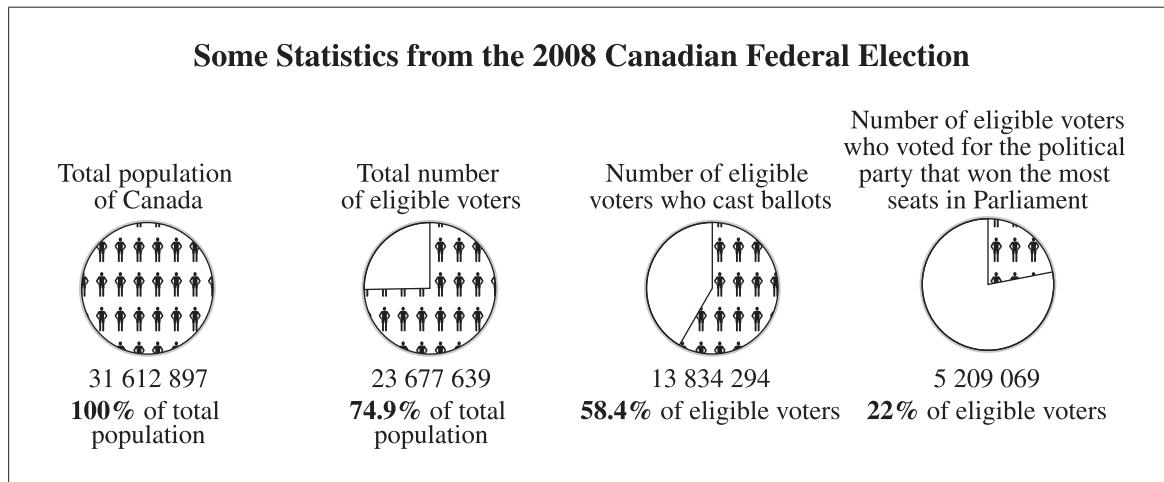
**1. Membership**

- Made up of 308 representatives
- Elected by voters
- Usually belong to a political party
- ?

**2. Roles of members**

- Support the goals of the political party to which the member of Parliament belongs

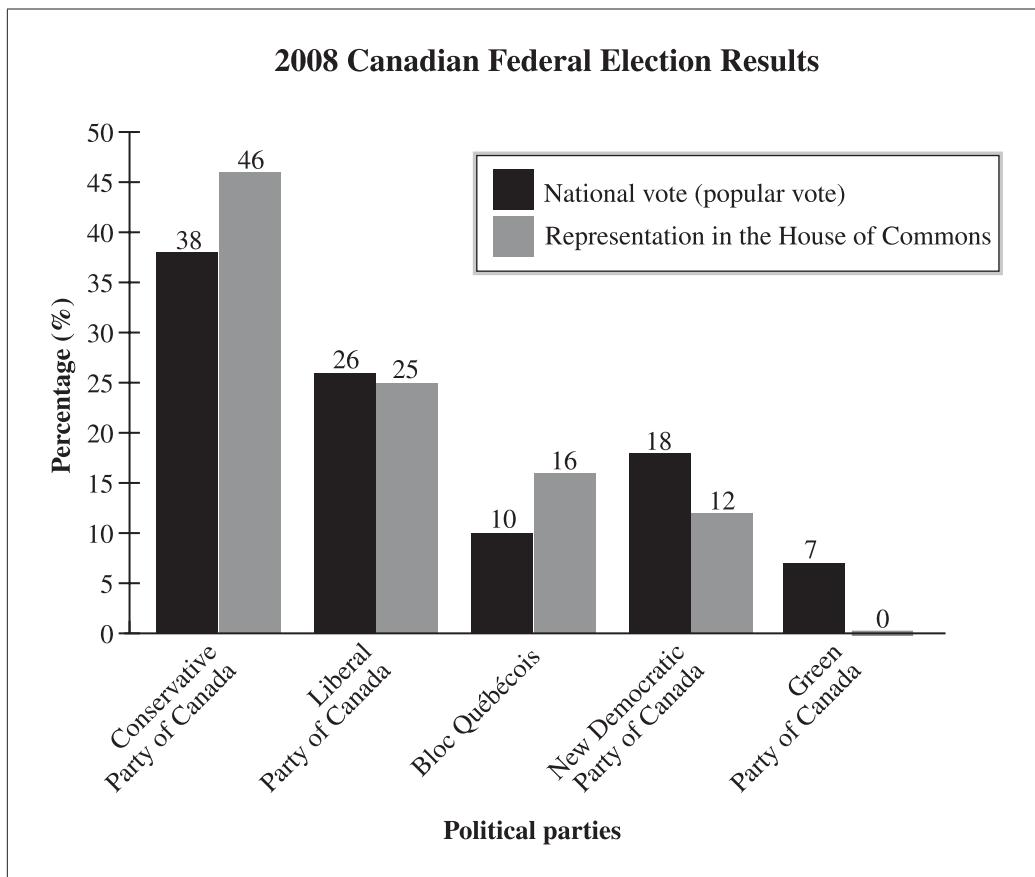
**Source II**



**Some Statistics from the 2008 Canadian Federal Election**

Total population of Canada	Total number of eligible voters	Number of eligible voters who cast ballots	Number of eligible voters who voted for the political party that won the most seats in Parliament
31 612 897 <b>100%</b> of total population	23 677 639 <b>74.9%</b> of total population	13 834 294 <b>58.4%</b> of eligible voters	5 209 069 <b>22%</b> of eligible voters

### Source III



### Source IV

**Speaker Y**



The current system used in Canada is working well. The political party with the most seats often forms the government. This leads to stability because elections usually result in majority governments.

**Speaker Z**



We must change our system of electing members of Parliament. If we were to elect political representatives based on popular vote, more political parties could be represented in the House of Commons. I would feel that my vote counted, even if I did not vote for the candidate who received the most votes in a riding. This could encourage people to vote in elections.

**II. Questions 5 to 8 on page 33 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**

**Viewpoint W**



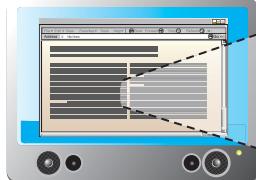
Opposition parties use news media to inform society of government actions. Critics are free to express their points of view in a democracy.

**Viewpoint X**



Canadian citizens use news media to find information on political issues. They then decide which political party to support.

**Viewpoint Y**



News media decide which stories to present to the public. This influences how Canadians regard an issue, and how the government reacts to their views.

**Viewpoint Z**



Governments establish the political issues of the day. News media may report the information to the people, but politicians decide what to debate.

