

CLB 8 – February Question

Name: _____

Date: _____

**CLB 8: Voting in Canada
After an Election**

Ordinarily, after an election, the leader of the political party with the most seats in the House of Commons is invited by the Governor General to form the government. After being appointed by the Governor



General, the leader of this party becomes the Prime Minister. If the party in power holds at least half of the seats in the House of Commons, this is called a majority government. If the party in power holds less than half of the seats in the House of Commons, this is called a minority government.

The Prime Minister and the party in power run the government as long as they have the support or confidence of the majority of the MPs. When the House of Commons votes on a major issue such as the budget, this is considered a matter of confidence. If a majority of the members of the House of Commons vote against a major government decision, the party in power is defeated, which usually results in the Prime Minister asking the Governor General, on behalf of the Sovereign, to call an election.

Review Question:

What is a minority government?

- When the party in power holds less than half of the seats in the House of Commons.
- When the party in power is made up of people of visible minority.
- When the party in power is considered not very important by Canadians.
- When less than half of Canadians voted for the party in power.