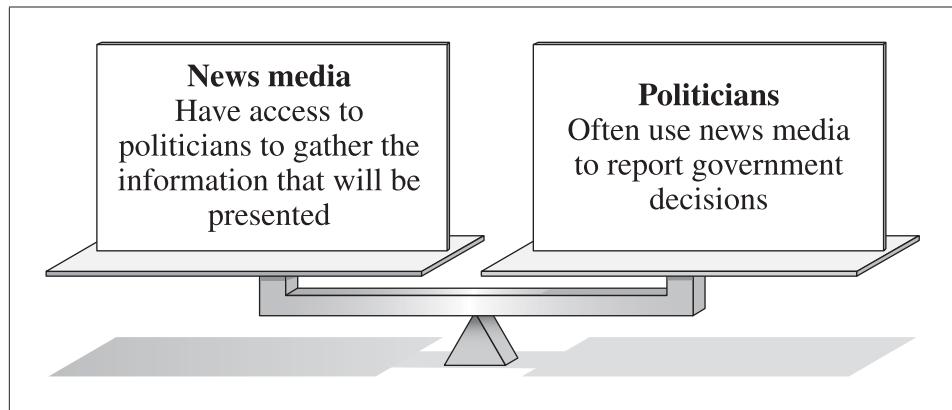
**Source II**

Informs the public about government policies, debates and votes in the House of Commons, Supreme Court decisions, visits by foreign dignitaries, and the activities of prominent federal politicians

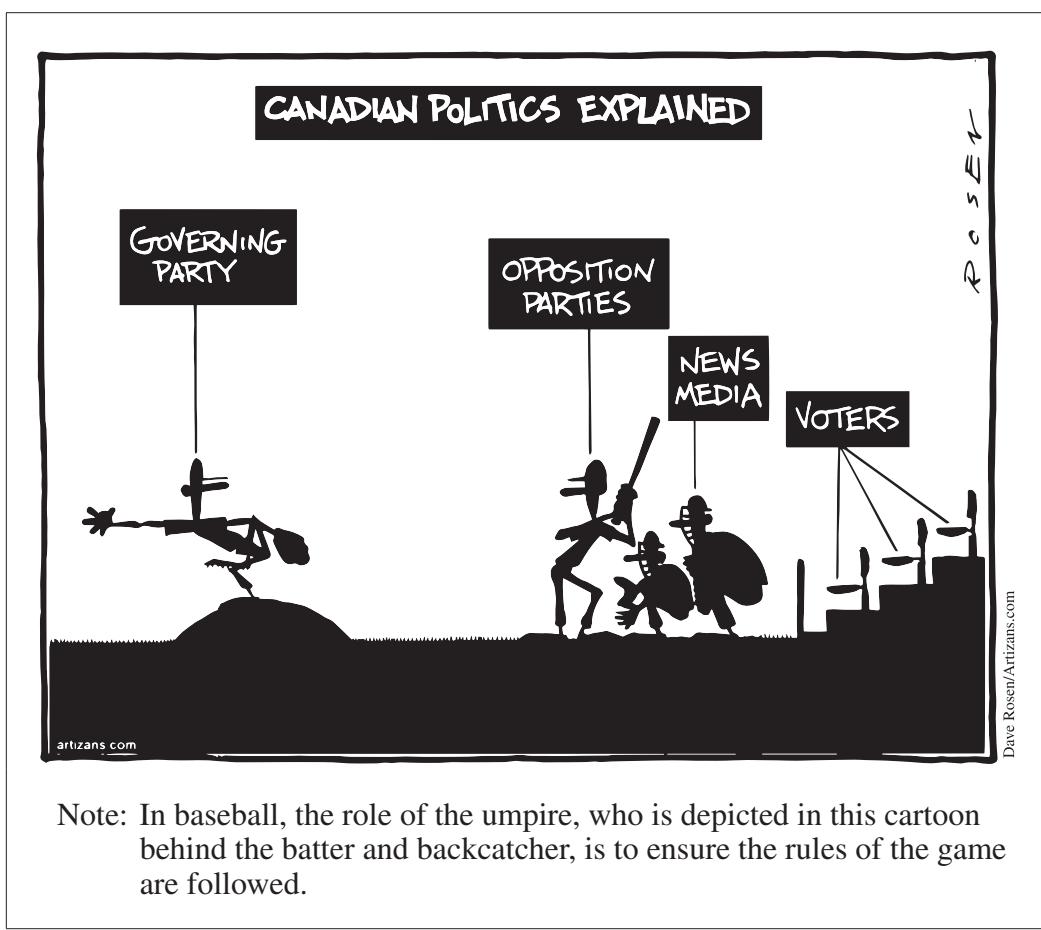
Composed of newspaper and magazine publishers, radio and television broadcasters, and freelance journalists

Originally used as the unofficial record of debate in Canada's parliament

### Source III

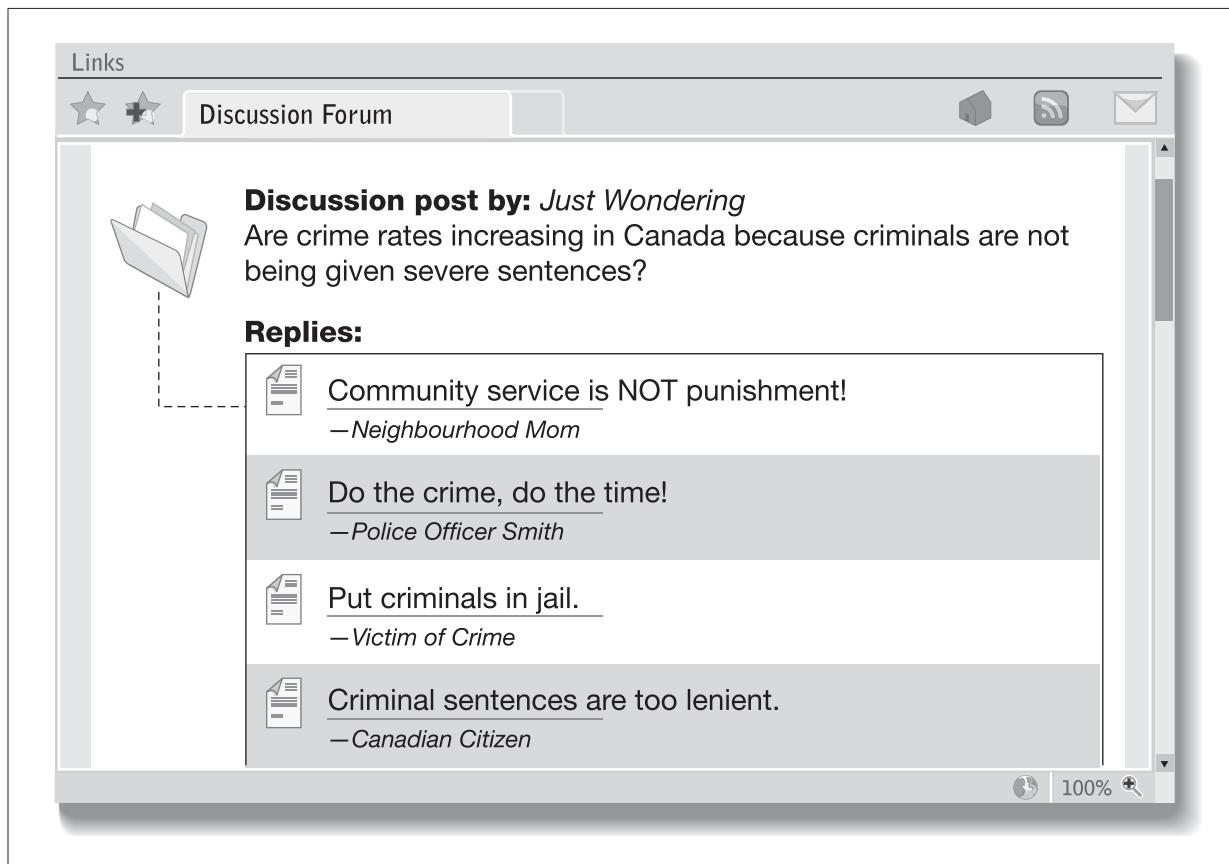


### Source IV



**III. Questions 9 to 11 on page 34 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying a discussion forum. The title of the post is "Are crime rates increasing in Canada because criminals are not being given severe sentences?". The post is attributed to "Just Wondering". Below the post, there is a section titled "Replies:" containing four replies. Each reply includes a small icon of a document and the text of the comment and the name of the poster.

**Replies:**

- Community service is NOT punishment!  
—Neighbourhood Mom
- Do the crime, do the time!  
—Police Officer Smith
- Put criminals in jail.  
—Victim of Crime
- Criminal sentences are too lenient.  
—Canadian Citizen

**Source II**



**Average Annual Cost of Administering Criminal Sentences in Canada, 2005**

Type of sentence	Estimated cost per prisoner per year
Federal prison term—female	\$150 000 – \$200 000
Federal prison term—male	\$60 000 – \$110 000
Other sentences such as probation, house arrest, and community supervision	\$10 000 – \$20 000

### Source III

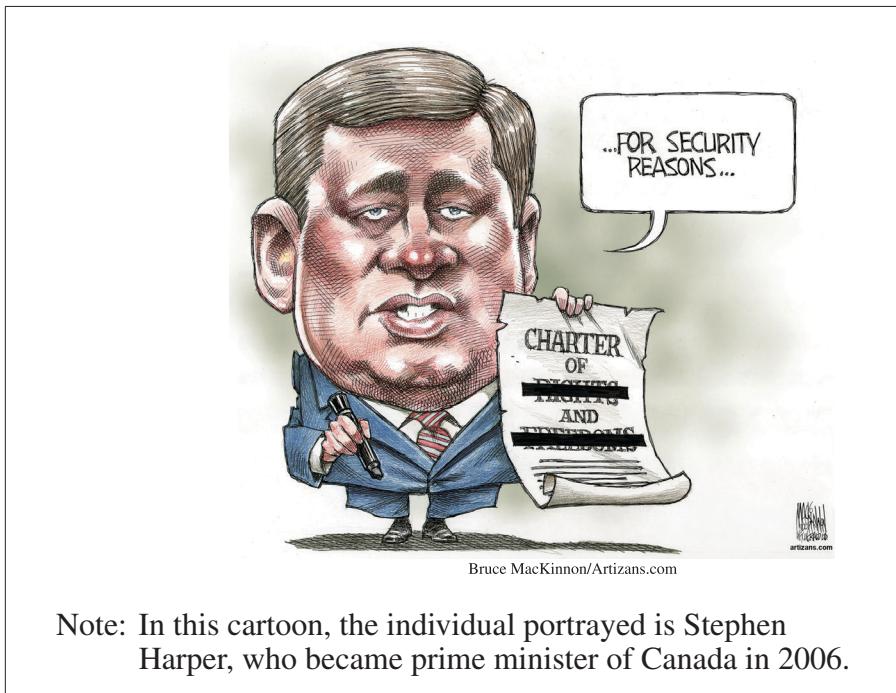
#### Some Goals of the Elizabeth Fry Society

- To increase cooperation among women's groups to address poverty, racism, and discrimination
- To increase the availability of programs and services for imprisoned women
- To reduce the number of women who are imprisoned in Canada



**IV. Questions 12 to 15 on page 35 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**



Note: In this cartoon, the individual portrayed is Stephen Harper, who became prime minister of Canada in 2006.

**Source II**

**Original Objectives of the Anti-terrorism Act of 2001**

**Objective W**

Prevent terrorists from other countries from getting into Canada and protect Canadians from terrorist acts

**Objective X**

Provide law enforcement agencies with the tools to effectively address terrorist activity

**Objective Y**

Meet Canada's international legal obligations to fight terrorism

**Objective Z**

Define terrorism as an activity committed for a political, religious, or ideological purpose

Note: In 2006, an Ontario Superior Court judge ruled that the section of the Anti-terrorism Act of 2001 identified in Objective Z violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

### Source III

*On October 29, 2008, a Canadian citizen named Momin Khawaja was convicted in the Ontario Superior Court of having committed terrorist acts. The following excerpt describes the Khawaja case.*

Thursday, October 30, 2008

## Khawaja Guilty on Five Terrorism Charges

### Canadian Computer Specialist Acquitted of Involvement in British Bomb Plot

Andrew Duffy  
Ottawa Citizen  
Ottawa

Ontario Superior Court Justice Douglas Rutherford ruled Wednesday that Khawaja, 29, played a significant role as financier, engineer and technical adviser to British terrorists. [...]

"I have no reasonable doubt in concluding that in doing the things the evidence clearly establishes that he did, Momin Khawaja was knowingly participating in and supporting a terrorist group," the judge found in his 58-page verdict.

But Khawaja, the judge ruled, was not guilty of the two most serious terrorism offences. The Crown alleged that Khawaja built a radio-frequency detonator to be used in a London-based bomb plot, but

Rutherford said the Crown did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Khawaja knew his invention would be used to explode a fertilizer bomb in Britain.

The judge found Khawaja guilty of two related but lesser Criminal Code explosives offences. [...]

The Khawaja case was considered the first major test of this country's Anti-terrorism Act, a sweeping law passed in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on New York and Washington. The law expanded the application of the Criminal Code to a wide range of terrorism-related activities.

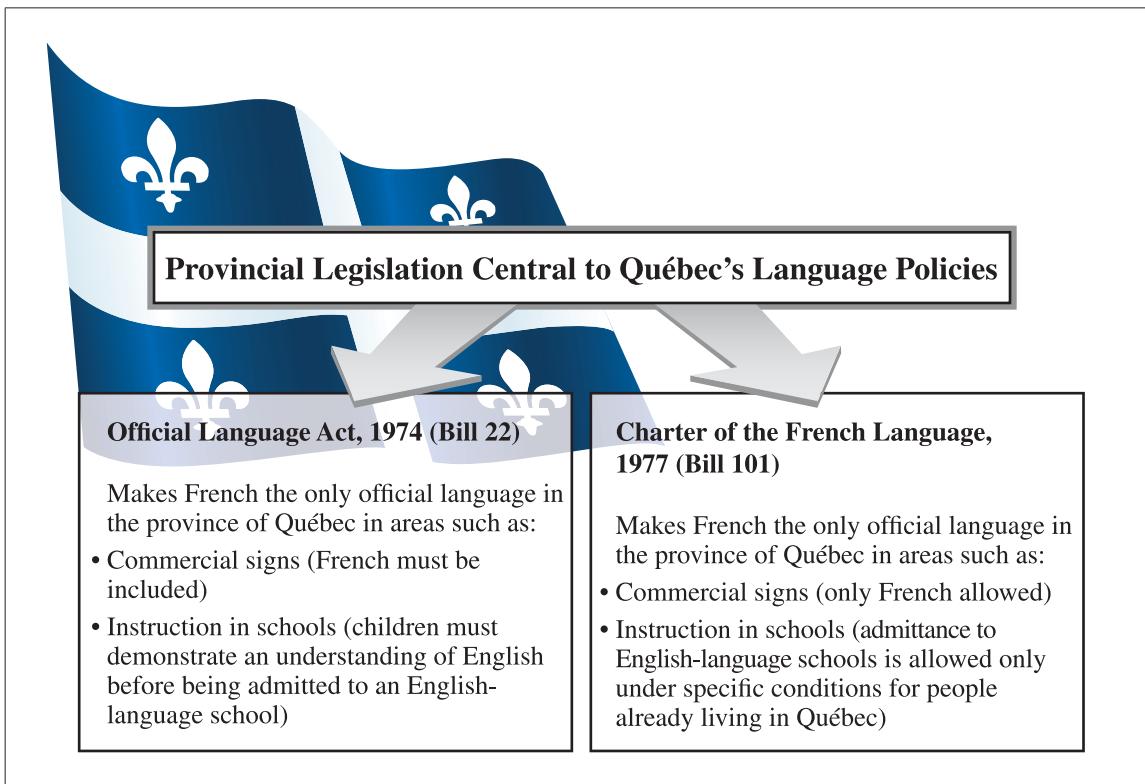
Khawaja, the first Canadian to be charged under the act, now represents the government's first major terrorism conviction since 9/11.

—from the *Edmonton Journal*

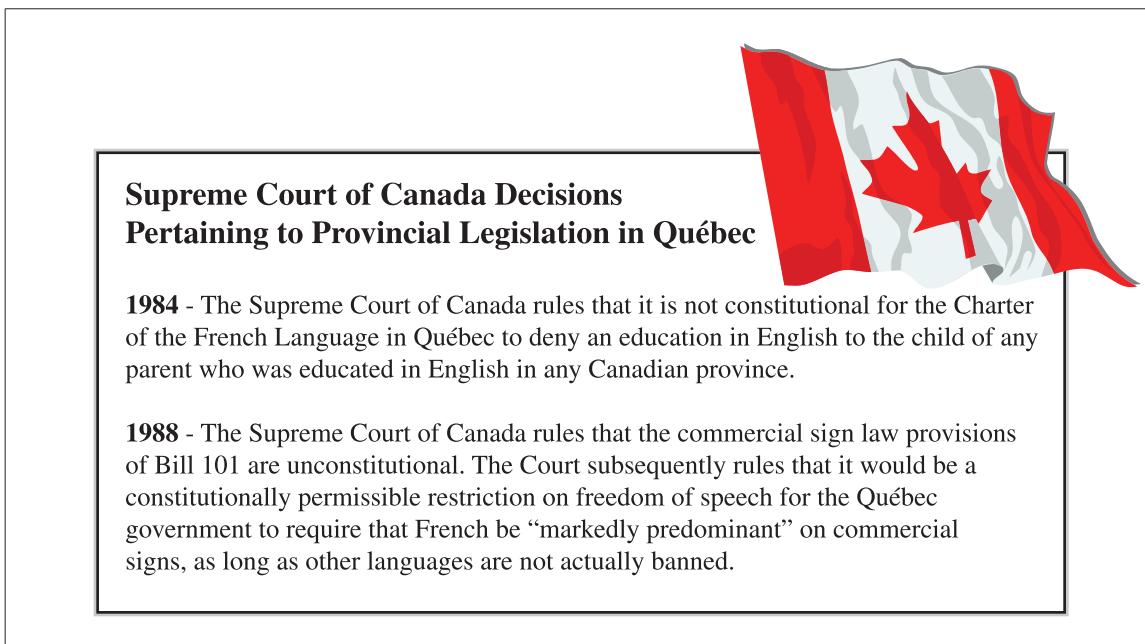
Duffy, Andrew. "Khawaja Guilty on Five Terrorism Charges." *Edmonton Journal*, October 30, 2008, sec. A, p. 3. Material reprinted with the express permission of: "Ottawa Citizen Group Inc.," a division of Postmedia Network Inc.

V. Questions 16 to 18 on page 36 are based on the following sources.

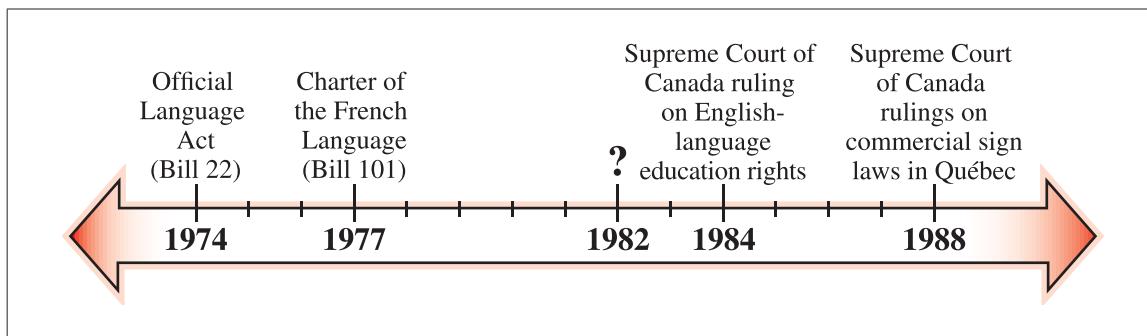
**Source I**



**Source II**

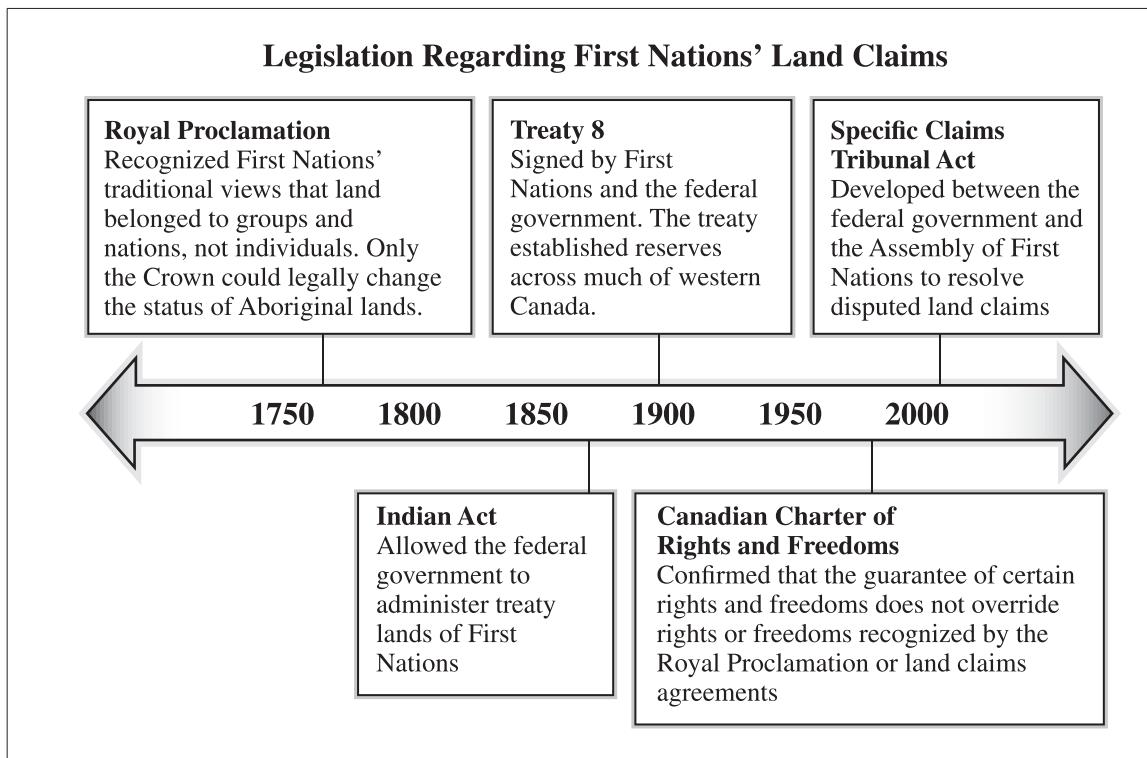


### Source III



VI. Questions 19 to 22 on page 37 are based on the following sources.

Source I



## Source II

Monday, January 12, 2009

### New Generation Takes up Cause in Little Buffalo Band Still Waiting for a Reserve a Century after 1899 Treaty

Elise Stolte  
Journal Staff Writer  
Little Buffalo

The story behind the Lubicon land claim dates back to May 1899, when the treaty negotiators from Ottawa signed Treaty 8 near what is now Grouard, on the west end of Lesser Slave Lake. Then they pushed north along the Athabasca and Peace rivers, signing with chiefs along the way, but missing entire bands in the high country between.

Over the next years, the Lubicon heard about the treaties and sent emissaries<sup>1</sup> out

to meet the Indian agents.<sup>2</sup> But rather than recognizing the Lubicon as a separate society, the agents simply listed them on existing band lists and sent them back into the bush with their \$5 annual allowances. It wasn't until 1939 that Ottawa sent a committee into the forest to meet with the Lubicon and grant them a reserve of their own. [...]

For the next four decades, the Lubicon continued to live on what was considered Crown land, without rights but also without much disturbance. Little changed.

—from the *Edmonton Journal*

<sup>1</sup>emissaries—representatives

<sup>2</sup>Indian agents—term used at the time of negotiating treaties to describe officials who represented the federal government in dealings with Aboriginal peoples

Stolte, Elise. "New Generation Takes up Cause in Little Buffalo." *Edmonton Journal*, January 12, 2009, sec. A, p. 1. Material reprinted with the express permission of: "EDMONTON JOURNAL", a division of Postmedia Network Inc.

## Source III

*The article from which this excerpt is taken was published in March 2007.*

Alan Maitland, the provincial negotiator for the Lubicon file, says the treaty commissioners recognized in 1899 that they hadn't signed up all the Aboriginals who would fall under Treaty 8. They estimated they'd missed 500. But, he says, as a matter of law the Aboriginal title of every First Nation person living in the area was extinguished when the treaty came into effect. He says the province has successfully negotiated land claims settlements with other First Nations that

were excluded from Treaty 8 but have agreed to be bound by it. "We're just not having any luck with the Lubicon," he says. [...]

He says the Lubicon do have the right to hunt, fish and trap in their traditional territory, and that the government has committed to consulting with First Nations about oil sands activity on that land. So far, he says, the Lubicon have refused to consult.

—from *Alberta Views*

Steele, Amy. "No Deal." *Alberta Views*, March 2007.

**VII. Questions 23 to 26 on page 38 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a title bar, menu icons, and a toolbar. The main content area displays an article with the following text:

**Absence Grows Our Vegetables**  
**Mexicans working in the Edmonton area for up to 8 months a year mourn the loss of their family life**

Published November 20, 2008 by Angela Brunschot in News & Views

When Manuel Vargas returned home from his job as a migrant farm worker last fall, his 14-year-old daughter finally expressed her sorrow at his long annual absences. She would rather ride a bicycle than ride in a car, she told him, if it meant he no longer left their home in El Salto, Mexico, to work in Canada.

Now at the end of his fifth year as a migrant farm worker in Canada, Vargas sits on a wicker-backed chair in the spotless kitchen he shares with the three other men who work with him at Riverbend Gardens in northeast Edmonton. He smiles and tells Sergio Manrique, who is acting as a translator, that it must be a father-daughter thing. His sons are not nearly as expressive. But still, he feels the sacrifice he's making.

"I am losing my family life," he says in Spanish.

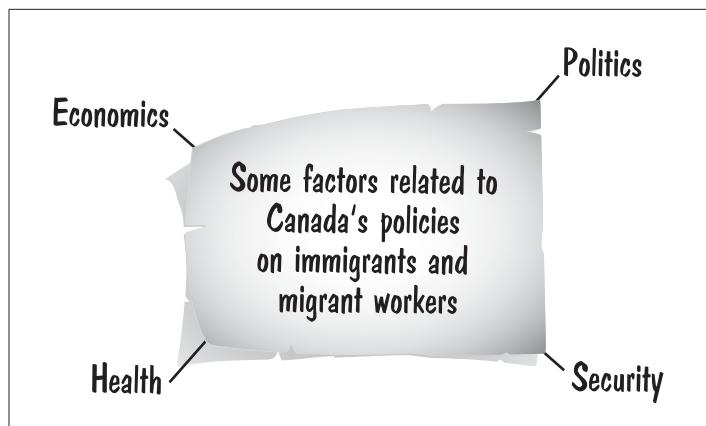
Vargas and the other men pick carrots, cabbage, and cucumbers, sometimes for 12 hours a day. They are here through the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, a joint agreement between Canada and Mexico that allows them to work in Canada for up to eight months. Employers must prove there is a labour shortage in their community before hiring through the program.

Aaron Herbert runs the farm with his wife Janelle Herbert and works in the vegetable fields with the migrant farm workers. Herbert says he'd rather hire locally, but no one in Edmonton is willing to work for \$12 an hour, the wage he has advertised locally. And the local people who do take the jobs do not last long, he says, nor are they as reliable as Vargas and the other men.

—from *See Magazine*

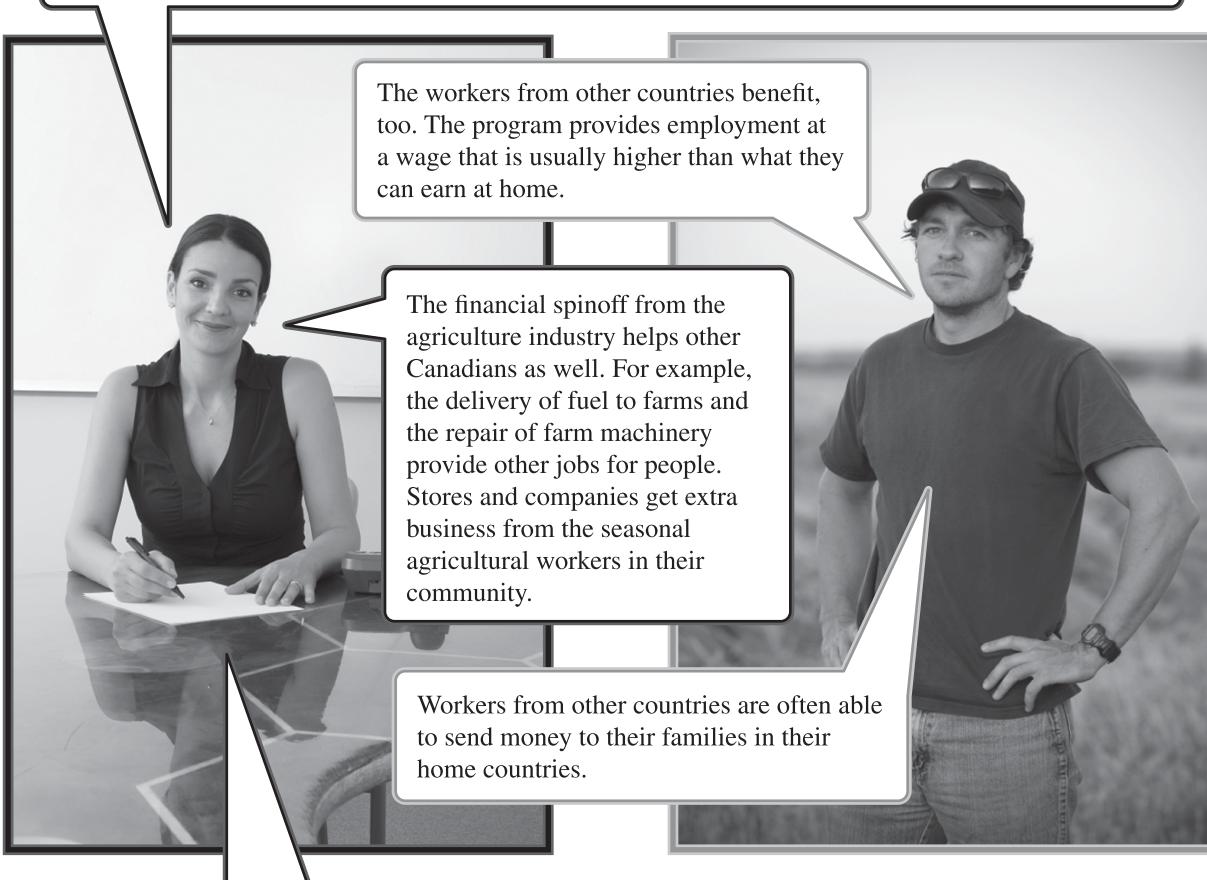
Brunschot, Angela. "Absence Grows Our Vegetables." *See Magazine*, November 20, 2008. Reproduced with permission from Great West Newspapers.

**Source II**



### Source III

I think existing federal policies regarding immigrants and migrant workers in Canada are beneficial to all of society. These policies set procedures and establish programs to achieve the government's objectives. For example, the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program is an ideal way to fill worker shortages.



Through the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, the government strives to meet the needs of Canadians in the best way possible.

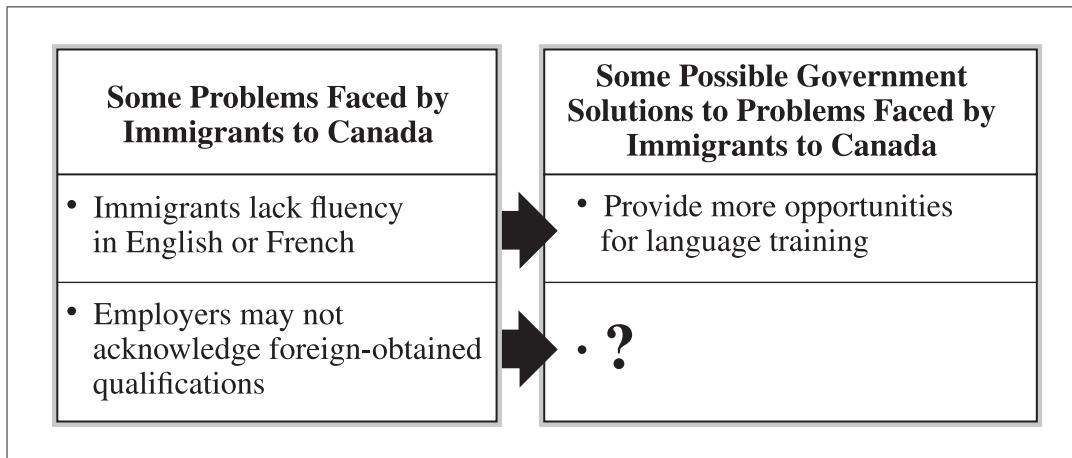
**VIII. Questions 27 to 30 on page 39 are based on the following sources.**

## Source I

## The Point System Used by the Federal Government to Select Workers Wanting to Immigrate to Canada

<b>Factor U</b>	Education	Maximum 25 points
<b>Factor V</b>	Ability in English and/or French	Maximum 24 points
<b>Factor W</b>	Work Experience	Maximum 21 points
<b>Factor X</b>	Age	Maximum 10 points
<b>Factor Y</b>	Arranged employment in Canada	Maximum 10 points
<b>Factor Z</b>	Adaptability	Maximum 10 points
<b>Possible Score</b>		<b>Maximum 100 points</b>
<b>Minimum Points Required for Qualification</b>		<b>67 points</b>

## Source II

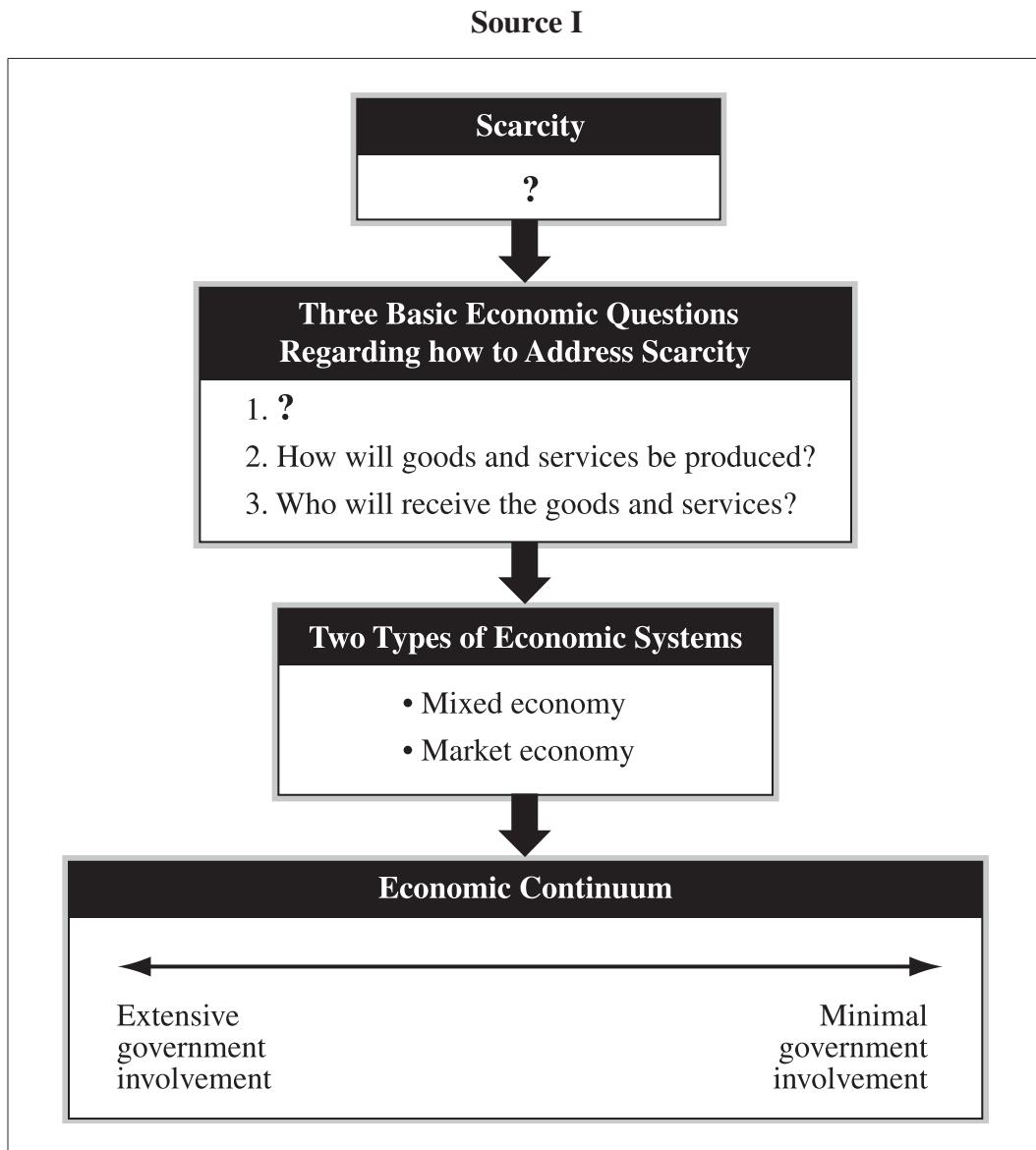


### Source III

#### Labour Market Statistics for Individuals Born in Canada, All Immigrants, and Recent Immigrants, 2006

	Individuals Born in Canada	All Immigrants	Recent Immigrants (2001–2006)
<b>2006 Unemployment rate</b>	6.4%	6.9%	12.3%
<b>Possess a university certificate, diploma, or degree at bachelor's level or above</b>	15.8%	25.4%	41.9%
<b>Average income</b>	\$36 457	\$35 876	\$22 801

**IX. Questions 31 to 34 on page 41 are based on the following sources.**



## Source II

Friday, January 8, 2010

# Apartments Will Get Homeless Off Streets

## Mission, Province Pledge \$7.3 Million to help Build Housing Units

Archie Mclean  
Provincial Affairs Writer  
Edmonton

Stewart Young scrolls through pictures on his iPhone and taps one of himself a year ago.

"A lot more desperate, a lot sicker," he said, eyeing the grainy black-and-white shot.

"I always say the visual is worth a thousand words."

Young was on the streets then, consumed by a 40-year addiction to drugs and alcohol.

But with the help of Hope Mission, he is clean and sober, living in an apartment

at Immigration Hall downtown. Young, 59, hopes others will have the same chance as him through a new \$7.3-million partnership announced Thursday between the province and the mission. The money will help build 52 apartments for homeless people.

The cash, announced by Housing Minister Yvonne Fritz, is part of the province's pledge to end homelessness by 2019.

Bruce Reith, executive director of Hope Mission, said the housing units will help people move from the streets into more stable housing, where they can better rebuild their lives.

—from the *Edmonton Journal*

McLean, Archie. "Apartments Will Get Homeless Off Streets." *Edmonton Journal*, January 8, 2010, sec. B, p. 1. Material reprinted with the express permission of: "EDMONTON JOURNAL", a division of Postmedia Network Inc.

## Source III

*The following letters to the editor express viewpoints regarding the partnership announced January 7, 2010, described in Source II.*

Individuals need to take responsibility for their own needs and wants. The government should not be involved in providing for people by partnering with organizations to build apartments. If there is a need for low-income housing, a business will meet that need. Businesses succeed by providing what consumers need and want. I do not believe that tax dollars should be used in this way.

—Concerned Citizen

What a great partnership between government and business to meet the needs of the people of the province! Obviously housing units are scarce and will be used. I am pleased that the government is reacting to provide what is best for society by getting involved with private organizations. Keep up the good work!

—Alberta Resident



**X. Questions 35 to 38 on page 42 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**

<b>Forest Management Practices in Canada and the United States</b>	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>United States</b>
Timber is harvested from Crown land.	Timber is harvested from privately owned land.
Lumber companies are granted licenses to harvest trees from Crown land.	Lumber companies compete for the right to harvest trees. The price is based on supply and demand.
Provincial governments set a stumpage fee, which is an amount that lumber companies pay the province for each tree harvested.	The land owner manages, sells, or transfers land as he or she sees fit.

**Source II**

<b>The Softwood Lumber Trade Between Canada and the United States</b>	
<p><b>Key Areas of Dispute Prior to the 2006 Agreement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Canadian lumber industry supplies approximately 33% of all the softwood used in the United States. The American lumber companies claim that Canadian companies are unfairly financially assisted by the Canadian federal and provincial governments.</li> <li>• The American government decides that softwood lumber imported from Canada can be subject to a fee that would add 27% to the cost of Canadian softwood lumber entering the United States.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Concessions of the 2006 Agreement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Concession V</b> Canada agrees to limit exports of softwood lumber to a maximum of 34% of the American market.</li> <li>• <b>Concession W</b> If the price of lumber falls below a specified level, Canada agrees to collect taxes on lumber exported to the United States or limit the amount of lumber being sent to the United States.</li> <li>• <b>Concession X</b> The United States will return approximately \$4 billion in fees that were charged to Canadian companies but will keep \$1 billion of the \$5 billion in fees collected.</li> <li>• <b>Concession Y</b> The United States is banned from launching new legal action to resolve trade disputes.</li> <li>• <b>Concession Z</b> The United States will lower the fees on Canadian softwood lumber coming into the country to 10%.</li> </ul>

### Source III

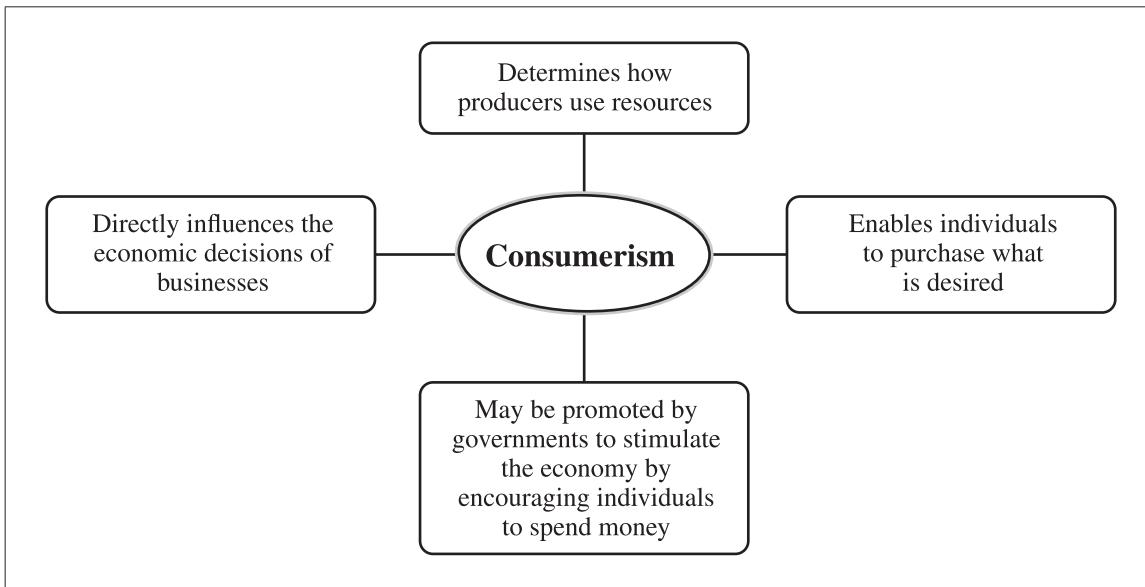


Note: The individual portrayed in this cartoon is Stephen Harper, prime minister of Canada in 2006 when the Softwood Lumber Trade Agreement was reached.

The phrase “PIECE OF CAKE” means an easy task to accomplish.

**XI. Questions 39 to 42 on page 43 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**



**Source II**



### Source III

#### Buy Nothing Day

##### **What is Buy Nothing Day (BND)?**

Buy Nothing Day is a day when people are challenged to deliberately not purchase any goods or services for a 24-hour period.

##### **When is BND?**

BND takes place in North America on the Friday after Thanksgiving Day in the United States, which is traditionally one of the busiest shopping days of the year. Some countries participate in BND the Saturday after Thanksgiving Day in the United States.

##### **Where does BND occur?**

People take part in BND in various countries throughout the world.

##### **Who takes part in BND?**

Anybody can participate in BND. It is an informal movement, based on the idea that people can consciously choose to not buy anything for one day.

##### **Why participate in BND?**

The goal is to make people stop and think about what and how much they buy—and how that affects other people and the environment.

**XII. Questions 43 to 46 on page 44 are based on the following sources.**

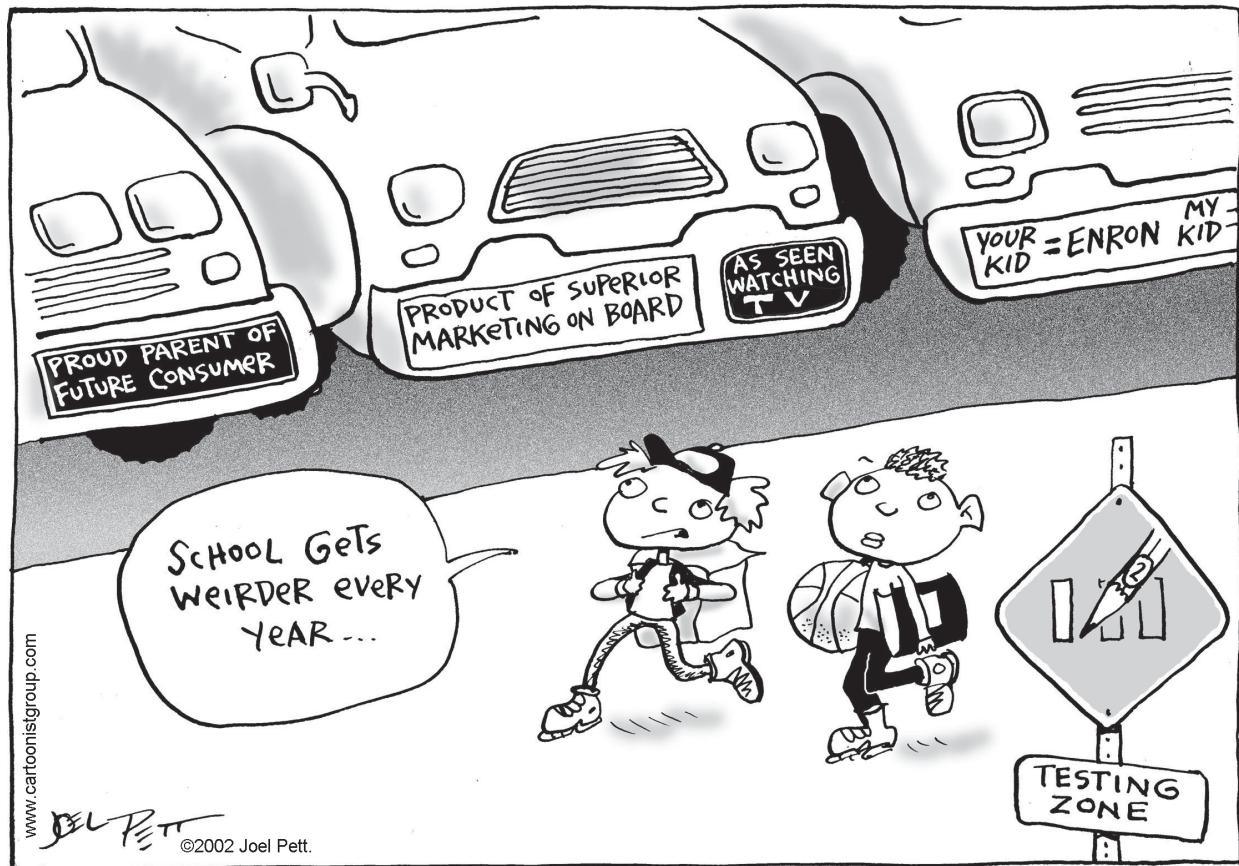
**Source I**

<b>Business Plan for Advertising in Schools</b>	
<b>Business Goal</b>	<b>Benefits to Business</b>
• Expand market for goods	• Increase access to consumers
• ?	• Gain income from sales of goods
• Foster brand loyalty	• Encourage students to choose a given product over another and to repeatedly purchase that product

**Source II**

<b>Two Views on Advertising in Schools</b>		
<b>Speaker Y</b> I have come to the realization that advertising is everywhere. Why shouldn't all students benefit from marketing opportunities? If a company wants to put in a vending machine and, in return, supply the sports department with a new scoreboard and team uniforms—what's the harm? All students can benefit from new computers and technology bought with money received from companies that pay to advertise in schools. Sometimes companies will donate items to the school if their names are visible. Everyone benefits equally. Let schools have the choice!		 <b>Speaker Z</b> I believe that schools are not a place for advertising. Students' attention

### Source III



Note: ENRON was a company that went bankrupt in 2001. For many people, it has become a symbol of corporate greed and corruption.

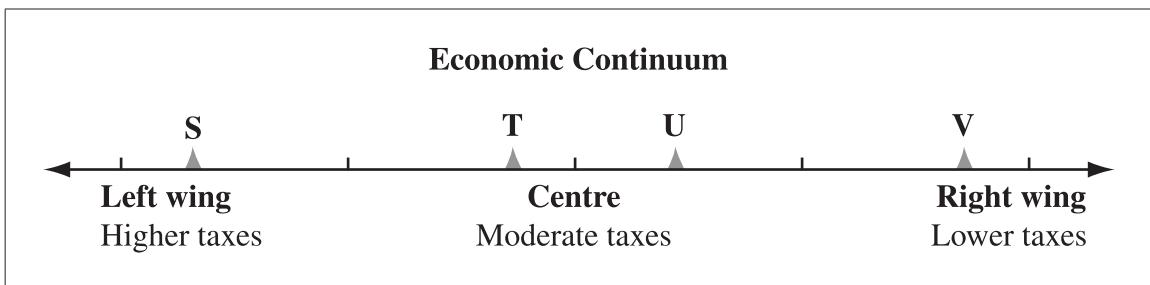
**XIII. Questions 47 to 50 on page 45 are based on the following sources.**

**Source I**

**Some Political Party Platform Points from the 2008 Federal Election**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Campaign Promises</b>
Bloc Québécois	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide an \$8 000 tax credit for new graduates who remain in Québec to work</li><li>Increase Employment Insurance payments</li></ul>
Conservative Party of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continue to reduce taxes for small and medium-sized businesses</li><li>Give first-time home buyers a tax credit of up to \$5 000</li></ul>
Green Party of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Eliminate income tax for those earning \$20 000 or less per year</li><li>Implement a full range of “polluter pays” taxes, including a carbon tax designed to reduce the use of fossil fuels by making production more costly</li></ul>
Liberal Party of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shift Canada’s tax system away from taxing income to taxing pollution</li><li>Provide up to \$10 000 in direct financial support, in the form of refundable tax credits, for any household that invests in energy-saving measures such as efficient heating systems</li></ul>
New Democratic Party of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Eliminate tax loopholes to ensure that Canadian corporations pay the taxes they owe</li><li>Re-establish the national minimum wage, immediately set at \$10 per hour</li></ul>

## Source II



## Source III

**Speaker W**

I don't think a governing party should be over-taxing us to provide for people who are not working as hard as me. The public good comes from individuals taking care of themselves with the government supporting those who cannot provide for their basic needs. I want to support a political party that gives me the freedom to succeed or fail.

**Speaker X**

I think the government should look out for the common good. I am more than willing to pay taxes to live in a country where the government shares the wealth among its citizens. I would support a political party that focuses on the public good being based on cooperation among the country's people.

**Speaker Y**

I don't think we should pay any taxes. Let's privatize everything and remove all government control. People should be completely self-reliant. I would support a political party that is bold enough to support these ideas.

**Speaker Z**

I believe that the government should completely own all businesses and assets. If everyone's needs were provided, we would all have the opportunity to do the best at the job we were given. A political party that takes care of me is one that I would support.